

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

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NEWS RELEASE

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County Bridge Contracts Meet Legal Requirements

Rockville, Maryland – Montgomery County Maryland Inspector General Megan Davey Limarzi announced today the release of a report, <u>Compliance Review of Bridge Contracting</u>, detailing the results of a review by the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) to assess whether bridge contracts executed by the County met established legal requirements. The OIG concluded that the County generally complied with laws and policies governing bridge contracts but made several observations and one recommendation.

Montgomery County procurement law allows the County to rely on another public entity's competitive procurement process to satisfy contract competition requirements. Contracts awarded through these arrangements are referred to as "bridge contracts" or "piggyback contracts." Between July 1, 2018, and October 29, 2020, the County's Office of Procurement awarded 93 contracts bridged from contracts originating in 40 different public entities and amounting to over \$43 million. Bridge contracts represented 6.3% of total County contracting in Fiscal Year 2019.

The full report can be found at the following location, https://montgomerycountymd.gov/OIG/Resources/Files/PDF/IGActivity/FY2021/OIG_21-014.pdf.

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