

Each spring, the Metro Auditor asks for input from Metro Councilors and managers on what audits to schedule for the coming fiscal year. In an annual retreat, the Auditor's Office reviews potential audit areas and evaluates the risk that each area represents to Metro operations. At the end of this process, a final audit schedule is issued.

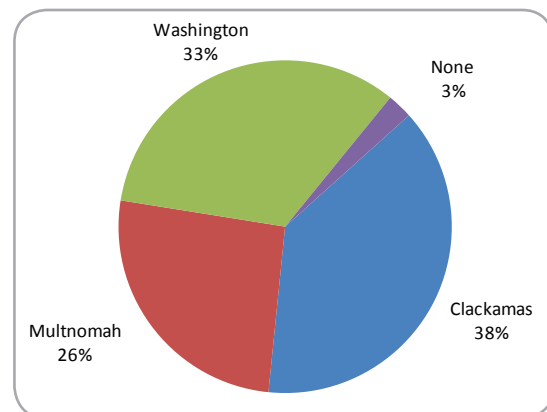
This year, the Auditor increased the scope of the input. A survey was designed and sent to elected officials and planning commissioners in the Metro region. The survey listed 15 potential audit areas. Officials were asked to rank each area based on the value and difficulty of completing an audit. Responses were collected from March 7th through April 6th, 2011. A total of 322 surveys were sent. Responses were anonymous, although respondents were asked to identify their position and the government represented. Eighty-one responses were received.

RESPONDENT PROFILE

Over half of the responses (52%) were from elected officials and 37% were from planning commissioners. Responses were received from officials in 25 of the 28 local governments in the Metro Region. See Exhibit 2 next page. The least amount of responses was received from officials in governments in Multnomah County (26%).

The results should not be interpreted as a representative sample. They can only be interpreted as representing the answers given by these respondents at the time of the survey. In addition, not all respondents responded to every question. If a respondent lacked knowledge about a particular audit area, they were instructed to leave it blank. Therefore, the results will be used only to augment the Auditor's Office discussion of the areas that would most likely benefit from an audit in the next year.

Exhibit 1: Respondents by county



Source: Metro Auditor's Office analysis of survey



Local Jurisdiction Survey Results

Exhibit 2: Respondents by jurisdiction

Clackamas County	1
Multnomah County	3
Washington County	3
Beaverton	6
Cornelius	2
Damascus	4
Durham	0
Fairview	2
Forest Grove	3
Gladstone	3
Gresham	6
Happy Valley	5
Hillsboro	3
Johnson City	2
King City	3
Lake Oswego	6
Maywood Park	0
Milwaukie	3
Oregon City	3
Portland	3
Rivergrove	0
Sherwood	1
Tigard	2
Troutdale	2
Tualatin	4
West Linn	1
Wilsonville	3
Wood Village	5
Other	2
TOTAL	81

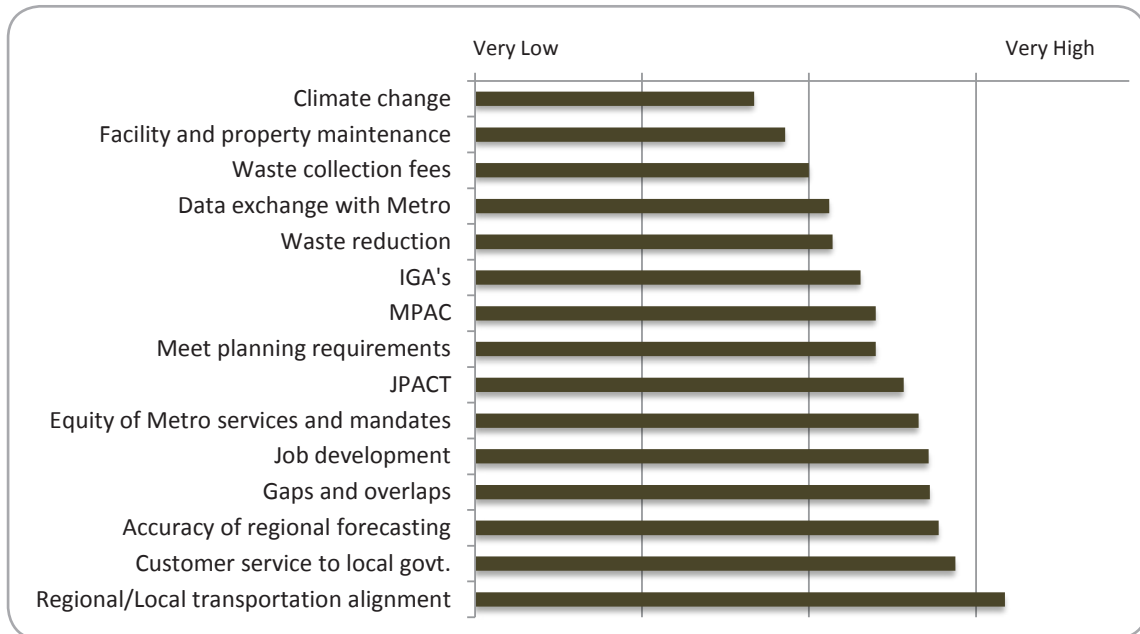
Source: Metro Auditor's Office analysis of survey



RESULTS

On average, respondents' valued the audit area of alignment of regional transportation vision with local needs highest. For complete results, see exhibit below.

Exhibit 3: Audit area ranked by value



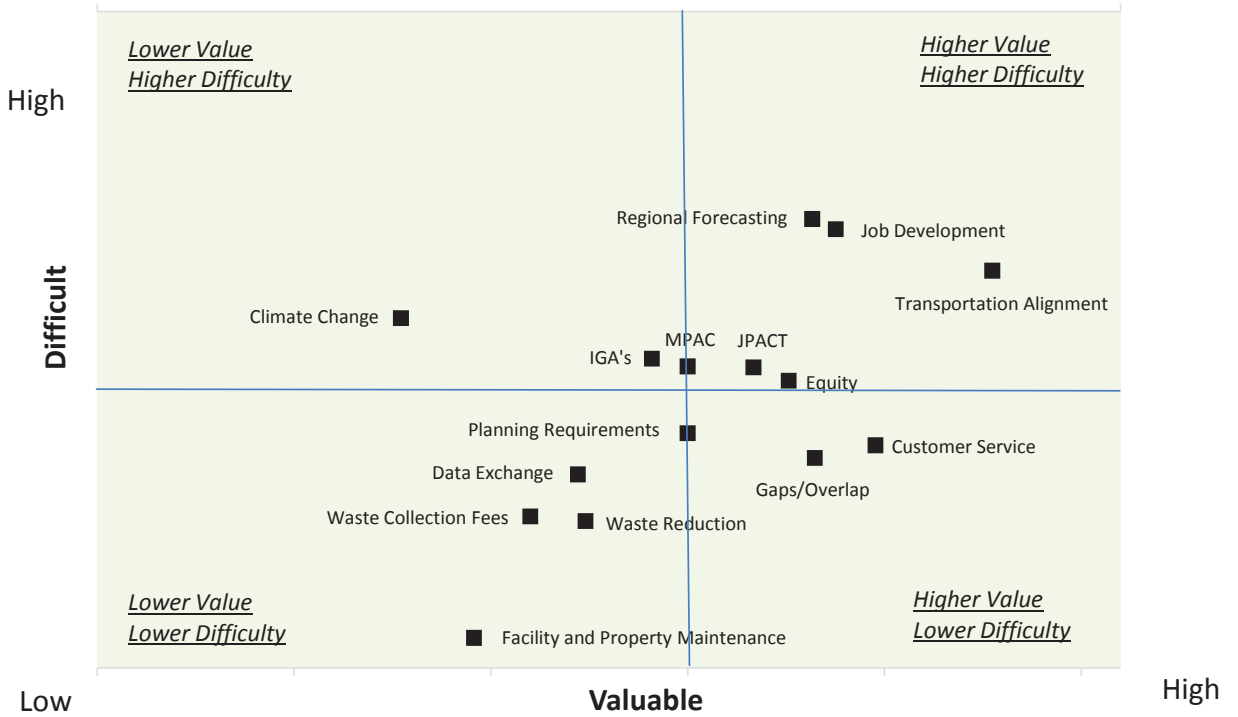
Source: Metro Auditor's Office analysis of survey

Respondents were also asked to rank the level of difficulty to complete an audit in each of these areas. Respondents judged an audit of transportation alignment and regional strategies to address climate change to be the most difficult areas to audit.

Placing the average ratings for value and difficulty on quadrants shows the relative value of the audit area to difficulty of the area to audit. See Exhibit 4 next page. Value is the single most important factor to consider when scheduling audits. Audit difficulty assesses the level of resources needed to complete the audit and will affect how many audits can be scheduled.

Local Jurisdiction Survey Results

Exhibit 4: Relative value and difficulty of audit areas



Source: Metro Auditor's Office analysis of survey