



For Immediate Release

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## **City of Mount Vernon Receives State Audit Award**

The City of Mount Vernon is being awarded for its dedication to making government work better. In an annual audit exit conference Monday, officials from the Washington State Auditor's Office honored Mayor Jill Boudreau and Finance Director Alicia Huschka with a coveted Stewardship Award.

According to the State Auditor's Office, the award is presented in recognition of outstanding accomplishment in the stewardship of public resources; and it was given to only 4 cities in 2015.

"The State Auditor's office and the City of Mount Vernon have a shared goal of ensuring that government works better, costs less and earns the trust of the public," Mayor Boudreau said.

"Alicia Huschka and the entire Mount Vernon Finance Department have a long history of excellence, and I am proud of the responsible, accountable work that they perform on behalf of the citizens of Mount Vernon."

In addition to the 2016 Stewardship Award, the City of Mount Vernon has now logged its 17<sup>th</sup> year of receiving a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting (CAFR); an award given by the Government Finance Officers Association. A CAFR is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

"This was an absolute team effort," Huschka said of the 2016 Stewardship Award. "Our entire office strives to provide the best services to our customers, while ensuring the security of our City's resources. We are always establishing effective internal controls and policies, and we continue to improve upon them."

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From Left: Mayor Jill Boudreau, Kelly Collins (Director of Local Audit), Mike Weber (City of Mount Vernon), Rebecca Wade (City of Mount Vernon), Alicia Huschka (Finance Director, City of Mount Vernon), Mary Hudson (Council Member, City of Mount Vernon)