

DAVID LAURET
VINEYARD
CITY COUNCIL

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Auditor's Report

There have been a lot of posts and comments about the recent State Auditor's report.

It seems to me that the most important point made in the report is found in the Management Letter that accompanied the report. In that introduction, the Auditor asked us to "set a tone of civility and transparency when addressing inquiries and concerns." She says, "with very limited exceptions," the public should be able to inspect city records and supporting documentation "with minimal roadblocks."

I believe this is a clear call for us to bring back old-fashioned, honest-to-goodness transparency—that is, openness, honesty, thoroughness, timeliness, accessibility, and accountability.

As most of you probably know, bringing transparency to our city government has been the centerpiece of my campaign.

That means, if elected, I do not intend to keep details of how the city is run or what it is doing or how it is spending our tax money a secret! (I will be open and honest about what we are doing.)

If I am required to keep some things secret by law, I will keep those details to myself. (I will be accountable to the law as well as the people of Vineyard.)

But I will insist on full disclosure at the earliest possible moment. (I will be timely with, as well as accountable for, the public's information.)

As important as the other findings and observations in the auditor's report may be, the recommendations I believe we can benefit most from are these:

Be transparent.

Work constructively with each other.

Search for solutions that benefit all.

#TransparentGovernment #PublicTrust #CommunityEngagement #OpenGovernment