



State Auditor
Rebecca Otto

OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

E-Update

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January 11, 2013

1. Released: Large Public Pension Plan Investment Report
 2. Available: Request for County TIF District Information Form
 3. Meeting: Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group
 4. Avoiding Pitfalls: Cooperative Purchasing Venture
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1. Released: Large Public Pension Plan Investment Report

The Office of the State Auditor has released the Large Public Pension Plan Investment Report. The report reviews the investment performance of Minnesota's large public pension plans for the 2011 calendar year. The individual large public pension plans included in this report are the Bloomington Fire Department Relief Association, the Duluth Teachers' Retirement Fund Association, and the St. Paul Teachers' Retirement Fund Association.

To view the complete report, which includes an Executive Summary, graphs, and tables, go to:

<http://www.auditor.state.mn.us/default.aspx?page=20130109.000>.

2. Available: Request for County TIF District Information Form

The 2012 Request for County TIF District Information Form has been posted on the OSA website. The completed form is due by February 22. The forms can be found at:

<http://www.auditor.state.mn.us/default.aspx?page=tiforms>.

3. Meeting: Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group

The final meeting of the 2012-2013 Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group will be held on Tuesday, January 15 at 11:00 a.m. at our 525 Park Street office in Saint Paul. Meetings are open to the public. Working Group meeting materials are available at:

<http://www.auditor.state.mn.us/default.aspx?page=reliefworkinggroup>.

4. Avoiding Pitfalls: Cooperative Purchasing Venture

Vendors sometimes market their businesses by claiming that local units of government can purchase from them without bidding. Vendors may emphasize that they are part of the “state contract” or that they will sell at the “state contract price.” Public entities should be cautious before proceeding with these purchases. Public entities cannot avoid the normal bidding requirements simply by purchasing from these vendors.

The Cooperative Purchasing Venture (CPV) is a members-only joint powers program operated by the Minnesota Department of Administration. The CPV allows members to purchase goods and services under contract terms established by the State of Minnesota. It is available only to governmental units that have joined the CPV, but there is currently no fee. More information on the CPV, and how to become a member, can be found at:

<http://www.mmd.admin.state.mn.us/cpv2.htm>.

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The Office of the State Auditor is located at 525 Park Street, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55103. Phone: (651) 296-2551 or (800) 627-3529 (TTY) Fax: (651) 296-4755. Web: www.auditor.state.mn.us.