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OSIG NEWS

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HELP WANTED FOR SNOW REMOVAL IN VIRGINIA

Sufficient contractor resources are not available to assist the Virginia Department of Transportation in snow removal. That is the assessment made by the Office of the State Inspector General in its recently published [report](#) to Governor Glenn Youngkin.

“OSIG performed this audit in response to the 2018 conviction and sentencing of the former Burke Area Headquarters superintendent in an \$11 million bribery scheme,” said State Inspector General Michael C. Westfall. “OSIG’s focus developed into the snow removal mobilization process.”

For five of the six area headquarters reviewed, OSIG noted shortages in the upper levels of snow removal mobilization plans. With additional requirements such as workers compensation insurance and automatic vehicle locator monitoring devices, VDOT has experienced a reduction in the number of contractors interested in meeting these requirements.

OSIG also found that VDOT did not always obtain, verify and record documentation that a contractor’s equipment had proper insurance coverage before the contractor used that equipment in snow removal operations.

Among the report’s recommendations is that VDOT find a balance between having sufficient resources and working with acceptable levels of risk. OSIG has offered to assist VDOT post-audit with this multifaceted issue.

VDOT management has concurred with all of the report’s findings and has indicated it plans to implement corrective action by December 15, 2022.

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Established in 2012, the Virginia Office of the State Inspector General manages the State Fraud, Waste and Abuse Hotline; conducts investigations and performance audits of state agencies; provides training and standards for the commonwealth’s internal audit programs; and conducts inspections and reviews of Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services-run facilities and programs.