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Report Highlights

The Consolidated Government of the City of Baton Rouge and the Parish of East Baton Rouge (City-Parish)

Audit Control # 50170022 • Investigative Audit Services • May 2018

Why We Conducted This Audit

We began our audit after receiving information regarding the sale of surplus real estate and the contracts the City-Parish entered into as part of the Baton Rouge Area Violence Elimination (BRAVE) program.

What We Found

Sale of Surplus Real Estate

The City-Parish sold four pieces of real estate (immovable property) between January 2014 and February 2017 that it no longer needed for public purposes. Two of these properties were sold at auction for less than appraised value, which may be a constitutionally-prohibited donation of public property. In addition, the City-Parish may have violated its ordinances by failing to fix minimum prices and publish notices of proposed ordinances as required by state law.

BRAVE Contracts

The City-Parish contracted with area vendors to provide services in connection with the BRAVE program. Two of those contracts lacked sufficient detail to determine whether the amounts the City-Parish paid were reasonable in light of vendors' services. As a result, the City-Parish may not have received adequate value for all of the BRAVE funds expended, which may violate the state constitution.

View the full report, including management's response, at www.la.gov.