



# AUDIT HIGHLIGHTS

## Infrastructure Condition Assessment

June 14, 2019

Audit Report No. 1905

### WHY WE DID THIS AUDIT

This audit of Infrastructure Condition Assessment evaluates the management processes and controls, including contracts relating to condition assessments of City infrastructure. These infrastructure assets include bridges, parking garages, sidewalks, streetlights, parking lots, and stormwater drainage assets.

### BACKGROUND

As part of the City's annually adopted comprehensive financial policies, proposed capital projects are required to prioritize prevention of existing infrastructure deterioration before the addition of new infrastructure.

Preventing deterioration through effective asset management can also minimize an asset's total life cycle cost while maintaining its desired condition.

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) regularly inspects approximately 230 bridges in the City and recommends needed repairs or maintenance. The Public Works division is responsible to perform any needed work.

Public Works is also responsible to inspect and maintain the other bridges, along with parking garages, parking lots, stormwater drainage assets, streetlights, and sidewalks.

### City Auditor's Office

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### WHAT WE FOUND

**Inspections of City bridges have not been consistently monitored, and recommended repairs and maintenance have not been completed.**

Processes to review and monitor bridge inspection results and perform recommended work have not been implemented. Specifically:

- Since 2014, ADOT bridge repair and maintenance recommendations have not been addressed. Also, the bridge inspection inventory has not been updated to add new bridges or to remove privately owned ones.
- An inspection and maintenance program for bridges not inspected by ADOT has not yet been established.

**The management of other infrastructure assets' condition assessments could be improved.**

Condition assessments are not consistently performed and needed repairs and maintenance completed. We found:

- Recommended repairs and maintenance from the parking garage inspection program have not been addressed.
- Drainage asset inspections do not consistently identify needed repairs and maintenance.
- Condition assessment and maintenance programs have not yet been fully developed and implemented for parking lots, streetlights and sidewalks.

### WHAT WE RECOMMEND

We recommend the Public Works Division Director require:

- Policies and procedures be developed to ensure that the City's bridge conditions are assessed and the bridges maintained.
- Appropriate condition assessment and maintenance programs be established for parking garages, drainage assets, parking lots, sidewalks and streetlights, including addressing identified maintenance and repair needs.

### MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

The division agreed and plans to complete bridge assessment and maintenance program improvements by December 2020 and programs for other infrastructure assets by July 2021.