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AUDIT REPORT WINS NATIONAL RECOGNITION

LEXINGTON, KY -- The Association of Local Government Auditors (ALGA), a national audit association founded in 1985, has awarded its 2011 Gold Knighton Award for best performance audit in the Small Audit Shop category to the Metro Auditor – Portland, Oregon.

The audit report, *Administration of Large Contracts: Improvements Still Needed*, was judged on several key elements, such as the potential for significant impact, the persuasiveness of the conclusions, the focus on improving government efficiency and effectiveness, and its clarity, conciseness and innovation.

This audit focused on three high risk long-term contracts worth \$130 million: two in solid waste operations and one to provide food and beverage services at three visitor facilities. Metro potentially lost \$122,800 in payroll costs as a result of staffing levels lower than the level required by the contracts.

The report included six recommendations to put in place the basic components of a contract management system and improve management of assets, with which management concurred.

Judges felt the report was clear and concise, and the use of “secret shoppers” and development of performance measures to overcome the lack of contractor data was innovative and unique.

Each year, local government audit organizations from around the U.S. and Canada submit their best performance audit reports for judging.

The purpose of the competition is to improve government services by encouraging and increasing levels of excellence among local government auditors. Judges from peer organizations determined that this audit was among the best of 2011.