

City of Cottonwood

Cottonwood, Arizona

Single Audit and Independent Auditor's Reports

For the Year Ended June 30, 2025



City of Cottonwood

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**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 City Council
of the City of Cottonwood
Cottonwood, Arizona

We have audited, in accordance with the 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, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Cottonwood, Arizona (the "City"), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the basic financial statements which collectively comprise the City's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated December 15, 2025.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the City's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing 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's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control.

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 the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. 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.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

To the Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council
of the City of Cottonwood
Cottonwood, Arizona
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Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the City's basic 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 financial statements. 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 City'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.

The Pric Group, LLP

Phoenix, Arizona
December 15, 2025



**REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND
ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE;
AND REPORT ON SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS**

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council
of the City of Cottonwood
Cottonwood, Arizona

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited City of Cottonwood, Arizona's (the "City") 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's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2025. The City's 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 complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2025.

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; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; 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 the City 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 the City's 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 the City's federal programs.

To the Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council

of the City of Cottonwood

Cottonwood, Arizona

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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 the City's 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 generally accepted auditing standards, *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 the City's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, *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 the City's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- obtain an understanding of the City's 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 the City's 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 a 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.

To the Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council
of the City of Cottonwood
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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

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City's basic financial statements. We issued our report thereon dated December 15, 2025, which contained unmodified opinions on those financial statements. Our audit was performed 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. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "The Rul Group, LLP". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "The Rul Group" on the first line and "LLP" on the second line.

Phoenix, Arizona
December 15, 2025

City of Cottonwood
Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

Federal Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor Program Title	Assistance Listing Number	Agency or Pass-Through Number	Federal Expenditures
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development:			
Passed through Verde Valley Habitat for Humanity - Home Repair Program: Community Development Block Grants	14.228	105-24	\$ 165,062
Total U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development			165,062
U.S. Department of Justice:			
Passed through Arizona Department of Public Safety: Crime Victim Assistance	16.576	VOCA - 2022 - CWPD	7,254
Total U.S. Department of Justice			7,254
Bureau of Justice Assistance:			
Passed through Justice and Security Strategies, Inc. Body-Wom Camera Policy and Implementation Program (SRA_BWC)	16.835	2020-BC-BX-K001	29,000
Total Bureau of Justice Assistance			29,000
U.S. Department of Transportation:			
Airport Improvement Program:			
Passed through the Arizona Department of Transportation: Airport Improvement Program Airport Improvement Program	20.106 20.106	03-04-0012-023-2024 03-04-0012-024-2024	14,368 30,803
Total Airport Improvement Program			45,171
Formula Grants for Rural Areas Program:			
Passed through the Arizona Department of Transportation: Formula Grants for Rural Areas and Tribal Transit Program Formula Grants for Rural Areas and Tribal Transit Program	20.509 20.509	ADOT GRT 22-0008838-T ADOT GRT -22-0009829-T	569,904 2,284,595
Subtotal - Program 20.509			2,854,499
Federal Transit Cluster:			
Buses and Bus Facilities Formula, Competitive, and Low or No Emissions Programs & Discretionary Programs (Bus Program) Buses and Bus Facilities Formula, Competitive, and Low or No Emissions Programs & Discretionary Programs (Bus Program)	20.526 20.526	ADOT GRT 22-0008838-T ADOT GRT -22-0009829-T	872,959 94,758
Total Federal Transit Cluster			967,717
Total Formula Grants for Rural Areas Program			3,822,216
Highway Safety Cluster:			
Passed through the Arizona Governor's Office of Highway Safety: National Priority Safety Programs National Priority Safety Programs	20.600 20.600	2025-PTS-017 2024-PTS-018	19,550 13,750
Subtotal - Program 20.600			33,300
National Priority Safety Programs National Priority Safety Programs	20.616 20.616	2024-405d-011 2025-405d-009	8,697 10,000
Subtotal - Program 20.616			18,697
Total Highway Safety Cluster			51,997
U.S. Department of Homeland Security:			
Passed through State of Arizona Homeland Security: Homeland Security Grant Program	97.067	EMW-2024-SS-05080AZDOHS-HSGP-240501-01	42,000
Total U.S. Department of Homeland Security			42,000
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards			\$ 4,162,700

See accompanying Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards.

City of Cottonwood
Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The financial reporting entity, as defined by the Governmental Accounting Standard Board (“GASB”), consists of the primary government, which is the City of Cottonwood, Arizona (the “City”), organizations for which the primary government is financially accountable, and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity’s financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.

Note 2 – Basis of Accounting

Funds received under the various grant programs have been recorded within the general fund and special revenue funds of the City. The City utilizes the modified accrual method of accounting for the general fund and special revenue funds. The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (“Schedule”) is presented in accordance with the 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). Therefore, some amounts presented in the schedule may differ from amounts presented in, or used in, the preparation of the City’s basic financial statements.

Note 3 – Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

The accompanying Schedule presents the activity of all federal financial assistance programs of the City. Federal financial assistance received directly from federal agencies as well as federal financial assistance passed through the State of Arizona is included in the Schedule. The Schedule was prepared from only the accounts of various grant programs and, therefore, does not present the financial position, change in net position/fund balance, or results of operations of the City.

Note 4 – Subrecipients

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, there were no amounts provided to subrecipients.

Note 5 – Indirect Cost Rate

The City has not elected to use the de minimis indirect rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance (10 percent of modified total direct costs for awards issued prior to October 1, 2024 and 15 percent for awards issued or amended on or after October 1, 2024).

Note 6 – Contingencies

Under the terms of federal and state grants, additional audits may be requested by the grantor agencies and certain costs may be questioned as not being appropriate expenditures under the terms of the grants. Such audits could lead to a request for reimbursement to the grantor agencies.

City of Cottonwood
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

Section I – Summary of Auditor’s Results

Financial Statements

Type of report the auditors issued on whether the financial statements audited were prepared in accordance with GAAP: Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting:

- Material weakness(es) identified? No
- Significant deficiency(ies) identified? None Reported

Noncompliance material to financial statements noted? No

Federal Awards

Internal control over major programs:

- Material weakness(es) identified? No
- Significant deficiency(ies) identified? None Reported

Type of Auditor’s report issued on compliance for major programs Unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)? No

Identification of major programs:

Assistance Listing Number(s)	Name of Federal Program or Cluster	Federal Expenditures
20.509	Formula Grants for Rural Areas and Tribal Transit Program	\$ 2,854,499
20.526	Federal Transit Cluster	<u>967,717</u>
	Total Expenditures of All Major Federal Programs	\$ 3,822,216
	Total Expenditures of Federal Awards	\$ 4,162,700
	Percentage of Total Expenditures of Federal Awards	91.82%

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between type A and type B programs \$750,000

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee in accordance with 2 CFR 200.520? Yes

City of Cottonwood
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs (Continued)
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

Section II – Financial Statement Findings

A. Current Year Findings – Financial Statement Audit

No findings were noted on the City's financial statement audit for the year ended June 30, 2025.

B. Prior Year Findings – Financial Statement Audit

No findings were noted on the City's financial statement audit for the year ended June 30, 2024.

Section III – Federal Award Findings

A. Current Year Findings and Questioned Costs – Major Federal Award Program Audit

No findings or questioned costs were noted on the City's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2025.

B. Prior Year Findings and Questioned Costs – Major Federal Award Program Audit

No findings or questioned costs were noted on the City's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2024.

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