

**DATE:** August 1, 2018

TO: Selena Cuffee-Glenn

Chief Administrative Officer

FROM: Louis Lassiter *LGL* 

City Auditor

**SUBJECT:** APA Comparative Cost Report Analysis FY2017

The City Auditor's Office has completed an analysis of the FY2017 Virginia Auditor of Public Accounts (APA) Comparative Report of Local Government Revenues and Expenditures.

We obtained information from the APA report and performed further analysis to compare the City of Richmond with similar cities in the Commonwealth with populations of approximately 100,000 or more, as well as Arlington County Virginia. These particular localities were chosen to provide relative benchmarks due to similar services provided by larger more urban localities. This analysis is provided to the Administration and City Council for reference and continued analysis of possible improvement opportunities.

This work provides an objective summary of information from the APA's report. However, as required by Government Auditing Standards (2011 Revision) section 2.12 issued by the U.S. Government Accountability Office, we must communicate that this evaluation does not constitute an audit conducted in accordance with Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards (GAGAS).

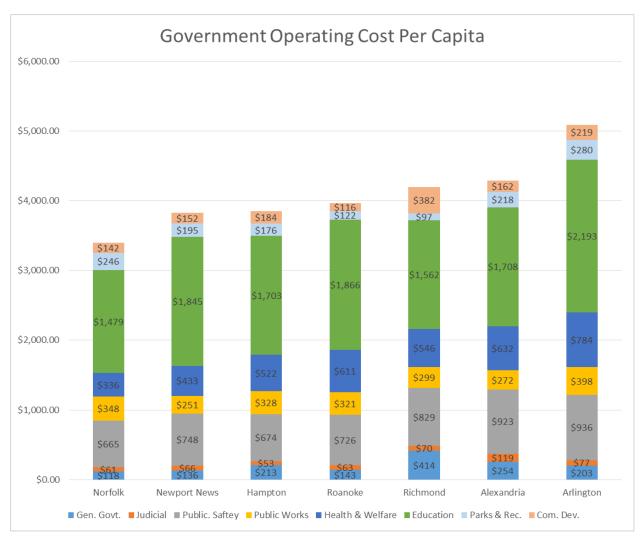
We would like to thank the Finance Department of the City of Richmond, as well as Chesterfield County for providing baseline data. We would also like to recognize Arlington County, and the Cities of Newport News and Norfolk for their assistance. Please contact us if you have any questions regarding this analysis.

## Attachment

c: The Richmond Audit Committee
 The Richmond City Council
 Ms. Lenora Reid, DCAO Finance and Administration
 Mr. John Wack, Director of Finance

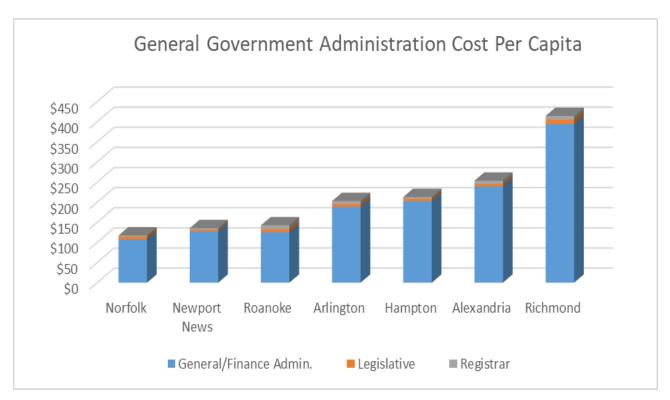
## **FY2017 ANALYSIS SUMMARY**

The charts and schedules that follow show a high level ranking amongst various categories from the FY17 Comparative Cost Report. The first chart below is a roll up for all General Government Operations with subsequent charts providing further details for these categories. As the APA noted the "report provides a uniform presentation of fiscal information; however, we caution users not to base conclusions solely on this report's data." Therefore this information should not be used solely as an indicator of efficiency or performance without further analysis of the scope of services amongst those entities being ranked. Neighboring Counties are not included in the report, Richmond has some public utility and other services that are not comparable to our neighboring Counties.



	Gen.		Public.	Public	Health &		Parks &	Com.	
Locality	Govt.	Judicial	Safety	Works	Welfare	Education	Rec.	Dev.	Total
Norfolk	\$117.55	\$61.20	\$665.32	\$347.61	\$336.34	\$1,479.27	\$246.40	\$142.49	\$3,396.18
Newport News	\$135.64	\$66.09	\$747.65	\$250.65	\$433.28	\$1,845.12	\$195.17	\$151.65	\$3,825.25
Hampton	\$213.03	\$52.89	\$673.84	\$328.49	\$522.20	\$1,703.37	\$176.26	\$184.25	\$3,854.33
Roanoke	\$142.59	\$63.39	\$726.16	\$320.86	\$611.13	\$1,865.88	\$121.51	\$116.17	\$3,967.69
Richmond	\$414.41	\$69.63	\$829.18	\$299.24	\$545.52	\$1,561.83	\$96.57	\$381.56	\$4,197.94
Alexandria	\$253.51	\$119.25	\$922.63	\$271.78	\$631.50	\$1,708.48	\$217.96	\$161.65	\$4,286.76
Arlington	\$202.96	\$77.27	\$935.96	\$397.87	\$784.47	\$2,193.03	\$280.37	\$218.91	\$5,090.84

## **FY2017 ANALYSIS BY FUNCTIONAL AREAS**

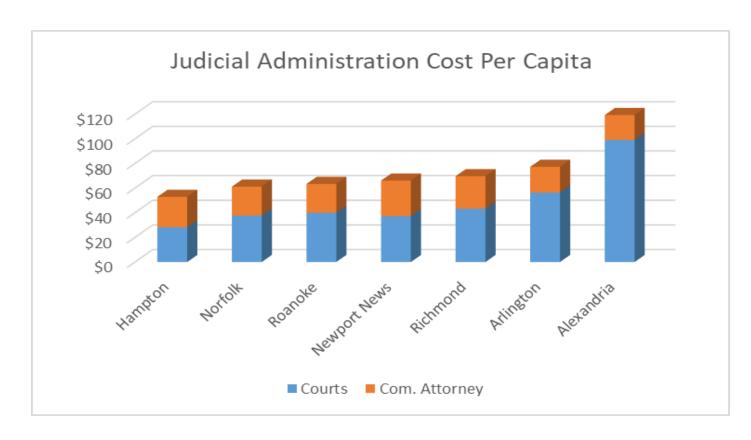


Locality	<b>General Finance</b>	Legislative	Registrar	Total
	& Admin.			
Norfolk	\$106.88	\$7.43	\$3.24	\$117.55
Newport News	\$127.08	\$4.54	\$4.02	\$135.64
Roanoke	\$125.07	\$7.78	\$9.74	\$142.59
Arlington	\$188.10	\$7.24	\$7.62	\$202.96
Hampton	\$202.20	\$6.17	\$4.66	\$213.03
Alexandria	\$238.74	\$6.40	\$8.37	\$253.51
Richmond	\$394.15	\$10.93	\$9.33	\$414.41

NOTE: See APPENDIX A: Richmond ranked the highest of the seven and well above the average of \$211.38. We gathered (unaudited) detail information from Newport News, Norfolk and Arlington County to identify significant cost drivers that caused Richmond's per capita cost to be \$414.

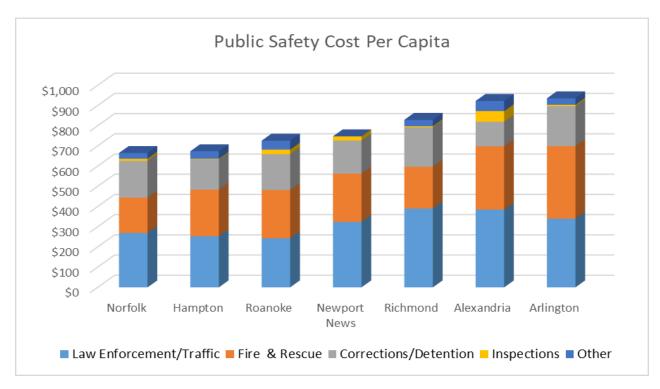
The four localities reviewed reported a variety of information for this category so finding definitive comparisons were challenging and would require even further study. However, we noted the higher cost per capita (\$414) for Richmond is partially due to payments of \$48 million or over half of the \$91 million reported for this category as follows:

- \$13 million payment to GRTC
- \$19 million payments to other government agencies
- \$16.5 million Information Technology costs were centrally included.



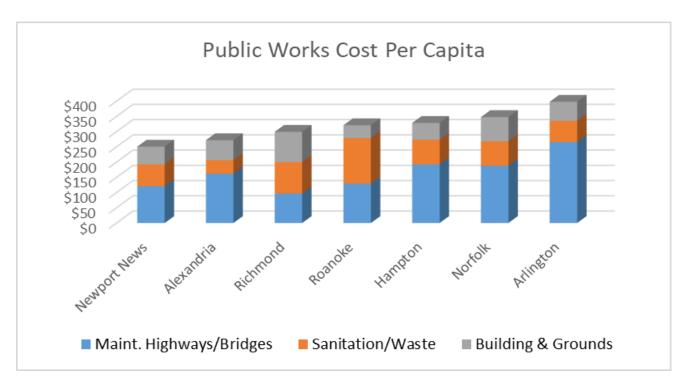
Locality	Courts	Commonwealth Attorney	Total
Hampton	\$28.08	\$24.81	\$52.89
Norfolk	\$37.63	\$23.57	\$61.20
Roanoke	\$39.89	\$23.50	\$63.39
Newport News	\$37.18	\$28.91	\$66.09
Richmond	\$43.27	\$26.36	\$69.63
Arlington	\$56.41	\$20.86	\$77.27
Alexandria	\$99.05	\$20.20	\$119.25

Richmond ranked 5<sup>th</sup> of the seven but below the average of \$72.82



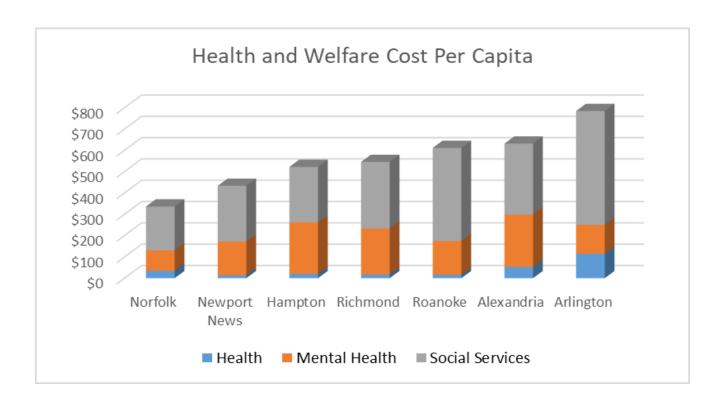
Locality	Law	Fire &	Corrections	Inspections	Other	Total
	<b>Enforcement</b>	Rescue	& Detention			
	& Traffic					
Norfolk	\$269.02	\$175.34	\$182.43	\$10.07	\$28.46	\$665.32
Hampton	\$253.29	\$230.10	\$150.62	\$3.02	\$36.81	\$673.84
Roanoke	\$243.05	\$238.96	\$177.66	\$22.21	\$44.28	\$726.16
Newport News	\$323.90	\$239.15	\$163.86	\$20.71	\$0.03	\$747.65
Richmond	\$390.20	\$206.71	\$194.90	\$6.03	\$31.34	\$829.18
Alexandria	\$385.03	\$314.01	\$120.87	\$52.59	\$50.13	\$922.63
Arlington	\$340.14	\$358.98	\$197.40	\$7.36	\$32.08	\$935.96

Richmond ranked 5<sup>th</sup> of the seven and slightly above the average of \$785.82



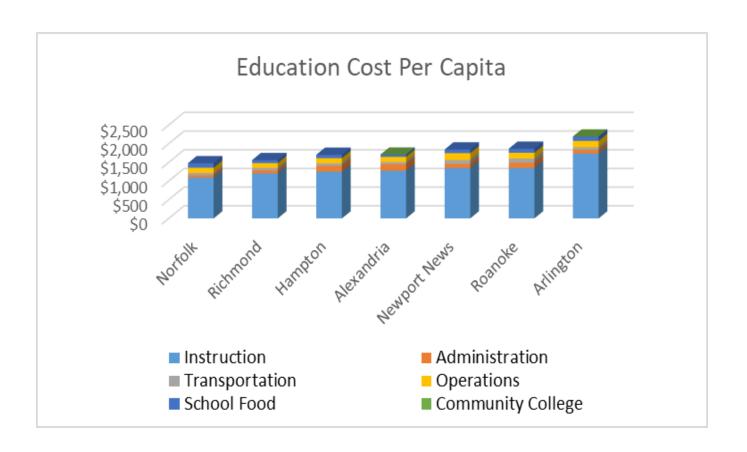
Locality	Maintenance	Sanitation	Building &	Total
	Highways/Bridges	& Waste	Grounds	
Newport News	\$120.70	\$71.57	\$58.38	\$250.65
Alexandria	\$161.95	\$44.40	\$65.43	\$271.78
Richmond	\$96.54	\$103.22	\$99.48	\$299.24
Roanoke	\$129.10	\$149.62	\$42.14	\$320.86
Hampton	\$191.99	\$81.36	\$55.14	\$328.49
Norfolk	\$187.71	\$80.56	\$79.34	\$347.61
Arlington	\$265.49	\$69.83	\$62.55	\$397.87

Richmond ranked 3rd lowest of the seven and below the average of \$316.64.



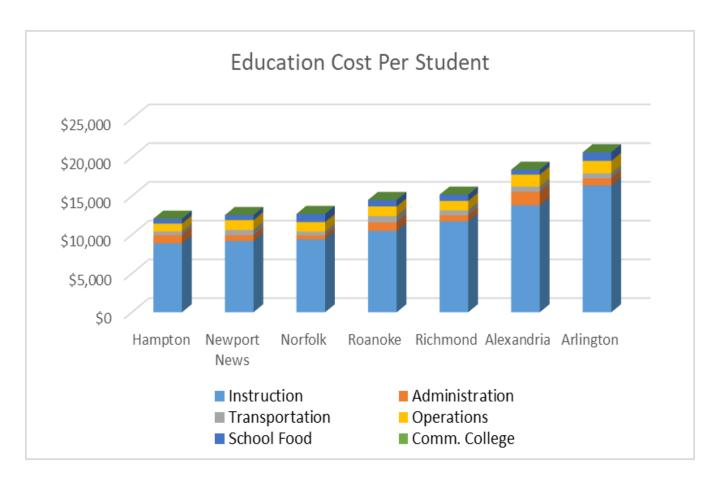
Locality	Health	Mental	Social	Total
		Health	Services	
Norfolk	\$34.66	\$95.46	\$206.22	\$336.34
Newport News	\$12.90	\$158.82	\$261.56	\$433.28
Hampton	\$19.79	\$241.73	\$260.68	\$522.20
Richmond	\$17.06	\$216.24	\$312.22	\$545.52
Roanoke	\$16.14	\$157.89	\$437.10	\$611.13
Alexandria	\$52.30	\$246.14	\$333.06	\$631.50
Arlington	\$114.13	\$136.30	\$534.04	\$784.47

Richmond ranked 4<sup>th</sup> of the seven and below the average of \$552.06



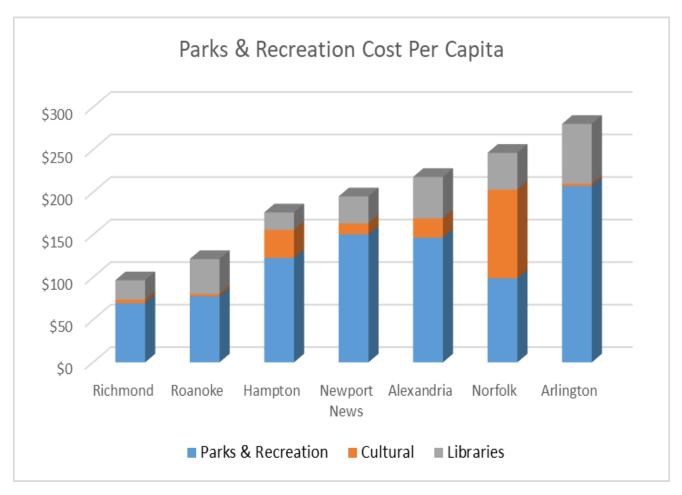
Locality	Instruction	Administration	Transportation	Operations	School	Com.	Total
					Food	College	
Norfolk	\$1,097.39	\$60.57	\$56.78	\$142.23	\$122.30		\$1,479.27
Richmond	\$1,207.73	\$80.44	\$64.22	\$127.52	\$81.92		\$1,561.83
Hampton	\$1,255.08	\$149.52	\$67.18	\$143.13	\$88.46		\$1,703.37
Alexandria	\$1,281.86	\$162.83	\$62.67	\$143.39	\$57.65	\$0.08	\$1,708.48
Newport News	\$1,353.06	\$108.60	\$99.67	\$188.32	\$95.47		\$1,845.12
Roanoke	\$1,351.83	\$140.03	\$107.61	\$158.87	\$107.54		\$1,865.88
Arlington	\$1,738.83	\$97.25	\$69.46	\$169.92	\$117.44	\$0.13	\$2,193.03

Richmond ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest of the seven and below the average of \$1,765.28



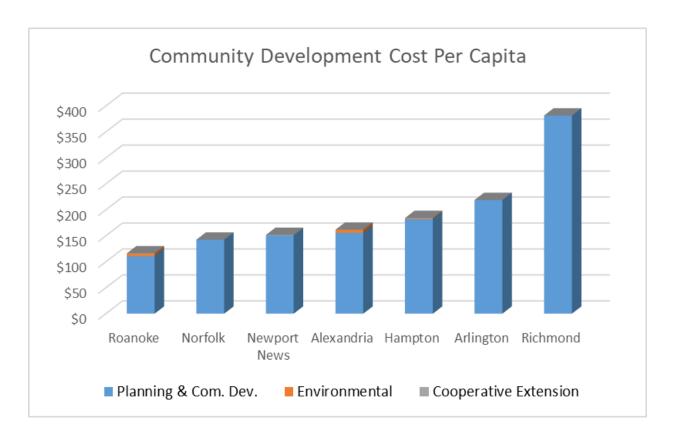
Locality	Instruction	Admin.	Transportation	Operations	School	Comm.	Total
					Food	College	
Hampton	\$8,893.65	\$1,059.52	\$476.05	\$1,014.24	\$626.84	\$0.00	\$12,070.30
Newport News	\$9,199.72	\$738.39	\$677.68	\$1,280.43	\$649.12	\$0.00	\$12,545.34
Norfolk	\$9,413.32	\$519.56	\$487.05	\$1,220.04	\$1,049.08	\$0.00	\$12,689.05
Roanoke	\$10,498.15	\$1,087.46	\$835.69	\$1,233.77	\$835.14	\$0.00	\$14,490.21
Richmond	\$11,734.75	\$781.58	\$623.99	\$1,239.03	\$795.97	\$0.00	\$15,175.32
Alexandria	\$13,796.61	\$1,752.53	\$674.51	\$1,543.30	\$620.48	\$0.86	\$18,388.29
Arlington	\$16,364.43	\$915.24	\$653.70	\$1,599.15	\$1,105.25	\$1.22	\$20,638.99

Richmond ranked 5<sup>th</sup> of the seven and slightly above the average of \$15,142.50



Locality	Parks & Recreation	Cultural	Libraries	Total
Richmond	\$69.66	\$4.17	\$22.74	\$96.57
Roanoke	\$77.88	\$2.68	\$40.95	\$121.51
Hampton	\$122.71	\$33.05	\$20.50	\$176.26
Newport News	\$150.52	\$12.91	\$31.74	\$195.17
Alexandria	\$146.60	\$22.68	\$48.68	\$217.96
Norfolk	\$98.87	\$104.16	\$43.37	\$246.40
Arlington	\$207.26	\$2.81	\$70.30	\$280.37

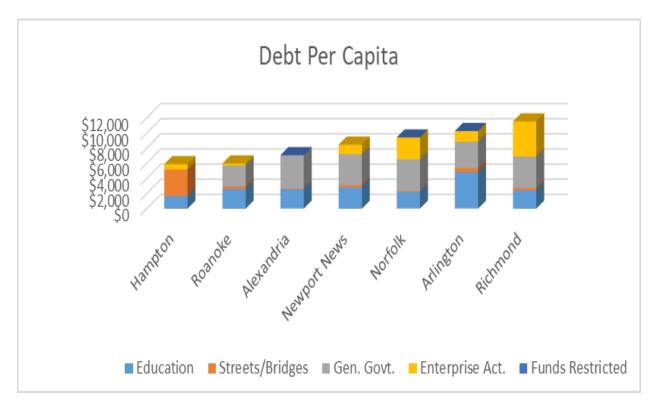
Richmond ranked the lowest of the seven and well below the average of \$190.61



Locality	Planning &	Environmental	Cooperative	Total
	Com. Dev.		Extension	
Roanoke	\$110.70	\$4.66	\$0.81	\$116.17
Norfolk	\$142.49	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$142.49
Newport News	\$150.45	\$0.00	\$1.20	\$151.65
Alexandria	\$155.86	\$5.79	\$0.00	\$161.65
Hampton	\$181.89	\$1.47	\$0.89	\$184.25
Arlington	\$218.91	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$218.91
Richmond	\$381.56	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$381.56

Richmond ranked the highest of the seven and well above the average of \$193.81. The primary cost driver for the cost per capita (\$382) for Richmond is due to \$66.4 million of the \$84.5 million reported for this category being the Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority (RRHA).

Planning and Development Review	\$9,048,792
Economic/Community development	\$4,153,137
Economic Development Authority	\$4,983,362
RRHA	\$66,398,233
	\$84,583,524



Locality	Education	Streets /	Gen.	Enterprise	Funds	Total
		Bridges	Govt.	Act.	Restricted	
Hampton	\$1,653.83	\$3,500.31	\$0.00	\$721.77	-\$60.50	\$5,815.41
Roanoke	\$2,609.11	\$338.65	\$2,744.64	\$264.89	-\$5.41	\$5,951.88
Alexandria	\$2,555.88	\$77.28	\$4,426.24	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,059.40
Newport News	\$2,817.67	\$283.61	\$4,091.50	\$1,247.36	-\$11.44	\$8,428.70
Norfolk	\$2,211.75	\$117.79	\$4,184.15	\$2,884.26	\$0.00	\$9,397.95
Arlington	\$4,809.56	\$534.87	\$3,502.77	\$1,404.33	\$0.00	\$10,251.53
Richmond	\$2,422.14	\$295.77	\$4,166.79	\$4,632.43	-\$29.37	\$11,487.76

Richmond ranked the highest of the seven and well above the average of \$8,341.80. Richmond's Enterprise Activities are a primary reason debt per capita is higher and this debt is supported by user fees. Enterprise activities also serve customers outside of the city limits but in the Richmond region which can be a factor for this cost. The table to the right shows that General Government debt service to capita to be 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest out of the seven.

Locality	Gen. Govt. Debt Service
	Service Per Capita
Hampton	\$243.20
Roanoke	\$258.21
Richmond	\$275.60
Norfolk	\$314.92
Newport News	\$375.97
Alexandria	\$406.30
Arlington	\$449.93

## APPENDIX A

Oceaning	
Column   C	
Second   Control   Contr	
Decompose   Deco	
Decompose   Lane   Decompose	
Expending   Recorded   Activation   Expending   Recorded   Activation   Control   Activat	
Colorest	
Expenditures         Coasts         Libera         Notes         Expenditures         Fequentitures         Propried	
Expenditures         Costs         From 10         Note of production 13.21           Expenditures         Recovered         Architeles         Expenditures         Programment 13.21           Expenditures         Costs         (Form 110)         SEG 20.00         \$21.21           SEGGERS         SEG 20.00         \$21.20         \$21.21           SEGGERS         SEG 20.00         \$21.20         \$21.20           SEGGERS         SEG 20.00         \$21.20         \$21.20           SEGGERS         SEG 20.00         \$21.20         \$21.20           SEG 50.00         SEG 50.00         \$21.20         \$21.20 <th< td=""><td></td></th<>	
Geostications         Liess         Dank         Nate         Percentures         Expenditures         Costs         Chemisto         Percentures	\$1.53 \$0.07 \$0.02 \$0.02 \$0.03
Costs   Luss   Expenditures   Expenditures   Expenditures   Costs	
Costs   Cost	\$2,641,800 \$616,604 \$280,797 -\$12,566 \$57,814 \$1,555 \$6,299
	AS S NT SHO REHOUSE
	BUDGET-11 NON-DEPT AUTO/GENERAL LIAB INS POP INTERNAL SERVICES COST ALLOCATION-PRINT SHO COST ALLOCATION-PRINT SHO
COVERNMENT  Francial Amministration  Consisting  Consi	NG BB B
CENERAL C Centification Centif	