

SINGLE AUDIT REPORTS

City of Freeport, Texas

**Fiscal Year Ended
September 30, 2024**

City of Freeport, Texas

SINGLE AUDIT REPORTS

Year Ended September 30, 2024

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BROOKSWATSON & CO.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

**REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON
COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council
City of Freeport, Texas:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Freeport, Texas as of and for the year ended September 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise City of Freeport, Texas' basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated August 11, 2025.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the City of Freeport, Texas' internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City of Freeport, Texas' internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the City of Freeport, Texas' internal control.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. However, as described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses and significant deficiencies.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of City of Freeport, Texas’s financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. We consider the deficiency described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as item 2024-001 to be a material weaknesses.

A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider the deficiency described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as item 2024-002 to be a significant deficiency.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the City of Freeport, Texas’ financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity’s internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity’s internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Respectfully,



BrooksWatson & Co., PLLC
14950 Heathrow Forest Pkwy | Ste 530
Houston, TX 77032
August 16, 2025



BROOKSWATSON & CO.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

**REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND REPORT
ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE**

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council
City of Freeport, Texas:

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited the City of Freeport, Texas' compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the (OMB) *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the City of Freeport, Texas' major federal programs for the year ended September 30, 2024. The City of Freeport, Texas' major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, the City of Freeport, Texas complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended September 30, 2024.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (Government Auditing Standards); and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of City of Freeport, Texas and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe

that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of City of Freeport, Texas' compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to City of Freeport, Texas' federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on City of Freeport, Texas' compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS, Government Auditing Standards, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about City of Freeport, Texas' compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding City of Freeport, Texas' compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of City of Freeport, Texas' internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of City of Freeport, Texas' internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on Internal Control over Compliance

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Report on Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Required by the Uniform Guidance

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Freeport, Texas as of and for the year ended September 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City of Freeport, Texas' basic financial statements. We issued our report thereon dated August 11, 2025, which contained unmodified opinions on those financial statements. Our audit was conducted

for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by the Uniform Guidance and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the schedule of expenditures of federal awards is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of, management, governing body, others within the entity, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brooks Watson & Co." in a cursive, professional style.

Brooks Watson & Co., PLLC
14950 Heathrow Forest Pkwy | Ste 530
Houston, TX 77032
August 16, 2025

City of Freeport, Texas
SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR AUDIT FINDINGS
For the Year Ended September 30, 2024

I. SUMMARY OF PRIOR YEAR AUDIT FINDINGS:

Audit Finding Reference: **2023-001**

Status of Prior Finding: The City is working to address this comment in the current year.

Audit Finding Reference: **2023-002**

Status of Prior Finding: Planned corrective action completed this fiscal year.

Audit Finding Reference: **2023-003**

Status of Prior Finding: Planned corrective action completed this fiscal year.

Audit Finding Reference: **2023-004**

Status of Prior Finding: Planned corrective action completed this fiscal year.

Audit Finding Reference: **2023-005**

Status of Prior Finding: Planned corrective action completed this fiscal year.

Audit Finding Reference: **2023-006**

Status of Prior Finding: Planned corrective action completed this fiscal year.

City of Freeport, Texas
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES
For the Year Ended September 30, 2024

I. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS:

Financial Statements

Type of auditor's report issued:

The auditor's report on the basic financial statements of the City expresses an unmodified opinion.

Internal control over financial reporting:

Are any material weaknesses identified?	<u> X </u> Yes	<u> </u> No
Are any significant deficiencies identified not considered to be material weaknesses?	<u> X </u> Yes	<u> </u> None Reported
Is any noncompliance material to financial statements noted?	<u> </u> Yes	<u> X </u> No

Federal Awards

The auditor's report on compliance for major federal programs expresses an unmodified opinion.

Internal control over major program compliance:

Are any material weaknesses identified?	<u> </u> Yes	<u> X </u> No
Are any significant deficiencies identified not considered to be material weaknesses?	<u> </u> Yes	<u> X </u> None Reported
Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)?	<u> </u> Yes	<u> X </u> No

City of Freeport, Texas
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES
For the Year Ended September 30, 2024

Identification of major programs:

CFDA Number(s)	Name of Federal Program or Cluster
----------------	------------------------------------

14.228	Community Development Block Grant / Harvey Infrastructure Grant
97.036	Federal Emergency Management Agency - Hurricane Beryl

Enter the dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs:	<u>\$750,000</u>
Is the auditee qualified as a low-risk auditee?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

II. FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS:

Material Weaknesses

Finding 2024-001:

Criteria: Management is responsible for establishing, maintaining and monitoring internal controls over financial reporting, and for the fair presentation of the financial statements and related notes in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”).

Condition and Context: For the year ended September 30, 2024, management requested us to prepare a draft of the City’s financial statements and the related notes. Management reviewed, approved, and accepted responsibility for those statements prior to their issuance.

Cause: The City does not have controls over preparation of the financial statements which would prevent or detect a misstatement in the financial statements in the absence of the auditor’s preparation.

Effect or Potential Effect: Without the auditor’s assistance, the City may not include all disclosures or have materially correct financial statements as required under U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Recommendation: We recommend that management review the existing policies, procedures, and controls over these areas to ensure that all information is recorded and reported properly.

City of Freeport, Texas
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES
For the Year Ended September 30, 2024

Significant Deficiency

Finding 2024-002:

Criteria: The pooled cash fund account balance should equal the individual fund account balances.

Condition and Context: Adjustments were made to the pooled cash fund without adjusting the fund level account balances. Leaving a discrepancy that required reconciliation and correction.

Cause: The City failed to adjust all necessary accounts.

Effect or Potential Effect: The cash balance at year-end may not be accurate.

Recommendation: We recommend that the City review bank reconciliations monthly and ensure all account reconciliations are accurate.

Responsible Official's Response: Management will review bank reconciliations take corrective action.

FEDERAL AWARDS FINDINGS:

None.

City of Freeport, Texas
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
For the Year Ended September 30, 2024

<u>Federal Grantor/Pass-through Agency/Program Name</u>	<u>Pass-through Entity Identifying Number</u>	<u>Federal CFDA Number</u>	<u>Federal Expenditures</u>
US DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT			
Pass-through Texas General Land Office			
<i>Community Development Block Grant -GLO</i>	22-085-013-D213	14.228	\$ 2,117,258
<i>Community Development Block Grant -GLO</i>	22-085-047-D300	14.228	951,109
<i>Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund</i>	25-065-007-E164	14.228	34,238
Total US Department of Housing and Urban Development			<u>3,102,605</u>
US DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY			
Pass-through Texas Division of Emergency Management			
<i>Hurricane Beryl</i>	DR-4798	97.036	1,077,978
<i>Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)</i>	DR 4572-003	97.039	33,465
<i>Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)</i>	DR 4572-004	97.039	29,640
<i>Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)</i>	DR 4572-005	97.039	33,465
<i>Total CFDA 97.039</i>			<u>96,570</u>
<i>Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG)</i>	EMW-2022-FG-02061	97.044	181,525
Total US Department of Homeland Security			<u>1,356,073</u>
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE			
Pass-through Bureau of Justice Assistance:			
<i>DJ-Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program</i>	4850101	16.738	102,650
Total U.S. Department of Justice			<u>102,650</u>
TOTAL PROGRAMS			<u><u>\$ 4,561,328</u></u>

City of Freeport, Texas

NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS

For the year ended September 30, 2024

NOTE 1: BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards includes the federal grant activity of Freeport, Texas and is presented on the accrual basis of accounting. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Cost Principles for Federal Awards (the Uniform Guidance). Therefore, some amounts presented in this schedule may differ from amounts presented in or used in the preparation of the basic financial statements.

NOTE 2: INDIRECT COST RATE

The City has elected not to use the 10% de minimis indirect cost rate allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

City of Freeport, Texas
CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN
For the Year Ended September 30, 2024

Finding 2024-001:

Condition and Context: For the year ended September 30, 2024, management requested us to prepare a draft of the City's financial statements and the related notes. Management reviewed, approved, and accepted responsibility for those statements prior to their issuance.

Corrective action planned: Management of the City will continue to work with the auditor to reduce the number of adjusting journal entries. In addition, we will take steps to further our understanding of GAAP financials and footnote disclosures.

Contact person: Ashlee Hurst, Finance Director (979) 871-0112

Anticipated completion date: January 2026

Finding 2024-002:

Condition and Context: Adjustments were made to the pooled cash fund without adjusting the fund level account balances. Leaving a discrepancy that required reconciliation and correction.

Corrective action planned: The City will review and correct any discrepancies between the pooled cash fund and the individual fund balances monthly.

Contact person: Ashlee Hurst, Finance Director (979) 871-0112

Anticipated completion date: September 2025