

# Governmental audits

are essential for ensuring transparency, accountability, and responsible management of public resources. Here's why cities undergo these audits:

**Compliance with Federal Requirements:** Cities receive federal grants, loans, and other assistance. To ensure compliance with federal regulations, they undergo audits to verify that funds are used appropriately<sup>1</sup>.

**Financial Accountability:** Audits assess whether cities adhere to state laws, regulations, and their own policies. They evaluate financial statements, ensuring proper accounting and controls to prevent misuse of public funds<sup>2</sup>.

**Public Confidence:** Audits instill confidence among citizens and stakeholders by providing unbiased assessments of resource management and effectiveness in achieving intended results<sup>3</sup>.



- Chula Vista Councilmember Andrea Cardenas Under Investigation for Violating Public Disclosure Laws on Conflict of Interest and Economic Interest

• *FPPC investigates Chula Vista Councilmember Andrea Cardenas over alleged violations of public disclosure laws related to conflicts of interest and economic interests*

- The Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) of California is investigating claims that Andrea Cardenas, a Councilmember in Chula Vista, violated public disclosure laws relating to conflicts of interest and economic interests,

- according to a May 3 report by the San Diego Union-Tribune.

• The FPPC has notified Laura Wilkinson Sinton, who filed the complaint in February, that it will be looking into the allegations made against Cardenas. Sinton, a cannabis business owner in the area, previously sued the city in 2020 over a permit application for her own business,

- **Caligrown.**

• According to the FPPC complaint, Cardenas failed to disclose the

- **cannabis companies represented by Grassroots Resources,**

**the political consulting firm that she works for, in her public statements of economic interest.**

### Caligrown vs. City of Chula Vista

INVOICE	INVOICE DATE	ATTORNEY FEES	OTHER FEES	INVOICE AMOUNT	REIMBURSEMENTS FROM HDA
54322	01/13/2023	\$4,800.00	\$60.88	\$4,860.88	\$4,860.88
54645	02/03/2023	\$1,184.00	\$86.00	\$1,270.00	\$1,270.00
55132	03/10/2023	\$2,257.00	\$0.00	\$2,257.00	\$2,257.00
55500	04/10/2023	\$10,363.00	\$206.09	\$10,569.09	\$10,369.09
55500	05/10/2023	\$2,467.00	\$16.95	\$2,483.95	\$2,483.95
56361	06/09/2023	\$4,548.00	\$225.90	\$4,773.90	\$4,773.90
56729	07/05/2023	\$1,258.00	\$0.00	\$1,258.00	\$1,258.00
57071	08/16/2023	\$646.00	\$7.00	\$653.00	\$653.00
57277	09/11/2023	\$7,343.00	\$0.00	\$7,343.00	\$7,343.00
57776	10/06/2023	\$15,506.00	\$0.00	\$15,506.00	Pending
Total Invoices				\$50,774.82	
Total Reimbursed to date					\$35,268.82

50,774.82

# Verdugo proposes council member suspension

By **Albert Fulcher**

11/24/2023



- Chula Vista City Attorney candidate Attorney Marco Verdugo held a press conference in the Chula Vista City Council courtyard Monday, proposing
- a three-point comprehensive Anti-Corruption Action Plan to **fight corruption and hold City Hall accountable.**
- “Chula Vista is infamous for its campaign finunlimited timeframe of which candidates are allowed ance loopholes, most notably the to carry debt after the election,” he said.  
Verdugo wants to clearly define “extension of credit”
- My plan is a commitment to restoring faith in our city’s governance and ensuring that Chula Vista is a model for ethical leadership