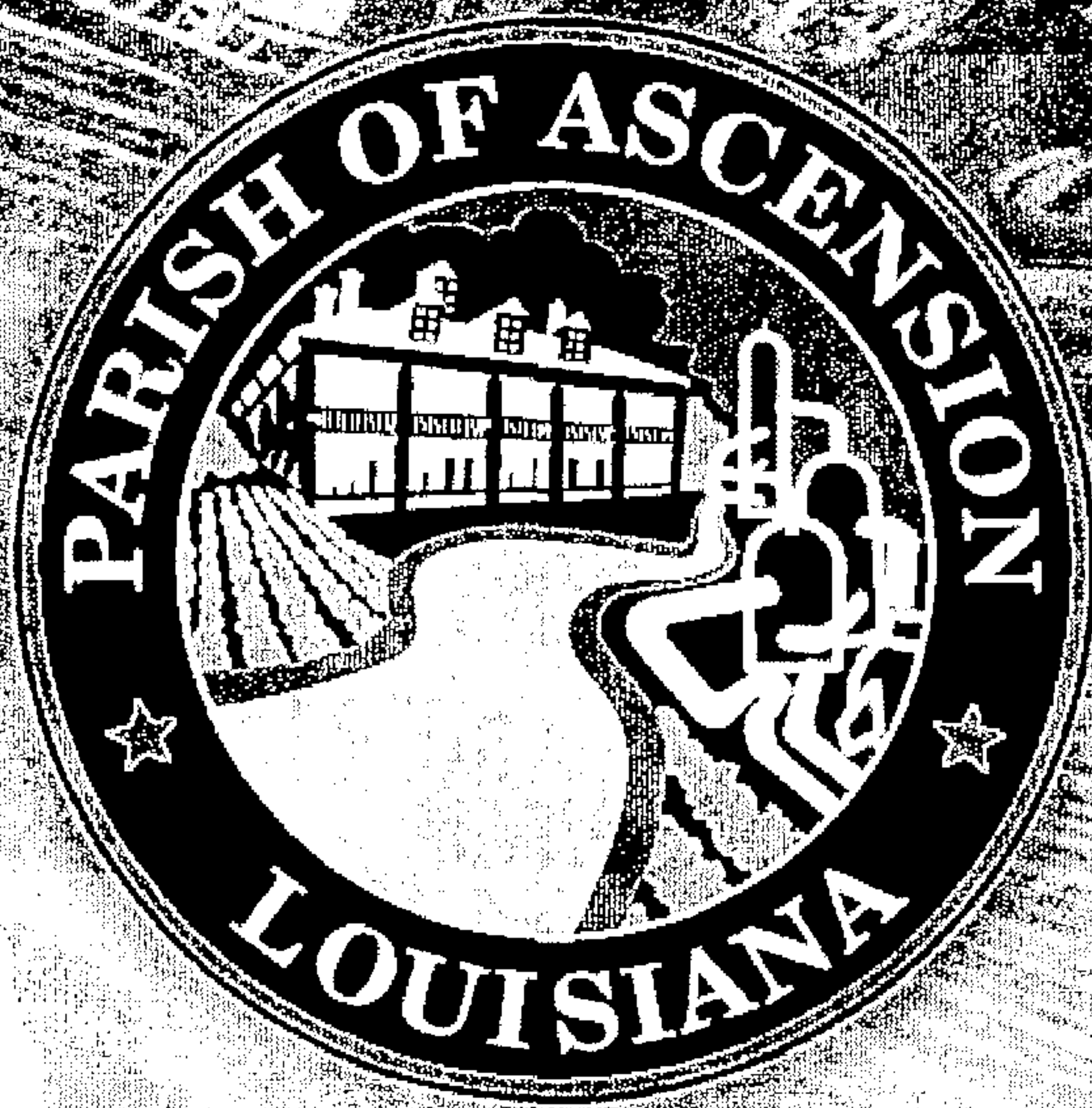


ASCENSION PARISH



2003

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

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PARISH OF ASCENSION

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2003

Under provisions of state law, this report is a public document. A copy of the report has been submitted to the entity and other appropriate public officials. The report is available for public inspection at the Baton Rouge office of the Legislative Auditor and, where appropriate, at the office of the parish clerk of court.

Release Date 7-7-04

PARISH OF ASCENSION

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Honorable Chairman and Members
of the Ascension Parish Council
Donaldsonville, Louisiana

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the **PARISH OF ASCENSION (PARISH)** as of and for the year ended December 31, 2003, which collectively comprise the Parish's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Parish's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We did not audit the financial statements of the following discretely presented component units:

District Attorney of the Twenty-Third Judicial District
Ascension Parish Sheriff
Ascension Parish Clerk of Court
Ascension Parish Assessor
Ascension Parish Court
Twenty-Third Judicial District Indigent Defender Board
Twenty-Third Judicial District Judicial Expense Fund
Ascension Parish Communication District
East Ascension Hospital Service District
West Ascension Hospital Service District
Ascension Parish Water Works District No. 2

Those statements represent 97% of the assets and 96% of the revenues of the aggregate discretely presented component units. The financial statements of those entities were audited by other auditors whose reports have been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for those entities, is based on the reports of the other auditors. We did not audit the financial statements of the Ascension Parish Library, a blended component unit, which statements reflect \$8,921,571 and \$3,483,819 of assets and revenues, respectively, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2003. Those financial statements were audited by another auditor whose report has been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for the Ascension Parish Library, is based solely on the report of the other auditor.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit and the reports of other auditors provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, based on our audit and the reports of other auditors, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the **PARISH** as of December 31, 2003, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

As described in Note 1 to the financial statements, the **PARISH** has implemented a new financial reporting model, as required by the provisions of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements – and Management’s Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments*, Statement No. 37, *Basic Financial Statements – and Management’s Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments*, Statement No. 38, *Certain Financial Statement Disclosures* and Interpretation No. 6, *Recognition and Measurement of Certain Liabilities and Expenditures in Government Fund Financial Statements*, as of January 1, 2003. This results in a change in the format and content of the basic financial statements.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated May 7, 2004, on our consideration of the **PARISH**'s internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants. That report is an integral part of our audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

The management’s discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison information on pages 4 through 17 and 73 through 81 are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We and the other auditors have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the **PARISH**'s basic financial statements. The combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements (Exhibits C through H-2) and the statistical information (Schedules S-1 through S-10) are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements of the **PARISH**. Such information have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied by us and the other auditors in the audit of the financial statements, and, in our opinion, based on our audit and the report of other auditors, is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Parish of Ascension
May 7, 2004

Page 3

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise the **PARISH**'s financial statements. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for the purposes of additional analysis as required by U. S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*, and is not a required part of the basic financial statements of the Parish of Ascension. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Faull & Winkler, LLC

Certified Public Accountants

Baton Rouge, Louisiana
May 7, 2004



MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Our analysis of Parish of Ascension's financial performance provides an overview of the Parish's financial activities for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003. Please read it in conjunction with the Parish's financial statements, which begin on page 19. The Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) is designed to focus on the current year's activities, resulting changes, and currently known facts. This MD&A should be read in conjunction with the financial statements which begin on Exhibit A.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

In 2003, Ascension Parish experienced a transitional year financially as sales tax collections continued to decrease relative to prior years, certain funds continued to experience operating deficits that are not sustainable and the priorities of operating and infrastructure needs and obligations are greater than available resources. Accordingly, there must be a logical and thoughtful alignment of Parish resources to community needs.

The major financial highlights for 2003 are as follows:

- Assets of the Parish's primary government exceeded its liabilities at the close of the year by approximately \$143 million (net assets). Of this amount, approximately \$3.8 million (unrestricted net assets) may be used without restrictions to meet the Parish's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.
- The primary government's total net assets decreased by approximately \$632,000 during 2003.

Governmental activities' net assets decreased by \$1.6 million, primarily the result of reductions in sales tax collections (\$1.3 million) and intergovernmental revenues of (\$1.5 million), and investment earnings (\$1 million) offset by an increase in property taxes (\$700,000) and a decrease in expenditures of approximately \$1.7 million.

Business type total net assets increased by \$921,000 primarily the result of grant funding of \$600,000 for the construction of Trailerland wastewater treatment system and an operating transfer of \$366,000 from governmental activities.

- As of the end of the year, the primary government's governmental funds reported combined fund balances of \$66.2 million, a decrease of \$7.5 million in comparison to the prior year. Approximately 95% of the fund balances are committed to capital projects (\$37.5 million), debt service (\$3.3 million) and other restricted purposes (\$22.4 million).
- The Parish's unreserved and undedicated fund balance, including its internal service funds, was approximately \$4.1 million at December 31, 2003. The sources of this balance were the Sales Tax Fund (\$2.8 million) and Internal Service Funds (\$1.2 million).

Significant aspects of the Parish's financial well being, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2003, is detailed throughout this analysis.

USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT

With the implementation of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 34, a government's presentation of financial statements has been greatly changed. The new statements focus on the government as a whole and on major individual funds. Both perspectives allow the reader to address relevant questions, broaden a basis for comparison from year to year and should enhance the Parish's accountability.

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities (on pages 19 and 20-21) provide information about the activities of the Parish as a whole and present a longer-term view of the Parish's finances.

Fund financial statements start on page 22. For governmental activities, these statements depict how services were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future spending. Fund financial statements also report the Parish's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements by providing information about the Parish's most significant funds.

Our auditor has provided assurance in their independent auditors' report, located immediately preceding this MD&A, that the financial statements, are fairly stated. Varying degrees of assurance are being provided by the auditor regarding the Required Supplemental Information and the Supplemental Information. A user of this report should read the independent auditors' report carefully to ascertain the level of assurance being provided for each part of this report.

Reporting the Parish as a Whole

Our analysis of the Parish as a whole begins on page 19. The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities report information about the Parish as a whole and about its activities in a way to determine if the Parish is in better condition as a result of the year's financial results. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to accounting methods used by most private-sector companies. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in these statements for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods. Since this is the year of implementation of this new reporting model, comparative financial data has not been presented. In future years, a comparative analysis of government-wide data will be presented.

These two statements report the Parish's net assets and related changes. You can think of the Parish's net assets—the difference between assets and liabilities—as one way to measure the Parish's financial health, or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the Parish's net assets are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. You will need to consider other non-financial factors, however, such as changes in the Parish's property and sales tax base and the condition of the Parish's roads and buildings, to assess the overall health of the Parish.

In the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities, we divide the Parish into two kinds of activities:

Governmental activities - Most of the Parish's basic services are reported here, including public works and transportation, public safety, health and welfare, road lighting, fire protection, recreation, promotion and economic development, and general administration. Property and sales taxes, franchise fees, and state and federal grants finance most of these activities.

Business-type activities – the Parish charges a fee to customers to help it cover all or most of the cost of certain services it provides. The Parish maintains two wastewater treatment systems and is in the process of constructing a third, which is all reported here.

At December 31, 2003, the Parish's net assets were \$143 million, of which \$3.8 million was unrestricted. Restricted net assets are reported separately to show legal constraints from debt covenants and enabling legislation that limits the Parish's ability to use those net assets for day-to-day operations.

Our analysis below of the primary government focuses on the net assets and change in net assets of the Parish's governmental activities.

Parish of Ascension
Statement of Net Assets
December 31, 2003

	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total Primary Government
Current and other assets	\$ 72,237,444	\$ 321,822	\$ 72,559,266
Capital assets	105,013,505	1,409,503	106,423,008
Total assets	<u>177,250,949</u>	<u>1,731,325</u>	<u>178,982,274</u>
Current and other liabilities	7,203,978	110,069	7,314,047
Long-term liabilities	29,000,590	-	29,000,590
Total liabilities	<u>36,204,568</u>	<u>110,069</u>	<u>36,314,637</u>
Net assets:			
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	74,431,549	1,409,503	75,841,052
Restricted	63,007,325	-	63,007,325
Unrestricted	3,607,507	211,753	3,819,260
Total net assets	<u>\$ 141,046,381</u>	<u>\$ 1,621,256</u>	<u>\$ 142,667,637</u>

Net assets of the Parish's governmental activities decreased by approximately 1% or \$1.6 million during 2003. Unrestricted net assets represent the part of net assets that can be used to finance day-to-day operations without constraints established by debt covenants, enabling legislation or other legal requirements.

The \$3.8 million in unrestricted net assets of governmental activities represents the accumulated results of operations. It means that if we had to pay off all of the debt, we would have \$3.8 million remaining. The changes in net assets are discussed later in this analysis. The net assets of the Parish's business activities rose by approximately \$921 thousand during 2003. The Parish operates two wastewater treatment systems for small subdivisions and is currently constructing a third. The primary focus of these funds is to operate on a profitable basis with no Parish governmental funds used to subsidize these operations.

The results of this year's operations for the primary government as a whole as reported in the Statement of Activities, are as follows:

Parish of Ascension
Changes in Net Assets
For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total
Revenues:			
Program revenues:			
Charges for services	\$ 2,170,371	\$ 47,895	\$ 2,218,266
Operating grants and contributions	3,316,737	-	3,316,737
Capital grants and contributions	4,937,567	596,402	5,533,969
General revenues:			
Ad Valorem taxes	9,324,912	-	9,324,912
Sales taxes	19,995,608	-	19,995,608
Other general revenues	2,555,132	1,555	2,556,687
Total revenues	<u>42,300,327</u>	<u>645,852</u>	<u>42,946,179</u>
Functions/Program Expenses:			
General government	8,386,120	-	8,386,120
Public safety	3,310,171	-	3,310,171
Public works	7,441,917	-	7,441,917
Health and welfare	4,019,488	-	4,019,488
Culture and recreation	3,928,611	-	3,928,611
Intergovernmental	105,790	-	105,790
Transportation & development	14,417,995	-	14,417,995
Sanitation	-	91,009	91,009
Interest on long-term debt	1,526,403	-	1,526,403
Total expenses	<u>43,136,495</u>	<u>91,009</u>	<u>43,227,504</u>
Increase (decrease) in net assets			
before transfers	(836,168)	554,843	(281,325)
Transfers	<u>(716,360)</u>	<u>365,960</u>	<u>(350,400)</u>
Increase (decrease) in net assets	<u>(1,552,528)</u>	<u>920,803</u>	<u>(631,725)</u>
Beginning net assets	<u>142,598,909</u>	<u>700,453</u>	<u>143,299,362</u>
Ending net assets	<u>\$ 141,046,381</u>	<u>\$ 1,621,256</u>	<u>\$ 142,667,637</u>

The decrease in net assets of \$632 thousand is due mainly to the decrease in sales and use tax revenues during 2003 with increases in public works expenses. Additionally, grant revenue received during 2003 decreased due to the completion of a grant project in 2002 for capital improvements at Lamar Dixon Expo Center. Program and general revenues did not increase to compensate for this change.

Component units - The government-wide financial statements include not only the Parish, but also legally separate entities for which the Parish is financially accountable. Financial information for these component units is reported separately from the financial information presented for the Parish. These separate legal entities are as follows:

Component Units

District Attorney of the Twenty-Third Judicial District
Ascension Parish Sheriff
Ascension Parish Clerk of Court
Ascension Parish Assessor
Ascension Parish Court
Twenty-Third Judicial District Indigent Defender Board
Twenty-Third Judicial District Judicial Expense Fund
Ascension Parish Communication District
Twenty-Third Judicial District Criminal Court Fund
East Ascension Hospital Service District
West Ascension Hospital Service District
Ascension Parish Waterworks District No. 2
Ascension Consolidated Utilities District No. 1

Fund Financial Statements

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. Traditional users of governmental financial statements will find the fund financial statements presentation more familiar. The focus is now on major funds, rather than generic fund types.

Reporting the Parish's Most Significant Funds

Our analysis of the Parish's major funds begins on page 22 with the fund financial statements that provide detailed information about the most significant funds—not the Parish as a whole. Some funds are required to be established by State law or by bond covenants. However, the Parish Council establishes other funds to control and manage money for particular purposes or meeting legal responsibilities for using certain taxes, grants, and other money. The Parish's two kinds of funds—governmental and proprietary—use different accounting approaches.

Governmental funds—Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Most of the Parish's basic services are reported in governmental funds. These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the Parish's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that

can be spent in the near future to finance the Parish's programs. We describe the relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds in a reconciliation to the financial statements. The governmental major funds (Exhibits A-2 and A-4) presentation is presented using modified accrual basis and focuses on the major funds of the Parish. Finally, combining financial statements of the nonmajor funds can be found in the Combining Nonmajor Fund Statements that follow the basic financial statements.

Proprietary funds—When the Parish charges customers for the services it provides—whether to outside customers or to other units of the Parish—these services are generally reported in proprietary funds. Proprietary funds are reported in the same way that all activities are reported in the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities. In fact, the Parish's enterprise funds (a component of proprietary funds) are the same as the business-type activities we report in the government-wide statements but provide more detail and additional information, such as cash flows, for proprietary funds.

The Parish uses internal service funds (the other component of proprietary funds) to report activities that provide various services to the Parish's other programs and activities - such as the Parish's Maintenance and Insurance Funds. The internal service funds are combined into a single, aggregated presentation in the proprietary fund financial statements. Individual fund data for the internal service funds is provided in the form of a combining statement as supplemental information elsewhere in this report.

Notes to the financial statements—The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements are a required part of the basic financial statements and can be found in Exhibit A-14.

Other information—In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information concerning original and final budgetary comparisons to actual results for the year for the Parish's major funds.

Certain supplementary financial information can be found in Exhibits C through H-2. These schedules and the statistical information (Pages S through S-10) are included for additional information and analysis and do not constitute a part of the basic financial statements.

Also included in the report are the Office of Management and Budget A-133 Single Audit auditor reports, findings, and schedules, including a report on compliance and internal control in accordance with Government Auditing Standards. This information can be found under the Special Independent Auditor Reports section.

Financial Analysis of the Government's Funds

The general government operations of the Parish are accounted for in the General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Debt Service Funds and Capital Project Funds. The focus of these funds, as noted earlier, is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the Parish's financing requirements. The following is a summary of general governmental operations for 2003 by fund type:

	(in thousands)				
	Totals	General Fund	Special Revenue Funds	Debt Service Funds	Capital Project Funds
Revenues & transfers	\$ 66,829	\$ 9,024	\$ 40,186	\$ 3,988	\$ 13,631
Expenditures & transfers	<u>74,281</u>	<u>9,180</u>	<u>49,489</u>	<u>4,241</u>	<u>11,371</u>
Surplus (deficit)	(7,452)	(156)	(9,303)	(253)	2,260
Fund balance, December 31, 2002	<u>73,615</u>	<u>308</u>	<u>34,477</u>	<u>3,562</u>	<u>35,268</u>
Fund balance, December 31, 2003	<u>\$ 66,163</u>	<u>\$ 152</u>	<u>\$ 25,174</u>	<u>\$ 3,309</u>	<u>\$ 37,528</u>

The Parish's governmental funds experienced a deficit of \$7.4 million during 2003 that primarily related to its special revenue funds. At year end, fund balances were in excess of \$66 million. Approximately \$4.1 million, which includes internal service funds, is unrestricted and available for utilization at the Parish's discretion. The remainder of the fund balance is set aside to indicate that it is not available for utilization because it has been committed to (1) payment of debt service, (2) legal appropriations in the 2004 operating budget, (3) specific program spending from dedicated revenue sources and (4) capital projects continuing into 2004.

The General Fund is the chief operating fund of the Parish. At the end of the fiscal year, fund balance of the General Fund was approximately \$152,000 compared to the fund balance of \$308,000 at 2002. The decrease in fund balance resulted from the operating deficit of \$156,000 budgeted by the Parish. As a policy, the Parish maintains a marginal fund balance in the General Fund.

The Parish's other major funds are the East Ascension Drainage, and Sales and Use Tax District's No. 1 & 2 special revenue funds and Road and Drainage capital projects funds. The significant change to the Sales and Use Tax funds was the decline in sales and use tax collections during 2003 of approximately \$1 million or 7%. This reduction was considered to result from the completion of capital projects in the chemical sector, and the Parish anticipates this reduction to continue into the immediate future. Additionally, the East Ascension Drainage Fund Reserves decreased by approximately \$7.6 million during 2003 to \$8.6 million at year end. The primary result of the decline was the result of a transfer to the East Ascension Drainage capital project fund of \$7.8 million for drainage projects. On the other hand, sales and use tax collections for the drainage fund

declined by \$400,000 during 2003 as compared to the prior year. As a result, this reduction had a material impact on the operation of this fund.

Finally, the Road and East Ascension Drainage capital project funds reserves increased collectively by \$3.3 million during 2003 resulting in collective fund balances of \$34 million. The increase was largely the result of a transfer from East Ascension Drainage Fund of approximately \$7.8 million, which was explained earlier. The Parish expects to continue to reconstruct its roadways and provide maintenance to its waterways with the \$34 million that is in fund balance. For 2004, the Parish budgeted the expenditure of fund balance for its road capital projects of \$7.2 million and \$3.7 million for drainage projects.

Sources of governmental revenues, excluding transfers, are summarized below.

<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>(in thousands)</u>			
	<u>2003</u>		<u>2002</u>	
	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Taxes	\$ 29,461	75%	\$ 29,941	71%
Licenses and permits	1,815	5%	1,479	4%
Intergovernmental	5,908	15%	7,466	18%
Miscellaneous	<u>2,186</u>	<u>6%</u>	<u>3,086</u>	<u>7%</u>
Total	<u>\$ 39,370</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>\$ 41,972</u>	<u>100%</u>

Revenues of the primary government for general governmental fund types for 2003 totaled \$39 million, compared with \$42 million for the previous year, representing a \$3 million decrease or 6% decrease. The decrease in revenue of \$3 million is primarily decreases in sales tax collections, grant revenue and investment earnings. Sales and use tax collections declined by \$1.3 million during 2003. Additionally, the Parish realized a reduced rate of return on its investments which resulted in a decline in earnings of approximately \$980,000. The decline related primarily to dwindling yields offered on investments and a smaller amount of idle cash during 2003, which was utilized to fund the \$7.4 million deficit sustained in the Parish's funds.

Approximately \$22.6 million of the \$40 million collected in 2003 was dedicated for special purposes. As a result, the remaining \$17.4 million was available to fund a number of Parish services. These undedicated revenues supported the Department of Public Works, all Parish administrative functions, the Parish Jail system, Parish recreation and mandated costs for certain Parish agencies, such as the Parish Court, District Attorney and Coroner. As noted above, the Parish's activities are largely supported by tax revenues, which represent 75% of total governmental resources.

Expenditures of the primary government decreased \$2.5 million in 2003. Expenditures for general governmental functions for each major function are summarized in the following table.

Function	(in thousands)			
	2003		2002	
	Expenditure	Percent	Expenditure	Percent
General government	\$ 6,557	15%	\$ 7,205	15%
Public safety and judicial	3,222	7%	3,488	7%
Public works	10,535	23%	10,737	23%
Health and welfare	4,055	9%	4,064	9%
Culture, recreation, and intergovernmental	5,610	12%	4,116	9%
Debt service	4,248	9%	4,017	8%
Capital outlay	10,867	24%	13,965	29%
Total	\$ 45,094	100%	\$ 47,592	100%

The largest decreases in spending occurred in capital outlay of \$3.1 million or 22% and \$648 thousand in general government or 9%. The largest increase in spending occurred in culture and recreation of \$1.49 million or 36%.

GENERAL FUND BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

Over the course of the year the Parish's General Fund's budget was amended on several occasions. The amendment of the operating and capital budgets is a customary practice of the Parish and is reflective of the change that occurs with financial related matters throughout the fiscal year. The most significant changes during 2003 were as follows:

- To reflect an increase for building permits and grant revenue received in 2003 over the amounts originally budgeted at the beginning of the year.
- Grant expenditures budgeted were amended to reflect actual expenditures for the year which were eligible for reimbursement from either state or federal agencies. The increase in grant revenue and expenditures was primarily related to the Lamar Dixon Expo Center capital outlay project.

With these adjustments, the actual charges to appropriations (expenditures) were \$586,000 less than the related final budget appropriations of \$7.6 million. The most significant positive variance occurred in the Parish's general government department, where professional services, and capital outlay and maintenance were \$95,000 and \$94,000 less than anticipated expenditures, respectively. Additionally, personnel expenditures were approximately \$60,000 less than budgeted amounts. Finally, grant related expenditures were \$114,000 less than final budgeted appropriations.

On the other hand, resources available for appropriation were \$4 million with expenditures appropriated at \$7.6 million, with the deficit funded by collections from the Parish's 1 cent sales and use tax. One major change related to anticipated licensing and permits revenue which was increased from the original budget by \$177,000.

Additionally, reassessment of property subject to ad valorem tax occurred during 2003 and resulted in an increase to property taxes of \$114,000. In any event, the operating deficit in the General Fund for 2003 was \$156,000 and the related fund balance was \$152,000 at year end.

CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Capital Assets

At the end of 2003, the Parish had \$106 million invested in a broad range of capital assets, including heavy equipment for road and drainage maintenance, vehicles, fire equipment, computer equipment, office furniture, land, buildings, park facilities, roads, bridges, and sewer treatment systems.

This amount represents a net increase of just under \$3 million, or 2.7 percent, over last year.

Capital Assets at year-end (in thousands)

	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Totals
Land	\$ 7,051	\$ -	\$ 7,051
Construction in progress	12,379	1,068	13,447
Buildings	16,872	-	16,872
Equipment and furniture	4,489	341	4,830
Vehicles	3,984	-	3,984
Infrastructure	60,239	-	60,239
Total assets, net of depreciation	\$ 105,014	\$ 1,409	\$ 106,423

This year's major additions are as follows:

Road overlay projects of \$11.6 million were conducted during 2003. The Parish is responsible for the maintenance of approximately 1,400 roads in Ascension Parish consisting of two-lane concrete, asphalt and gravel roads. Other roads are located in Ascension Parish but are maintained by the Cities of Gonzales and Donaldsonville, the Town of Sorrento or the State of Louisiana. The majority of the roads maintained by the Parish are asphalt roads resurfaced in the 1990's. Additionally, costs of roads were determined at estimated historical costs for capital outlay prior to 2003.

Easements consist of the sixty feet right-of-way for the roads maintained by the Parish. Additionally, the Parish has purchased easements along side waterways for its on-going drainage program to improve waterflow and reduce flooding to its residents. The acreage was determined through an estimation of right-of-way compared to the linear miles maintained by the Parish. Through this process, approximately 2,103 acres was estimated as the land maintained by the Parish. However, only those road and drainage easements that the Parish expended funds are capitalized in these financial statements and are based on historical costs.

Parish roads include 132 bridges, which are supported by both wood and concrete structures with most bridges at a length of 20 to 100 feet. Costs of bridges were determined at estimated historical costs for capital outlay performed prior to 2003.

Drainage maintenance of \$7.3 million was expended during 2003. The Parish maintains various natural waterways throughout Ascension Parish. The large majority of drainage work is associated with dredging existing natural waterways to provide for adequate water flow to alleviate flooding in residential and commercial areas of the Parish. Additionally, the Parish maintains pumping stations in parts of the Parish to assist with the reduction of flooding throughout the Parish. Manmade structures, such as the pumping stations, are capitalized and depreciated in the government-wide financial statements, while maintenance items, such as dredging, are expensed.

The Parish expended approximately \$750,000 during 2003 for the construction of the Trailerland and Darrow wastewater treatment systems. The construction of these systems was primarily financed by grant funds from the federal government. Various additions to the Parish's buildings occurred during 2003. The major additions are as follows:

- Renovation and construction of additions to the Courthouse used in East Ascension Parish of \$1.5 million.
- Finalization of the construction of the Tourist Welcome Center in Sorrento of \$356,000.
- Construction of the Geismar Community Complex of \$609,000.
- Construction of the Public Works Maintenance Shop of \$328,000.

The Parish's 2004 capital budget provides for expenditures of \$18 million for capital projects, primarily for the completion of its on-going road and drainage projects. Additionally, the Parish has budgeted \$3.5 million for water/wastewater projects. More detailed information about the Parish's capital assets is presented in Note 6 to the financial statements.

Debt

At year-end, the Parish had \$31.6 million in bonds and notes outstanding versus \$34.2 million last year—a decrease of 7 percent—as shown below:

	Balance Beginning of Year	Additions	Deletions	Balance End of Year
Public improvement	\$ 32,710,000	\$ -	\$ 2,310,000	\$ 30,400,000
Certificate of indebtedness	215,000	-	105,000	110,000
Special assessment	270,000	-	270,000	-
Lease payable	137,552	-	65,596	71,956
Accrued vacation leave	886,641	138,949	-	1,025,590
	<u>\$ 34,219,193</u>	<u>\$ 138,949</u>	<u>\$ 2,750,596</u>	<u>\$ 31,607,546</u>

No additional debt was issued during 2003, other than accrued leave. The Parish retired approximately \$2.8 million in debt during 2003. The Parish's general obligation bond rating continues to carry the highest rating possible, a rating that has been assigned by national rating agencies to the Parish's debt. The State of Louisiana limits the amount of general obligation debt that municipalities can issue to 35 percent of the assessed value of all taxable property within the Parish's corporate limits. The Parish's outstanding general obligation debt is significantly below this \$204 million state-imposed limit. There are no outstanding bonds secured by ad valorem taxes of the Parish at this time. Other obligations include notes and leases payable and accrued compensated absences. More detailed information about the Parish's long-term liabilities is presented in Note 7 to the financial statements.

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS

The Parish's elected and appointed officials considered many factors when setting the fiscal-year 2004 budget and tax rates. One of those factors is the economy. A number of companies engaged in oil refining and petrochemical processing are found in the industrial corridor along the Mississippi River in and around the Parish of Ascension. These industries are major employers of Ascension's labor force. Other important industries include government, construction, banking and financial services, insurance, telecommunications, real estate, and wholesale and retail trade.

The largest taxpayers in the Parish are primarily companies involved in the chemical sector. These companies are significantly impacted by the increasing cost of fuel, including natural gas. With the high price of fuel in recent years, these companies have experienced financial difficulty resulting in reduction of personnel staffing and the rate of plant expansion, if any. As a result, the local economy has been impacted by the financial concerns of this major industry in the Parish.

An important factor affecting the budget is the Parish ad valorem and sales tax collections that approximate 68% of budgeted revenue. The Parish budgeted a decrease in total sales tax collections of approximately 16% for 2004. Additionally, the 2004 operating budget expenditures provides for increases in general liability and other insurance, employee health and workman's compensation insurance, retirement system contributions, and 3% to 5% increase in personnel costs. For 2004, revenues are budgeted at \$36.3 million while expenditures are expected to be \$52.8 million. If these estimates are realized, the Parish's budgetary fund balances are expected to decrease by the close of 2004 by \$16.5 million, of which \$13 million relates to scheduled capital project spending.

These indicators were taken into account when adopting the General Fund budget for 2004. Appropriations of the General Fund budget are \$9.2 million, a decrease of 2 percent over the final 2003 budget of \$9.5 million. Property taxes, licensing fees, grant revenue and funding from the Parish 1% sales tax are expected to remain constant for the General fund. The Parish will use these revenues to fund programs currently offered. Budgeted expenditures are expected to remain constant with 2003 at \$9.2 million. The Parish has added no major new programs to the 2004 budget.

Finally, the Parish has initiated steps to develop a multi-year budgeting plan to address the challenges expected in the next several years. During 2004, the Parish anticipates developing its financial plan that includes the development of financial revenue forecasts for anticipated resources collection for determining required funding needs along with service priorities for its programs.

Contacting the Parish's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the Parish's finances and to show accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Parish's Finance Office at (225) 473-4815 or 351 Chetimatches Street, Donaldsonville, Louisiana, 70342.

PARISH OF ASCENSION

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



PARISH OF ASCENSION
STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

December 31, 2003

	Primary Government			Component Units	
	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities
ASSETS					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 5,055,061	\$ 50	\$ 5,055,111	\$ 13,083,505	\$ 1,348,778
Investments	52,273,835	254,003	52,527,838	559,309	10,132,516
Accounts receivable, net	12,291,904	9,504	12,301,408	807,756	2,099,441
Due from other governments	1,686,210	144,121	1,830,331	408,280	-
Internal balances	85,856	(85,856)	-	-	-
Due from component units	25,439	-	25,439	-	-
Prepaid items	-	-	-	52,255	1,544
Inventory	-	-	-	-	378,679
Deferred bond issuance cost	500,458	-	500,458	-	-
Restricted assets	-	-	-	90,337	715,425
Other assets	318,681	-	318,681	1,064	195,375
Capital assets:					
Non-depreciable	19,429,869	1,068,391	20,498,260	1,220,000	89,042
Depreciable, net	85,583,636	341,112	85,924,748	4,361,361	6,168,450
Total assets	\$ 177,250,949	\$ 1,731,325	\$ 178,982,274	\$ 20,583,867	\$ 21,129,250
LIABILITIES					
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 3,415,340	\$ 110,069	\$ 3,525,409	\$ 666,890	\$ 1,143,628
Due to primary government	-	-	-	25,439	-
Deferred revenue	39,923	-	39,923	-	-
Due to other governments	-	-	-	19,428	-
Payable from restricted assets	-	-	-	-	20,709
Unsettled deposits	-	-	-	-	30,035
Claims reserve	1,141,759	-	1,141,759	-	-
Long-term payables					
Due within one year	2,606,956	-	2,606,956	-	21,926
Due in more than one year	29,000,590	-	29,000,590	834,532	246,221
Total liabilities	36,204,568	110,069	36,314,637	1,546,289	1,462,519
NET ASSETS					
Investment in capital assets, net of related debt	74,431,549	1,409,503	75,841,052	5,356,215	2,159,534
Restricted for:					
Capital projects	37,528,003	-	37,528,003	-	4,140
Special revenue	22,342,553	-	22,342,553	-	-
Debt service	3,136,769	-	3,136,769	-	4,994
Other purposes	-	-	-	109,979	-
Unrestricted	3,607,507	211,753	3,819,260	13,571,384	17,498,063
Total net assets	141,046,381	1,621,256	142,667,637	19,037,578	19,666,731
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 177,250,949	\$ 1,731,325	\$ 178,982,274	\$ 20,583,867	\$ 21,129,250

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

PARISH OF ASCENSION
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the year ended December 31, 2003

Functions/Programs	Program Revenues			
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions
Primary government:				
Governmental activities:				
General government	\$ 8,386,120	\$ 1,972,038	\$ -	\$ 408,052
Public safety	3,310,171	-	242,625	-
Public works	7,441,917	-	865,283	-
Health and welfare	4,019,488	30,549	1,590,328	-
Culture and recreation	3,928,611	167,784	618,501	-
Intergovernmental	105,790	-	-	-
Interest on long-term debt	1,526,403	-	-	-
Transportation and development	14,417,995	-	-	4,529,515
Total governmental activities	43,136,495	2,170,371	3,316,737	4,937,567
Business-type activities:				
Waste disposal facilities	91,009	47,895	-	596,402
Total business-type activities	91,009	47,895	-	596,402
Total primary government	\$ 43,227,504	\$ 2,218,266	\$ 3,316,737	\$ 5,533,969
Component units:				
Governmental activities	\$ 23,552,110	\$ 9,317,277	\$ 2,355,950	\$ -
Business-type activities	15,698,973	15,065,936	52,073	-
Total component units	\$ 39,251,083	\$ 24,383,213	\$ 2,408,023	\$ -

General revenues:

Taxes:

 Property

 Sales

 Franchise

 Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs

 Investment earnings

 Gain (loss) on sale of capital assets

 Transfers (to) from other funds

 Total general revenues and transfers

 Change in net assets

Net assets - beginning of year

Net assets - end of year

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

Net (Expenses) Revenue and Changes in Net Assets				
Primary Government			Component Units	
Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities
\$ (6,006,030)	\$ -	\$ (6,006,030)	\$ -	\$ -
(3,067,546)	-	(3,067,546)	-	-
(6,576,634)	-	(6,576,634)	-	-
(2,398,611)	-	(2,398,611)	-	-
(3,142,326)	-	(3,142,326)	-	-
(105,790)	-	(105,790)	-	-
(1,526,403)	-	(1,526,403)	-	-
(9,888,480)	-	(9,888,480)	-	-
<u>(32,711,820)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(32,711,820)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
-	553,288	553,288	-	-
-	553,288	553,288	-	-
<u>(32,711,820)</u>	<u>553,288</u>	<u>(32,158,532)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
-	-	-	(11,878,883)	-
-	-	-	-	(580,964)
-	-	-	<u>(11,878,883)</u>	<u>(580,964)</u>
9,324,912	-	9,324,912	6,300,452	-
19,995,608	-	19,995,608	4,014,123	563,289
210,904	-	210,904	-	-
1,219,932	-	1,219,932	2,060,466	737,973
1,077,572	1,555	1,079,127	259,162	338,338
46,724	-	46,724	-	(60,933)
(716,360)	365,960	(350,400)	350,400	-
<u>31,159,292</u>	<u>367,515</u>	<u>31,526,807</u>	<u>12,984,603</u>	<u>1,578,667</u>
(1,552,528)	920,803	(631,725)	1,105,720	997,703
<u>142,598,909</u>	<u>700,453</u>	<u>143,299,362</u>	<u>17,931,858</u>	<u>18,669,028</u>
<u>\$ 141,046,381</u>	<u>\$ 1,621,256</u>	<u>\$ 142,667,637</u>	<u>\$ 19,037,578</u>	<u>\$ 19,666,731</u>

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**

December 31, 2003

	General	East Ascension		Sales and Use Tax		Sales and Use Tax		East Ascension		Other		Total	
			Drainage	District No.1	District No.2	Road	Drainage	Project	Governmental	Governmental	Funds	Funds	
ASSETS													
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,266	\$ 483,866	\$ 186,036	\$ -	\$ 1,668,146	\$ -	\$ 600,656	\$ 1,988,206	\$ -	\$ 4,930,176			
Investments	-	5,677,293	717,264	97,412	23,338,879	-	8,212,620	11,945,233	-	49,988,701			
Accounts receivable, net													
Ad valorem taxes	1,173,747	1,989,566	-	-	-	-	-	6,388,218	-	9,551,531			
Sales and use taxes	-	589,314	888,516	415,087	-	-	-	10,290	-	1,903,207			
Other	150,210	23,232	2,935	-	95,506	-	33,607	500,842	-	806,332			
Due from other governments													
LA - State revenue sharing	78,304	134,644	-	-	-	-	-	357,195	-	570,143			
LA - Severance	29,935	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29,935			
LA - Beer	8,500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,500			
LA - Other	78,018	-	-	-	-	-	-	156,853	-	234,871			
Grants	149,092	-	-	-	-	-	-	693,669	-	842,761			
Due from other funds	417,849	943,468	1,864,379	-	159,170	-	-	795,056	-	4,179,922			
Other assets	54,900	42,273	-	-	-	-	200,000	21,508	-	318,681			
Total assets	\$ 2,143,821	\$ 9,883,656	\$ 3,659,130	\$ 512,499	\$ 25,261,701	\$ 9,046,883	\$ 22,857,070	\$ 73,364,760					

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

LIABILITIES													
Accounts payable	\$ 416,835	\$ 215,230	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 335,176	\$ 193,071	\$ -	1,298,508	\$ -	2,458,820			
Accrued payroll	89,378	104,263	-	-	-	-	-	117,566	-	311,207			
Deductions from ad valorem taxes													
Contribution to retirement system	40,263	68,274	-	-	-	-	-	214,708	-	323,245			
Due to other funds	1,445,611	943,468	828,068	414,955	-	-	-	436,525	-	4,068,627			
Deferred revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39,923	-	39,923			
Total liabilities	1,992,087	1,331,235	828,068	414,955	335,176	193,071	2,107,230	7,201,822					
FUND BALANCE													
Designated - subsequent year expenditures	-	1,501,800	238,400	92,400	7,222,000	3,695,000	3,688,800	16,438,400					
Reserved for encumbrances	134,237	113,978	-	-	2,764,285	261,620	2,197,649	5,471,769					
Reserved for debt service	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,309,489	3,309,489					
Undesignated	17,497	6,936,643	2,592,662	5,144	14,940,240	4,897,192	11,553,902	40,943,280					
Fund balance	151,734	8,552,421	2,831,062	97,544	24,926,525	8,853,812	20,749,840	66,162,938					
Total liabilities and fund balance	\$ 2,143,821	\$ 9,883,656	\$ 3,659,130	\$ 512,499	\$ 25,261,701	\$ 9,046,883	\$ 22,857,070	\$ 73,364,760					

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

PARISH OF ASCENSION

RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET TO THE STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

December 31, 2003

Total net assets reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets are different because:

Total fund balances - governmental funds (Exhibit A-2)		\$	66,162,938
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds			105,013,505
Assets used in governmental activities that are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.			
Deferred bond issuance costs, net of accumulated amortization			500,458
Long-term liabilities (e.g. bonds, leases), are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.			
Accrued interest payable			(172,720)
Bonds and capital lease payable			(30,581,956)
Compensated absences payable			(1,025,590)
			(31,780,266)
Internal service funds are used by management to charge the costs of certain activities to individual funds. The assets and liabilities of internal service funds are included in governmental activities in the statement of net assets.			1,149,746
			1,149,746
Net assets of governmental activities (Exhibit A)			\$ 141,046,381

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	General	East Ascension Drainage	Sales and Use Tax District No. 1	Sales and Use Tax District No. 2	Road Project	East Ascension Drainage Project	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES								
Taxes	\$ 1,364,193	\$ 8,265,113	\$ 9,102,110	\$ 4,254,014	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,475,499	\$ 29,460,929
Licenses and permits	1,814,969	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,814,969
Intergovernmental	812,158	201,967	-	-	-	-	4,894,023	5,908,148
Charges for services	-	-	-	-	-	-	78,074	78,074
Fines and forfeitures	-	-	-	-	-	-	71,114	71,114
Miscellaneous	47,831	185,449	47,073	2,565	452,749	107,208	1,194,440	2,037,315
Total revenues	4,039,151	8,652,529	9,149,183	4,256,579	452,749	107,208	12,713,150	39,370,549
EXPENDITURES								
General government	5,682,989	68,274	122,840	62,214	-	-	621,558	6,557,875
Judicial - Parish Court	-	-	-	-	-	-	114,948	114,948
Public safety	561,691	-	-	-	-	-	2,544,979	3,106,670
Public works	-	5,907,863	-	-	-	-	4,627,568	10,535,431
Health and welfare	673,318	-	-	-	-	-	3,381,386	4,054,704
Culture and recreation	77,974	-	-	-	-	-	5,425,979	5,503,953
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	105,790	105,790
Debt service	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,248,297	4,248,297
Capital projects	-	-	-	-	3,850,729	2,507,470	4,508,816	10,867,015
Total expenditures	6,995,972	5,976,137	122,840	62,214	3,850,729	2,507,470	25,579,321	45,094,683
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(2,956,821)	2,676,392	9,026,343	4,194,365	(3,397,980)	(2,400,262)	(12,866,171)	(5,724,134)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)								
Proceeds from sale of property	2,354	14,516	-	-	-	-	49,302	66,172
Operating transfers in	4,957,600	51,505	8,777	3,641	1,396,091	7,740,500	13,209,200	27,367,314
Operating transfers out	(2,184,661)	(10,349,800)	(9,887,790)	(4,191,799)	-	-	(2,571,925)	(29,185,975)
Total other financing sources (uses)	2,775,293	(10,283,779)	(9,879,013)	(4,188,158)	1,396,091	7,740,500	10,686,577	(1,752,489)
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures and other financing sources (uses)	(181,528)	(7,607,387)	(852,670)	6,207	(2,001,889)	5,340,238	(2,179,594)	(7,476,623)
FUND BALANCE								
Beginning of year	307,823	16,159,808	3,683,732	91,337	26,928,414	3,513,574	22,929,434	73,614,122
Residual equity transfer	25,439	-	-	-	-	-	-	25,439
End of year	\$ 151,734	\$ 8,552,421	\$ 2,831,062	\$ 97,544	\$ 24,926,525	\$ 8,853,812	\$ 20,749,840	\$ 66,162,938

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

PARISH OF ASCENSION

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the year ended December 31, 2003

The change in net assets reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities is different because:

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds (Exhibit A-4)		\$ (7,476,623)
<p>Governmental funds report capital outlay as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets are allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlay exceeded depreciation.</p>		
Capital outlay	10,111,954	
Depreciation expense	(10,152,677)	(40,723)
<p>The net effect of various miscellaneous transactions involving capital assets, such as sales, trade-ins, and donations, is to increase net assets.</p>		
Donated assets	2,217,166	
Gain on sale of assets	(19,756)	2,197,410
<p>The liability and expense for compensated absences are not reported in governmental funds. Payments for compensated absences are reported as salaries when they occur. Only the payment consumes current financial resources, and it would take a catastrophic event for this liability to become a current liability.</p>		
		(138,949)
<p>The issuance of long-term debt (e.g. bonds, leases) provides current financial resources to governmental funds. In the statement of net assets, however, issuing debt increases long-term liabilities and does not affect the statement of activities. Similarly, repayment of principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds but reduces the liability in the statement of activities.</p>		
Principal payments on debt	2,750,596	
Amortization of bond issuance cost	(60,627)	2,689,969
<p>Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.</p>		
Accrued interest payable, change during 2003		31,926
<p>Internal service funds are used by management to charge the costs of certain activities to individual funds. The net revenues of internal service funds are included in governmental activities in the statement of net assets.</p>		
		1,184,462
Change in net assets of governmental activities (Exhibit A-1)		\$ (1,552,528)

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

PARISH OF ASCENSION
STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS
PROPRIETARY FUNDS

December 31, 2003

	Business-type Activities - Enterprise Funds	Governmental Activities - Internal Service Funds
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 50	\$ 124,885
Investments	254,003	2,285,134
Accounts receivable, net	153,625	30,835
Capital assets:		
Non-depreciable	1,068,391	-
Depreciable, net	341,112	-
	<u>\$ 1,817,181</u>	<u>\$ 2,440,854</u>
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 195,925	\$ 149,349
Claims reserve	-	1,141,759
	<u>195,925</u>	<u>1,291,108</u>
NET ASSETS		
Investment in capital assets, net of related debt	1,409,503	-
Unrestricted	211,753	1,149,746
	<u>1,621,256</u>	<u>1,149,746</u>
	<u>\$ 1,817,181</u>	<u>\$ 2,440,854</u>

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

PARISH OF ASCENSION

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND
CHANGES IN FUND NET ASSETS
PROPRIETARY FUNDS**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Business-type Activities - Enterprise Funds	Governmental Activities - Internal Service Funds
OPERATING REVENUES		
Charges for services	\$ 47,734	\$ 1,620,084
Interest, net	-	30,461
Miscellaneous	161	-
Total operating revenues	<u>47,895</u>	<u>1,650,545</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Depreciation	20,065	-
Maintenance	44,043	1,035,802
Professional services	4,027	70,754
Administrative fees	13,609	-
Insurance premiums	400	565,351
Insurance claims	-	432,066
Miscellaneous	8,865	-
Total operating expenses	<u>91,009</u>	<u>2,103,973</u>
Operating loss	<u>(43,114)</u>	<u>(453,428)</u>
NONOPERATING REVENUES		
Operating transfers in	365,960	1,102,300
Miscellaneous	-	535,282
Interest income	1,555	-
Grants and contributions	596,402	-
Gain on sale of capital assets	-	308
Total nonoperating revenues	<u>963,917</u>	<u>1,637,890</u>
Net income	920,803	1,184,462
NET ASSETS		
Beginning of year	<u>700,453</u>	<u>(34,716)</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 1,621,256</u>	<u>\$ 1,149,746</u>

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

PARISH OF ASCENSION
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
PROPRIETARY FUNDS

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Business-type Activities - Enterprise Funds	Governmental Activities - Internal Service Funds
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Receipts from customers	\$ 45,162	\$ 1,653,516
Payments to employees and suppliers	(71,063)	(2,109,055)
Net cash used for operating activities	(25,901)	(455,539)
CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Interest received on investments	1,555	-
Changes in investments	(183,062)	(552,016)
Net cash used for investing activities	(181,507)	(552,016)
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Fixed asset additions	(816,010)	-
Capital grants	628,987	-
Proceeds from sale of assets	-	308
Net cash provided by (used for) capital and related financing activities	(187,023)	308
CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Transfers in from other funds	365,960	1,102,300
Advances from other funds	85,432	-
Payments on loans from other funds	(56,961)	(31,119)
Net cash provided by noncapital and related financing activities	394,431	1,071,181
Net increase in cash	-	63,934
CASH		
Beginning of period	50	60,951
End of period	\$ 50	\$ 124,885

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

PARISH OF ASCENSION
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
PROPRIETARY FUNDS

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Business-type Activities - Enterprise Funds	Governmental Activities - Internal Service Funds
RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING LOSS TO		
NET CASH USED FOR OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Operating loss	\$ (43,114)	\$ (453,428)
Adjustments of operating loss:		
Depreciation	20,065	-
Change in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(2,733)	2,971
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(119)	(5,082)
	<u>\$ (25,901)</u>	<u>\$ (455,539)</u>
NON-CASH TRANSACTIONS:		
Claims dismissed and change in estimate to claims reserve	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 535,282</u>

PARISH OF ASCENSION
COMBINING STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS
ALL DISCRETELY PRESENTED GOVERNMENTAL COMPONENT UNITS

December 31, 2003

	District Attorney (1)	Sheriff (3)	Clerk of Court (3)	Assessor (1)
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,271,123	\$ 5,880,639	\$ 2,421,016	\$ 1,242,464
Investments	-	-	-	-
Accounts receivable, net	409	514,987	177,633	10,292
Due from other governments	105,946	118,024	-	64,557
Prepaid items	52,255	-	-	-
Restricted assets	-	90,337	-	-
Capital assets:				
Non-depreciable	-	1,220,000	-	-
Depreciable, net	135,576	3,188,888	305,592	74,700
Total assets	\$ 1,565,309	\$ 11,012,875	\$ 2,904,241	\$ 1,392,013
LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 11,754	\$ 317,943	\$ 33,934	\$ 15,434
Due to primary government	-	-	-	-
Due to other governments	-	-	-	-
Long-term payables				
Due in more than one year	-	782,034	52,498	-
Total liabilities	11,754	1,099,977	86,432	15,434
NET ASSETS				
Investment in capital assets, net of related debt	135,576	4,408,888	305,592	74,700
Restricted for:				
Other purposes	-	-	-	-
Unrestricted	1,417,979	5,504,010	2,512,217	1,301,879
Total net assets	1,553,555	9,912,898	2,817,809	1,376,579
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 1,565,309	\$ 11,012,875	\$ 2,904,241	\$ 1,392,013

(1) For the year ended December 31, 2002

(2) For the year ended March 31, 2003, not used

(3) For the year ended June 30, 2003

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

Parish Court (3)	Indigent Defender Board (1)	Criminal Court	Communication District (1)	Judicial Expense	Totals
\$ 208,415	\$ 149,930	\$ -	\$ 1,295,487	\$ 614,431	\$ 13,083,505
-	199,080	360,229	-	-	559,309
-	-	-	104,435	-	807,756
12,105	39,357	50,407	-	17,884	408,280
-	-	-	-	-	52,255
-	-	-	-	-	90,337
-	-	-	-	-	1,220,000
29,763	8,029	225,146	361,596	32,071	4,361,361
<u>\$ 251,347</u>	<u>\$ 396,396</u>	<u>\$ 635,782</u>	<u>\$ 1,761,518</u>	<u>\$ 664,386</u>	<u>\$ 20,583,867</u>
\$ 2,042	\$ 2,140	\$ 249,779	\$ 16,791	\$ 17,073	\$ 666,890
-	-	25,439	-	-	25,439
-	-	-	-	19,428	19,428
-	-	-	-	-	834,532
<u>2,042</u>	<u>2,140</u>	<u>275,218</u>	<u>16,791</u>	<u>36,501</u>	<u>1,546,289</u>
29,763	8,029	-	361,596	32,071	5,356,215
-	-	109,979	-	-	109,979
219,542	386,227	250,585	1,383,131	595,814	13,571,384
249,305	394,256	360,564	1,744,727	627,885	19,037,578
<u>\$ 251,347</u>	<u>\$ 396,396</u>	<u>\$ 635,782</u>	<u>\$ 1,761,518</u>	<u>\$ 664,386</u>	<u>\$ 20,583,867</u>

PARISH OF ASCENSION
COMBINING STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
ALL DISCRETELY PRESENTED GOVERNMENTAL COMPONENT UNITS

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>District Attorney (1)</u>	<u>Sheriff (3)</u>	<u>Clerk of Court (3)</u>	<u>Assessor (1)</u>
EXPENSES	\$ 2,525,789	\$ 15,602,695	\$ 2,453,399	\$ 879,864
PROGRAM REVENUES:				
Charges for services	1,368,083	2,718,765	2,994,655	11,187
Operating grants and contributions	1,271,255	913,143	-	-
Net program (expenses) revenues	<u>113,549</u>	<u>(11,970,787)</u>	<u>541,256</u>	<u>(868,677)</u>
GENERAL REVENUES:				
Taxes:				
Property	-	6,300,452	-	-
Sales	-	4,014,123	-	-
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs	11,247	1,022,732	143,242	866,210
Investment earnings	22,430	79,457	67,899	43,215
Transfers (to) from other funds	-	-	-	-
Total general revenues and transfers	<u>33,677</u>	<u>11,416,764</u>	<u>211,141</u>	<u>909,425</u>
Changes in net assets	147,226	(554,023)	752,397	40,748
Net assets - beginning of year	1,406,329	10,466,921	2,065,412	1,335,831
Residual equity transfer	-	-	-	-
Net assets - end of year	<u>\$ 1,553,555</u>	<u>\$ 9,912,898</u>	<u>\$ 2,817,809</u>	<u>\$ 1,376,579</u>

(1) For the year ended December 31, 2002

(2) For the year ended March 31, 2003, not used

(3) For the year ended June 30, 2003

Parish Court (3)	Indigent Defender Board (1)	Criminal Court	Communication District (1)	Judicial Expense	Totals
\$ 193,895	\$ 470,501	\$ 909,561	\$ 332,645	\$ 183,761	\$ 23,552,110
165,542	513,329	721,089	686,194	138,433	9,317,277
-	-	126,204	-	45,348	2,355,950
(28,353)	42,828	(62,268)	353,549	20	(11,878,883)
-	-	-	-	-	6,300,452
-	-	-	-	-	4,014,123
-	11,705	-	5,330	-	2,060,466
1,962	5,511	5,440	25,026	8,222	259,162
-	-	350,400	-	-	350,400
1,962	17,216	355,840	30,356	8,222	12,984,603
(26,391)	60,044	293,572	383,905	8,242	1,105,720
275,696	334,212	95,399	1,360,822	619,643	17,960,265
-	-	(25,439)	-	-	(25,439)
<u>\$ 249,305</u>	<u>\$ 394,256</u>	<u>\$ 360,564</u>	<u>\$ 1,744,727</u>	<u>\$ 627,885</u>	<u>\$ 19,037,578</u>

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

PARISH OF ASCENSION
COMBINING STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS
ALL DISCRETELY PRESENTED BUSINESS - TYPE COMPONENT UNITS

December 31, 2003

	East Ascension Hospital (1)	West Ascension Hospital (2)	Waterworks District No. 2 (3)	Ascension Consolidated Utilities District No. 1 (2)	Totals
ASSETS					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 847,516	\$ 374,151	\$ 122,356	\$ 4,755	\$ 1,348,778
Investments	4,208,950	5,923,566	-	-	10,132,516
Accounts receivable, net	1,375,920	695,280	17,595	10,646	2,099,441
Prepaid items	-	-	1,544	-	1,544
Inventory	196,528	182,151	-	-	378,679
Restricted assets	655,052	-	30,338	30,035	715,425
Other assets	111,590	81,709	1,824	252	195,375
Capital assets:					
Non-depreciable	70,000	14,042	-	5,000	89,042
Depreciable, net	3,764,526	1,384,513	509,168	510,243	6,168,450
Total assets	\$ 11,230,082	\$ 8,655,412	\$ 682,825	\$ 560,931	\$ 21,129,250
LIABILITIES					
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 821,370	\$ 299,928	\$ 9,798	\$ 12,532	\$ 1,143,628
Payable from restricted assets	-	-	20,709	-	20,709
Unsettled deposits	-	-	-	30,035	30,035
Long-term payables					
Due within one year	-	-	11,926	10,000	21,926
Due in more than one year	-	-	178,044	68,177	246,221
Total liabilities	821,370	299,928	220,477	120,744	1,462,519
NET ASSETS					
Investment in capital assets, net of related debt	-	1,398,555	245,736	515,243	2,159,534
Restricted for:					
Capital projects	-	-	4,140	-	4,140
Debt service	-	-	4,994	-	4,994
Unrestricted	10,408,712	6,956,929	207,478	(75,056)	17,498,063
Total net assets	10,408,712	8,355,484	462,348	440,187	19,666,731
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 11,230,082	\$ 8,655,412	\$ 682,825	\$ 560,931	\$ 21,129,250

(1) For the year ended March 31, 2003

(2) For the year ended August 31, 2003

(3) For the year ended December 31, 2002

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

PARISH OF ASCENSION
COMBINING STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
ALL DISCRETELY PRESENTED BUSINESS - TYPE COMPONENT UNITS

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	East Ascension Hospital (1)	West Ascension Hospital (2)	Waterworks District No. 2 (3)	Ascension Consolidated Utilities District No. 1 (2)	Totals
EXPENSES	\$ 10,665,890	\$ 4,746,384	\$ 177,233	\$ 109,466	\$ 15,698,973
PROGRAM REVENUES:					
Charges for services	10,339,153	4,456,283	175,780	94,720	15,065,936
Operating grants and contributions	52,073	-	-	-	52,073
Net program expenses	(274,664)	(290,101)	(1,453)	(14,746)	(580,964)
GENERAL REVENUES:					
Taxes:					
Sales	13	563,276	-	-	563,289
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs	216,604	-	269	521,100	737,973
Investment earnings	148,387	185,976	3,897	78	338,338
Gain (loss) on sale of capital assets	(541)	(10,647)	-	(49,745)	(60,933)
Total general revenues and transfers	364,463	738,605	4,166	471,433	1,578,667
Changes in net assets	89,799	448,504	2,713	456,687	997,703
Net assets - beginning of year	10,318,913	7,906,980	459,635	(16,500)	18,669,028
Net assets - end of year	\$ 10,408,712	\$ 8,355,484	\$ 462,348	\$ 440,187	\$ 19,666,731

(1) For the year ended March 31, 2003

(2) For the year ended August 31, 2003

(3) For the year ended December 31, 2002

PARISH OF ASCENSION
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET ASSETS
FIDUCIARY FUNDS

December 31, 2003

	<u>Component Unit Agency Funds</u>			<u>Total</u>
	<u>Sheriff</u>	<u>Clerk of Court</u>	<u>District Attorney</u>	
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$ 1,044,220</u>	<u>\$ 2,411,127</u>	<u>\$ 1,457</u>	<u>\$ 3,456,804</u>
LIABILITIES				
Due to taxing bodies and others	\$ 1,044,220	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,044,220
Unsettled deposits	-	2,411,127	-	2,411,127
Due to others	-	-	1,457	1,457
Total liabilities	<u>1,044,220</u>	<u>2,411,127</u>	<u>1,457</u>	<u>3,456,804</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

PARISH OF ASCENSION

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

STATEMENT PRESENTATION

The Ascension Parish Council (the Council) is the governing authority for Ascension Parish (the Parish) and is a political subdivision of the State of Louisiana. The Council, under the provisions of the Ascension Parish Home Rule Charter, which was effective January 1, 1994, enacts ordinances, sets policy and establishes programs in such fields as social welfare, transportation, drainage, public safety, and health services.

The Parish's financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is responsible for establishing GAAP for state and local governments through its pronouncements (Statements and Interpretations). The more significant accounting policies established in GAAP and used by the Parish are discussed below.

In June 1999, the GASB unanimously approved Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – For State and Local Governments*. Certain of the significant changes in the statement include the following:

- For the first time the financial statements include:
 - A Management Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) section providing and analysis of the Council's overall financial position and results of operations.
 - Financial statements prepared using full accrual accounting for all of the Council's activities, including infrastructure (roads, bridges, etc.).
- A change in the fund financial statements to focus on the major funds.

These and other changes are reflected in the accompanying financial statements (including notes to financial statements). The Parish has implemented the Statement in the current year.

REPORTING ENTITY

The financial reporting entity consists of (1) the primary government (all funds under the auspices of the Parish President and the Parish of Ascension), (2) organizations for which the primary government is financially accountable, and (3) other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

REPORTING ENTITY (CONTINUED)

The criteria for determining which component units should be considered part of the Parish of Ascension for financial reporting purposes, which are as follows:

- o Legal status of the potential component unit including the right to incur its own debt, levy its own taxes and charges, expropriate property in its own name, sue and be sued, and the right to buy, sell and lease property in its own name.
- o Whether the Parish governing authority (Ascension Parish Council and/or Parish President) appoints a majority of board members of the potential component unit.
- o Fiscal interdependency between the Parish and the potential component unit.
- o Imposition of will by the Parish on the potential component unit.
- o Financial benefit/burden relationship between the Parish and the potential component unit.

Based on the previous criteria, Parish management has included the following component units in the financial reporting entity:

Blended Component Units

The following component units are reported as part of the primary government in the Financial Statements of the Parish of Ascension.

East and West Ascension Drainage Districts No. 1

The East and West Ascension Drainage Districts provide maintenance, improvements, and repairs to the gravity drainage systems in their respective parts of the Parish. Financing is provided primarily by ad valorem taxes, state revenue sharing funds, and dedicated sales taxes. The fiscal year for the Districts is the calendar year.

Health Unit

The Health Unit operates the Parish Health Unit. Financing is provided primarily by ad valorem taxes and state revenue sharing. The fiscal year for the Health Unit is the calendar year.

Mental Health Unit

The Mental Health Unit provides that portion of the operations of the Parish mental health center not provided by the State of Louisiana, Department of Health and Human Resources, Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse. Financing is provided by ad valorem taxes and state revenue sharing. The fiscal year for the Mental Health Unit is the calendar year.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

REPORTING ENTITY (CONTINUED)

Blended Component Units (Continued)

Fire Protection Districts No. 1 and No. 2

The Fire Protection Districts No. 1 and No. 2 offers maintenance and operation of a fire protection system consisting of 12 fire service units: Modeste Volunteer, Sunshine Volunteer, Palo-Alto McCall Volunteer, Donaldsonville, Geismar Volunteer, Galvez-Lake Volunteer, Prairieville, Fifth Ward, St. Amant, Sorrento, Seventh District Volunteer and Gonzales. Financing is provided by sales and use tax funds which are allocated among the service units. The fiscal year for the Districts is the calendar year.

Recreation Commission

The Recreation Commission provides recreational activities for the Parish. The Commission is funded primarily by an annual budgetary dedication of six and two-thirds percent of the one-percent parish wide sales tax. The fiscal year for the Commission is the calendar year.

Tourist Commission

The Commission promotes local tourism. The Tourist Commission receives sales taxes on the room rentals of hotels and motels. The fiscal year for the Commission is the calendar year.

Ascension Parish Library

The Library provides citizens of the Parish access to library materials, books, magazines, records, and films. It is used to account for the collection of a parish-wide ad valorem tax dedicated to the maintenance of the library system. The fiscal year for the Library is the calendar year.

Discrete Component Units

Funding for the following state constitutionally defined parish officials is included in the Parish General Fund. These officials, however, have certain statutorily defined sources of funds for their own operating and/or capital budget discretion. These funds have been discretely presented in the Parish's financial statements.

District Attorney of the Twenty-Third Judicial District (for the year ended December 31, 2002.)

Twenty-Third Judicial District Indigent Defender Board (for the year ended December 31, 2002, a biennial audit.)

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

REPORTING ENTITY (CONTINUED)

Discrete Component Units (Continued)

Ascension Parish Sheriff

The Sheriff, an elected official as defined in the Louisiana State Constitution, is a legally separate entity. The Parish provides funding for the Sheriff's facilities and equipment including the correctional institution (Ascension Parish Jail). The Sheriff's financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2003, are included in this report.

Ascension Parish Clerk of Court

The Ascension Parish Clerk of Court is a legally separate parish entity established by the State Constitution. The Parish governing authority (Ascension Parish Council) is required by statute to fund certain equipment, facilities, and binding of permanent records in the office of the Clerk of Court. The Clerk's office provides its own operating budget funds from fees and charges. The Clerk of Court's financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2003, are presented in this report.

Ascension Parish Assessor

The Parish Assessor, an elected official provided for by the Louisiana State Constitution, is a legally separate entity that levies its own property tax. Fiscal interdependency exists between the Parish and the Assessor only in that the Parish is required by state statute to provide the Assessor office facilities. The Assessor's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2002, are presented in this report.

Ascension Parish Communication District

The Communication District is a legally separate entity. The Parish appoints all members to the District's Board of Commissioners. The District's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2002, are presented in this report.

Parish Court for the Parish of Ascension Judicial Expense Fund

The Parish Court for the Parish of Ascension Judicial Expense Fund is a legally separate entity established under state statutes. The Parish Court's financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2003, are presented in this report.

Twenty-Third Judicial District Judicial Expense Fund

The Twenty-Third Judicial District Judicial Expense Fund was established in 1995 under Act No. 435 which was amended to Title 13 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950. The Expense Fund was established for the purpose of paying expenses for the Court deemed necessary by the Judges for efficient operations of the court. The Expense Fund's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2003, are presented in this report.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

REPORTING ENTITY (CONTINUED)

Related Organizations

The following entities were established pursuant to state statutes for various public purposes within Ascension Parish. The Parish appoints and removes the board members of each respective agency. Each agency is fiscally independent from the Parish, issues its debt, approves its budgets, and sets its rates and charges. The primary government has no authority to designate management, or approve or modify rates. The Parish is not obligated for the debt issues of these agencies. Each of these component units is listed below along with its fiscal year end.

East Ascension Hospital Service District	March 31, 2003
West Ascension Hospital Service District	August 31, 2003
Ascension Parish Water Works District No. 2	December 31, 2002
Ascension Consolidated Utilities District No. 1	August 31, 2003

Complete financial statements of the Parish component units can be obtained at the Office of the Legislative Auditor of the State of Louisiana, 1600 North Third Street, P. O. Box 94937, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9397 or at the following administrative offices:

District Attorney
P. O. Box 279
Napoleonville, LA 70390

Ascension Parish Sheriff
P. O. Box 268
Donaldsonville, LA 70346

Ascension Parish Clerk of Court
P. O. 192
Donaldsonville, LA 70346

Ascension Parish Assessor
P. O. Box 544
Donaldsonville, LA 70346

Ascension Parish Court
P. O. Box 1910
Gonzales, LA 70737

Twenty-Third Judicial District Indigent Defender
828 South Irma Blvd.
Gonzales, LA 70737

Twenty-Third District Judicial Expense Fund
828 South Irma Blvd.
Gonzales, LA 70737

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

REPORTING ENTITY (CONTINUED)

Related Organizations (Continued)

Ascension Parish Communication District
P. O. Box 268
Donaldsonville, LA 70346

East Ascension Hospital Service District
615 East Worthey Road.
Gonzales, LA 70737

West Ascension Hospital Service District
P. O. Box 186
Donaldsonville, LA 70346

Ascension Parish Water Works District No. 2
P. O. Box 6
White Castle, LA 70788

Ascension Consolidated Utilities District No. 1
P.O. Box 6
White Castle, LA 70788

BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The Parish's basic financial statements consist of the government-wide statements of the primary government and its component units and the fund financial statements (individual major funds and combined nonmajor funds). The Parish's financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applied to governmental units. Private sector standards of accounting and financial reporting issued prior to December 1, 1989, generally are followed in both the government-wide financial statements and the proprietary fund financial statements to the extent that those standards do not conflict with or contradict guidance of the GASB. Governments also have the option of following subsequent private-sector guidance for their business-type activities and enterprise funds, subject to the same limitation. The Parish has elected not to follow subsequent private-sector guidance.

Government-wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements include the statement of net assets and the statement of activities for all non-fiduciary activities of the primary government and the total for its component units. Internal service fund activity is eliminated to avoid "doubling up" revenues and expenses. The government-wide presentation focuses primarily on the sustainability of the government as an entity and the change in aggregate financial position resulting from the activities of the fiscal period. These statements distinguish between the governmental and business-type activities of the government.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

BASIS OF PRESENTATION – Government-wide Financial Statements (continued)

Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other nonexchange revenues.

Business type activities are financed in whole or part by fees charged to external parties for goods or services.

The primary government is reported separately from the legally separate component units as detailed in the previous section.

The government-wide statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include: (1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or business-type activity, and (2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues. This includes internally dedicated resources such as a restricted property tax.

Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements are very similar to the traditional government fund statements as prepared by governments prior to the issuance of GASB 34. Emphasis is now on the major funds in either the governmental or business-type categories. Nonmajor funds (by category) or fund type are summarized into a single column.

The daily operations of the Parish continue to be organized on the basis of funds and account groups, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, equity, revenues and expenditures or expenses, as appropriate. Funds are organized into three major categories: governmental, proprietary and fiduciary. The Parish does not have any fiduciary funds. The fiduciary funds included in this report are related to the discretely presented component units of the Parish. An emphasis is placed on major funds within the governmental and proprietary categories. A fund is considered major if it is the primary operating fund of the Parish (the General Fund) or meets the following criteria:

- Total assets, liabilities, revenues, or expenditures/expense of that individual governmental fund or enterprise fund are at least 10 percent of the corresponding total for all funds of that category or type; and
- Total assets, liabilities, revenues, or expenditures/expense of that individual governmental fund or enterprise fund are at least 5 percent of the corresponding total for all governmental and enterprise funds combined.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

BASIS OF PRESENTATION – Fund Financial Statements (continued)

Government resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based upon the purpose for which they are to be expended and the means by which spending activities are controlled. The various funds of the primary government presented in the financial statements are described as follows:

Governmental Fund Types

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions of the Parish are financed. The acquisition, use, and balances of expendable financial resources and related liabilities of the Parish are accounted for through governmental funds. Measurement is focused upon determining changes in financial position, rather than net income. The following are the governmental fund types of the Parish:

General Fund - The General Fund is the general operating fund of the Parish. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund. The General Fund is always a major fund.

Special Revenue Funds - Special revenue funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources (other than major capital projects) that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes. Special revenue funds that are considered major funds are the East Ascension Drainage Fund and the Sales and Use Tax Districts No. 1 and No.2 Funds.

Debt Service Funds - Debt service funds are used to account for the accumulation of resources for, and the payment of, general long-term debt principal, interest and related costs. There are no debt service fund major funds.

Capital Projects Funds - Capital projects funds are used to account for financial resources to be used for the acquisition or construction of major capital facilities (other than those financed by Proprietary Funds). The Road Project Capital Projects Fund and the East Ascension Drainage Project Fund are considered major funds.

Proprietary Fund Types

Enterprise Funds - Enterprise funds are used to account for operations (1) that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises - where the intent of the governing body is that the costs and expenses, including depreciation, of providing goods or services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges; or (2) where the governing body has decided that periodic determination of revenues earned, expenses incurred, and/or net income is appropriate for capital maintenance, public policy, management control, accountability, or other purposes. Enterprise funds are presented in the business-type activities column in the government-wide financial statements. These are no enterprise funds that are considered major funds.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

BASIS OF PRESENTATION – Proprietary Fund Types (continued)

Internal Service Funds - Internal service funds are used to account for the financing of goods and services provided by one department or agency to other departments or agencies of the government and to other government units, on a cost reimbursement basis. The internal service fund totals are presented as part of the proprietary fund financial statements. Since the principal user of the internal service fund is the Parish governmental activities, financial statements of internal service funds are consolidated into the governmental activities column when presented at the government-wide level. To the extent possible, the costs of these services are reflected in the appropriate functional activity.

The Parish has three internal service funds consisting of:

- a partial self-insurance program for general and professional liability, workers' compensation and property insurance,
- a employee benefit program for dental insurance benefits for Parish employees,
- a maintenance fund for the on-going preservation of Parish property.

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from non-operating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. Operating expenses for enterprise funds and internal service funds include the cost of sales and services, administrative expenses, an depreciation of capital assets. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses.

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

Government-wide financial statements

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized in the year for which they are levied.

Fund financial statements

All governmental funds are accounted for using a current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities are generally included in the balance sheet. Operating statements of these funds present increases (revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (expenditures and other uses) in net current assets. Governmental funds are maintained on the modified accrual basis of accounting.

Governmental fund revenues resulting from exchange transaction are recognized in the fiscal year in which the exchange takes place and meets the government's availability criteria (susceptible to accrual). "Available" means collectible within the current period or within 60 days after year-end. Charges for services, fines and forfeitures, and most governmental miscellaneous revenues, including investment earnings, are recorded as earned since they are measurable and available.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING - Fund financial statements (continued)

Nonexchange transactions, in which the Parish receives value without directly giving value in return, includes sales tax, ad valorem tax, federal and state aid and grants.

Ad valorem taxes and the related state revenue sharing (which is based on population and homesteads in the Parish) are recorded in the year the taxes are assessed. Ad valorem taxes are assessed on a calendar year basis, become due on November 15th of each year, and become delinquent after December 31st. The taxes are generally collected in December of the current year and January and February of the following year. Sales taxes are recorded when in the possession of the intermediary collecting agent and are recognized as revenue at that time. Federal and state aid and grants are recorded as revenue when the Parish is entitled to the funds, generally corresponding to when grant related costs are incurred by the Parish.

Expenditures are recognized in the accounting period in which the related fund liability is incurred, if measurable, except for (1) unmatured interest on long-term debt which is recognized when due, and (2) claims and judgments and compensated absences are recorded as expenditures in the governmental fund type when paid with expendable financial resources. Allocations of costs such as depreciation and amortization are not recognized in the governmental funds.

All proprietary funds are accounted for on a flow of economic resources measurement focus. Proprietary funds are maintained on the accrual basis of accounting wherein revenues are recognized in the accounting period in which they are earned and become measurable, and expenses are recognized in the period incurred, if measurable.

BUDGET POLICY AND BUDGETARY ACCOUNTING

The Home Rule Charter for the Parish outlines procedures for adopting a budget for funds of the primary government.

1. No later than seventy-five days prior to the beginning of the fiscal year, the President is to submit detailed operating and capital budgets for all funds. The budgets submitted are to be balanced.
2. The Parish Council may amend the budget, except that the debt service shall not be reduced below the amount necessary to service the debt nor shall a fund deficit be created.
3. The Parish Council shall publish the budget summary at least ten days prior to conducting a public hearing.
4. The Parish Council is to adopt the budget not less than thirty days before the commencement of the applicable fiscal year.
5. Once adopted, the President is able to transfer part or all of any appropriation within a department of a fund; however, the authority for other budget amendments resides with the Parish Council.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

BUDGET POLICY AND BUDGETARY ACCOUNTING (CONTINUED)

The budgets are to be prepared consistent with the accounting method used for the applicable fund and are amended periodically for changes in projected activity. At the end of each fiscal year, unexpended appropriations automatically lapse. In no event shall the total appropriations exceed total anticipated revenues taking into account the estimated surplus or deficit at the end of the current fiscal year.

Budgets for the Capital Projects funds do not necessarily follow the time schedule for other funds, since capital projects may be started and completed at any time during the year. However, the capital project budget must be submitted to the Council for adequate public hearing and adoption on a project-length basis. Annual operating budgets are adopted for the following governmental funds: General, Special Revenue, Debt Service and Capital Projects.

The portion of unreserved fund balance of individual funds designated for subsequent year's expenditures represents the extent to which the fund balance is used to balance the subsequent year's operating budget of that fund, as reflected in the legally adopted budget.

ENCUMBRANCES

Encumbrances represent commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting, under which purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditure of resources are recorded to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation, is utilized in the General Fund, certain Special Revenue and Capital Project Funds. For budgetary purposes appropriations lapse at fiscal year end except for that portion related to encumbered amounts. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are reported as reservations of fund balances and do not constitute expenditures or liabilities because the commitments will be honored during the subsequent year. Encumbrances open at year end are automatically appropriated in the subsequent year and current year budgeted appropriations are reduced.

CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS, AND INVESTMENTS

Cash and cash equivalents for the primary government includes cash accounts for payroll, Section 8, escrow account, Office of Emergency Preparedness, Sales and Use Tax District No. 2 and each individual fund's share of the consolidated cash account.

A consolidated bank account has been established for the primary government into which substantially all monies are deposited and from which most disbursements are made. In addition, investment purchases are charged and maturities are deposited to the consolidated bank account. The purpose of the consolidation of bank accounts was to provide administrative efficiency and to maximize investment earnings. The accounts entitled "Cash and Cash Equivalents" and "Investments" are therefore composed of a fund's pro rata share of the cash balance in the consolidated cash account plus its pro rata share of investments made through the investment of excess cash. Each fund shares in the investment earnings according to its average cash, cash equivalent, and investments balance, prorated among funds.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS, AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

The investment policies of the Parish are governed by state statutes and an adopted Council Investment Policy that includes depository and custodial contract provisions. Under the provisions of the Parish's investment policy, the Parish Treasurer is authorized to invest Parish funds in accordance with L.R.S. 39:1211-1245 and 33:2955 which allow, but are not limited to the following investment vehicles: United States Treasury Bonds, Treasury Notes, Treasury Bills, and fully collateralized interest bearing checking accounts and certificates of deposit. Other investment policy provisions require depositories to insure or collateralize all deposits in accordance with state law and require securities collateralizing deposits to be held by an independent third party with whom the Parish has a custodial agreement. Investment policies of the Parish discrete component units can be found in the individual component unit audit reports.

For purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash equivalents for each fund include demand deposit account balances, and certificates of deposit and U.S. government securities with original maturities of three months or less. Cash equivalent policies of the Parish's discrete component units can be found in the individual component unit audit reports.

Investments, which include U.S. government securities, are stated at fair market value. Time certificates of deposits are stated at cost. Unrealized gains and losses on investments recorded at fair value are included in investment income.

INTERFUND RECEIVABLES/PAYABLES

During the course of operations, numerous transactions occur between individual funds. Those related to goods and services, and short-term interfund loans are classified as "due from other funds" or "due to other funds" on the balance sheet and result primarily from participation in the consolidated cash account. Interfund receivables and payables between funds within governmental activities are eliminated in the Statement of Net Assets. See Note 11 for details of interfund transactions, including receivables and payables at year-end. Any residual balances outstanding between the governmental activities and business-type activities are reported in the government-wide financial statements as "internal balances."

INVENTORIES

In the primary government's governmental fund types, inventories of supplies are recorded as expenditures at the time of purchase.

Information concerning inventory for the Parish's discretely presented component units can be found in the separately issued financial statements of each component unit.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

RECEIVABLES AND BAD DEBTS

In the government-wide statements, receivables consist of all revenues earned at year-end and not yet received. Uncollectible amounts due for ad valorem taxes and other receivables are recognized as bad debts through the use of an allowance account or charged off at the time information becomes available which would indicate that the particular receivable is not collectible. In governmental fund types, the uncollectible amount is charged directly to the revenue reported. On the other hand, in proprietary fund types, the uncollectible amount is recognized as a bad debt expense.

FIXED ASSETS AND DEPRECIATION

The accounting treatment over property, plant and equipment (fixed assets) depends in whether the assets are used in governmental fund operations or proprietary fund operations and whether they are reported in the government-wide or fund financial statements.

Government-wide Statements

In the government-wide financial statements, fixed assets are accounted for as capital assets, which include land and land improvements, buildings, equipment, furniture and infrastructure assets (streets, roads, bridges, sewer and drainage systems). All governmental fixed assets are valued at historical cost or estimated historical cost if actual is unavailable. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation and primarily relate to roads. Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized at completion of construction projects.

Prior to the implementation of GASB 34, governmental funds' infrastructure assets were not capitalized. These assets have been valued at estimated historical cost. All infrastructure assets purchased or constructed by the primary government are depreciated accordingly. Certain improvements, including roads, bridges, and curbs and gutters acquired from subdivision developers have been capitalized as of December 31, 2003.

Depreciation on all exhaustible fixed assets is recorded as an allocated expense in the Statement of Activities, with accumulated depreciation reflected in the Statements of Net Assets. Depreciation is provided over the assets useful lives using the straight-line method. Estimated useful lives, in years, for depreciable assets are as follows:

Buildings and improvements	20 - 40 years
Equipment	5 - 20 years
Vehicles	5 - 15 years
Furniture	7 years
Infrastructure	15 - 40 years

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the assets or materially extend asset lives are not capitalized.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

FIXED ASSETS AND DEPRECIATION (CONTINUED)

Fund Financial Statements

In the fund financial statement, fixed assets used in governmental fund operations are recorded as capital outlay expenditures of the governmental fund types when purchased. Fixed assets used in proprietary fund operations are accounted for the same as in the government-wide statements.

LONG-TERM DEBT

The accounting treatment of long-term debt depends in whether the assets are used in governmental fund operations or proprietary fund operations and whether they are reported in the government-wide or fund financial statements.

In the government-wide statement of net assets and in the proprietary fund types' financial statements, long term debt is reported as liabilities. Bond issuance costs are reported as deferred charges and amortized over the term of the bond. The long-term debt consists primarily of public improvement and special assessment bonds, certificates of indebtedness and accrued compensated absences.

Long-term debt for governmental funds is not reported as liabilities in the fund financial statements. The debt proceeds are reported as other financing sources and payment of principal and interest are reported as expenditures. The accounting for proprietary fund debt is the same in the fund statements as it is in the government-wide statements.

NET ASSETS

Net assets represent the difference between assets and liabilities. Net assets invested in capital assets, net of related debt consist of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balance of any debt proceeds used for the acquisition, construction, or improvements of those assets. Net assets are reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use by external parties such as creditors, grantors, laws or regulations of other governments.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the Council's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

RESERVES AND DESIGNATIONS OF EQUITY

Some portions of fund balance in the governmental fund types are reserved to indicate that a portion of equity is legally restricted to a specific future use and not available for appropriation or expenditure.

Designated portions of fund balance indicate tentative future spending plans, which may be changed and are subject to subsequent authorization before expenditures can be made. However, some designations have been legally authorized, such as the following: (a) "Designated for subsequent years' expenditures" is that portion of fund balance which has been earmarked to fund the following years' budgets, and (b) other designations are made for specific indicated purposes included in the title.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

INTERFUND TRANSFERS

Advances between funds which are not expected to be repaid are accounted for as transfers. In those cases where repayment is expected, the advances are accounted for through the various interfund accounts. For the purposes of the Statement of Activities, all interfund transfers between individual governmental funds have been eliminated.

COMPENSATED ABSENCES

All Parish primary government regular employees, excluding Ascension Parish Library personnel, earn vacation leave in varying amounts according to the employee's number of years of continuous service up to a maximum of one hundred-twenty days. Vacation is payable upon resignation or retirement at the employee's current rate of pay.

All Parish primary government, excluding Ascension Parish Library personnel, employees earn twelve days of sick leave per year. Sick leave is payable only upon retirement and only up to a maximum of 60 days.

Parish employees of certain job classifications may accrue compensatory time in lieu of overtime payment. Compensatory leave is accumulated without time limitations but must be taken within one year of earning the leave. Compensatory leave is paid by the Parish upon termination, resignation, retirement or death.

GASB Statement No. 16, *Accounting for Compensated Absences*, requires governments to accrue compensated absences only to the extent it is probable that the employer will compensate employees for benefits through cash payments conditioned on the employees' termination or retirement. The Parish has recorded the following liabilities as of December 31, 2003, for certain salary-related benefits associated with the payment of compensated absences:

1. Accrued vacation for each employee is valued at the employee's current rate of pay.
2. No sick leave is recorded in the financial statements for active employees since the amount applicable under GASB Statement No. 16 is immaterial.
3. Compensatory leave, based on the employee's current rate of pay, is recorded in the financial statements.

The liability for these compensated absences is recorded as long-term debt in the government-wide statements. In the fund financial statements governmental funds report only the compensated absence liability payable from expendable available financial resources, while the proprietary funds report the liability as it is incurred.

Details of the compensated absences liability for the Parish discrete component units and the Ascension Parish Library, a blended component unit, can be found in the separately issued financial reports of each component unit.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

INSURANCE

The primary government is partially self-insured for automobile, general, products and property liability claims on the first \$100,000 per occurrence, not to exceed \$600,000 in the aggregate. The Parish is also partially self-insured for all worker's compensation claims on the first \$250,000 per occurrence, not to exceed \$1,000,000 in the aggregate for a two year period. Reinsurance for losses in excess of self-insured amounts is carried by the Parish of Ascension. Estimated losses on claims are charged to expense in the period in which the loss is estimable. The Parish of Ascension utilizes an internal service fund to account for the transactions related to these self-insurance programs.

ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. They may also affect the reported amounts of revenues and expenses of proprietary funds and the government-wide financial statements during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Estimates are used primarily when accounting for depreciation, prepaid insurance, deferred revenue and claims payable.

NOTE 2 - CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS AND INVESTMENTS

The Parish maintains a consolidated cash management pool that is used by all funds except Sales and Use Tax District No. 2 Sinking Fund, Section 8, and debt service funds. Each fund type's portion of the consolidated cash pool and the account balance of each fund type with a separate bank account are displayed on the combined balance sheet as "Cash and Cash Equivalents" or "Investments."

Deposits – Primary Government

At December 31, 2003, the carrying amount of the Primary Government's deposits (including demand deposit accounts and certificates of deposit) was \$11,326,647 and the bank balance was \$11,827,761. The bank balance is secured by federal depository insurance and collateral held by the Parish's agent in the Parish's name.

Certificates of deposit with an original maturity of 90 days or more totaling \$7,780,259 are classified on the combined balance sheet as "Investments."

Investments – Primary Government

The Parish's investments are U.S. Treasury Bills and Treasury Notes as well as obligations of U.S. Government Agencies. At December 31, 2003, the investments in U.S. Treasury and Agency obligations totaled \$46,253,002.

NOTE 2 - CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments Summary – Primary Government

The following is a reconciliation of the carrying amount of deposits and investments to "Cash and Cash Equivalents" and "Investments" for the Primary Government on the combined balance sheet.

Cash and cash equivalents:	
Deposits	\$ 3,546,388
Investments	1,505,423
Cash on hand	3,300
Total cash and cash equivalents	5,055,111
Investments:	
Certificates of deposit	7,780,259
Investments (U.S. Treasury Notes, Bonds and Bills)	44,747,579
Total investments	52,527,838
Total	\$ 57,582,949

The above stated bank balances are categorized as follows:

Category 1 - Amount insured by FDIC	\$ 700,000
Category 2 - Amount collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust department in the Parish's name	11,127,761
Category 3 - Amount uncollateralized and collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution or by its trust department or agent but not in the Parish's name	-
Investments not subject to categorization:	46,253,002
Total cash and investments	\$ 58,080,763

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE AND DUE FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS

Accounts receivable at December 31, 2003 for the fund financial statements, were as follows:

Primary Government

Ad valorem taxes	\$ 9,551,531
Sales and use taxes	1,903,206
Licenses fees	6,720
Assessment fees	62,156
Interest	228,566
Other	<u>549,229</u>

Total primary government 12,301,408

Component Units

Third-party payors	273,528
Patient accounts receivable	3,382,378
Fees, charges, and commissions	152,479
Sales and use tax	445,112
Water fees	35,123
Other	<u>299,958</u>

Subtotal 4,588,578

Less allowance for doubtful accounts (1,681,381)

Total component units 2,907,197

Total \$ 15,208,605

**NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE AND DUE FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS
(CONTINUED)**

Due from other governments at December 31, 2003, consists of the following:

Primary Government	
State of Louisiana	
State revenue sharing	\$ 570,143
Parish transportation	96,058
Severance tax	29,935
Beer tax	8,500
Grants	968,882
Other	<u>138,813</u>
Total primary government	<u>1,830,331</u>
Component Units	
State revenue sharing	53,370
Department of Social Services	72,494
Fines and forfeitures	124,241
Other	<u>158,175</u>
Total component units	<u>408,280</u>
Total	<u>\$ 2,238,611</u>

NOTE 4 - AD VALOREM TAXES

For the year ended December 31, 2003, taxes of \$9,551,531 were levied on property by the primary government with assessed valuations totaling \$583,033,010 and were dedicated as follows:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Per \$1,000</u>
General:	
Outside municipal limits	\$ 2.86
Inside municipal limits	1.43
East Ascension Drainage	5.00
West Ascension Drainage	10.00
Lighting Districts	1.00 - 5.01
Health Unit	2.00
Mental Health Unit	2.00
Library Maintenance	6.80
Council on Aging	1.50

Information concerning ad valorem taxes for the Parish's discretely presented component units can be found in the separately issued financial statements of each component unit.

NOTE 4 - AD VALOREM TAXES (CONTINUED)

The 1974 Louisiana Constitution (Article 7, Section 18) provided that land and improvements for residential purposes be assessed at 10% of fair market value; other property and electric cooperative properties, excluding land, are to be assessed at 15%; and public service properties, excluding land, are to be assessed at 25% of fair market value. Fair market value is determined by the elected assessor of the Parish on all property subject to taxation except public service properties, which are valued by the Louisiana Tax Commission (LRS 47:1957). The correctness of assessments by the Assessor is subject to review and certification by the Louisiana Tax Commission. The Assessor is required to reappraise all property subject to taxation at intervals of not more than four years. In previous years, taxes paid under protest were held by the Sheriff and was subject to review by the Louisiana Tax Commission. During 2001, the Louisiana Legislature changed this law whereby the Sheriff remits such amounts paid in protest directly to each governing body. As a result, no amounts were held in protest by the Sheriff at December 31, 2003.

The Sheriff of Ascension Parish, as provided by State Law (LRS 33:1435), is the official tax collector of general property taxes levied by the Parish and Parish Special Districts.

The 2003 property tax calendar is as follows:

Millage Rates Adopted	October 2, 2003
Levy Date	October 2, 2003
Due Date	November 15, 2003
Lien Date	January 1, 2004
Collection Dates	December 1, 2003 to February 28, 2004

Property taxes become delinquent January 1 of the following year. If taxes are not paid by the due date, taxes bear interest at the rate of one and one-fourth percent per month until the taxes are paid (LRS47:2101). After notice is given to the delinquent taxpayers, the Sheriff is required by the Constitution of the State of Louisiana to sell the least quantity of property necessary to settle the taxes and interest owed (LRS 47:2181). Therefore, there are no delinquent taxes at year-end.

All property taxes are recorded in governmental funds, as explained in Note 1. Revenues in government funds are recognized in the accounting period in which they become available and measurable. Property taxes are considered measurable in the calendar year of the tax levy. Accordingly, the entire tax roll, less an estimate for uncollectible taxes which approximates 2% for 2003, is recorded as revenue in the current calendar year. Uncollectible taxes are those taxes, which based on past experience, will not be collected in the subsequent year and are primarily due to subsequent adjustments to the tax roll. No allowance for uncollectible taxes is recorded at December 31, 2003.

All of the taxes receivable at the end of the year are considered available. Available means due, or past due and receivable within the current period or expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. In the fund financial statements, property taxes are considered available because they are substantially collected by the tax collector within 60 days subsequent to year-end and therefore available to liquidate liabilities of the current period. Virtually all collections are made within this time frame.

NOTE 5 - RESTRICTED ASSETS

Restricted assets of the discretely presented component units at December 31, 2003, were as follows:

Cash and cash equivalents - special revenue funds	\$ 90,337
Cash and cash equivalents - proprietary funds	60,373
Investments	<u>655,052</u>
Total	<u>\$ 805,762</u>

NOTE 6 - FIXED ASSETS

A summary of changes in capital assets for the primary government for the year ended December 31, 2003, is as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance
Governmental activities:				
Capital assets, not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 5,529,848	\$ 1,521,396	\$ -	\$ 7,051,244
Construction in progress	<u>8,521,774</u>	<u>6,939,994</u>	<u>(3,083,143)</u>	<u>12,378,625</u>
Total capital assets, not being depreciated	<u>14,051,622</u>	<u>8,461,390</u>	<u>(3,083,143)</u>	<u>19,429,869</u>
Capital assets, being depreciated:				
Buildings	24,514,974	1,287,100	-	25,802,074
Vehicles	8,535,415	566,668	(146,311)	8,955,772
Equipment	8,724,487	819,783	(329,369)	9,214,901
Furniture and fixtures	1,941,576	40,110	(1,818,554)	163,132
Library materials	1,725,266	505,822	(266,261)	1,964,827
Infrastructure	<u>114,447,127</u>	<u>3,731,390</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>118,178,517</u>
Total capital assets being depreciated	<u>159,888,845</u>	<u>6,950,873</u>	<u>(2,560,495)</u>	<u>164,279,223</u>
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings	8,241,006	689,417	-	8,930,423
Vehicles	4,390,121	727,821	(146,311)	4,971,631
Equipment	5,031,895	965,476	(329,369)	5,668,002
Furniture and fixtures	1,874,557	31,209	(1,798,798)	106,968
Library materials	952,104	392,964	(266,261)	1,078,807
Infrastructure	<u>50,593,966</u>	<u>7,345,790</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>57,939,756</u>
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>71,083,649</u>	<u>10,152,677</u>	<u>(2,540,739)</u>	<u>78,695,587</u>
Total capital assets, being depreciated, net	<u>88,805,196</u>	<u>(3,201,804)</u>	<u>(19,756)</u>	<u>85,583,636</u>
Governmental activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 102,856,818</u>	<u>\$ 5,259,586</u>	<u>\$ (3,102,899)</u>	<u>\$ 105,013,505</u>
Business-Type Activities:				
Capital assets, not being depreciated:				
Construction in progress	\$ 317,488	\$ 750,903	\$ -	\$ 1,068,391
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Sewer system	401,308	-	-	401,308
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(40,131)</u>	<u>(20,065)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(60,196)</u>
Total capital assets, being depreciated, net	<u>361,177</u>	<u>(20,065)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>341,112</u>
Business-type activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 678,665</u>	<u>\$ 730,838</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,409,503</u>

NOTE 6 - FIXED ASSETS (CONTINUED)

Depreciation expense was charged to functions/programs of the primary government as follows:

Governmental activities:

General government	\$ 237,085
Public safety	701,738
Public works	974,631
Health and welfare	109,701
Culture and recreation	794,067
Transportation and development	<u>7,335,455</u>

Total depreciation expense - governmental activities \$ 10,152,677

A summary of changes in capital assets for component units is as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Deletions	Ending Balance
District Attorney				
Equipment and furniture	\$ 479,067	\$ 23,489	\$ (239,011)	\$ 263,545
Automobiles	<u>33,054</u>	<u>8,000</u>	-	<u>41,054</u>
Total	512,121	31,489	(239,011)	304,599
Less: accumulated depreciation	<u>(278,080)</u>	<u>(71,306)</u>	<u>180,363</u>	<u>(169,023)</u>
Total District Attorney	<u>\$ 234,041</u>	<u>\$ (39,817)</u>	<u>\$ (58,648)</u>	<u>\$ 135,576</u>
Ascension Parish Sheriff				
Land	\$ 1,220,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,220,000
Building and equipment	<u>6,654,703</u>	<u>784,288</u>	<u>(254,694)</u>	<u>7,184,297</u>
Total	7,874,703	784,288	(254,694)	8,404,297
Less: accumulated depreciation	<u>(3,828,472)</u>	<u>(416,356)</u>	<u>249,419</u>	<u>(3,995,409)</u>
Total Ascension Parish Sheriff	<u>\$ 4,046,231</u>	<u>\$ 367,932</u>	<u>\$ (5,275)</u>	<u>\$ 4,408,888</u>
Ascension Parish Clerk of Court				
Equipment	\$ 835,132	\$ 81,445	\$ (92,038)	\$ 824,539
Less: accumulated depreciation	<u>(488,378)</u>	<u>(115,827)</u>	<u>85,258</u>	<u>(518,947)</u>
Total Ascension Parish Clerk of Court	<u>\$ 346,754</u>	<u>\$ (34,382)</u>	<u>\$ (6,780)</u>	<u>\$ 305,592</u>
Ascension Parish Assessor				
Vehicles	\$ 36,979	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,979
Office equipment	<u>75,643</u>	<u>32,144</u>	-	<u>107,787</u>
Total	112,622	32,144	-	144,766
Less: accumulated depreciation	<u>(46,578)</u>	<u>(23,488)</u>	-	<u>(70,066)</u>
Total Ascension Parish Assessor	<u>\$ 66,044</u>	<u>\$ 8,656</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 74,700</u>
Ascension Parish Court				
Equipment, furniture and fixtures	\$ 130,676	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 130,676
Less: accumulated depreciation	<u>(82,468)</u>	<u>(18,445)</u>	-	<u>(100,913)</u>
Total Parish Court	<u>\$ 48,208</u>	<u>\$ (18,445)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 29,763</u>

NOTE 6 - FIXED ASSETS (CONTINUED)

A summary of changes in capital assets for component units (continued):

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Deletions	Ending Balance
Ascension Parish Judicial Expense Fund				
Building Improvements	\$ 6,681	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,681
Equipment	54,244	15,377	-	69,621
Total	60,925	15,377	-	76,302
Less: accumulated depreciation	(33,468)	(10,763)	-	(44,231)
Total Ascension Parish Judicial Expense Fund	<u>\$ 27,457</u>	<u>\$ 4,614</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 32,071</u>
Indigent Defenders Board				
Equipment and furniture	\$ 10,531	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,531
Less: accumulated depreciation	(626)	(1,876)	-	(2,502)
Total Indigent Defenders Board	<u>\$ 9,905</u>	<u>\$ (1,876)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 8,029</u>
East Ascension Hospital Service District				
Land	\$ 70,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 70,000
Land improvements	101,446	-	-	101,446
Building and improvements	8,433,166	487,148	-	8,920,314
Equipment	4,224,115	115,423	-	4,339,538
Total	12,828,727	602,571	-	13,431,298
Less: accumulated depreciation	(9,236,449)	(387,802)	27,479	(9,596,772)
Total East Ascension Hospital Service District	<u>\$ 3,592,278</u>	<u>\$ 214,769</u>	<u>\$ 27,479</u>	<u>\$ 3,834,526</u>
West Ascension Hospital Service District				
Land	\$ 14,042	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,042
Buildings and grounds	1,928,779	8,831	-	1,937,610
Fixed equipment	1,532,830	-	(163,822)	1,369,008
Furniture and fixtures	33,257	-	-	33,257
Total	3,508,908	8,831	(163,822)	3,353,917
Less: accumulated depreciation	(2,010,216)	(155,610)	210,464	(1,955,362)
Total West Ascension Hospital Service District	<u>\$ 1,498,692</u>	<u>\$ (146,779)</u>	<u>\$ 46,642</u>	<u>\$ 1,398,555</u>
Ascension Parish Water Works District 2				
Water System	\$ 741,025	\$ 1,520	\$ -	\$ 742,545
Less: accumulated depreciation	(218,461)	(14,916)	-	(233,377)
Total Ascension Parish Water Works District 2	<u>\$ 522,564</u>	<u>\$ (13,396)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 509,168</u>
Ascension Consolidated Utilities District No. 1				
Land	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000
Water System	156,825	521,100	(156,825)	521,100
Total	161,825	521,100	(156,825)	526,100
Less: accumulated depreciation	(106,427)	(11,508)	107,078	(10,857)
Total Ascension Consolidated Utilities District No. 1	<u>\$ 55,398</u>	<u>\$ 509,592</u>	<u>\$ (49,747)</u>	<u>\$ 515,243</u>

NOTE 6 - FIXED ASSETS (CONTINUED)

A summary of changes in capital assets for component units (continued):

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Deletions	Ending Balance
Ascension Parish Communication District				
Building Improvements	\$ 45,040	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45,040
Equipment	790,825	16,926	-	807,751
Total	835,865	16,926	-	852,791
Less: accumulated depreciation	(406,161)	(85,034)	-	(491,195)
Total Ascension Parish Communication District	\$ 429,704	\$ (68,108)	\$ -	\$ 361,596
Criminal Court				
Equipment and furniture	\$ -	\$ 228,114	\$ -	\$ 228,114
Less: accumulated depreciation	-	(2,968)	-	(2,968)
Total Criminal Court	\$ -	\$ 225,146	\$ -	\$ 225,146
Total component units capital assets	\$ 27,613,060	\$ 2,323,805	\$ (906,390)	\$ 29,030,475
Less: total accumulated depreciation	(16,735,784)	(1,315,899)	860,061	(17,191,622)
Total component units capital assets, net	\$ 10,877,276	\$ 1,007,906	\$ (46,329)	\$ 11,838,853

NOTE 7 - LONG-TERM DEBT

DEBT OUTSTANDING - GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

The following is a summary of long-term debt transactions for the primary government for governmental activities for the year ended December 31, 2003:

	Balance Beginning of Year	Additions	Deletions	Balance End of Year	Due Within One Year
Public improvement	\$ 32,710,000	\$ -	\$ 2,310,000	\$ 30,400,000	\$ 2,425,000
Certificate of indebtedness	215,000	-	105,000	110,000	110,000
Special assessment	270,000	-	270,000	-	-
Lease payable	137,552	-	65,596	71,956	71,956
Accrued vacation leave	886,641	138,949	-	1,025,590	-
	\$ 34,219,193	\$ 138,949	\$ 2,750,596	\$ 31,607,546	\$ 2,606,956

Long-term debt obligations for the primary government for governmental activities at December 31, 2003, are comprised of the following individual issues:

Public Improvement Bonds

Sales and Use Tax District No. 1

\$1,810,000 Public improvement sales tax refunding bonds dated August 1996; due in annual installments of \$115,000 - \$230,000 through 2007; interest at 4.1% - 5.4%. See Note 8.	\$ 600,000
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NOTE 7 - LONG-TERM DEBT (CONTINUED)

DEBT OUTSTANDING - PRIMARY GOVERNMENT (CONTINUED)

East Ascension Major Drainage Sales and Use Tax

\$10,605,000 Drainage public improvement refunding bonds dated July 18, 1996; due in annual installments of \$215,000 - \$1,230,000 through 2011; interest at 3.6% - 5.55%. See Note 8.	\$ 6,730,000
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\$10,000,000 Drainage serial bonds dated April 1, 1999; due in annual installments of \$360,000 - \$790,000 through 2018; interest at 3.95% - 5.125%	8,590,000
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Sales Tax District No. 2

\$16,000,000 Public improvement and refunding bonds dated November 1, 2001; due in annual installments of \$740,000 - \$1,470,000 through November 2016; interest at 3.5% - 4.55%. See Note 8.	<u>14,480,000</u>
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Total public improvement bonds	<u>30,400,000</u>
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Certificate of Indebtedness

\$800,000 Council on Aging certificate of indebtedness; due in annual installments of \$100,000 - \$110,000 through March 2004; interest at 6%.	110,000
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Lease payable

\$200,084 lease payable in annual installments of \$71,956 through February 2004 with interest at 4.9% and secured by equipment.	71,956
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<i>Accrued Vacation Leave</i>	<u>1,025,590</u>
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Total long-term debt – governmental activities	<u>\$ 31,607,546</u>
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NOTE 7 - LONG-TERM DEBT (CONTINUED)

Debt Service Requirements to Maturity

The annual debt service requirements to amortize outstanding long-term debt of the primary government at December 31, 2003 are as follows:

Maturity	Public Improvement Bonds		Certificate of Indebtedness		Lease payable	
	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest
2004	\$ 2,425,000	\$ 1,363,780	\$ 110,000	\$ 3,300	\$ 71,956	\$ 380
2005	2,425,000	1,256,845	-	-	-	-
2006	2,555,000	1,151,157	-	-	-	-
2007	2,705,000	1,034,258	-	-	-	-
2008	2,710,000	907,628	-	-	-	-
2009-2013	9,795,000	2,989,228	-	-	-	-
2014-2018	7,785,000	902,622	-	-	-	-
Totals	\$ 30,400,000	\$ 9,605,518	\$ 110,000	\$ 3,300	\$ 71,956	\$ 380

Bond Restrictions

Parish Sales Tax Bonds

Under the terms of the indenture authorizing the issuance of Public Improvement Sales Tax Bonds – Series 1995 and 1996, proceeds of the 1.5% Parish Sales and Use Tax are pledged and dedicated for the establishment and maintenance of the following bond funds:

Public Improvement Sales Tax Bond - Series 2001 and Sales Tax Refunding Bonds - Series 1996 - Sinking Fund to be used for the payment of principal and interest on outstanding bonds as they become due and payable. Monthly payments are to be equal to the sum of one-sixth of interest falling due on the next interest payment date and one-twelfth of principal falling due on the next principal payment date.

Public Improvement Sales Tax Bond - Sales Tax Refunding Bond Series 1996 - Reserve Fund to be used solely for the purpose of paying principal and interest on bonds payable from the Bond Sinking Fund, as to which there would otherwise be default. The sum of \$265,478 has been deposited therein for this requirement.

Drainage Sales Tax Bonds - Series 1995

Under the terms of the indenture authorizing the issuance of Public Improvement (Drainage) Bonds - Series ST 1991, 1993, and 1999 proceeds of the 1/2% drainage sales and use tax are pledged and dedicated for the establishment and maintenance of the following bond funds:

NOTE 7 - LONG-TERM DEBT (CONTINUED)

Bond Restrictions (continued)

A Public Improvement (Drainage) Bond - Series ST 1999 and Public Improvement Refunding Bond - Series ST 1996 - Sinking Fund to be used for the payment of the principal and interest on outstanding bonds as they become due and payable. Monthly payments are to be equal to the sum of one-sixth of interest falling due on the next interest payment date and one-twelfth of principal falling due on the next principal payment date.

A Public Improvement (Drainage) Bond - Series ST 1999 and Public Improvement Refunding Bond - Series ST 1996 - Reserve Fund to be used solely for the purpose of paying principal and interest on bonds payable from the Bond Sinking Fund, as to which there would otherwise be default. The sum of \$2,187,654 has been deposited therein for this requirement.

Certificate of Indebtedness - Series 1995

A Sinking Fund is used for the payment of principal and interest on indebtedness as they become due and payable. Monthly payments are equal to the sum of one-sixth of interest falling due on the next interest payment date and one-twelfth of principal falling due on the next principal payment date.

Industrial Bond Issues

The Long-Term Debt Account Group does not include Pollution Control Revenue Bonds, Industrial Revenue Bonds, Environmental Improvement Revenue Bonds and Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds issued under the authority of the Parish of Ascension. Obligations of the industrial districts are payable solely from the income derived from the industrial districts and do not bear the full faith and credit of the Parish.

Long-Term Debt - Component Units

A summary of long-term debt obligations for the component units are as follows:

Compensated absences:	
Ascension Parish Sheriff	\$ 782,034
Ascension Parish Clerk of Court	52,498
Revenue bonds:	
Ascension Parish Water Works District No. 2	189,970
Ascension Consolidated Utilities District No. 1	<u>78,177</u>
	<u>\$ 1,102,679</u>

Legal Debt Margin

Computation of legal debt margin for general obligation bonds is as follows:

Ad Valorem taxes – Assessed valuation, 2003 tax rolls	<u>\$ 583,033,010</u>
Debt limit: 10% of assessed valuation (for any one purpose)	<u>\$ 58,303,301</u>
Debt limit: 15% of assessed valuation (for sewerage purposes)	<u>\$ 87,454,952</u>
Debt limit: 35% of assessed valuation (aggregate, all purposes)	<u>\$ 204,061,554</u>

There are no outstanding bonds secured by ad valorem taxes of the Parish at this time.

NOTE 8 - DEDICATED REVENUE

Parish Sales Tax - Primary Government

The Parish has a one percent sales and use tax levied for the purpose of funding activities of the Parish. The Council participates in centralized sales tax administration for all governmental units of the Parish.

The proceeds of the tax, after paying reasonable and necessary expenses of administration, were dedicated by the Parish for 2003, as follows:

1. Debt service for long-term debt issued for renovation and expansion of the Parish jail, and road construction and maintenance,
2. 10 percent of net sales tax collections to be used for recreational operations and facilities,
3. Amounts determined through the budget process required by the General Fund and Road and Bridge Fund for basic services,
4. Excess sales tax revenues up to \$400,000 are dedicated to the dedicated special project fund for health unit costs, a Parish animal shelter and a drug court, and
5. Any remaining excess sales tax revenues are dedicated to the Road Construction Fund for road construction and maintenance of roads.

Consistent with the voter approved dedication of the parish sales and use tax, transfers from the Sales Tax Fund are being used to retire Public Improvement Sales Tax Bonds, Series 1987, and 1996. See Note 7.

Restricted Sales Tax

In 1984, the voters of East Ascension Drainage District No. 1 approved a one-half of one percent sales and use tax for the Drainage District. The proceeds of the sales tax are dedicated to drainage projects, to include the retirement of the Public Improvement (Drainage) Bonds - Series ST 1989, 1990, 1991, and 1993. See Note 7.

In 1994, the voters of Ascension Parish approved a one-half of one percent sales and use tax dedicated to road maintenance and construction (2/3 of proceeds) and fire protection districts (1/3 of proceeds) to include the retirement of the Public Improvement Sales Tax Bonds, Series - 1995. See Note 7.

NOTE 9 - PENSION PLAN

Parochial Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana

Plan Description – Substantially all employees of the Parish are members of the Parochial Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana (System), a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by a separate board of trustees. The System is composed of two distinct plans, Plan A and Plan B, with separate assets and benefit provisions. All employees of the Parish are members of Plan B.

All permanent employees working at least 28 hours per week who are paid wholly or in part from parish funds are eligible to participate in the System. Under Plan B, employees who retire at or after age 65 with at least 7 years of creditable service, at age 60 with at least 10 years of creditable service or at or after age 55 with at least 30 years of creditable service are entitled to a retirement benefit, payable monthly for life, equal to 2 percent of their final-average salary for each year of creditable service. Final-average salary is the employee's average salary over the 36 consecutive or joined months that produce the highest average. Employees who terminate with at least the amount of creditable service stated above and do not withdraw their employee contributions may retire at the ages specified above and receive the benefit accrued to their date of termination. The System also provides death and disability benefits. Benefits are established or amended by state statute.

The System issues an annual publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the System. That report may be obtained by writing to the Parochial Employees' Retirement System, Post Office Box 14619, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898-4619, or by calling (225) 928-1361.

Funding Policy. Under Plan B, members are required by state statute to contribute 3.0 percent of their annual covered salary and the Parish is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The current rate is 3.75 percent of annual covered payroll. The System also receives revenue sharing funds each year as appropriated by the Legislature. These tax and revenue sharing dollars are divided between Plan A and Plan B based proportionately on the salaries of the active members of each plan. The contribution requirements of plan members and the Parish are established and may be amended by state statute. As provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 11:103, the employer contributions are determined by actuarial valuation and are subject to change each year based on the results of the valuation for the prior fiscal year.

The Parish's contributions to the system under Plan B for the year ended December 31, 2003 were \$359,755.

NOTE 10 - DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN

The Parish offers its employees a deferred compensation plan created in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 457. The Plan is administered by Nationwide Retirement Solutions, Inc. (Nationwide). The plan, available to all Parish employees, permits them to defer a portion of their salary until future years. Participation in the plan is optional. The deferred compensation is not available to employees until termination, retirement, death, or an unforeseeable emergency. In accordance with the amended provisions of Internal Revenue Code, all amounts deferred under the plan, all property and rights purchased with those amounts, and all income attributable to those amounts, property or rights are solely the property and rights of the participants and their beneficiaries. As required, the Parish established a custodial account with a third party administrator who will hold the assets and income of the plan. Assets totaling \$1,328,985 are held by Nationwide under agreement with the Parish.

The Parish has implemented GASB Statement No. 32, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Internal Revenue Code Section 457 Deferred Compensation Plans*. Under this statement, governments who have no responsibility for the plan and are not formally considered the plan's trustee are not required to report the plan in its financial statements. Since the Parish plan is held in a custodial account with a third party administrator, the assets and liabilities are not presented in the Parish's financial statements.

NOTE 11 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS

Interfund receivable and payable balances

The interfund balances of the primary government at December 31, 2003, were as follows:

<u>Individual Fund</u>	<u>Receivable</u>	<u>Payable</u>
Primary Government:		
<i>Governmental Activities:</i>		
General Fund:		
Sales and Use Tax District No. 1 Fund	\$ 392,400	\$ 1,344,558
Library Fund	-	101,053
Criminal Court	25,439	-
Other Funds	10	-
Special Revenue Funds:		
East Ascension Drainage Fund:		
East Ascension Drainage Major Fund	-	943,468
East Ascension Drainage Major Fund:		
East Ascension Drainage Fund	943,468	-
Sales and Use Tax District No. 1 Fund:		
General Fund	1,344,558	392,400
Road and Bridge Fund	-	341,900
Recreation Fund	-	88,351
West Ascension Drainage Fund	210,966	-
Mental Health Fund	65,152	-
Law Office Fund	5,881	-
Bayou Terrace Bond Fund	3,245	-

NOTE 11 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS (CONTINUED)

Interfund receivable and payable balances

Special Revenue Funds (continued):

Country Ridge Maintenance Fund	\$ 419	\$ -
Road Lighting District No. 4 Fund	4,565	-
LCDBG – Trailerland Grant Fund	85,432	-
Section 8 Fund	26,404	-
Geismer Community Center	43,883	-
Bunnhood/Fontana Canal Project	73,874	-
Judicial District Families in Need of Service Fund	-	5,417
Sales and Use Tax District No. 2 Fund:		
Fire Protection District No. 1 Fund	-	13,832
Fire Protection District No. 2 Fund	-	124,486
Road Project Fund	-	159,170
Sales and Use Tax District No. 2 Sinking Fund	-	117,467
Nonmajor special revenue funds	677,589	312,968
Capital Projects Funds:		
Road Project Fund:		
Sales and Use Tax District No. 2 Fund	159,170	-
Nonmajor capital project funds	-	120,312
Debt Service Funds:		
Nonmajor debt service funds	<u>117,467</u>	<u>3,245</u>
Total governmental activities	4,179,922	4,068,627
 Business-type Activities:		
Trailerland Sewer System	-	85,437
Country Ridge Sewer System	<u>-</u>	<u>419</u>
Total primary government	4,179,922	4,154,483
 Component Units:		
Governmental Activities:		
Criminal Court Fund:		
General Fund	<u>-</u>	<u>25,439</u>
Total interfund balances	<u>\$ 4,179,922</u>	<u>\$ 4,179,922</u>

NOTE 11 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS (CONTINUED)

Interfund transfers

The following exchange of funds between the Primary Government and its discretely presented component units are classified as external transactions on the Government-wide Statement of Activities as of December 31, 2003:

	Operating Exchanges (To)/From Primary Government	Operating Exchanges (To)/From Component Units
Primary Government:		
General Fund	\$ -	\$ (368,000)
Nonmajor Special Revenue Fund	-	36,600
Nonmajor Capital Project Fund	-	(19,000)
Component Units:		
Criminal Court	350,400	-
Total	\$ 350,400	\$ (350,400)

NOTE 12 - COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Suits and Claims

Various suits and claims arising in the ordinary course of operations are pending against the Parish. The majority of the cases are either covered by insurance or other defenses; however, the ultimate effect of such litigation cannot be ascertained at this time. These claims consist of environmental issues, improper maintenance of roads, contractual disputes and improper right of ways. It is the opinion of Parish management that the ultimate resolution of such litigation will not have a material effect on the financial position of the Parish.

Construction Contracts

At December 31, 2003, the Parish had outstanding commitments resulting from construction contracts of approximately \$2,860,000 and engineering contracts of approximately \$2,549,000.

Environmental Contingencies

Management of the Parish are not aware of any unrecorded material commitments or contingent environmental liabilities. Environmental contingencies have been mitigated by testing of the sewer systems on a regular basis and providing the test results to the proper environmental authorities.

NOTE 12 - COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (CONTINUED)

Grants

The Parish of Ascension receives Federal and State grants for specific purposes that are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Such audits could lead to requests for reimbursement to the grantor agency for expenditures disallowed under terms of the grant. It is the opinion of Parish management that the Parish's compliance with the terms of grants will result in negligible, if any, disallowed costs.

As of December 31, 2003, the reimbursed expenditures to the Parish through the Federal Emergency Management Agency for flood mitigation were under investigation by regulatory and granting agencies. The granting agency investigation could lead to requests for reimbursement of grant funds previously received. The ultimate outcome of this investigation cannot be ascertained at this time and no liability for potential refund of previously received grant funding has been recorded in these financial statements.

Risk Management

The Parish is exposed to various risks of losses related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters for which the Parish carries commercial insurance. There were no major changes to insurance coverage during 2003.

NOTE 13 - SELF INSURANCE

The Parish has a self-insured retention program (SIR) within the internal service fund for potential liabilities. Claims in excess of the self-insured retention amounts are covered through third-party limited coverage insurance policies. The Parish is self-insured with excess coverage in these areas: (a) worker's compensation liability with a two-year period retention of \$250,000 per occurrence with an aggregate limit of \$1,000,000, and (b) liability (including automobile, general liability, products and property) with a \$100,000 per occurrence limit and annual aggregate limits of \$600,000.

All funds of the Parish participate in the program and make payments to the internal service fund based on actuarial estimates of amounts needed to pay prior and current year claims. The Parish engaged an actuary to determine the required self-insurance reserve, including claims incurred but not yet reported. As of the end of that fiscal year, it was actuarially determined that the undiscounted loss reserve was \$1,141,759. This reserve represents reported losses of approximately \$527,000 and includes claims incurred but not yet reported approximating \$614,800. Changes in this reserve amount in fiscal year 2003 is as follows:

Balance at Beginning of Fiscal Year	Current-year Claims and Changes in Estimates		Claim Payments	Balance at End of Fiscal Year
	Incurred Current Year Expense	Decrease in Estimated Prior Year Claims		
<u>\$ 1,679,171</u>	<u>\$ 334,027</u>	<u>(\$ 535,282)</u>	<u>(\$ 336,157)</u>	<u>\$ 1,141,759</u>

NOTE 14 - STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Deficit Fund Balance

Primary Government:

The Law Officers' Court Fund, and Bunnhood/Fontana Canal Project Fund have fund deficits of \$2,921 and \$16,848, respectively, at December 31, 2003.

Expenditures Exceeding Appropriations

Excess of expenditures over appropriations in individual funds or departments within the funds occurred as follows:

	Revised Budget	Actual (GAAP Basis)	Unfavorable Variance
Special Revenue Funds:			
East Ascension Drainage Fund			
General government	\$ 61,500	\$ 68,274	\$ (6,774)
West Ascension Drainage Fund			
General government	10,900	14,665	(3,765)
Sales & Use Tax No. 1 Fund			
General government	110,000	122,840	(12,840)
Sales & Use Tax No. 2 Fund			
General government	51,200	62,214	(11,014)
Operating Transfer Out:			
Fire Protection District No. 1 Fund	1,192,100	1,257,540	(65,440)
Fire Protection District No. 2 Fund	132,500	139,726	(7,226)
Road Construction Fund	1,239,600	1,384,933	(145,333)
Health Unit Fund			
General government	28,200	31,115	(2,915)
Mental Health Unit Fund			
General government	28,200	31,115	(2,915)
Law Officers' Court Fund			
General government	60,000	60,618	(618)
Road Lighting Districts No. 1 - 7			
General government	8,000	8,684	(684)
Section 8 Fund			
General government	54,000	54,067	(67)
Council On Aging Fund			
General government	21,700	23,338	(1,638)

NOTE 15 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Parish acquired property for approximately \$1,400,000 for the purposes of constructing a fire protection training facility.

NOTE 16 - COUNCIL MEMBER COMPENSATION

During the year ended December 31, 2003, Council members and the Parish President received the following as compensation, including per diem payments:

	Amount
Parish President - Harold Marchand	\$ 71,173
Councilman, District 1 - Alvin Thomas, Jr.	15,960
Councilman, District 2 - Thomas Pearce	15,960
Councilman, District 3 - Adrian Thompson	14,985
Councilman, District 4 - Dudley Brown	15,050
Councilman, District 5 - Donnell Nickens	15,375
Councilman, District 6 - Milton Vicknair	15,310
Councilman, District 7 - Allison Bourque	15,375
Councilman, District 8 - Shafter Kling	15,375
Councilman, District 9 - Jerry Savoy	15,245
Councilman, District 10 - Martin McConnell	15,375
Councilman, District 11 - Darnell Martinez	15,375
Total	\$ 240,558

NOTE 17 - STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF WIRELESS E911 SERVICE

According to the Ascension Parish Communications District's December 31, 2002 financial statements, there are seven companies who provide wireless telephone service to approximately 34,300 customers within Ascension Parish.

The Ascension Parish Communications District, a component unit of the Parish, had completed phase one implementation with all seven companies as of December 31, 2002.

The Ascension Parish Communications District is researching and planning the implementation of phase two. During 2003, the Communication District planned to purchase computer hardware upgrades and the software that can compute the latitude of wireless callers. The Communication District planned to begin implementing phase two during the last quarter of 2003 or the first quarter of 2004.

NOTE 18 - PRIOR PERIOD ADJUSTMENT

In 2002, activity associated with the construction of a sewer system was reported as a capital project fund. However, the activity related to a sewer system operated by the Parish. As a result, the fund was reclassified as a proprietary fund and the costs associated with construction are capitalized for 2003. The change resulted in a restatement to retained earnings of the Trailerland Sewer System fund of approximately \$317,000.

PARISH OF ASCENSION

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
GENERAL FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the ended year December 31, 2003

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES				
Taxes				
Ad valorem	\$ 1,174,700	\$ 1,173,200	\$ 1,153,289	\$ (19,911)
Franchise	169,000	200,000	210,904	10,904
Licenses and permits				
Occupational	800,000	850,000	907,326	57,326
Alcoholic beverages	17,200	17,200	15,901	(1,299)
Building	500,000	627,000	745,447	118,447
Mobile home	5,000	5,000	7,600	2,600
Planning fees	79,000	79,000	107,745	28,745
Other	14,800	15,200	30,950	15,750
Intergovernmental				
Severance	130,000	103,000	98,306	(4,694)
State revenue sharing	110,300	119,600	117,454	(2,146)
Beer	41,800	41,800	45,495	3,695
Civil defense	18,000	41,200	42,000	800
State tax rebate	25,000	25,000	25,000	-
Environmental protection	-	-	-	-
Grants	198,200	538,200	442,718	(95,482)
Miscellaneous	1,400	40,400	41,185	785
Fines	-	39,600	-	(39,600)
Miscellaneous				
Interest	-	-	285	285
Other	33,300	36,400	47,546	11,146
Total revenues	3,317,700	3,951,800	4,039,151	87,351
EXPENDITURES				
Current:				
General government	5,628,600	5,999,700	5,682,989	316,711
Public safety	629,100	674,300	561,691	112,609
Health and welfare	224,000	222,200	181,846	40,354
Grants and appropriations	249,600	605,400	491,472	113,928
Culture and recreation	80,500	80,500	77,974	2,526
Total expenditures	6,811,800	7,582,100	6,995,972	586,128
Excess of expenditures over revenues	\$ (3,494,100)	\$ (3,630,300)	\$ (2,956,821)	\$ 673,479

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

PARISH OF ASCENSION
GENERAL FUND

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL

For the ended year December 31, 2003

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Proceeds from sale of property	\$ -	\$ 2,300	\$ 2,354	\$ 54
Operating transfers in				
Road and Bridge Fund	192,200	192,200	192,200	-
East Ascension Drainage Fund	84,300	84,300	84,300	-
E.A. Drainage Restricted Fund	236,000	236,000	236,000	-
West Ascension Drainage Fund	18,900	18,900	18,900	-
Sales and Use Tax District No.1 Fund	4,498,800	4,733,800	4,186,000	(547,800)
Other Funds	240,200	240,200	240,200	-
Operating transfers out				
Criminal Court Fund	(302,300)	(368,000)	(368,000)	-
Jail Fund	(1,100,000)	(1,267,000)	(1,267,000)	-
Law Officers Court Fund	(5,000)	(6,600)	(6,600)	-
Other Funds	(486,100)	(543,100)	(543,061)	39
Total other financing sources	<u>3,377,000</u>	<u>3,323,000</u>	<u>2,775,293</u>	<u>(547,707)</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures	<u>\$ (117,100)</u>	<u>\$ (307,300)</u>	<u>(181,528)</u>	<u>\$ 125,772</u>
FUND BALANCE				
Beginning of year			307,823	
Residual equity transfer from Criminal Court Fund			<u>25,439</u>	
End of year			<u>\$ 151,734</u>	

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
GENERAL FUND**

**STATEMENT OF DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES
BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance - favorable (unfavorable)
GENERAL GOVERNMENT				
Legislative - Councilmen				
Personnel	\$ 303,300	\$ 302,200	\$ 290,802	\$ 11,398
Official publications	35,500	35,500	30,106	5,394
Other charges and services	11,200	58,800	64,146	(5,346)
Dues and subscriptions	19,000	19,000	16,925	2,075
Equipment acquisitions	6,900	2,500	2,254	246
Travel and mileage	37,000	37,000	32,729	4,271
Judicial - Parish Court				
Personnel	49,200	49,100	49,328	(228)
Other charges and services	2,600	2,600	-	2,600
Judicial - District Attorney				
Personnel	95,500	95,400	103,211	(7,811)
Juror and witnesses	50,400	90,000	62,309	27,691
Prosecutorial	50,000	20,000	1,498	18,502
Insurance	2,400	2,400	2,873	(473)
District Attorney appropriations	192,500	192,500	192,500	-
Judicial - Clerk of Court				
Permanent records	60,000	60,000	59,541	459
Court attendance	21,000	21,000	15,562	5,438
Judicial - Coroner				
Personnel	60,000	60,000	60,000	-
Professional	75,000	75,000	66,070	8,930
Other charges and services	10,000	10,000	13,204	(3,204)
Judicial - Justice of Peace				
Personnel	70,100	69,900	71,832	(1,932)
Other charges and services	3,000	3,000	511	2,489
Elections - Registrar of Voters				
Personnel	66,200	66,000	65,555	445
Equipment and maintenance	2,600	2,600	1,868	732
Office supplies	5,500	5,500	4,981	519
Other charges and services	16,100	16,100	9,232	6,868
Elections - other	22,000	32,000	18,109	13,891
Financial and Administration				
Personnel	1,222,000	1,216,300	1,191,968	24,332
Worker's compensation	6,400	6,400	6,800	(400)
Building and equipment rent	28,200	29,000	28,724	276
Utilities	120,300	120,300	182,916	(62,616)
Telephone	41,800	41,800	62,377	(20,577)
Office supplies	50,500	51,400	44,773	6,627
Courthouse supplies	10,000	10,000	16,453	(6,453)
Accounting	70,000	96,800	98,770	(1,970)
Insurance	46,700	197,900	197,900	-
Maintenance	64,200	64,100	86,447	(22,347)
Professional services	488,800	539,700	404,212	135,488
Major building repairs	40,500	58,000	16,096	41,904

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

PARISH OF ASCENSION
GENERAL FUND

STATEMENT OF DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES
BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance - favorable (unfavorable)
Miscellaneous	\$ 75,000	\$ 76,800	\$ 54,002	\$ 22,798
Dues and subscriptions	6,400	6,400	4,694	1,706
Publication	1,000	1,000	431	569
Travel and mileage	23,700	22,800	24,992	(2,192)
Equipment purchased	9,000	9,600	3,812	5,788
Bayou Plantation building	10,000	10,000	-	10,000
Building Department				
Personnel	501,000	457,300	479,063	(21,763)
Professional	2,000	2,000	302	1,698
Telephone	25,000	25,000	18,304	6,696
Maintenance	4,000	4,000	3,142	858
Office supplies	15,000	15,000	13,189	1,811
Other charges and services	63,900	63,900	28,332	35,568
Travel and mileage	4,000	4,000	518	3,482
Capital outlay - equipment	21,000	21,000	14,442	6,558
Planning Commission				
Personnel	341,800	336,600	333,415	3,185
Professional	91,500	166,500	219,532	(53,032)
Other charges and services	38,400	74,200	75,279	(1,079)
Capital outlay - equipment	2,500	2,500	-	2,500
Executive Department				
Personnel	283,700	279,200	261,288	17,912
Professional	5,400	5,400	39	5,361
Utilities	26,700	28,700	43,644	(14,944)
Maintenance and supplies	24,000	25,000	17,268	7,732
Capital outlay - equipment	6,000	14,000	4,442	9,558
Other charges and services	30,300	26,800	17,398	9,402
Grants Department				
Personnel	101,900	102,500	79,872	22,628
Professional	22,600	22,600	5,520	17,080
Utilities	4,500	4,500	6,053	(1,553)
Maintenance and supplies	22,000	22,000	13,025	8,975
Capital outlay - equipment	5,000	5,000	-	5,000
Other charges and services	16,000	15,300	10,756	4,544
GIS department				
Personnel	240,400	240,600	232,242	8,358
Professional	91,000	91,000	104,056	(13,056)
Office supplies	6,000	6,000	4,866	1,134
Capital outlay - equipment	40,000	41,100	29,919	11,181
Repair and maintenance	2,500	2,500	1,771	729
Miscellaneous	9,000	9,100	4,799	4,301
Total general government	5,628,600	5,999,700	5,682,989	316,711

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
GENERAL FUND**

**STATEMENT OF DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES
BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
PUBLIC SAFETY				
Sheriff				
Juvenile	\$ 427,500	\$ 427,500	\$ 350,214	\$ 77,286
Court attendance	20,000	20,000	19,650	350
Other charges and services	1,300	1,300	146	1,154
Civil defense				
Personnel	130,400	130,400	128,828	1,572
Professional	6,500	6,500	931	5,569
Other charges and services	35,400	38,400	29,718	8,682
Capital outlay - equipment	8,000	50,200	32,204	17,996
Total public safety	<u>629,100</u>	<u>674,300</u>	<u>561,691</u>	<u>112,609</u>
HEALTH AND WELFARE				
Personnel	157,200	156,100	154,345	1,755
Acquisitions	-	2,000	3,649	(1,649)
Maintenance and supplies	28,900	22,800	2,585	20,215
Utilities	6,500	8,100	6,060	2,040
Other charges and services	31,400	33,200	15,207	17,993
Total health and welfare	<u>224,000</u>	<u>222,200</u>	<u>181,846</u>	<u>40,354</u>
GRANTS AND APPROPRIATIONS				
Capital outlay - Lamar Dixon Expo Center	25,000	374,700	315,865	58,835
Capital outlay - Hazard mitigation grant	-	15,000	15,000	-
Capital outlay - HUD-EDI Special Project	90,000	75,000	59,781	15,219
Other grants	85,100	91,200	54,052	37,148
Other appropriations	49,500	49,500	46,774	2,726
Total grants and appropriations	<u>249,600</u>	<u>605,400</u>	<u>491,472</u>	<u>113,928</u>
CULTURE AND RECREATION				
Personnel	21,500	21,500	21,500	-
Other charges and services	59,000	59,000	56,474	2,526
Total culture and recreation	<u>80,500</u>	<u>80,500</u>	<u>77,974</u>	<u>2,526</u>
Total expenditures	<u>\$ 6,811,800</u>	<u>\$ 7,582,100</u>	<u>\$ 6,995,972</u>	<u>\$ 586,128</u>

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
EAST ASCENSION DRAINAGE FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	East Ascension Drainage Unrestricted			East Ascension Drainage Restricted			East Ascension Drainage Fund			Variance - favorable (unfavorable)
	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	
REVENUES										
Taxes										
Ad valorem	\$ 1,913,500	\$ 1,809,200	\$ 1,952,506	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,913,500	\$ 1,809,200	\$ 1,952,506	\$ 143,306
Sales and use	-	-	-	5,400,000	6,210,000	6,312,607	5,400,000	6,210,000	6,312,607	102,607
Intergovernmental										
State revenue sharing	188,000	211,400	201,967	-	-	-	188,000	211,400	201,967	(9,433)
Grants	-	3,200	-	-	39,300	-	-	42,500	-	(42,500)
Miscellaneous										
Interest	4,400	4,400	-	400,000	400,000	185,234	404,400	404,400	185,234	(219,166)
Other	800	500	215	-	-	-	800	500	215	(285)
Total revenues	2,106,700	2,028,700	2,154,688	5,800,000	6,649,300	6,497,841	7,906,700	8,678,000	8,652,529	(25,471)
EXPENDITURES										
General government										
Contribution to retirement system	61,500	61,500	68,274	-	-	-	61,500	61,500	68,274	(6,774)
Public works										
Personnel	1,450,600	1,308,800	1,297,075	2,844,300	2,673,400	2,644,372	4,294,900	3,982,200	3,941,447	40,753
Vehicle maintenance	98,000	106,700	76,978	359,500	398,200	260,918	457,500	504,900	337,896	167,004
Repairs - flood control	4,000	2,000	-	100,000	121,000	80,803	104,000	123,000	80,803	42,197
Materials and supplies	247,900	280,500	232,778	195,400	196,800	77,363	443,300	477,300	310,141	167,159
Utilities	10,000	10,100	12,052	32,400	31,300	34,403	42,400	41,400	46,455	(5,055)
Engineer	2,000	2,200	100	50,000	47,000	5,570	52,000	49,200	5,670	43,530
Insurance	17,100	60,400	60,400	70,400	189,600	189,600	87,500	250,000	250,000	-
Equipment rental	2,300	3,400	2,249	2,300	5,200	18,207	4,600	8,600	20,456	(11,856)
Gasoline and oil	27,000	21,300	29,520	55,000	85,200	109,384	82,000	106,500	138,904	(32,404)
Other charges and services	19,700	24,200	10,761	38,200	43,400	20,329	57,900	67,600	31,090	36,510
Capital outlay - equipment	106,600	158,800	107,097	454,300	512,300	462,880	560,900	671,100	569,977	101,123
Weed control	32,000	29,400	31,490	20,000	18,800	8,892	52,000	48,200	40,382	7,818
Tax collector	4,700	6,200	16,146	112,700	112,400	118,496	117,400	118,600	134,642	(16,042)
Total expenditures	2,083,400	2,075,500	1,944,920	4,334,500	4,434,600	4,031,217	6,417,900	6,510,100	5,976,137	533,963
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	23,300	(46,800)	209,768	1,465,500	2,214,700	2,466,624	1,488,800	2,167,900	2,676,392	508,492

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

(Continued)

OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	\$	-	\$	9,952	\$	48	\$	-	\$	4,500	\$	4,564	\$	64	\$	-	\$	14,500	\$	14,516	\$	112	
Proceeds from sale of property																							
Operating transfers in																							
East Ascension Drainage																							
Restricted Sinking Fund																							
East Ascension Drainage																							
Restricted Reserve Fund																							
Operating transfers out																							
General Fund																							
East Ascension Drainage																							
Restricted Sinking Fund																							
East Ascension Construction																							
FEMA - Repetitive Loss Reduction																							
Other Funds																							
Total financing sources (uses)																							
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures and other sources (uses)																							
FUND BALANCE																							
Beginning of year																							
End of year																							

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
SALES AND USE TAX DISTRICT NO. 1 FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES				
Taxes				
Sales and use	\$ 9,500,000	\$ 9,168,000	\$ 9,104,883	\$ (63,117)
Refunds	(50,000)	(50,000)	(2,773)	47,227
Miscellaneous				
Interest	100,000	100,000	47,073	(52,927)
Total revenues	9,550,000	9,218,000	9,149,183	(68,817)
EXPENDITURES				
General government				
Consolidated parish collection service	110,000	110,000	122,840	(12,840)
Excess of revenues over expenditures	9,440,000	9,108,000	9,026,343	(81,657)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Operating transfers in				
Sales & Use Tax Reserve Fund	7,300	7,300	4,621	(2,679)
Sales & Use Tax Sinking Fund	5,500	5,500	4,156	(1,344)
Operating transfers out				
General Fund	(4,498,800)	(4,733,800)	(4,186,000)	547,800
Road and Bridge Fund	(3,629,400)	(4,102,800)	(3,993,536)	109,264
Courthouse Construction	(70,300)	(70,300)	(70,300)	-
Recreation Fund	(934,000)	(930,800)	(927,927)	2,873
Sales & Use Tax Sinking Fund	(259,500)	(259,500)	(259,527)	(27)
Road Construction Fund	(600,000)	-	-	-
FINS Program Fund	(65,000)	(65,000)	(65,000)	-
Geismar Community Center	(100,000)	(167,700)	(167,700)	-
Bunn Hood/Fontana Canal Project	-	(50,000)	(50,000)	-
Waste Water Fund	-	(167,800)	(167,800)	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	(10,144,200)	(10,534,900)	(9,879,013)	655,887
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures and other financing sources (uses)	<u>\$ (704,200)</u>	<u>\$ (1,426,900)</u>	(852,670)	<u>\$ 574,230</u>
FUND BALANCE				
Beginning of year			3,683,732	
End of year			<u>\$ 2,831,062</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-8 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
SALES AND USE TAX DISTRICT NO. 2 FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES				
Taxes				
Sales and use	\$ 4,050,000	\$ 4,050,000	\$ 4,257,760	\$ 207,760
Refunds	(25,000)	(25,000)	(3,746)	21,254
Miscellaneous				
Interest	3,000	3,000	2,565	(435)
Total revenues	4,028,000	4,028,000	4,256,579	228,579
EXPENDITURES				
General government				
Consolidated parish collection service	51,200	51,200	62,214	(11,014)
Excess of revenues over expenditures	3,976,800	3,976,800	4,194,365	217,565
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Operating transfers in				
Sales & Use Tax District No. 2 Fund	11,000	11,000	3,641	(7,359)
Operating transfers out				
Road Construction Fund	(1,239,600)	(1,239,600)	(1,384,933)	(145,333)
Fire Protection District No. 1 Fund	(1,192,100)	(1,192,100)	(1,257,540)	(65,440)
Fire Protection District No. 2 Fund	(132,500)	(132,500)	(139,726)	(7,226)
Sales and Use Tax District No. 2 Sinking Fund	(1,409,600)	(1,409,600)	(1,409,600)	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	(3,962,800)	(3,962,800)	(4,188,158)	(225,358)
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures and other financing sources (uses)	<u>\$ 14,000</u>	<u>\$ 14,000</u>	6,207	<u>\$ (7,793)</u>
FUND BALANCE				
Beginning of year			91,337	
End of year			<u>\$ 97,544</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

PARISH OF ASCENSION

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

PARISH OF ASCENSION

NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

Special Revenue Funds

Special revenue funds account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditures for specific programs.

ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND

The Road and Bridge Fund accounts for maintenance of Parish highways, streets, and bridges. Financing has been provided by the appropriation of sales taxes and entitlement from the State's Parish Transportation Fund.

WEST ASCENSION DRAINAGE FUND

The West Ascension Drainage Fund account for the maintenance, improvements, and repairs to the gravity drainage systems in their respective parts of the Parish. Financing is provided primarily by ad valorem taxes, state revenue sharing funds.

HEALTH UNIT FUND

The Health Unit Fund accounts for the operations of the Parish health unit. Financing is provided primarily by ad valorem taxes and state revenue sharing.

MENTAL HEALTH FUND

The Mental Health Center Fund accounts for that portion of the operations of the Parish mental health center not accounted for by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse. Financing is provided primarily by ad valorem taxes and state revenue sharing.

FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS NO. 1 & 2 FUNDS

The Fire Protection District No. 1 and No. 2 Funds account for the maintenance and operation of a fire protection system consisting of twelve fire service units: Modeste Volunteer, Sunshine Volunteer, Palo-Alto McCall Volunteer, Donaldsonville, Geismar Volunteer, Galvez-Lake Volunteer, Prairieville, Fifth Ward, St. Amant, Sorrento, Seventh District Volunteer and Gonzales. In 1994, a dedicated sales and use tax of one-third of one-half of one percent was approved to finance the Districts. In 1998, the Parish created the Fire Protection District No. 2 Fund through a residual equity transfer from the Fire Protection District No. 1 Fund. The Fire Protection District No. 2 provides funding to a fire protection system for West Ascension Parish.

PARISH OF ASCENSION

Special Revenue Funds (Continued)

RECREATION COMMISSION FUND AND RECREATION B FUND

The Recreation Commission Fund accounts for the recreational activities for the youth of the Parish. The Commission is funded primarily by an annual budgetary dedication of ten percent of the one-percent parish wide sales tax. Of the ten percent, Recreation Commission receives ninety percent and Recreation B receives ten percent. Recreation Commission provides recreation programs for all citizens of the east side of the parish and Recreation Fund B provides recreation programs for the citizens of the west side of the Parish.

ROAD LIGHTING DISTRICT MAINTENANCE FUNDS

The Road Lighting District Maintenance Funds account for the operations and maintenance of street lights in Districts 1 through 7. Financing is provided by ad valorem taxes and state revenue sharing funds.

JAIL FUND

The Jail Fund accounts for the operation of the Parish jail. It is financed primarily through transfers from the General Fund.

LAW OFFICER'S COURT FUND

The Law Officer's Court Fund accounts for the juror and witness fees incurred in parish court trial cases. Financing is provided primarily through court fines and bond forfeitures.

SECTION 8 FUND

The Section 8 Fund accounts for resources granted by the Department of Housing and Urban Development to provide housing assistance to low income families.

TOURIST COMMISSION FUND

The Tourist Commission Fund accounts for collection of sales taxes on room rentals of hotels and motels. The Commission promotes local tourism.

COUNCIL ON AGING FUND

The Council on Aging Fund accounts for collection of ad valorem taxes designated for the elderly of Ascension Parish.

PARISH OF ASCENSION

Special Revenue Funds(Continued)

JUDICIAL DISTRICT FAMILIES IN NEED OF SERVICES FUND

The Judicial District Families in Need of Services Fund accounts for the Families in Need of Services Program, which is funded through transfers from the Criminal Court Fund and Sales and Use Tax District No. 1 Fund.

GOVERNOR'S SAFE AND DRUG FREE PROGRAM FUND

The Governor's Safe and Drug Free Program Fund accounts for a grant program funded by the Department of Education for community drug and violence prevention. There was no revenue or expenditures for the program in 2003.

SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENT PROJECT FUND

The Supplemental Environment Project Fund accounts for special funds received to provide emergency preparedness services.

DEDICATED SPECIAL PROJECT FUND

The Dedicated Special Project Fund accounts for the Parish designated projects.

LIBRARY FUND

The Library Fund accounts for the collection of a parish-wide ad valorem tax dedicated to the maintenance of the library system. The library provides the citizens of the parish access to library materials, books, magazines, records, and films.

FEMA – REPETITIVE LOSS REDUCTION

The FEMA – Repetitive Loss Reduction Fund accounts for special grant funds received to purchase property that incurs consistent flood damages.

Debt Service Funds

Debt service funds account for the accumulation of resources for, and the payment of, general long-term debt principal and interest.

SALES AND USE TAX DISTRICT NO. 1 SINKING AND RESERVE DEBT SERVICE FUNDS

The Sales and Use Tax Sinking and Reserve Debt Service Funds are used to accumulate monies for payment of the \$1,810,000 refunding bonds issued in 1996. The bond issue is financed through a dedication of Parish sales taxes.

EAST ASCENSION DRAINAGE SINKING AND RESERVE DEBT SERVICE FUNDS

The East Ascension Drainage Sinking and Reserve Debt Service Funds are used to accumulate monies for payment of the \$1,110,000, \$5,000,000, and \$2,885,000 public improvement bonds issued in 1989, 1990, and 1991, respectively, and \$10,605,000 public improvement refunding bonds issued in 1996, to fund drainage projects of the East Ascension Drainage District of the Parish. The bond issues are financed through a dedication of drainage sales taxes.

SALES AND USE TAX DISTRICT NO. 2 SINKING DEBT SERVICE FUND

The Sales and Use Tax District No. 2 Sinking Debt Service Fund is used to accumulate monies for payment of the \$16,000,000 bond issued in 2001 to fund road construction, maintenance and fire protection. The bond issues are financed through a dedication of Parish sales taxes. The debt service reserve requirement is maintained through reserve fund insurance.

COUNCIL ON AGING SINKING DEBT SERVICE FUND

The Council on Aging Sinking Debt Service Fund is used to accumulate monies for payment of the \$800,000 Certificate of Indebtedness issued in 1995. The debt issue is financed through dedication of ad valorem taxes for the elderly.

LIBRARY DEBT SERVICE FUND

The Library Debt Service Fund is used to accumulate monies for the payment of the 1977 bond issue of \$2,200,000 for the purpose of acquiring sites and erecting buildings, including furniture, fixtures and equipment, for public libraries in the Parish. The bond is retired.

BAYOU TERRACE BOND FUND

The Bayou Terrace Bond Fund is used to accumulate funds for payment of the \$606,960 debt issued in 1997 to fund road improvements. The debt issue is financial by a special property assessment and was retired in 2003.

Capital Projects Funds

Capital projects funds are used to account for the expenditure of resources for major capital outlay projects.

Non-major capital project funds:

FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1 CONSTRUCTION FUND

The Fire District No. 1 Construction Fund is used to account for the construction of Fire Department facilities.

SEWER PROJECT FUND

The Sewer Project Fund is used to account for construction of a sewer system for a portion of the Parish.

OFFICE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION FUND

The Office Building Construction Fund is used to account for the construction and renovation of office facilities for the Parish Department of Public Works and Gonzales Mental Health.

WASTE WATER FUND

The Waste Water Fund is used to account for capital expenditures related to a Parish-wide water and sewer system project.

COURTHOUSE EAST CONSTRUCTION FUND

The Courthouse East Construction Fund is used to account for construction of the expansion of the courthouse on the eastside of Ascension Parish.

GEISMAR COMMUNITY CENTER

The Geismar Community Center Fund accounts for construction of the Geismar Community Center.

BUNNHOOD/FONTANA CANAL PROJECT FUND

The Bunnhood/Fontana Canal Project Fund is used to account for the construction of the Bunnhood/Fontana Canal for improved drainage for the Parish.

Major capital project funds:

EAST ASCENSION DRAINAGE PROJECT CAPITAL PROJECT FUND

The East Ascension Drainage Construction Capital Project Fund is used to account for the proceeds of a bond issue for the purpose of constructing and/or acquiring drainage facilities in the Parish. Such expenditures are to be funded with the proceeds of public improvement bonds.

ROAD PROJECT CAPITAL PROJECT FUND

The Road Projects Capital Project Fund is used to account for sales tax revenue dedicated for the purpose of constructing and improving roads in the Parish.

PARISH OF ASCENSION
COMBINING BALANCE SHEET
NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

December 31, 2003

	Special Revenue Funds	Debt Service Funds	Capital Project Funds	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,583,478	\$ 146,892	\$ 257,836	\$ 1,988,206
Investments	5,344,816	3,013,603	3,586,814	11,945,233
Accounts receivable, net				
Ad valorem taxes	6,388,218	-	-	6,388,218
Sales and use taxes	10,290	-	-	10,290
Other	209,754	74,742	216,346	500,842
Due from other governments				
LA - State revenue sharing	357,195	-	-	357,195
LA - Other	139,141	-	17,712	156,853
Grants	302,158	-	391,511	693,669
Due from other funds	677,589	117,467	-	795,056
Other assets	21,508	-	-	21,508
Total assets	\$ 15,034,147	\$ 3,352,704	\$ 4,470,219	\$ 22,857,070
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE				
LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable	\$ 697,367	\$ 47	\$ 601,094	\$ 1,298,508
Accrued payroll	116,419	-	1,147	117,566
Deductions from ad valorem taxes				
Contribution to retirement system	214,708	-	-	214,708
Due to other funds	312,968	3,245	120,312	436,525
Deferred revenue	-	39,923	-	39,923
Total liabilities	1,341,462	43,215	722,553	2,107,230
FUND BALANCE (DEFICIT)				
Designated - subsequent year expenditures	2,069,600	-	1,619,200	3,688,800
Reserved for encumbrances	1,677,154	-	520,495	2,197,649
Reserved for debt service	-	3,309,489	-	3,309,489
Undesignated	9,945,931	-	1,607,971	11,553,902
Fund balance (deficit)	13,692,685	3,309,489	3,747,666	20,749,840
Total liabilities and fund balance	\$ 15,034,147	\$ 3,352,704	\$ 4,470,219	\$ 22,857,070

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

PARISH OF ASCENSION

**COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**

For the year ending December 31, 2003

	Special Revenue Funds	Debt Service Funds	Capital Project Funds	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
REVENUES				
Taxes	\$ 6,475,499	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,475,499
Intergovernmental	2,881,674	-	2,012,349	4,894,023
Charges for services	78,074	-	-	78,074
Fines and forfeitures	71,114	-	-	71,114
Miscellaneous	670,680	91,965	431,795	1,194,440
Total revenues	10,177,041	91,965	2,444,144	12,713,150
EXPENDITURES				
General government	621,558	-	-	621,558
Judicial - Parish Court	114,948	-	-	114,948
Public safety	2,544,979	-	-	2,544,979
Public works	4,627,568	-	-	4,627,568
Health and welfare	3,381,386	-	-	3,381,386
Culture and recreation	5,425,979	-	-	5,425,979
Intergovernmental	105,790	-	-	105,790
Debt service	72,336	4,175,961	-	4,248,297
Capital projects	-	-	4,508,816	4,508,816
Total expenditures	16,894,544	4,175,961	4,508,816	25,579,321
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(6,717,503)	(4,083,996)	(2,064,672)	(12,866,171)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Proceeds from sale of property	49,302	-	-	49,302
Operating transfers in	7,821,974	3,896,226	1,491,000	13,209,200
Operating transfers out	(2,002,900)	(64,867)	(504,158)	(2,571,925)
Total other financing sources	5,868,376	3,831,359	986,842	10,686,577
Excess of expenditures over revenues and other financing sources (uses)	(849,127)	(252,637)	(1,077,830)	(2,179,594)
FUND BALANCE				
Beginning of year	14,541,812	3,562,126	4,825,496	22,929,434
End of year	<u>\$ 13,692,685</u>	<u>\$ 3,309,489</u>	<u>\$ 3,747,666</u>	<u>\$ 20,749,840</u>

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

PARISH OF ASCENSION
NONMAJOR SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS
COMBINING BALANCE SHEET

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Road and Bridge	West Ascension Drainage	Health Unit	Mental Health Unit	Fire Protection District No. 1	Recreation Commission	Road Lighting Nos. 1-7
ASSETS							
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,035	\$ -	\$ 413	\$ 225	\$ 241,981	\$ 538	\$ -
Investments	152,476	-	9,515	-	3,338,868	90,714	412,964
Accounts receivable, net	-	427,755	907,471	907,471	-	-	251,502
Ad valorem taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sales and use taxes	70,516	-	40,248	24,452	13,663	783	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Due from other governments	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
L.A - State revenue sharing	-	14,878	59,444	59,444	-	-	21,326
L.A - Other	96,058	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grants	4,002	-	-	167,549	6,678	121,429	-
Due from other funds	344,450	-	-	-	124,486	88,351	-
Other assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total assets	\$ 668,537	\$ 442,633	\$ 1,017,091	\$ 1,159,141	\$ 3,725,676	\$ 301,815	\$ 685,792

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

LIABILITIES							
Accounts payable	\$ 118,185	\$ 11,252	\$ 39,720	\$ 69,115	\$ 66,491	\$ 97,190	\$ 23,243
Accrued payroll	57,768	5,902	20,430	20,587	1,709	-	-
Deductions from ad valorem taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Contribution to retirement system	-	14,665	31,115	31,114	-	-	8,686
Due to other funds	-	210,966	-	65,152	-	-	4,565
Total liabilities	175,953	242,785	91,265	185,968	68,200	97,190	36,494
FUND BALANCE (DEFICIT)							
Designated - subsequent year expenditures	463,500	57,300	402,700	-	340,300	183,200	4,500
Reserved for encumbrances	26,499	1,556	7,597	24,198	1,491,217	18,400	-
Undesignated	2,585	140,992	515,529	948,975	1,825,959	3,025	644,798
Fund balance (deficit)	492,584	199,848	925,826	973,173	3,657,476	204,625	649,298
Total liabilities and fund balance	\$ 668,537	\$ 442,633	\$ 1,017,091	\$ 1,159,141	\$ 3,725,676	\$ 301,815	\$ 685,792

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

PARISH OF ASCENSION

NONMAJOR SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS
COMBINING BALANCE SHEET

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Law Officers' Court	Section 8	Fire Protection District No. 2	Tourist Commission	Council on Aging	Judicial District Families in Need of Services	Governor's Safe and Drug Free Program
ASSETS							
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 450	\$ 542	\$ -	\$ 150	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Investments	-	-	565,984	401,878	34,003	11,345	1,496
Accounts receivable, net	-	-	-	-	680,658	-	-
Ad valorem taxes	-	-	-	10,290	-	-	-
Sales and use taxes	-	-	-	27,286	-	-	-
Other	2,935	847	-	-	-	-	-
Due from other governments	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LA - State revenue sharing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LA - Other	-	35,388	-	-	-	-	-
Grants	-	-	-	2,500	-	-	-
Due from other funds	-	-	13,832	-	-	5,417	-
Other assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total assets	\$ 3,385	\$ 36,777	\$ 579,816	\$ 442,104	\$ 714,661	\$ 16,762	\$ 1,496
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE							
Accounts payable	\$ 425	\$ 10,373	\$ 40,507	\$ 73,820	\$ -	\$ 2,934	\$ 1,496
Accrued payroll	-	-	-	2,972	-	3,493	-
Deductions from ad valorem taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Contribution to retirement system	-	-	-	-	23,338	-	-
Due to other funds	5,881	26,404	-	-	-	-	-
Total liabilities	6,306	36,777	40,507	76,792	23,338	6,427	1,496
FUND BALANCE (DEFICIT)							
Designated - subsequent year expenditures	6,200	-	300,600	261,900	-	600	-
Reserved for encumbrances	-	-	43,181	42,391	-	-	-
Undesignated	(9,121)	-	195,528	61,021	691,323	9,735	-
Fund balance (deficit)	(2,921)	-	539,309	365,312	691,323	10,335	-
Total liabilities and fund balance	\$ 3,385	\$ 36,777	\$ 579,816	\$ 442,104	\$ 714,661	\$ 16,762	\$ 1,496

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
NONMAJOR SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS
COMBINING BALANCE SHEET**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Jail	Supplemental Environment Project	Dedicated Special Project	Library Fund	Recreation Fund B	FEMA - Repetitive Loss Reduction	Total Non-Major Special Revenue Funds
ASSETS							
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 612	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,337,532	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,583,478
Investments	120,441	116,386	95	-	36,073	52,578	5,344,816
Accounts receivable, net	-	-	-	3,213,361	-	-	6,388,218
Ad valorem taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,290
Sales and use taxes	-	-	-	25,367	-	-	209,754
Other	3,657	-	-	-	-	-	-
Due from other governments	-	-	-	202,103	-	-	357,195
LA - State revenue sharing	-	-	-	-	7,695	-	139,141
LA - Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	302,158
Grants	-	-	-	-	-	-	677,589
Due from other funds	-	-	-	101,053	-	-	21,508
Other assets	-	-	-	21,508	-	-	-
Total assets	\$ 124,710	\$ 116,386	\$ 95	\$ 4,900,924	\$ 43,768	\$ 52,578	\$ 15,034,147
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE							
LIABILITIES							
Accounts payable	\$ 80,613	\$ 183	\$ -	\$ 33,440	\$ 17,022	\$ 11,358	\$ 697,367
Accrued payroll	-	-	-	3,558	-	-	116,419
Deductions from ad valorem taxes	-	-	-	105,790	-	-	214,708
Contribution to retirement system	-	-	-	-	-	-	312,968
Due to other funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total liabilities	80,613	183	-	142,788	17,022	11,358	1,341,462
FUND BALANCE							
Designated - subsequent year expenditures	-	48,800	-	-	-	-	2,069,600
Reserved for encumbrances	19,588	2,527	-	-	-	-	1,677,154
Undesignated	24,509	64,876	95	4,758,136	26,746	41,220	9,945,931
Fund balance	44,097	116,203	95	4,758,136	26,746	41,220	13,692,685
Total liabilities and fund balance	\$ 124,710	\$ 116,386	\$ 95	\$ 4,900,924	\$ 43,768	\$ 52,578	\$ 15,034,147

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.



**PARISH OF ASCENSION
SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS - ROAD LIGHTING DISTRICTS**

COMBINING BALANCE SHEET

December 31, 2003

	<u>Road Lighting District No. 1</u>	<u>Road Lighting District No. 2</u>	<u>Road Lighting District No. 3</u>	<u>Road Lighting District No. 4</u>
ASSETS				
Investments	\$ 168,239	\$ 41,297	\$ 29,304	\$ -
Accounts receivable, net				
Ad valorem taxes	19,788	23,102	21,829	6,521
Due from other governments				
LA - State revenue sharing	<u>4,190</u>	<u>306</u>	<u>3,052</u>	<u>1,564</u>
 Total assets	 <u>\$ 192,217</u>	 <u>\$ 64,705</u>	 <u>\$ 54,185</u>	 <u>\$ 8,085</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE				
LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable	\$ 1,294	\$ 2,311	\$ 1,679	\$ 79
Deductions from ad valorem taxes				
Contribution to retirement system	716	776	770	238
Due to other funds	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,565</u>
 Total liabilities	 <u>2,010</u>	 <u>3,087</u>	 <u>2,449</u>	 <u>4,882</u>
FUND BALANCE				
Designated - subsequent year expenditures	-	3,500	-	400
Undesignated	<u>190,207</u>	<u>58,118</u>	<u>51,736</u>	<u>2,803</u>
 Fund balance	 <u>190,207</u>	 <u>61,618</u>	 <u>51,736</u>	 <u>3,203</u>
 Total liabilities and fund balance	 <u>\$ 192,217</u>	 <u>\$ 64,705</u>	 <u>\$ 54,185</u>	 <u>\$ 8,085</u>

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

<u>Road Lighting District No. 5</u>	<u>Road Lighting District No. 6</u>	<u>Road Lighting District No. 7</u>	<u>Totals 2003 (Memorandum Only)</u>
\$ 12,206	\$ 161,082	\$ 836	\$ 412,964
18,954	156,904	4,404	251,502
<u>1,638</u>	<u>10,148</u>	<u>428</u>	<u>21,326</u>
<u>\$ 32,798</u>	<u>\$ 328,134</u>	<u>\$ 5,668</u>	<u>\$ 685,792</u>
\$ 1,060	\$ 16,389	\$ 431	\$ 23,243
655	5,378	153	8,686
<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,565</u>
<u>1,715</u>	<u>21,767</u>	<u>584</u>	<u>36,494</u>
-	-	600	4,500
<u>31,083</u>	<u>306,367</u>	<u>4,484</u>	<u>644,798</u>
<u>31,083</u>	<u>306,367</u>	<u>5,084</u>	<u>649,298</u>
<u>\$ 32,798</u>	<u>\$ 328,134</u>	<u>\$ 5,668</u>	<u>\$ 685,792</u>

PARISH OF ASCENSION
NONMAJOR SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS
COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Road and Bridge	West Ascension Drainage	Health Unit	Mental Health Unit	Fire Protection District No. 1	Recreation Commission	Road Lighting Nos. 1-7
REVENUES							
Taxes	\$ -	\$ 428,036	\$ 892,701	\$ 892,108	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,340
Intergovernmental	603,572	28,834	109,490	406,796	173,425	277,067	31,987
Charges for services	-	-	-	-	-	36,391	-
Fines and forfeitures	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	138,895	502	238,296	91,605	77,703	35,150	8,328
Total revenues	<u>742,467</u>	<u>457,372</u>	<u>1,240,487</u>	<u>1,390,509</u>	<u>251,128</u>	<u>348,608</u>	<u>290,655</u>
EXPENDITURES							
General government	-	14,665	31,115	-	-	-	8,684
Judicial - Parish Court	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Public safety	-	-	-	-	1,127,818	-	-
Public works	4,075,906	341,640	-	-	-	-	210,022
Health and welfare	-	-	1,272,208	1,138,071	-	-	-
Culture and recreation	-	-	-	-	-	1,637,206	-
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Debt service	-	72,336	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditures	<u>4,075,906</u>	<u>428,641</u>	<u>1,303,323</u>	<u>1,138,071</u>	<u>1,127,818</u>	<u>1,637,206</u>	<u>218,706</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	<u>(3,333,439)</u>	<u>28,731</u>	<u>(62,836)</u>	<u>252,438</u>	<u>(876,690)</u>	<u>(1,288,598)</u>	<u>71,949</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)							
Proceeds from sale of property	49,302	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operating transfers in	3,993,536	-	-	-	1,257,540	927,927	-
Operating transfers out	(299,300)	(298,300)	(78,700)	(58,500)	(324,000)	(440,700)	(9,600)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>3,743,538</u>	<u>(298,300)</u>	<u>(78,700)</u>	<u>(58,500)</u>	<u>933,540</u>	<u>487,227</u>	<u>(9,600)</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures and other financing sources (uses)	410,099	(269,569)	(141,536)	193,938	56,850	(801,371)	62,349
FUND BALANCE (DEFICIT)							
Beginning of year	82,485	469,417	1,067,362	779,235	3,600,626	1,005,996	586,949
End of year	<u>\$ 492,584</u>	<u>\$ 199,848</u>	<u>\$ 925,826</u>	<u>\$ 973,173</u>	<u>\$ 3,657,476</u>	<u>\$ 204,625</u>	<u>\$ 649,298</u>

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

PARISH OF ASCENSION

NONMAJOR SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS
 COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Law Officers' Court	Section 8	Fire Protection District No. 2	Tourist Commission	Council on Aging	Judicial District Families in Need of Services	Jail
REVENUES							
Taxes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 256,382	\$ 669,530	\$ -	\$ -
Intergovernmental	-	501,470	27,200	7,500	-	-	-
Charges for services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fines and forfeitures	43,272	-	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	-	-	9,741	13,289	1,762	335	3,726
Total revenues	43,272	501,470	36,941	277,171	671,292	335	3,726
EXPENDITURES							
General government	60,618	54,067	-	-	23,338	-	-
Judicial - Parish Court	-	-	-	-	-	114,948	-
Public safety	-	-	221,914	-	-	-	1,168,684
Public works	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Health and welfare	-	447,403	-	-	523,704	-	-
Culture and recreation	-	-	-	444,975	-	-	-
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Debt service	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditures	60,618	501,470	221,914	444,975	547,042	114,948	1,168,684
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(17,346)	-	(184,973)	(167,804)	124,250	(114,613)	(1,164,958)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)							
Proceeds from sale of property	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operating transfers in	6,600	-	139,727	-	944	101,600	1,304,000
Operating transfers out	-	-	(7,200)	(146,700)	(118,000)	-	(50,000)
Total other financing sources (uses)	6,600	-	132,527	(146,700)	(117,056)	101,600	1,254,000
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures and other financing sources (uses)	(10,746)	-	(52,446)	(314,504)	7,194	(13,013)	89,042
FUND BALANCE (DEFICIT)							
Beginning of year	7,825	-	591,755	679,816	684,129	23,348	(44,945)
End of year	\$ (2,921)	\$ -	\$ 539,309	\$ 365,312	\$ 691,323	\$ 10,335	\$ 44,097

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

PARISH OF ASCENSION
NONMAJOR SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS
COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Supplemental Environment Project	Dedicated Special Project	Library Fund	Recreation Fund B	FEMA - Repetitive Loss Reduction	Total Non-Major Special Revenue Funds
REVENUES						
Taxes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,086,402	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,475,499
Intergovernmental	-	-	328,528	-	385,805	2,881,674
Charges for services	-	-	15,713	25,970	-	78,074
Fines and forfeitures	-	-	27,842	-	-	71,114
Miscellaneous	741	-	25,338	13,102	12,167	670,680
Total revenues	741	-	3,483,823	39,072	397,972	10,177,041
EXPENDITURES						
General government	-	-	-	-	429,071	621,558
Judicial - Parish Court	-	-	-	-	-	114,948
Public safety	26,563	-	-	-	-	2,544,979
Public works	-	-	-	-	-	4,627,568
Health and welfare	-	-	-	-	-	3,381,386
Culture and recreation	-	-	3,171,038	172,760	-	5,425,979
Intergovernmental	-	-	105,790	-	-	105,790
Debt service	-	-	-	-	-	72,336
Total expenditures	26,563	-	3,276,828	172,760	429,071	16,894,544
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(25,822)	-	206,995	(133,688)	(31,099)	(6,717,503)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)						
Proceeds from sale of property	-	-	-	-	-	49,302
Operating transfers in	-	-	-	90,100	-	7,821,974
Operating transfers out	(5,200)	(166,700)	-	-	-	(2,002,900)
Total other financing sources (uses)	(5,200)	(166,700)	-	90,100	-	5,868,376
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures and other financing sources (uses)	(31,022)	(166,700)	206,995	(43,588)	(31,099)	(849,127)
FUND BALANCE (DEFICIT)						
Beginning of year	147,225	166,795	4,551,141	70,334	72,319	14,541,812
End of year	\$ 116,203	\$ 95	\$ 4,758,136	\$ 26,746	\$ 41,220	\$ 13,692,685

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.



**PARISH OF ASCENSION
SPECIAL REVENUES FUNDS - ROAD LIGHTING DISTRICTS**

**COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES,
EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Road Lighting District No. 1</u>	<u>Road Lighting District No. 2</u>	<u>Road Lighting District No. 3</u>	<u>Road Lighting District No. 4</u>
REVENUES				
Taxes	\$ 19,875	\$ 23,138	\$ 21,524	\$ 6,745
Intergovernmental	6,284	459	4,578	2,345
Miscellaneous	<u>2,943</u>	<u>914</u>	<u>618</u>	<u>-</u>
Total revenues	<u>29,102</u>	<u>24,511</u>	<u>26,720</u>	<u>9,090</u>
EXPENDITURES				
General government	716	776	768	238
Public works	<u>14,830</u>	<u>26,799</u>	<u>19,258</u>	<u>8,461</u>
Total expenditures	<u>15,546</u>	<u>27,575</u>	<u>20,026</u>	<u>8,699</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	13,556	(3,064)	6,694	391
OTHER FINANCING USES				
Operating transfers out	<u>(1,100)</u>	<u>(1,100)</u>	<u>(1,000)</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures and other financing uses	12,456	(4,164)	5,694	391
FUND BALANCE				
Beginning of year	<u>177,751</u>	<u>65,782</u>	<u>46,042</u>	<u>2,812</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 190,207</u>	<u>\$ 61,618</u>	<u>\$ 51,736</u>	<u>\$ 3,203</u>

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

<u>Road Lighting District No. 5</u>	<u>Road Lighting District No. 6</u>	<u>Road Lighting District No. 7</u>	<u>Totals 2003 (Memorandum Only)</u>
\$ 18,822	\$ 155,829	\$ 4,407	\$ 250,340
2,457	15,221	643	31,987
<u>286</u>	<u>3,523</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>8,328</u>
21,565	174,573	5,094	290,655
655	5,378	153	8,684
<u>12,111</u>	<u>123,820</u>	<u>4,743</u>	<u>210,022</u>
12,766	129,198	4,896	218,706
8,799	45,375	198	71,949
<u>(700)</u>	<u>(5,500)</u>	<u>(200)</u>	<u>(9,600)</u>
8,099	39,875	(2)	62,349
<u>22,984</u>	<u>266,492</u>	<u>5,086</u>	<u>586,949</u>
<u>\$ 31,083</u>	<u>\$ 306,367</u>	<u>\$ 5,084</u>	<u>\$ 649,298</u>

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Final Budget	Actual	Variance - favorable (unfavorable)
REVENUES			
Intergovernmental			
Parish Transportation Fund	\$ 564,600	\$ 611,088	\$ 46,488
FEMA reimbursement	-	(7,516)	(7,516)
Miscellaneous			
Other	148,300	138,895	(9,405)
Total revenues	712,900	742,467	29,567
EXPENDITURES			
Public works			
Personnel	2,691,200	2,744,897	(53,697)
Materials and supplies	245,300	185,594	59,706
Insurance	191,800	191,800	-
Equipment and road maintenance	537,600	459,964	77,636
Gasoline and oil	95,400	143,311	(47,911)
Telephone	11,500	11,112	388
Other charges and services	138,700	165,016	(26,316)
Capital outlay	223,400	174,212	49,188
Total expenditures	4,134,900	4,075,906	58,994
Excess of expenditures over revenues	(3,422,000)	(3,333,439)	88,561
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Proceeds from sale of property	50,000	49,302	(698)
Operating transfers in			
Sales and Use Tax Fund	4,102,800	3,993,536	(109,264)
Operating transfers out			
Office Building Construction	(14,200)	(14,200)	-
Maintenance Fund	(92,900)	(92,900)	-
General Fund	(192,200)	(192,200)	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	3,803,500	3,743,538	(59,962)
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures	\$ 381,500	410,099	\$ 28,599
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		82,485	
End of year		\$ 492,584	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
WEST ASCENSION DRAINAGE FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Final Budget	Actual	Variance - favorable (unfavorable)
REVENUES			
Taxes - Ad valorem	\$ 441,700	\$ 428,036	\$ (13,664)
Intergovernmental			
State revenue sharing	46,500	28,834	(17,666)
Miscellaneous			
Interest	4,500	502	(3,998)
	492,700	457,372	(35,328)
EXPENDITURES			
General government			
Contribution to retirement system	10,900	14,665	(3,765)
Public works			
Personnel	306,600	285,698	20,902
Grants	1,800	-	1,800
Materials and supplies	16,600	5,536	11,064
Insurance	20,000	20,000	-
Equipment maintenance	16,900	10,339	6,561
Gasoline and oil	10,200	13,846	(3,646)
Other charges and services	17,400	5,581	11,819
Capital outlay - equipment	-	250	(250)
Weed control	1,600	390	1,210
Debt service			
Debt retirement	72,300	72,336	(36)
	474,300	428,641	45,659
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	18,400	28,731	10,331
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Operating transfers out	(298,300)	(298,300)	-
	(298,300)	(298,300)	-
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures and other sources (uses)	\$ (279,900)	(269,569)	\$ 10,331
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		469,418	
End of year		\$ 199,848	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
HEALTH UNIT FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES			
Taxes - Ad valorem	\$ 838,500	\$ 892,701	\$ 54,201
Intergovernmental			
State revenue sharing	94,400	89,168	(5,232)
Grants	20,300	20,322	22
Miscellaneous			
Interest and other	<u>170,200</u>	<u>238,296</u>	<u>68,096</u>
Total revenues	<u>1,123,400</u>	<u>1,240,487</u>	<u>117,087</u>
EXPENDITURES			
General government			
Contribution to retirement system	28,200	31,115	(2,915)
Health and welfare			
Personnel	944,400	937,830	6,570
Animal and mosquito control	199,600	136,492	63,108
Health unit	<u>229,400</u>	<u>197,886</u>	<u>31,514</u>
Total expenditures	<u>1,401,600</u>	<u>1,303,323</u>	<u>98,277</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	<u>(278,200)</u>	<u>(62,836)</u>	<u>215,364</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Operating transfers out			
General Fund and other funds	<u>(78,700)</u>	<u>(78,700)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(78,700)</u>	<u>(78,700)</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing over expenditures	<u>\$ (356,900)</u>	<u>(141,536)</u>	<u>\$ 215,364</u>
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		<u>1,067,362</u>	
End of year		<u>\$ 925,826</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
MENTAL HEALTH UNIT FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES			
Taxes			
Ad valorem	\$ 838,500	\$ 892,108	\$ 53,608
Intergovernmental			
State revenue sharing	94,500	89,165	(5,335)
Other	313,800	317,631	3,831
Miscellaneous			
Interest	8,000	3,870	(4,130)
Other	75,000	87,735	12,735
 Total revenues	 <u>1,329,800</u>	 <u>1,390,509</u>	 <u>60,709</u>
EXPENDITURES			
General government			
Contribution to retirement system	28,200	31,115	(2,915)
Health and welfare			
Personnel	851,600	754,401	97,199
Telephone	37,800	36,767	1,033
Maintenance	21,300	18,173	3,127
Other charges and services	269,000	279,125	(10,125)
Capital outlay - equipment	1,200	18,490	(17,290)
 Total expenditures	 <u>1,209,100</u>	 <u>1,138,071</u>	 <u>71,029</u>
 Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	 <u>120,700</u>	 <u>252,438</u>	 <u>131,738</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Operating transfers out			
General Fund and other funds	(58,500)	(58,500)	-
 Total financing sources (uses)	 <u>(58,500)</u>	 <u>(58,500)</u>	 <u>-</u>
 Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures and other financing sources (uses)	 <u>\$ 62,200</u>	 193,938	 <u>\$ 131,738</u>
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		<u>779,235</u>	
 End of year		 <u>\$ 973,173</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 1 FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES			
Intergovernmental			
Fire insurance rebate	\$ 259,300	\$ 173,425	\$ (85,875)
Miscellaneous			
Interest and other	<u>110,000</u>	<u>77,703</u>	<u>(32,297)</u>
Total revenues	<u>369,300</u>	<u>251,128</u>	<u>(118,172)</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Public safety			
Personnel	60,600	61,384	(784)
Maintenance	116,000	142,093	(26,093)
Fire protection and service	142,000	150,977	(8,977)
Insurance	106,100	103,346	2,754
Professional	33,000	3,224	29,776
Intergovernmental payments	259,300	173,425	85,875
Other charges and services	72,100	78,240	(6,140)
Capital outlay - equipment	<u>2,013,300</u>	<u>415,129</u>	<u>1,598,171</u>
Total expenditures	<u>2,802,400</u>	<u>1,127,818</u>	<u>1,674,582</u>
Excess of expenditures over revenues	<u>(2,433,100)</u>	<u>(876,690)</u>	<u>1,556,410</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Operating transfers in			
Sales and Use Tax District No.2 Fund	1,192,100	1,257,540	65,440
Operating transfers out			
General Fund	(57,800)	(57,800)	-
Fire District No.1 Construction Fund	<u>(266,200)</u>	<u>(266,200)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>868,100</u>	<u>933,540</u>	<u>65,440</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources (uses) over expenditures	<u>\$ (1,565,000)</u>	56,850	<u>\$ 1,621,850</u>
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		<u>3,600,626</u>	
End of year		<u>\$ 3,657,476</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
RECREATION COMMISSION FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Final</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance -</u> <u>favorable</u> <u>(unfavorable)</u>
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>(unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES			
Charges for services	\$ 30,000	\$ 36,391	\$ 6,391
Intergovernmental Grants	288,800	277,067	(11,733)
Miscellaneous Rentals and other	50,600	35,150	(15,450)
Total revenues	<u>369,400</u>	<u>348,608</u>	<u>(20,792)</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Parish culture and recreation			
Personnel	257,200	256,997	203
Programs	111,000	78,856	32,144
Maintenance	79,000	85,891	(6,891)
Other charges and services	824,500	843,413	(18,913)
Site work	390,500	371,969	18,531
Capital outlay - equipment	20,000	80	19,920
Total expenditures	<u>1,682,200</u>	<u>1,637,206</u>	<u>44,994</u>
Excess of expenditures over revenues	<u>(1,312,800)</u>	<u>(1,288,598)</u>	<u>24,202</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Operating transfers in			
Sales and Use Tax District No. 1 Fund	930,800	927,927	(2,873)
Operating transfers out			
General Fund	(39,000)	(39,000)	-
Recreation Fund B	(90,100)	(90,100)	-
Other funds	(311,600)	(311,600)	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>490,100</u>	<u>487,227</u>	<u>(2,873)</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures and other financing sources (uses)	<u>\$ (822,700)</u>	<u>(801,371)</u>	<u>\$ 21,329</u>
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		<u>1,005,996</u>	
End of year		<u>\$ 204,625</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
ROAD LIGHTING DISTRICT NO. 1 FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES			
Taxes			
Ad valorem	\$ 19,700	\$ 19,875	\$ 175
Intergovernmental			
State revenue sharing	7,900	6,284	(1,616)
Miscellaneous			
Interest	<u>2,800</u>	<u>2,943</u>	<u>143</u>
Total revenues	<u>30,400</u>	<u>29,102</u>	<u>(1,298)</u>
EXPENDITURES			
General government			
Contribution to retirement system	700	716	(16)
Public works			
Utilities	<u>14,700</u>	<u>14,830</u>	<u>(130)</u>
Total expenditures	<u>15,400</u>	<u>15,546</u>	<u>(146)</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures	15,000	13,556	(1,444)
OTHER FINANCING USES			
Operating transfers out			
General Fund	<u>(1,100)</u>	<u>(1,100)</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures and other financing uses	<u>\$ 13,900</u>	12,456	<u>\$ (1,444)</u>
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		<u>177,751</u>	
End of year		<u>\$ 190,207</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
ROAD LIGHTING DISTRICT NO. 2 FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES			
Taxes			
Ad valorem	\$ 25,500	\$ 23,138	\$ (2,362)
Intergovernmental			
State revenue sharing	500	459	(41)
Miscellaneous			
Interest	<u>1,500</u>	<u>914</u>	<u>(586)</u>
Total revenues	<u>27,500</u>	<u>24,511</u>	<u>(2,989)</u>
EXPENDITURES			
General government			
Contribution to retirement system	900	776	124
Public works			
Utilities	<u>32,000</u>	<u>26,799</u>	<u>5,201</u>
Total expenditures	<u>32,900</u>	<u>27,575</u>	<u>5,325</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(5,400)	(3,064)	2,336
OTHER FINANCING USES			
Operating transfers out			
General Fund	<u>(1,100)</u>	<u>(1,100)</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures and other financing uses	<u>\$ (6,500)</u>	<u>(4,164)</u>	<u>\$ 2,336</u>
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		<u>65,782</u>	
End of year		<u>\$ 61,618</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
ROAD LIGHTING DISTRICT NO. 3 FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Final Budget	Actual	Variance - favorable (unfavorable)
REVENUES			
Taxes			
Ad valorem	\$ 19,200	\$ 21,524	\$ 2,324
Intergovernmental			
State revenue sharing	5,700	4,578	(1,122)
Miscellaneous			
Interest	600	618	18
Total revenues	25,500	26,720	1,220
EXPENDITURES			
General government			
Contribution to retirement system	700	768	(68)
Public works			
Utilities	20,000	19,258	742
Total expenditures	20,700	20,026	674
Excess of revenues over expenditures	4,800	6,694	1,894
OTHER FINANCING USES			
Operating transfers out			
General Fund	(1,000)	(1,000)	-
Excess of revenues over expenditures and other financing uses	\$ 3,800	5,694	\$ 1,894
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		46,042	
End of year		\$ 51,736	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
ROAD LIGHTING DISTRICT NO. 4 FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES			
Taxes			
Ad valorem	\$ 6,600	\$ 6,745	\$ 145
Intergovernmental			
State revenue sharing	<u>2,800</u>	<u>2,345</u>	<u>(455)</u>
Total revenues	<u>9,400</u>	<u>9,090</u>	<u>(310)</u>
EXPENDITURES			
General government			
Contribution to retirement system	200	238	(38)
Public works			
Utilities	<u>9,500</u>	<u>8,461</u>	<u>1,039</u>
Total expenditures	<u>9,700</u>	<u>8,699</u>	<u>1,001</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	<u>\$ (300)</u>	391	<u>\$ 691</u>
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		<u>2,812</u>	
End of year		<u>\$ 3,203</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
ROAD LIGHTING DISTRICT NO. 5 FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES			
Taxes			
Ad valorem	\$ 17,100	\$ 18,822	\$ 1,722
Intergovernmental			
State revenue sharing	3,300	2,457	(843)
Miscellaneous			
Interest	<u>200</u>	<u>286</u>	<u>86</u>
Total revenues	<u>20,600</u>	<u>21,565</u>	<u>965</u>
EXPENDITURES			
General government			
Contribution to retirement system	600	655	(55)
Public works			
Utilities	<u>13,000</u>	<u>12,111</u>	<u>889</u>
Total expenditures	<u>13,600</u>	<u>12,766</u>	<u>834</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	7,000	8,799	1,799
OTHER FINANCING USES			
Operating transfers out			
General Fund	<u>(700)</u>	<u>(700)</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures and other financing uses	<u>\$ 6,300</u>	8,099	<u>\$ 1,799</u>
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		<u>22,984</u>	
End of year		<u>\$ 31,083</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-8 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
ROAD LIGHTING DISTRICT NO. 6 FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Final Budget	Actual	Variance - favorable (unfavorable)
REVENUES			
Taxes			
Ad valorem	\$ 137,100	\$ 155,829	\$ 18,729
Intergovernmental			
State revenue sharing	15,300	15,221	(79)
Miscellaneous			
Interest	4,000	3,523	(477)
Total revenues	156,400	174,573	18,173
EXPENDITURES			
General government			
Contribution to retirement system	4,700	5,378	(678)
Public works			
Utilities	130,000	123,820	6,180
Total expenditures	134,700	129,198	5,502
Excess of revenues over expenditures	21,700	45,375	23,675
OTHER FINANCING USES			
Operating transfers out			
General Fund	(5,500)	(5,500)	-
Excess of revenues over expenditures and other financing uses	\$ 16,200	39,875	\$ 23,675
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		266,492	
End of year		\$ 306,367	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
ROAD LIGHTING DISTRICT NO. 7 FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Final Budget	Actual	Variance - favorable (unfavorable)
REVENUES			
Taxes			
Ad valorem	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,407	\$ (93)
Intergovernmental			
State revenue sharing	800	643	(157)
Miscellaneous			
Interest	100	44	(56)
Total revenues	5,400	5,094	(306)
EXPENDITURES			
General government			
Contribution to retirement system	200	153	47
Public works			
Utilities	5,400	4,743	657
Total expenditures	5,600	4,896	704
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(200)	198	398
OTHER FINANCING USES			
Operating transfers out			
General Fund	(200)	(200)	-
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures and other financing uses	\$ (400)	(2)	\$ 398
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		5,086	
End of year		\$ 5,084	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
LAW OFFICERS' COURT FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES			
Fines and forfeitures			
Court fines & bond forfeitures	\$ 53,400	\$ 43,272	\$ (10,128)
EXPENDITURES			
General government			
Juror and witnesses	<u>60,000</u>	<u>60,618</u>	<u>(618)</u>
Excess of expenditures over revenues	(6,600)	(17,346)	(10,746)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			
Operating transfers in			
General Fund	<u>6,600</u>	<u>6,600</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures	<u>\$ -</u>	(10,746)	<u>\$ (10,746)</u>
FUND BALANCE (DEFICIT)			
Beginning of year		<u>7,825</u>	
End of year		<u>\$ (2,921)</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
SECTION 8 FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES			
Intergovernmental			
HUD receipts	\$ 506,000	\$ 501,470	\$ (4,530)
EXPENDITURES			
General government			
Consultant and administration	51,000	50,672	328
Accounting	3,000	3,395	(395)
Health and welfare			
Housing and utility assistance	<u>452,000</u>	<u>447,403</u>	<u>4,597</u>
 Total expenditures	 <u>506,000</u>	 <u>501,470</u>	 <u>4,530</u>
 Excess of revenues over expenditures	 <u>\$ -</u>	 <u>-</u>	 <u>\$ -</u>
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		<u>-</u>	
End of year		<u>\$ -</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 2 FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Final Budget	Actual	Variance - favorable (unfavorable)
REVENUES			
Intergovernmental			
Fire insurance rebate	\$ 27,200	\$ 27,200	\$ -
Miscellaneous			
Interest	18,000	9,741	(8,259)
Total revenues	45,200	36,941	(8,259)
EXPENDITURES			
Public safety			
Distribution to fire service unit	27,200	27,200	-
Maintenance	23,000	4,864	18,136
Fire protection and service	7,500	2,652	4,848
Insurance	25,600	23,595	2,005
Intergovernmental payments	157,700	155,000	2,700
Other charges and services	11,200	8,577	2,623
Capital outlay - equipment	12,000	26	11,974
Total expenditures	264,200	221,914	42,286
Excess of expenditures over revenues	(219,000)	(184,973)	34,027
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Operating transfers in			
Sales and Use Tax District No.2 Fund	132,500	139,727	7,227
Operating transfers out			
General Fund	(7,200)	(7,200)	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	125,300	132,527	7,227
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources (uses) over expenditures	\$ (93,700)	(52,446)	\$ 41,254
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		591,755	
End of year		\$ 539,309	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
TOURIST COMMISSION FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Final Budget	Actual	Variance - favorable (unfavorable)
REVENUES			
Taxes			
Sales and use	\$ 275,000	\$ 256,382	\$ (18,618)
Miscellaneous			
Interest	7,500	7,500	-
Miscellaneous			
Interest	22,000	9,186	(12,814)
Other	8,000	4,103	(3,897)
	312,500	277,171	(35,329)
EXPENDITURES			
Culture and recreation			
Personnel	155,900	149,946	5,954
Advertising	143,100	123,641	19,459
Utilities	6,500	3,573	2,927
Telephone	10,500	8,320	2,180
Travel and mileage	21,500	24,260	(2,760)
Capital outlay - equipment	50,000	22,402	27,598
Appropriations and grants	17,500	65,978	(48,478)
Other	82,000	46,855	35,145
	487,000	444,975	42,025
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(174,500)	(167,804)	6,696
OTHER FINANCING USES			
Operating transfers out			
General Fund	(11,900)	(11,900)	-
Office building construction	(134,800)	(134,800)	-
	(146,700)	(146,700)	-
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing uses over expenditures	\$ (321,200)	(314,504)	\$ 6,696
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		679,816	
End of year		\$ 365,314	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
COUNCIL ON AGING FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Final Budget	Actual	Variance - favorable (unfavorable)
REVENUES			
Taxes			
Ad valorem	\$ 628,900	\$ 669,530	\$ 40,630
Miscellaneous			
Interest	<u>7,400</u>	<u>1,762</u>	<u>(5,638)</u>
Total revenues	<u>636,300</u>	<u>671,292</u>	<u>34,992</u>
EXPENDITURES			
General government			
Contribution to retirement system	21,700	23,338	(1,638)
Health and welfare			
Appropriations and grants	<u>524,500</u>	<u>523,704</u>	<u>796</u>
Total expenditures	<u>546,200</u>	<u>547,042</u>	<u>(842)</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures	<u>90,100</u>	<u>124,250</u>	<u>34,150</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Operating transfer in			
Council on Aging Sinking Fund	600	944	344
Operating transfers out			
Council on Aging Sinking Fund	(116,800)	(116,800)	-
General Fund	<u>(1,200)</u>	<u>(1,200)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total financing sources (uses)	<u>(117,400)</u>	<u>(117,056)</u>	<u>344</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures and other financing sources (uses)	<u>\$ (27,300)</u>	7,194	<u>\$ 34,494</u>
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		<u>684,129</u>	
End of year		<u>\$ 691,323</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
JUDICIAL DISTRICT FAMILIES IN NEED OF SERVICES FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES			
Miscellaneous			
Interest	\$ 1,100	\$ 335	\$ (765)
EXPENDITURES			
Judicial - Parish Court			
Personnel	125,300	114,948	10,352
Total expenditures	125,300	114,948	10,352
Excess of expenditures over revenues	(124,200)	(114,613)	9,587
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			
Operating transfers in			
Criminal Court Fund	36,600	36,600	-
Sales and Use Tax Fund	65,000	65,000	-
Total other financing sources	101,600	101,600	-
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures	\$ (22,600)	(13,013)	\$ 9,587
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		23,348	
End of year		\$ 10,335	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
JAIL FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES			
Miscellaneous	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,726	\$ (1,274)
EXPENDITURES			
Public safety			
Prisoners	570,300	584,315	(14,015)
Utilities	160,000	176,905	(16,905)
Telephone	23,000	18,811	4,189
Maintenance	132,500	129,675	2,825
Supplies	178,500	184,420	(5,920)
Major repairs - building	72,500	2,916	69,584
Insurance	58,700	58,700	-
Miscellaneous	6,000	2,670	3,330
Capital outlay - equipment	<u>8,000</u>	<u>10,272</u>	<u>(2,272)</u>
Total expenditures	<u>1,209,500</u>	<u>1,168,684</u>	<u>40,816</u>
Excess of expenditures over revenues	<u>(1,204,500)</u>	<u>(1,164,958)</u>	<u>39,542</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Operating transfers in			
General Fund	1,267,000	1,304,000	37,000
Operating transfers out			
Other funds	<u>(50,000)</u>	<u>(50,000)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>1,217,000</u>	<u>1,254,000</u>	<u>37,000</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures	<u>\$ 12,500</u>	89,042	<u>\$ 76,542</u>
FUND BALANCE (DEFICIT)			
Beginning of year		<u>(44,945)</u>	
End of year		<u>\$ 44,097</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENT PROJECT FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Final Budget	Actual	Variance - favorable (unfavorable)
REVENUES			
Miscellaneous			
Interest	\$ 700	\$ 741	\$ 41
EXPENDITURES			
Public safety			
Maintenance-furniture and equipment	2,500	1,071	1,429
Professional	18,000	10,874	7,126
Appropriation and grants	5,000	-	5,000
Capital outlay	5,000	3,668	1,332
Other	18,000	10,950	7,050
Total expenditures	48,500	26,563	21,937
Excess of expenditures over revenues	(47,800)	(25,822)	21,978
OTHER FINANCING USES			
Operating transfers out			
Courthouse Construction Fund	(5,200)	(5,200)	-
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing uses over expenditures	\$ (53,000)	(31,022)	\$ 21,978
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		147,225	
End of year		\$ 116,203	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
DEDICATED SPECIAL PROJECT FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
OTHER FINANCING USES			
Operating transfers out			
Courthouse Construction Fund	\$ (129,700)	\$ (129,700)	\$ -
Jail Fund	<u>(37,000)</u>	<u>(37,000)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total other financing uses	<u>\$ (166,700)</u>	(166,700)	<u>\$ -</u>
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		<u>166,795</u>	
End of year		<u>\$ 95</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
ASCENSION PARISH LIBRARY FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Final Budget	Actual	Variance - favorable (unfavorable)
REVENUES			
Taxes			
Ad valorem	\$ 2,893,643	\$ 3,086,402	\$ 192,759
Intergovernmental			
State revenue sharing	280,000	303,161	23,161
State - aids libraries	25,204	25,367	163
Charges for services			
Charges for services	15,500	15,713	213
Fines and forfeitures			
Library	19,500	27,842	8,342
Miscellaneous			
Use of money and property	32,000	24,608	(7,392)
Other	-	730	730
	<u>3,265,847</u>	<u>3,483,823</u>	<u>217,976</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Culture and recreation			
Library administration	1,676,672	1,595,626	81,046
Materials and supplies	94,600	61,459	33,141
Operating services	488,400	375,629	112,771
Travel and mileage	27,000	11,551	15,449
Capital outlay - equipment	1,512,750	1,126,773	385,977
Intergovernmental			
Miscellaneous	128,000	105,790	22,210
	<u>3,927,422</u>	<u>3,276,828</u>	<u>650,594</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	<u>\$ (661,575)</u>	<u>206,995</u>	<u>\$ 868,570</u>
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		<u>4,551,141</u>	
End of year		<u>\$ 4,758,136</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
RECREATION FUND B**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES			
Charges for services	\$ 22,000	\$ 25,970	\$ 3,970
Miscellaneous			
Rentals and other	<u>15,400</u>	<u>13,102</u>	<u>(2,298)</u>
Total revenues	<u>37,400</u>	<u>39,072</u>	<u>1,672</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Parish culture and recreation			
Personnel	80,400	77,709	2,691
Programs	56,700	39,717	16,983
Other charges and services	36,000	30,644	5,356
Site work	<u>24,700</u>	<u>24,690</u>	<u>10</u>
Total expenditures	<u>197,800</u>	<u>172,760</u>	<u>25,040</u>
Excess of expenditures over revenues	<u>(160,400)</u>	<u>(133,688)</u>	<u>26,712</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			
Operating transfers in			
Recreation Fund	<u>90,100</u>	<u>90,100</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures	<u>\$ (70,300)</u>	<u>(43,588)</u>	<u>\$ 26,712</u>
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		<u>70,334</u>	
End of year		<u>\$ 26,746</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
FEMA - REPETITIVE LOSS REDUCTION FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES			
Grant - Flood mitigation	\$ 418,500	\$ 385,805	\$ (32,695)
Miscellaneous	-	12,167	12,167
	<u>418,500</u>	<u>397,972</u>	<u>(20,528)</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Grant - Flood mitigation	<u>450,000</u>	<u>429,071</u>	<u>20,929</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	<u>\$ (31,500)</u>	<u>(31,099)</u>	<u>\$ 401</u>
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		<u>72,319</u>	
End of year		<u>\$ 41,220</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.



**PARISH OF ASCENSION
NONMAJOR DEBT SERVICE FUNDS**

COMBINING BALANCE SHEET

December 31, 2003

	<u>Public Improvement Bonds</u>			
	<u>Sales & Use Tax No. 1 Sinking</u>	<u>Sales & Use Tax No. 1 Reserve</u>	<u>East Ascension Drainage Sinking</u>	<u>East Ascension Drainage Reserve</u>
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 146,892
Investments	218,542	265,478	179,318	2,032,445
Accounts receivable, net	-	-	-	8,317
Due from other funds	-	-	-	-
Total assets	<u>\$ 218,542</u>	<u>\$ 265,478</u>	<u>\$ 179,318</u>	<u>\$ 2,187,654</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE				
LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Due to other funds	-	-	-	-
Deferred revenue	-	-	-	-
Total liabilities	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
FUND BALANCE				
Reserved for debt service	<u>218,542</u>	<u>265,478</u>	<u>179,318</u>	<u>2,187,654</u>
Total liabilities and fund balance	<u>\$ 218,542</u>	<u>\$ 265,478</u>	<u>\$ 179,318</u>	<u>\$ 2,187,654</u>

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

Public Improvement Bonds	General Obligation Debt			Total Non-Major Debt Service Funds
Sales & Use Tax No. 2 Sinking	Council on Aging Sinking	Library Fund	Bayou Terrace Bond	
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 146,892
221,199	96,574	47	-	3,013,603
-	-	-	66,425	74,742
117,467	-	-	-	117,467
<u>\$ 338,666</u>	<u>\$ 96,574</u>	<u>\$ 47</u>	<u>\$ 66,425</u>	<u>\$ 3,352,704</u>
\$ -	\$ -	\$ 47	\$ -	\$ 47
-	-	-	3,245	3,245
-	-	-	39,923	39,923
-	-	47	43,168	43,215
338,666	96,574	-	23,257	3,309,489
<u>\$ 338,666</u>	<u>\$ 96,574</u>	<u>\$ 47</u>	<u>\$ 66,425</u>	<u>\$ 3,352,704</u>

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
NONMAJOR DEBT SERVICE FUNDS**

**COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Public Improvement Bonds			
	Sales & Use Tax Sinking	Sales & Use Tax Reserve	East Ascension Drainage Sinking	East Ascension Drainage Reserve
REVENUES				
Taxes - Ad valorem	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous				
Interest	4,156	4,621	13,427	38,078
Special assessment	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-
Total revenues	<u>4,156</u>	<u>4,621</u>	<u>13,427</u>	<u>38,078</u>
EXPENDITURES				
Debt service				
Principal retirement	215,000	-	1,315,000	-
Interest and bank charges	42,712	-	797,102	-
Total expenditures	<u>257,712</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,112,102</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	<u>(253,556)</u>	<u>4,621</u>	<u>(2,098,675)</u>	<u>38,078</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Operating transfers in				
E.A. Drainage Restricted Fund	-	-	2,110,300	-
Sales & Use Tax District No. 1 Fund	259,526	-	-	-
Council on Aging Fund	-	-	-	-
Sales & Use Tax District No. 2 Fund	-	-	-	-
Operating transfers out				
E.A. Drainage Restricted Fund	-	-	(13,427)	(38,078)
Sales & Use Tax District No. 1 Fund	(4,156)	(4,621)	-	-
Council on Aging Fund	-	-	-	-
Sales & Use Tax District No. 2 Fund	-	-	-	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>255,370</u>	<u>(4,621)</u>	<u>2,096,873</u>	<u>(38,078)</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures and other sources (uses)	<u>1,814</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,802)</u>	<u>-</u>
FUND BALANCE				
Beginning of year	<u>216,728</u>	<u>265,478</u>	<u>181,120</u>	<u>2,187,654</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 218,542</u>	<u>\$ 265,478</u>	<u>\$ 179,318</u>	<u>\$ 2,187,654</u>

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

Public Improvement Bonds	General Obligation Debt			Total Non-Major Debt Service Funds
	Sales & Use Tax No. 2 Sinking	Council on Aging Sinking	Library Fund	
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
3,641	944	1	4,848	69,716
-	-	-	22,247	22,247
2	-	-	-	2
<u>3,643</u>	<u>944</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>27,095</u>	<u>91,965</u>
780,000	105,000	-	270,000	2,685,000
626,690	9,750	40	14,667	1,490,961
<u>1,406,690</u>	<u>114,750</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>284,667</u>	<u>4,175,961</u>
(1,403,047)	(113,806)	(39)	(257,572)	(4,083,996)
-	-	-	-	2,110,300
-	-	-	-	259,526
-	116,800	-	-	116,800
1,409,600	-	-	-	1,409,600
-	-	-	-	(51,505)
-	-	-	-	(8,777)
-	(944)	-	-	(944)
<u>(3,641)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,641)</u>
<u>1,405,959</u>	<u>115,856</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,831,359</u>
2,912	2,050	(39)	(257,572)	(252,637)
335,754	94,524	39	280,829	3,562,126
<u>\$ 338,666</u>	<u>\$ 96,574</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 23,257</u>	<u>\$ 3,309,489</u>

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
NONMAJOR CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDS**

COMBINING BALANCE SHEET

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Fire District No. 1 Construction</u>	<u>Sewer Project</u>	<u>Office Building Construction</u>	<u>Waste Water</u>
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 70,586	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 107,141
Investments	976,653	14,209	18,176	1,482,434
Due from other government				
LA - Other	-	-	-	-
Grants	-	-	148,311	90,960
Interest receivable	3,997	-	-	6,066
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 1,051,236</u>	<u>\$ 14,209</u>	<u>\$ 166,487</u>	<u>\$ 1,686,601</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE				
LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 8,991	\$ 11,030	\$ 5,158	\$ 1,278
Due to other funds	-	5	-	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total liabilities	<u>8,991</u>	<u>11,035</u>	<u>5,158</u>	<u>1278</u>
FUND BALANCE				
Designated - subsequent year expenditures	250,000	-	32,000	791,400
Reserved for encumbrance	-	3,174	25,488	152,115
Undesignated	792,245	-	103,841	741,808
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Fund balance	<u>1,042,245</u>	<u>3,174</u>	<u>161,329</u>	<u>1,685,323</u>
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total liabilities and fund balance	<u>\$ 1,051,236</u>	<u>\$ 14,209</u>	<u>\$ 166,487</u>	<u>\$ 1,686,601</u>

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

<u>Courthouse East Construction</u>	<u>Geismar Community Center</u>	<u>Bunnhood/Fontana Canal Project</u>	<u>Total Non-Major Capital Project Funds</u>
\$ 80,109	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 257,836
1,095,342	-	-	3,586,814
17,712	-	-	17,712
92,664	-	59,576	391,511
4,536	201,747	-	216,346
<u>\$ 1,290,363</u>	<u>\$ 201,747</u>	<u>\$ 59,576</u>	<u>\$ 4,470,219</u>
\$ 451,151	\$ 124,633	\$ -	\$ 602,241
-	43,883	76,424	120,312
<u>451,151</u>	<u>168,516</u>	<u>76,424</u>	<u>722,553</u>
545,800	-	-	1,619,200
306,487	33,231	-	520,495
(13,075)	-	(16,848)	1,607,971
<u>839,212</u>	<u>33,231</u>	<u>(16,848)</u>	<u>3,747,666</u>
<u>\$ 1,290,363</u>	<u>\$ 201,747</u>	<u>\$ 59,576</u>	<u>\$ 4,470,219</u>

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
NONMAJOR CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDS**

**COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES,
EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Fire District No. 1 Construction</u>	<u>Sewer Project</u>	<u>Office Building Construction</u>	<u>Waste Water</u>
REVENUES				
Intergovernmental	\$ -	\$ 21,323	\$ 258,089	\$ 90,607
Miscellaneous	-	-	1,481	32,879
Total revenues	-	21,323	259,570	123,486
EXPENDITURES				
Capital projects	8,991	142,149	761,185	106,188
Excess of expenditures over revenues	(8,991)	(120,826)	(501,615)	17,298
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES				
Operating transfers in	266,200	124,000	191,400	167,800
Operating transfers out	-	-	(11,158)	(433,000)
Total other financing sources	266,200	124,000	180,242	(265,200)
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures	257,209	3,174	(321,373)	(247,902)
FUND BALANCE				
Beginning of year	785,036	-	482,702	1,933,225
End of year	<u>\$ 1,042,245</u>	<u>\$ 3,174</u>	<u>\$ 161,329</u>	<u>\$ 1,685,323</u>

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

<u>Courthouse East Construction</u>	<u>Geismar Community Center</u>	<u>Bunnhood/Fontana Canal Project</u>	<u>Total Non-Major Capital Project Funds</u>
\$ 608,687	\$ -	\$ 1,033,643	\$ 2,012,349
95,316	302,119	-	431,795
704,003	302,119	1,033,643	2,444,144
<u>1,502,732</u>	<u>609,380</u>	<u>1,378,191</u>	<u>4,508,816</u>
<u>(798,729)</u>	<u>(307,261)</u>	<u>(344,548)</u>	<u>(2,064,672)</u>
246,200	167,700	327,700	1,491,000
(60,000)	-	-	(504,158)
<u>186,200</u>	<u>167,700</u>	<u>327,700</u>	<u>986,842</u>
(612,529)	(139,561)	(16,848)	(1,077,830)
<u>1,451,741</u>	<u>172,792</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,825,496</u>
<u>\$ 839,212</u>	<u>\$ 33,231</u>	<u>\$ (16,848)</u>	<u>\$ 3,747,666</u>

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1 CONSTRUCTION FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Capital projects			
Landscape and architectural	\$ 53,000	\$ 8,991	\$ 44,009
Miscellaneous	<u>9,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,000</u>
Total expenditures	62,000	8,991	53,009
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			
Operating transfers in			
Fire District No. 1 Fund	<u>266,200</u>	<u>266,200</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures	<u>\$ 204,200</u>	257,209	<u>\$ 53,009</u>
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		<u>785,036</u>	
End of year		<u>\$ 1,042,245</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
SEWER PROJECT FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES			
Intergovernmental			
LA Community Development Block Grant	\$ 21,300	\$ 21,323	\$ 23
EXPENDITURES			
Capital projects			
Contract payments	117,300	102,872	14,428
Engineering	15,200	14,657	543
Administration	12,800	24,620	(11,820)
Total expenditures	<u>145,300</u>	<u>142,149</u>	<u>3,151</u>
Excess of expenditures over revenues	(124,000)	(120,826)	3,174
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			
Operating transfers in			
Water/Wastewater Fund	<u>124,000</u>	<u>124,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures	<u>\$ -</u>	3,174	<u>\$ 3,174</u>
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		-	
End of year		<u>\$ 3,174</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
OFFICE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES			
Intergovernmental			
Grants	\$ 258,000	\$ 258,089	\$ (89)
Miscellaneous			
Interest	-	1,481	1,481
Total revenue	<u>258,000</u>	<u>259,570</u>	<u>(1,570)</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Capital projects			
Landscape and architectural	18,300	16,014	2,286
Contract payments	757,400	705,986	51,414
Miscellaneous	112,500	39,185	73,315
Total expenditures	<u>888,200</u>	<u>761,185</u>	<u>127,015</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	<u>(630,200)</u>	<u>(501,615)</u>	<u>128,585</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Operating transfers in			
Road and Bridge Fund	14,200	14,200	-
E.A. Drainage Fund	14,200	14,200	-
E.A. Drainage Restricted Fund	28,200	28,200	-
Health Unit Fund	134,800	134,800	-
Operating transfers out			
Road Construction Fund	<u>(11,200)</u>	<u>(11,158)</u>	<u>42</u>
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>180,200</u>	<u>180,242</u>	<u>(42)</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources (uses) over expenditures	<u>\$ (450,000)</u>	<u>(321,373)</u>	<u>\$ 128,627</u>
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		<u>482,702</u>	
End of year		<u>\$ 161,329</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
WASTE WATER FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - Favorable (unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES			
Intergovernmental			
Grants	\$ 142,100	\$ 90,607	\$ (51,493)
Miscellaneous			
Interest	<u>20,000</u>	<u>32,879</u>	<u>12,879</u>
Total revenue	<u>162,100</u>	<u>123,486</u>	<u>(38,614)</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Capital projects			
Personnel	30,000	17,144	12,856
Intergovernmental grants	555,200	73,534	481,666
Professional fees	<u>40,000</u>	<u>15,510</u>	<u>(24,490)</u>
Total expenditures	<u>625,200</u>	<u>106,188</u>	<u>519,012</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	<u>(463,100)</u>	<u>17,298</u>	<u>480,398</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Operating transfers in			
Sales and Use Tax Fund No. 1	167,800	167,800	-
Operating transfers out			
Darrow Sewer System	(299,000)	(299,000)	-
Sewer Project Fund	(124,000)	(124,000)	-
Trailorland Sewer System Fund	<u>(10,000)</u>	<u>(10,000)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(265,200)</u>	<u>(265,200)</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources (uses) over expenditures	<u>\$ (728,300)</u>	<u>(247,902)</u>	<u>\$ 480,398</u>
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		<u>1,933,225</u>	
End of year		<u>\$ 1,685,323</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
COURTHOUSE EAST CONSTRUCTION FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES			
Intergovernmental			
Grants	\$ 1,202,700	\$ 608,687	\$ (594,013)
Miscellaneous			
Interest and other	<u>220,700</u>	<u>95,316</u>	<u>(125,384)</u>
Total revenues	<u>1,423,400</u>	<u>704,003</u>	<u>(719,397)</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Capital projects			
Contract payments	2,290,400	1,366,380	924,020
Engineering	100,000	105,997	(5,997)
Professional and other	<u>75,100</u>	<u>30,355</u>	<u>44,745</u>
Total expenditures	<u>2,465,500</u>	<u>1,502,732</u>	<u>962,768</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(1,042,100)	(798,729)	243,371
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Operating transfers in			
Supplemental Environment Project Fund	5,200	5,200	-
Sales and Use Fund	70,300	70,300	-
Criminal Court Fund	41,000	41,000	-
Dedicated Special Project Fund	129,700	129,700	-
Operating transfers out			
Criminal Court Fund	<u>(60,000)</u>	<u>(60,000)</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources (uses) over expenditures	<u>\$ (855,900)</u>	<u>(612,529)</u>	<u>\$ 243,371</u>
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		<u>1,451,741</u>	
End of year		<u>\$ 839,212</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
GEISMAR COMMUNITY CENTER FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES			
Miscellaneous			
Charges for services	\$ 300,000	\$ 302,119	\$ 2,119
EXPENDITURES			
Capital projects			
Architect & Landscape	36,700	20,689	16,011
Contract Payments	<u>603,700</u>	<u>588,691</u>	<u>15,009</u>
Total expenditures	<u>640,400</u>	<u>609,380</u>	<u>31,020</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(340,400)	(307,261)	33,139
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			
Operating transfers in Sales and Use Fund	<u>167,700</u>	<u>167,700</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures	<u>\$ (172,700)</u>	(139,561)	<u>\$ 33,139</u>
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		<u>172,792</u>	
End of year		<u>\$ 33,231</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
BUNNHOO/FONTANA CANAL PROJECT FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES			
Intergovernmental Grant	\$ 1,063,400	\$ 1,033,643	\$ (29,757)
EXPENDITURES			
Capital projects			
Contract payments	1,181,500	1,168,574	12,926
Engineering	80,200	82,311	(2,111)
Administration	<u>129,400</u>	<u>127,306</u>	<u>2,094</u>
Total expenditures	<u>1,391,100</u>	<u>1,378,191</u>	<u>12,909</u>
Excess of expenditures over revenues	(327,700)	(344,548)	(16,848)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			
Operating transfers in			
West Ascension Drainage Fund	277,700	277,700	-
Sales and Use Fund	<u>50,000</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Total other financing sources	<u>327,700</u>	<u>327,700</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures	<u>\$ -</u>	(16,848)	<u>\$ (16,848)</u>
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		-	
End of year		<u>\$ (16,848)</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
ROAD PROJECT FUND - MAJOR FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES			
Miscellaneous			
Interest and other	\$ 556,000	\$ 452,749	\$ (103,251)
EXPENDITURES			
Capital projects			
Contract payments	8,650,000	2,069,866	6,580,134
Right of way acquisition	1,500,000	685,343	814,657
Professional	1,475,000	1,095,520	379,480
 Total expenditures	 <u>11,625,000</u>	 <u>3,850,729</u>	 <u>7,774,271</u>
 Excess of expenditures over revenues	 <u>(11,069,000)</u>	 <u>(3,397,980)</u>	 <u>7,671,020</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			
Operating transfers in			
Office Building Construction Fund	11,200	11,158	(42)
Sales & Use Tax District No. 2 Fund	1,239,600	1,384,933	145,333
 Total other financing sources	 <u>1,250,800</u>	 <u>1,396,091</u>	 <u>145,291</u>
 Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures	 <u>\$ (9,818,200)</u>	 <u>(2,001,889)</u>	 <u>\$ 7,816,311</u>
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		<u>26,928,414</u>	
 End of year		 <u>\$ 24,926,525</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION
EAST ASCENSION DRAINAGE PROJECT FUND - MAJOR FUND**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES			
Miscellaneous			
Interest	\$ 150,000	\$ 107,208	\$ (42,792)
EXPENDITURES			
Capital projects			
Contract payments	5,790,000	1,758,529	4,031,471
Capital outlay - right-of-way	530,000	54,358	475,642
Engineer	1,225,500	587,641	637,859
Miscellaneous	145,000	106,942	38,058
Total expenditures	<u>7,690,500</u>	<u>2,507,470</u>	<u>5,183,030</u>
Excess of expenditures over revenues	(7,540,500)	(2,400,262)	5,140,238
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			
Operating transfers in			
East Ascension Drainage Restricted Fund	<u>7,740,500</u>	<u>7,740,500</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures	<u>\$ 200,000</u>	5,340,238	<u>\$ 5,140,238</u>
FUND BALANCE			
Beginning of year		<u>3,513,574</u>	
End of year		<u>\$ 8,853,812</u>	

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

PARISH OF ASCENSION

NONMAJOR PROPRIETARY FUNDS

COUNTRY RIDGE SEWER SYSTEM

The Country Ridge Sewer System Fund is used to account for the maintenance and operation of the Country Ridge sewer system which provides waste water disposal for the participating residents.

TRAILERLAND SEWER SYSTEM

The Trailerland Sewer System Fund is used to account for the maintenance, operation, and the completion of construction of the Trailerland sewer system which provides waste water disposal for the participating residents.

DARROW SEWER SYSTEM

The Darrow Sewer System Fund is used to account for the construction of the Darrow sewer system which will provide waste water disposal for the participating residents.

PARISH OF ASCENSION
COMBINING STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS
NONMAJOR PROPRIETARY FUNDS

December 31, 2003

	<u>Country Ridge Sewer System</u>	<u>Trailerland Sewer System</u>	<u>Darrow Sewer System</u>	<u>Total</u>
ASSETS				
Current assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50
Investments	13,503	3,645	236,855	254,003
Accounts receivable, net	7,111	2,393	-	9,504
Due from other governments	-	144,121	-	144,121
Capital assets:				
Non-depreciable	-	978,740	89,651	1,068,391
Depreciable, net	341,112	-	-	341,112
Total assets	<u>\$ 361,776</u>	<u>\$ 1,128,899</u>	<u>\$ 326,506</u>	<u>\$ 1,817,181</u>
LIABILITIES				
Current liabilities:				
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 1,055	\$ 81,508	\$ 27,506	\$ 110,069
Due to other funds	419	85,437	-	85,856
Total liabilities	<u>1,474</u>	<u>166,945</u>	<u>27,506</u>	<u>195,925</u>
NET ASSETS				
Investment in capital assets, net of related debt	341,112	978,740	89,651	1,409,503
Unrestricted	19,190	(16,786)	209,349	211,753
Total net assets	<u>360,302</u>	<u>961,954</u>	<u>299,000</u>	<u>1,621,256</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 361,776</u>	<u>\$ 1,128,899</u>	<u>\$ 326,506</u>	<u>\$ 1,817,181</u>

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

PARISH OF ASCENSION

**COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND
CHANGES IN FUND NET ASSETS
NONMAJOR PROPRIETARY FUNDS**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Country Ridge Sewer System</u>	<u>Trailerland Sewer System</u>	<u>Darrow Sewer System</u>	<u>Total</u>
OPERATING REVENUES				
Charges for services	\$ 45,341	\$ 2,393	\$ -	\$ 47,734
Miscellaneous	161	-	-	161
Total operating revenues	<u>45,502</u>	<u>2,393</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>47,895</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Depreciation	20,065	-	-	20,065
Maintenance	41,619	2,424	-	44,043
Professional services	-	4,027	-	4,027
Administrative fees	-	13,609	-	13,609
Insurance premiums	-	400	-	400
Miscellaneous	8,865	-	-	8,865
Total operating expenses	<u>70,549</u>	<u>20,460</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>91,009</u>
Operating loss	<u>(25,047)</u>	<u>(18,067)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(43,114)</u>
NONOPERATING REVENUES				
Operating transfers in	56,960	10,000	299,000	365,960
Interest	1,555	-	-	1,555
Grants and contributions	-	596,402	-	596,402
Net nonoperating revenues	<u>58,515</u>	<u>606,402</u>	<u>299,000</u>	<u>963,917</u>
Net income	33,468	588,335	299,000	920,803
RETAINED EARNINGS				
Beginning of year	326,834	373,619	-	700,453
End of year	<u>\$ 360,302</u>	<u>\$ 961,954</u>	<u>\$ 299,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,621,256</u>

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

PARISH OF ASCENSION

COMBINING STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
NONMAJOR PROPRIETARY FUNDS

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Country Ridge Sewer System	Trailerland Sewer System	Darrow Sewer System	Total
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Receipts from customers	\$ 45,162	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45,162
Payments to suppliers for goods and services	(51,099)	(19,964)	-	(71,063)
Net cash used for operating activities	(5,937)	(19,964)	-	(25,901)
CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES				
Interest received on investments	1,555	-	-	1,555
(Increase) decrease in investments	4,383	49,410	(236,855)	(183,062)
Net cash provided by (used for) investing activities	5,938	49,410	(236,855)	(181,507)
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES				
Fixed asset additions	-	(753,865)	(62,145)	(816,010)
Capital grants	-	628,987	-	628,987
Net cash used for capital and related financing activities	-	(124,878)	(62,145)	(187,023)
CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES				
Transfers in from other funds	56,960	10,000	299,000	365,960
Advances from other funds	-	85,432	-	85,432
Payment on loans from other funds	(56,961)	-	-	(56,961)
Net cash provided by (used for) noncapital and related financing activities	(1)	95,432	299,000	394,431
Net change in cash	-	-	-	-
CASH				
Beginning of period	50	-	-	50
End of period	\$ 50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50
RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING LOSS TO NET CASH USED FOR OPERATING ACTIVITIES:				
Operating loss:	\$ (25,047)	\$ (18,067)	\$ -	\$ (43,114)
Adjustments of operating loss:				
Depreciation	20,065	-	-	20,065
Change in operating assets and liabilities:				
Accounts receivable	(340)	(2,393)	-	(2,733)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(615)	496	-	(119)
Net cash used for operating activities	\$ (5,937)	\$ (19,964)	\$ -	\$ (25,901)

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

PARISH OF ASCENSION

INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS

MAINTENANCE FUND

The Maintenance Fund is used to account for general maintenance for the Parish governmental units from which funding is provided.

ASCENSION PARISH INSURANCE FUND

The Ascension Parish Insurance Fund is a partially self-insured program for general liability, property insurance, auto liability and workman's compensation.

DENTAL INSURANCE FUND

The Dental Insurance Fund is a dental insurance program funded through payroll deductions, including a portion sponsored by the Parish, for its employees.

PARISH OF ASCENSION
COMBINING STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS
INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Maintenance</u>	<u>Insurance Fund</u>	<u>Dental Insurance</u>	<u>Total</u>
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ -	\$ 124,885	\$ -	\$ 124,885
Investments	549,489	1,727,946	7,699	2,285,134
Accounts receivable	-	16,074	14,761	30,835
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total assets	<u>\$ 549,489</u>	<u>\$ 1,868,905</u>	<u>\$ 22,460</u>	<u>\$ 2,440,854</u>
LIABILITIES AND RETAINED EARNINGS				
LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 67,824	\$ 74,198	\$ 7,327	\$ 149,349
Claims payable	-	1,141,759	-	1,141,759
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total liabilities	67,824	1,215,957	7,327	1,291,108
RETAINED EARNINGS				
Unreserved	481,665	652,948	15,133	1,149,746
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total liabilities and retained earnings	<u>\$ 549,489</u>	<u>\$ 1,868,905</u>	<u>\$ 22,460</u>	<u>\$ 2,440,854</u>

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

PARISH OF ASCENSION

**COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES,
EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND NET ASSETS
INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS**

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	<u>Maintenance</u>	<u>Insurance Fund</u>	<u>Dental Insurance</u>	<u>Total</u>
OPERATING REVENUES				
Insurance premiums	\$ -	\$ 1,459,855	\$ 160,229	\$ 1,620,084
Miscellaneous	8,822	21,639	-	30,461
Total revenues	<u>8,822</u>	<u>1,481,494</u>	<u>160,229</u>	<u>1,650,545</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Maintenance	1,035,802	-	-	1,035,802
Professional services	-	35,494	35,260	70,754
Insurance premiums	-	565,351	-	565,351
Insurance claims	-	334,027	98,039	432,066
Total operating expenses	<u>1,035,802</u>	<u>934,872</u>	<u>133,299</u>	<u>2,103,973</u>
Operating income (loss)	<u>(1,026,980)</u>	<u>546,622</u>	<u>26,930</u>	<u>(453,428)</u>
NONOPERATING REVENUES				
Proceeds from sale of property	308	-	-	308
Miscellaneous	-	535,282	-	535,282
Operating transfers in	1,102,300	-	-	1,102,300
Net nonoperating revenues	<u>1,102,608</u>	<u>535,282</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,637,890</u>
Net income	75,628	1,081,904	26,930	1,184,462
RETAINED EARNINGS				
Beginning of year	<u>406,037</u>	<u>(428,956)</u>	<u>(11,797)</u>	<u>(34,716)</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 481,665</u>	<u>\$ 652,948</u>	<u>\$ 15,133</u>	<u>\$ 1,149,746</u>

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

PARISH OF ASCENSION
COMBINING STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS

For the year ended December 31, 2003

	Maintenance	Insurance Fund	Dental Insurance	Total
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Receipts from customers	\$ 9,005	\$ 1,474,423	\$ 170,088	\$ 1,653,516
Payments to suppliers for goods and services	(225,135)	(939,397)	(131,270)	(1,295,802)
Payments to employees for services and benefits	(813,253)	-	-	(813,253)
Net cash provided by (used for) operating activities	<u>(1,029,383)</u>	<u>535,026</u>	<u>38,818</u>	<u>(455,539)</u>
CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES				
Changes in investments	<u>(73,225)</u>	<u>(471,092)</u>	<u>(7,699)</u>	<u>(552,016)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES				
Proceeds from sale of property	<u>308</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>308</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES				
Transfers in from other funds	1,102,300	-	-	1,102,300
Payment on loans from other funds	-	-	(31,119)	(31,119)
Net cash provided by (used for) capital and related financing activities	<u>1,102,300</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(31,119)</u>	<u>1,071,181</u>
Net increase in cash	-	63,934	-	63,934
CASH				
Beginning of period	-	60,951	-	60,951
End of period	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 124,885</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 124,885</u>
RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME (LOSS) TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED FOR) OPERATING ACTIVITIES:				
Operating income (loss)	\$ (1,026,980)	\$ 546,622	\$ 26,930	\$ (453,428)
Change in operating assets and liabilities:				
Accounts receivable	183	(7,071)	9,859	2,971
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(2,586)	(4,525)	2,029	(5,082)
Net cash provided by (used for) operating activities	<u>\$ (1,029,383)</u>	<u>\$ 535,026</u>	<u>\$ 38,818</u>	<u>\$ (455,539)</u>
NON-CASH TRANSACTIONS:				
Claims dismissed and change in estimate to claims reserve	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 535,282</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 535,282</u>

Notes on Exhibit A-14 are an integral part of this statement.

PARISH OF ASCENSION

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS

PARISH OF ASCENSION

Donaldsonville, Louisiana

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS

For the year ended December 31, 2003

Grantor/State Pass-through/ Program name/ Location of Project	CFDA Number	Grant Amount	Balance January 1	Federal Receipts	Federal Expenditures	Balance December 31
Federal Emergency Management Agency						
State of Louisiana/Office of Emergency Preparedness Hazard Mitigation Grant	83.557	\$ -	\$ 7,222	\$ 75,243	\$ 68,021	\$ -
State of Louisiana/ Office of Emergency Preparedness Hazardous Materials Planning	83.011	48,500	12,025	12,025	34,625	34,625
Department of Public Safety/ Office of Emergency Preparedness Public Assistance/Disaster Relief/Bunn Hood Project	83.548	1,127,000	66,531	1,040,596	1,033,642	59,577
State of Louisiana/Office of Emergency Preparedness Flood Mitigation Assistance Program Phase I	83.536	-	79,466	79,466	-	-
Phase II	83.536	-	42,073	69,235	25,342	(1,820)
Phase III	83.536	-	(98,277)	271,724	360,462	(9,539)
United States Department of Housing and Urban Development						
Louisiana Office of Eligibility Determination/ Emergency Shelter	14.231	-	2,942	13,405	14,721	4,258
Louisiana Office of Community Development/ Louisiana Community Development Block Grant/ Potable Water	14.228	600,000	55,225	76,548	21,323	-
Office of Community Development Louisiana Community Development Block Grant/ Traylorland Sewer System	14.228	1,000,000	176,706	628,988	596,403	144,121
Department of Housing and Community Affairs/ Section 8 Housing	14.871	-	31,957	498,039	501,470	35,388
Office of Community Planning and Development/ HUD-EDI Special Project/ Donaldsonville Riverfront Development	14.246	-	-	-	59,769	59,769
United States Department of the Interior						
State of Louisiana Office/ HWY. 621 N. Ascension Parish Park	15.916	78,400	6,758	-	71,642	78,400

PARISH OF ASCENSION

Donaldsonville, Louisiana

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS

For the year ended December 31, 2003

Grantor/State Pass-through/ Program name/ Location of Project	CFDA Number	Grant Amount	Balance January 1	Federal Receipts	Federal Expenditures	Balance December 31
Department of Transportation and Development State of Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development/Transportation Improvement Program/ Dutchtown Pedestrian Path	20.205	-	125,335	268,187	168,489	25,637
Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development/ Tourist Center	20.500	583,111	39,131	148,909	216,043	106,265
Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development/ Kiosk	20.500	-	-	-	42,046	42,046
United States Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Drug-Free Communities Support Program	16.729	300,000	96,222	-	65,538	161,760
Department of Health and Human Services State of Louisiana/Capital Area Human Services District/Block Grants for Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse	93.959	97,974	12,057	90,878	94,129	15,308
United States Department of Commerce State of Louisiana/New River Restoration Project	11.463	267,472	352	-	79,833	80,185
United States Environmental Protection Agency State and Tribal Assistance Grant/ Parishwide Water and Wastewater Project	66.606	-	-	-	10,775	10,775
United States Department of Education Louisiana Office of the Governor/ Governor's Safe and Drug Free Program	84.186	-	9,348	35,084	25,736	-
Total Federal Assistance			\$ 665,073	\$ 3,308,327	\$ 3,490,009	\$ 846,755

PARISH OF ASCENSION

NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS

For the year ended December 31, 2003

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

General

The Parish of Ascension's Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards presents the activity of the federal financial assistance programs of the Parish. All federal financial assistance received directly from federal agencies as well as federal financial assistance passed-through other government agencies are included on the schedule.

Basis of Accounting

The Parish of Ascension's Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is presented using the accrual basis of accounting, which is described in Note 1 to the Parish's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2003.

PARISH OF ASCENSION

SPECIAL INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORTS



REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Honorable Chairman and Members
of the Ascension Parish Council
Donaldsonville, Louisiana

We have audited the financial statements of the **PARISH OF ASCENSION** as of and for the year ended December 31, 2003, and have issued our report thereon dated May 7, 2003. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

We did not audit the financial statements of the Ascension Parish Library, a blended component unit, or the financial statements of the following discretely presented component units:

District Attorney of the Twenty-Third Judicial District
Ascension Parish Sheriff
Ascension Parish Clerk of Court
Ascension Parish Assessor
Ascension Parish Court
Twenty-Third Judicial District Indigent Defender Board
Twenty-Third Judicial District Judicial Expense Fund
Ascension Parish Communication District
East Ascension Hospital Service District
West Ascension Hospital Service District
Ascension Parish Water Works District No. 2

These financial statements were audited by other auditors whose reports have been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for these entities, was based on the reports of the other auditors.

Furthermore, the compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants and internal control over financial reporting of the Ascension Parish Library and the discretely presented component units listed above were evaluated by other auditors and those reports, if any, can be found in the separately issued financial reports of each such unit.

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the **PARISH OF ASCENSION**'s financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*, which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as Item 2003-1.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the **PARISH OF ASCENSION**'s internal control over financial reporting to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses. Additionally, we noted other matters involving the internal control over financial reporting that we have reported to management of the **PARISH OF ASCENSION**, in a separate letter dated May 7, 2004.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Parish Council and management, the Louisiana Legislative Auditor and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. Under Louisiana Revised Statutes 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.

Faulk & Winkler, LLC
Certified Public Accountants

Baton Rouge, Louisiana
May 7, 2004



**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON
PARISH SYSTEM OF ROAD TRANSPORTATION**

Honorable Chairman and Members
of the Ascension Parish Council
Donaldsonville, Louisiana

We have audited the financial statements of the **PARISH OF ASCENSION** as of and for the year ended December 31, 2003, and have issued our report thereon dated May 7, 2004.

We did not audit the financial statements of the Ascension Parish Library, a blended component unit, or the financial statements of the following discretely presented component units:

District Attorney of the Twenty-Third Judicial District
Ascension Parish Sheriff
Ascension Parish Clerk of Court
Ascension Parish Assessor
Ascension Parish Court
Twenty-Third Judicial District Indigent Defender Board
Twenty-Third Judicial District Judicial Expense Fund
Ascension Parish Communication District
East Ascension Hospital Service District
West Ascension Hospital Service District
Ascension Parish Water Works District No. 2

These financial statements were audited by other auditors whose reports have been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for these entities, was based on the reports of the other auditors.

Furthermore, the compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants and internal control over financial reporting of the Ascension Parish Library and the discretely presented *component units listed above* were evaluated by other auditors and those reports, if any, can be found in the separately issued financial reports of each such unit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

Compliance with laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to the **PARISH OF ASCENSION**, is the responsibility of the Parish of Ascension's management. As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested the Parish of Ascension's compliance with Louisiana Revised Statutes 48:751-760, the Parish Transportation Act, relating to the adoption of a parish system of road administration. However, the objective of our audit of the financial statements was not to provide an opinion on overall compliance with such provisions. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

The results of our tests disclosed no instances of material noncompliance with the provisions of the Parish Transportation Act.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Parish Council and management, and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. Under Louisiana Revised Statutes 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document

Faulk & Winkler, LLC

Certified Public Accountants

Baton Rouge, Louisiana
May 7, 2004



**REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS
APPLICABLE TO EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND INTERNAL CONTROL
OVER COMPLIANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH OMB CIRCULAR A-133**

Honorable Chairman and Members
of the Ascension Parish Council
Donaldsonville, Louisiana

Compliance

We have audited the compliance of the **PARISH OF ASCENSION** with the types of compliance requirements described in the *U. S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement* that are applicable to each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2003. The **PARISH OF ASCENSION**'s major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. Compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants applicable to its major federal program is the responsibility of the **PARISH OF ASCENSION**'s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the **PARISH OF ASCENSION**'S compliance based on our audit.

We did not audit the financial statements of the Ascension Parish Library, a blended component unit, or the financial statements of the following discretely presented component units:

District Attorney of the Twenty-Third Judicial District
Ascension Parish Sheriff
Ascension Parish Clerk of Court
Ascension Parish Assessor
Ascension Parish Court
Twenty-Third Judicial District Indigent Defender Board
Twenty-Third Judicial District Judicial Expense Fund
Ascension Parish Communication District
East Ascension Hospital Service District
West Ascension Hospital Service District
Ascension Parish Water Works District No. 2

These financial statements were audited by other auditors whose reports have been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for these entities, was based on the reports of the other auditors.

Furthermore, the compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants and internal control over financial reporting of the Ascension Parish Library and the discretely presented component units listed above, was evaluated by other auditors and those reports, if any, can be found in the separately issued financial reports of each such unit.

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the **PARISH OF ASCENSION's** compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our audit does not provide a legal determination on the Parish of Ascension's compliance with those requirements.

In our opinion, the Parish of Ascension, complied, in all material respects, with the requirements referred to above that are applicable to each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2003.

Internal Control Over Compliance

The management of the **PARISH OF ASCENSION** is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants applicable to federal programs. In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Parish of Ascension's internal control over compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133.

Our consideration of the internal control over compliance would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that noncompliance with the applicable requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants that would be material in relation to a major program being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over compliance and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Parish Council and management, the Louisiana Legislative Auditor and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. Under Louisiana Revised Statutes 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document

Faulk & Wheeler, LLC
Certified Public Accountants

Baton Rouge, Louisiana
May 7, 2004

PARISH OF ASCENSION

Donaldsonville, Louisiana

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

For the year ended December 31, 2003

1) Summary of Auditors' Results:

- A) The type of report issued on the financial statements: **Unqualified opinion**
- B) Reportable conditions in internal control were disclosed by the audit of financial statements:
None
Material weaknesses: **None**
- C) Noncompliance which is material to the financial statements: **None**
- D) Reportable conditions in internal control over major programs: **None**
- E) The type of report issued on compliance for major programs: **Unqualified opinion**
- F) Any audit findings which are required to be reported under Section 510 (a) of OMB Circular A-133: **2003-1**

G) Major programs:

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Department of Housing and Community Affairs
Section 8 Housing - Existing/Parish
C.F.D.A. 14.871

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Louisiana Office of Community Development
Louisiana Community Development Block Grant
Trailerland Sewer System
C.F.D.A 14.228

Federal Emergency Management Agency
State of Louisiana
Office of Emergency Preparedness
Public Assistance Disaster Relief
Bunn Hood Project
C.F.D.A. 83.548

H) Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs: **\$ 300,000**

I) Auditee qualified as a low-risk auditee under Section 530 of OMB Circular A-133: **No**

2) Findings relating to the financial statements reported in accordance with Government Auditing Standards: **2003-1**

3) Findings and questioned cost relating to federal awards: **2003-1**

PARISH OF ASCENSION

Donaldsonville, Louisiana

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

For the year ended December 31, 2003

2003-1 Governor's Safe and Drug Free Schools Program (Mental Health Fund)

Observation: During the year ended December 31, 2003, federal funds received through the State of Louisiana for the Governor's Safe and Drug Free program and administered by the Parish of Ascension's Mental Health department were used to purchase materials from a national vendor. The vendor paid a commission from the sales to a non-profit organization. An employee of the Parish is associated with this non-profit organization. A commission of \$1,541 was paid to the non-profit organization in the employee's name.

The Parish was made aware of this arrangement by the vendor and the non-profit organization in the late 2003 and notified the District Attorney for appropriate action.

The payment of this commission may constitute a conflict of interest per Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 42:1112. Furthermore, the employee ceased employment with the Parish in 2004.

Recommendation: We recommend that this matter be forwarded to the Louisiana Board of Ethics for further review.

Management's corrective action plan: The Parish reviewed this matter with the District Attorney's office in 2003. However, the matter was not resolved and was forwarded to the federal granting agency and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor for appropriate action.

Based on the above findings, the Parish intends to review this matter with the District Attorney for further action.

PARISH OF ASCENSION
Donaldsonville, Louisiana

SUMMARY OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

For the year ended December 31, 2003

2002-1 Tourist Center Appropriations (Resolved)

Observation: During 2002, we reviewed certain appropriations made to non-profit organizations by the Ascension Parish Tourist Commission. Such expenditures were made to organizations that certain members and employees of the Tourist Commission were either directly or indirectly affiliated. In February 2003, the Louisiana Board of Governmental Ethics addressed two of these situations with the Commission, with no violation of the Code of Governmental Ethics occurring.

However, a conflict of interest policy is currently not in place relating to such matters. No such policy was prepared during 2003 as a result of our 2002 recommendation.

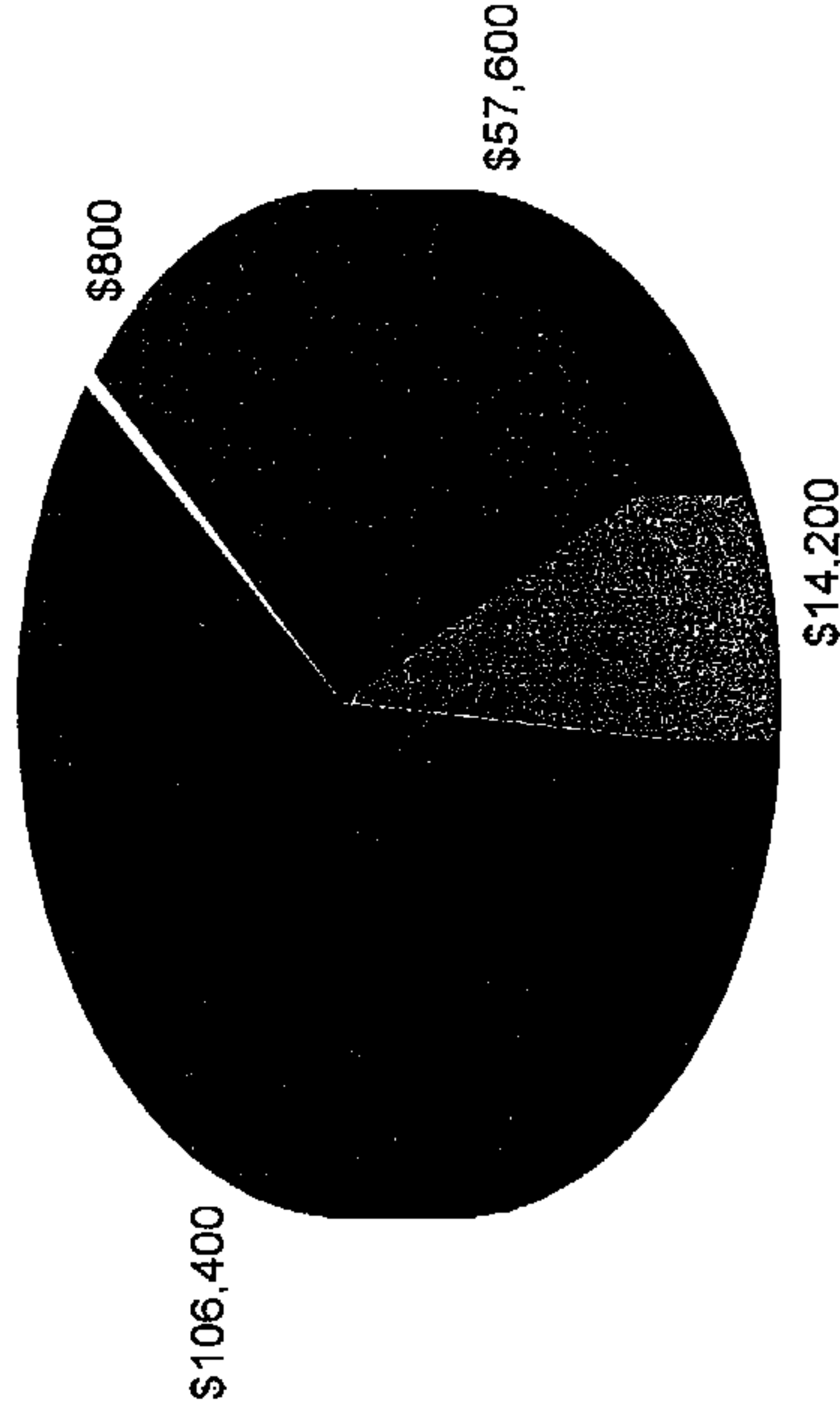
During 2003, the Parish forwarded this matter to its legal counsel. Legal counsel for the Parish recommended that the Parish utilize the Louisiana Code of Governmental Ethics as the appropriate guidance concerning this matter. As a result, the Parish considers this matter resolved

PARISH OF ASCENSION

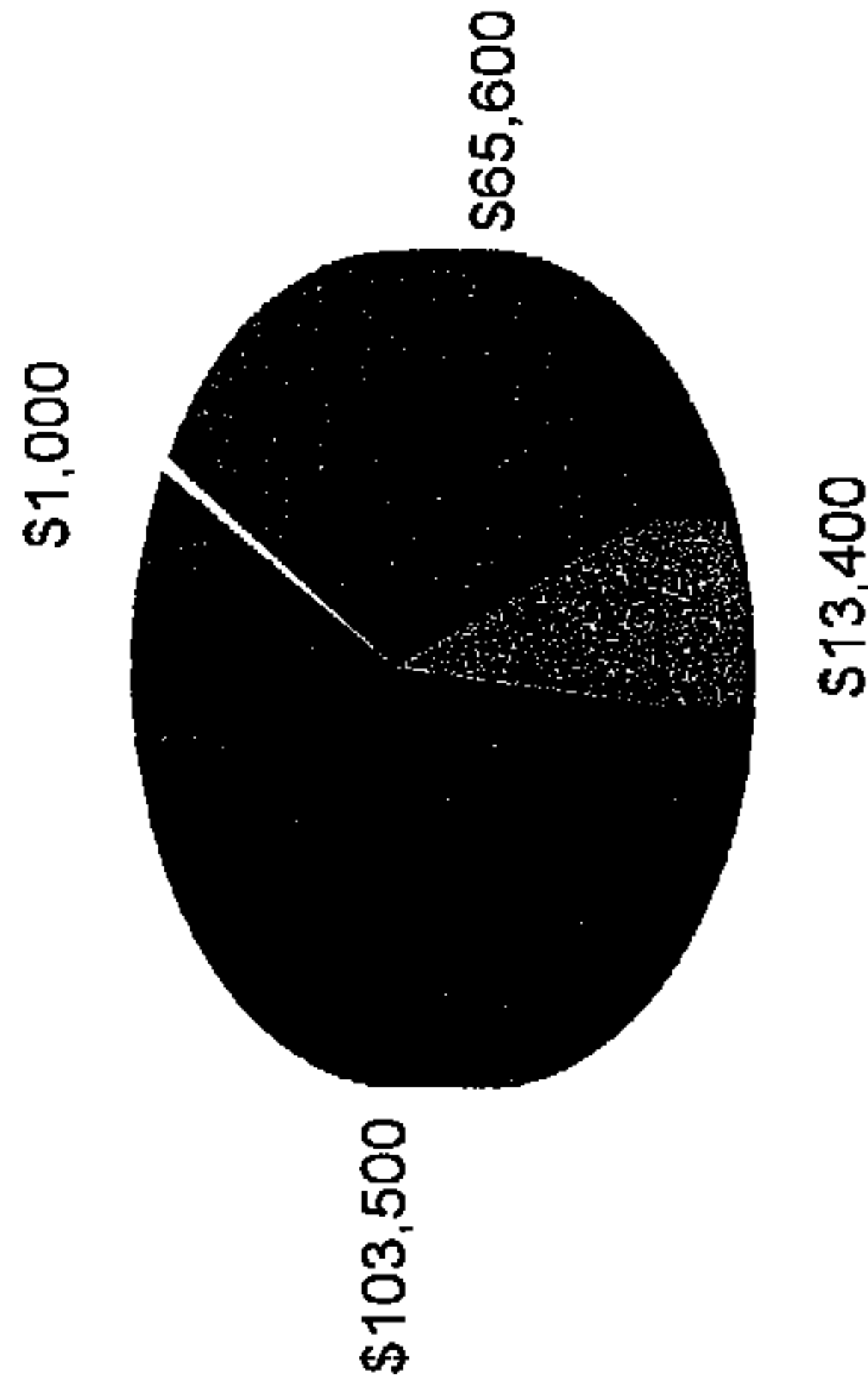
STATISTICAL SECTION

The accompanying pages are for use in comparing the results of 2003 operations and amounts to those of prior years. The significance of the information is the long-term trends associated with the statistics.

TOTAL ASSETS* - PRIMARY GOVERNMENT PARISH OF ASCENSION



DECEMBER 31, 2003



DECEMBER 31, 2002

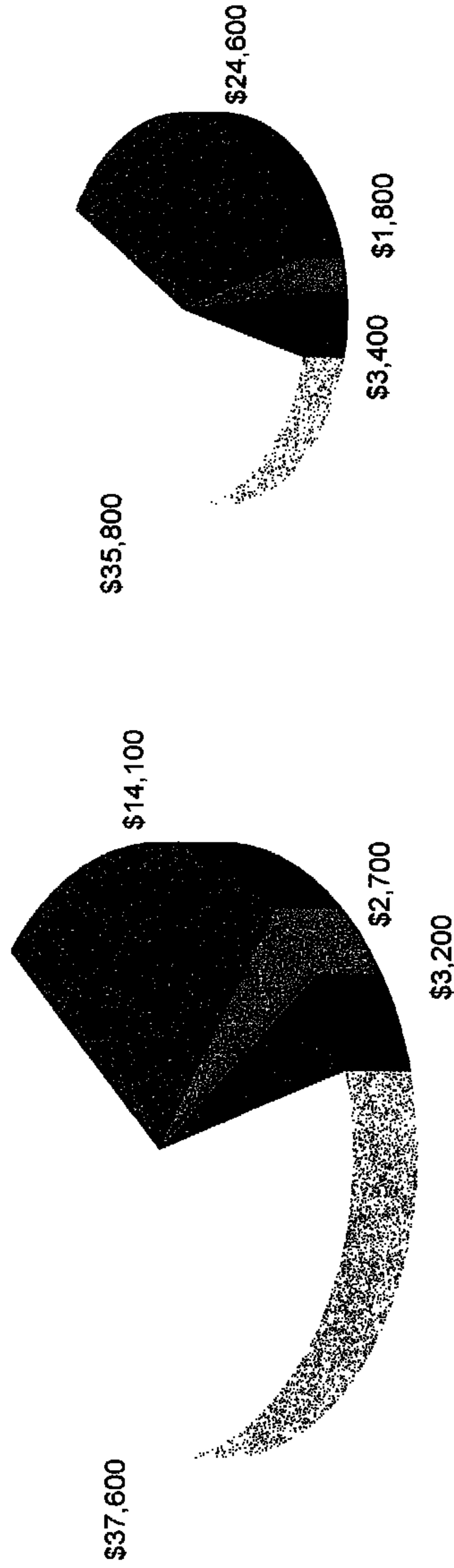
CASH & INVESTMENTS
 ACCTS RECEIVABLE
 CAPITAL ASSETS
 OTHER

TOTAL ASSETS = \$ 179,000,000

TOTAL ASSETS = \$ 183,500,000

* IN THOUSANDS

CASH & INVESTMENTS* - PRIMARY GOVERNMENT PARISH OF ASCENSION



DECEMBER 31, 2002

DECEMBER 31, 2003

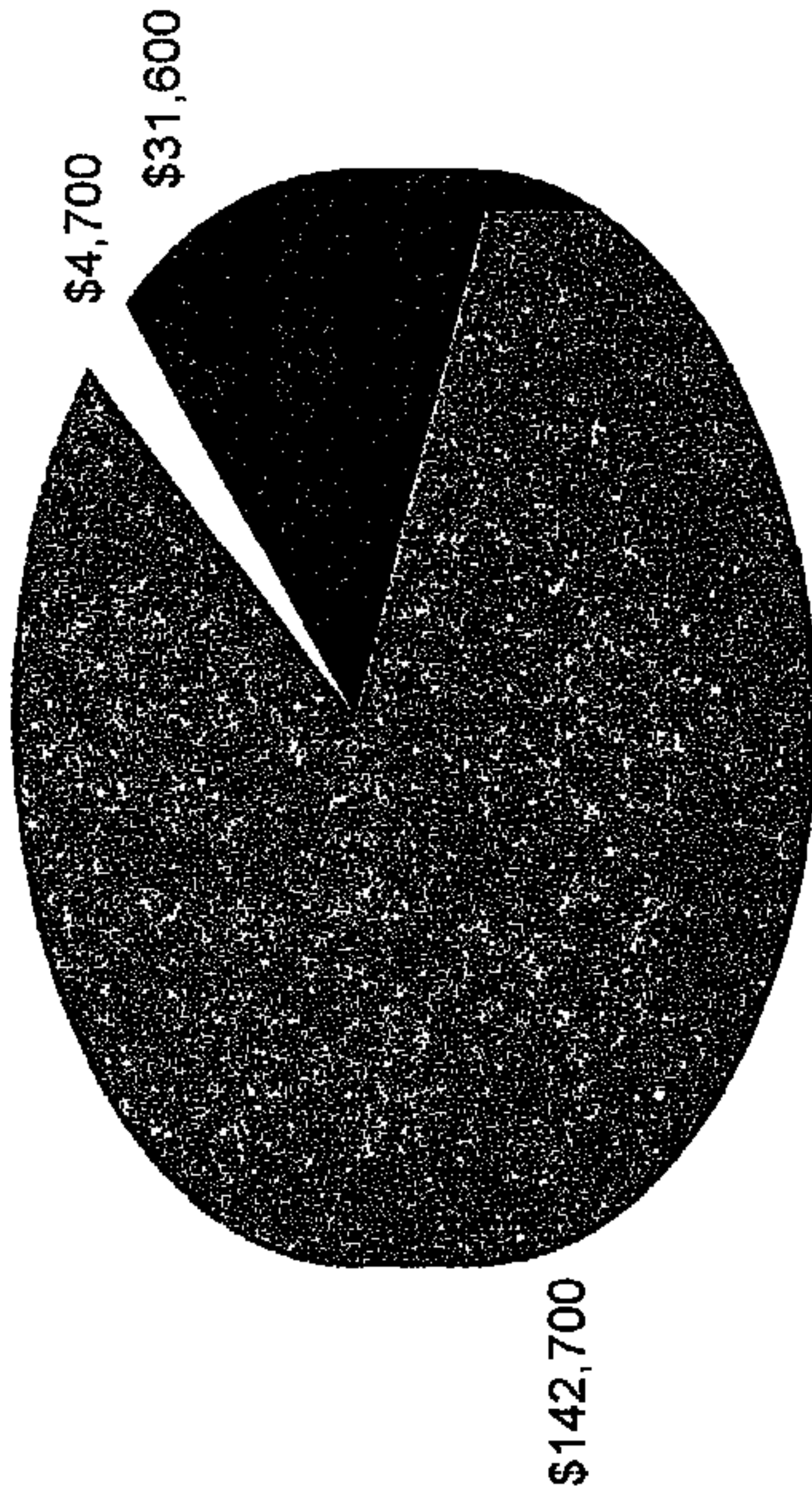
SPECIAL REVENUE AND GENERAL
 PROPRIETARY FUNDS
 DEBT SERVICE
 CAPITAL PROJECTS

TOTAL CASH & INV. = \$ 57,600,000

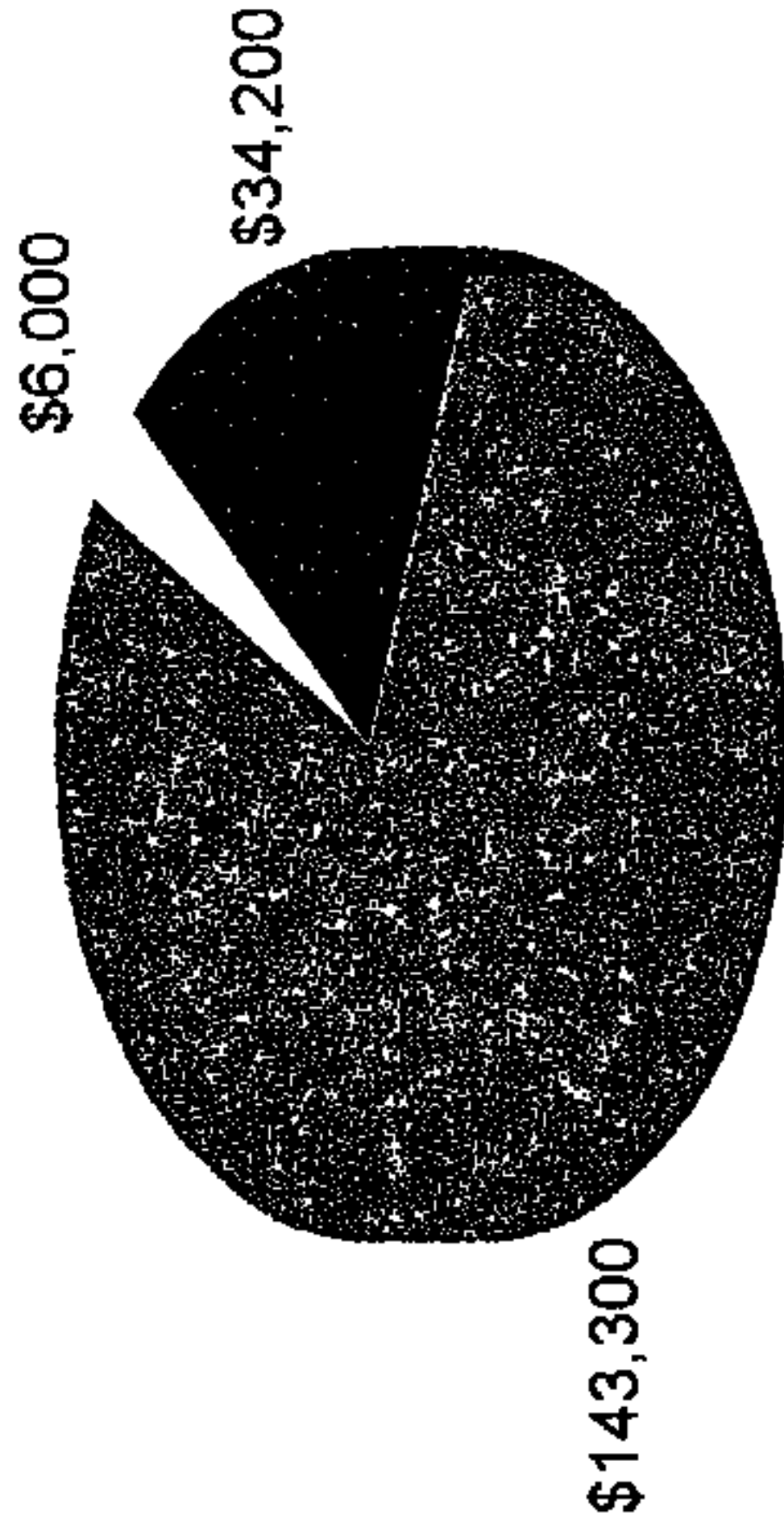
TOTAL CASH & INV. = \$ 65,600,000

* IN THOUSANDS

LIABILITIES & FUND EQUITY* - PRIMARY GOVERNMENT PARISH OF ASCENSION



DECEMBER 31, 2003



DECEMBER 31, 2002

ACCTS PAY	FUND EQUITY
BONDED DEBT	

TOTAL LIABILITIES = \$36,300,000

TOTAL EQUITY = \$142,700,000

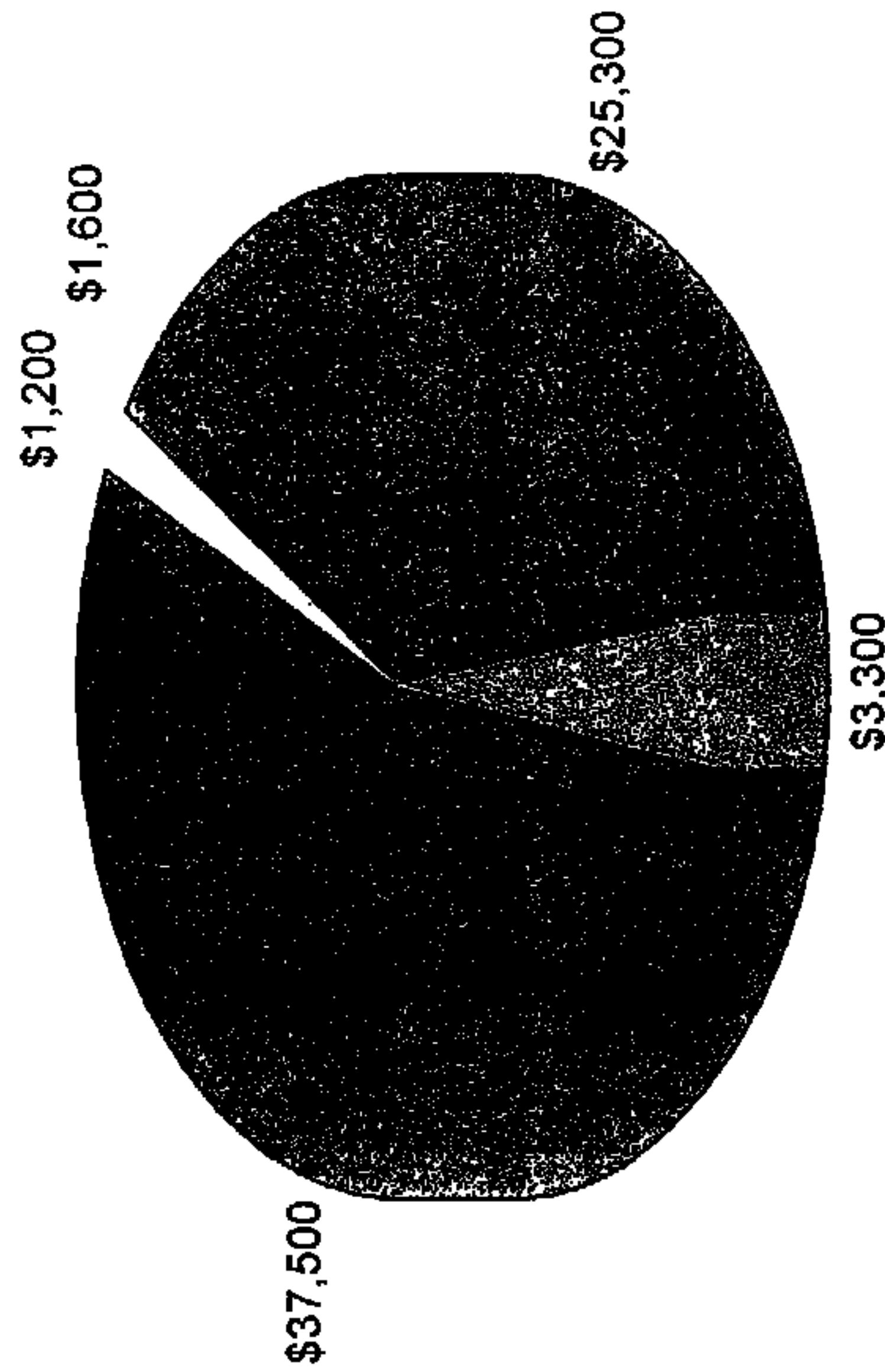
TOTAL LIABILITIES = \$40,200,000

TOTAL EQUITY = \$143,300,000

*IN THOUSANDS

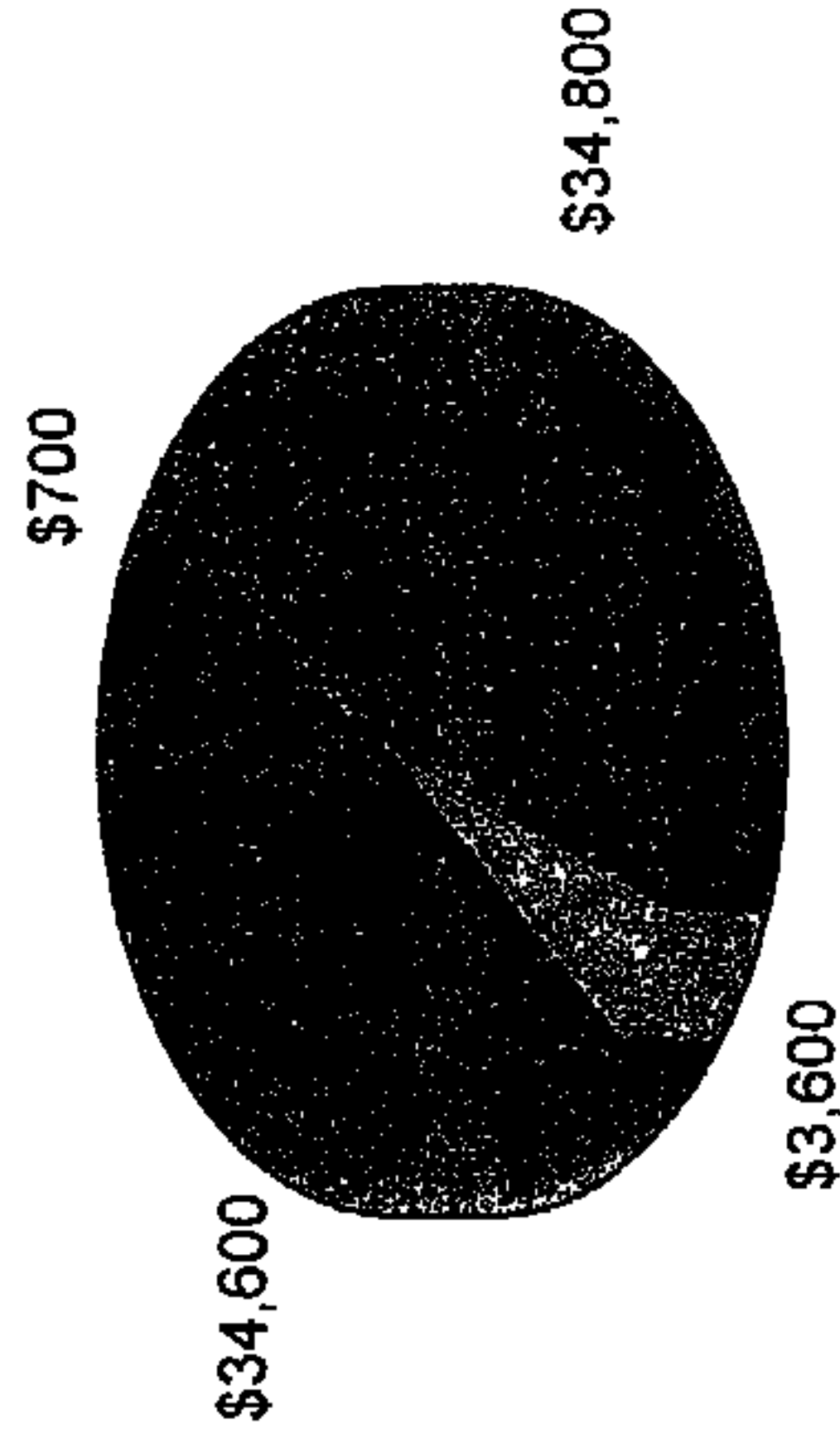
FUND EQUITY* - PRIMARY GOVERNMENT

(FUND BASIS)
(EXCLUDES CAPITALIZED PROPERTY)
PARISH OF ASCENSION



DECEMBER 31, 2003

TOTAL EQUITY = \$ 68,900,000



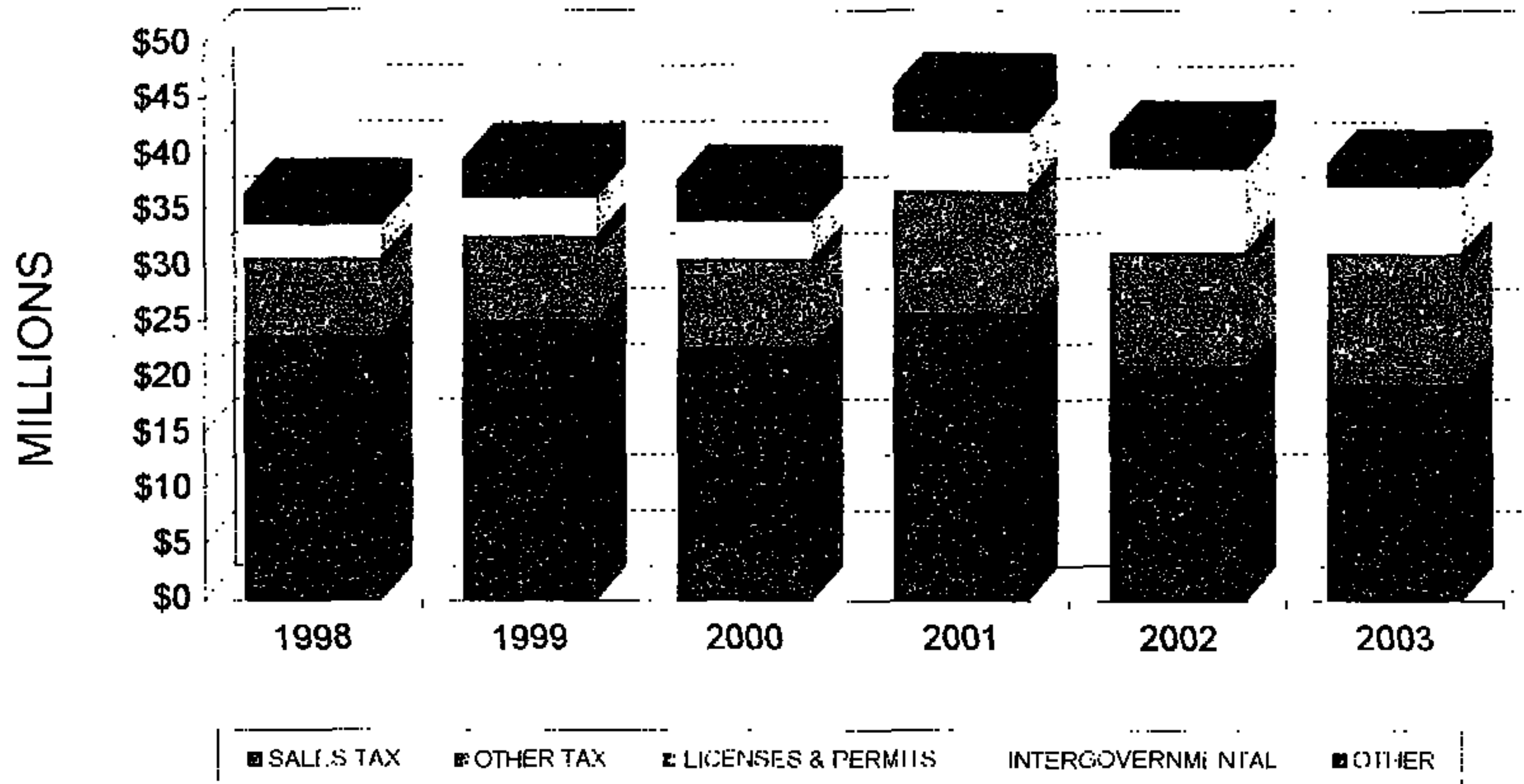
DECEMBER 31, 2002

TOTAL EQUITY = \$ 73,700,000

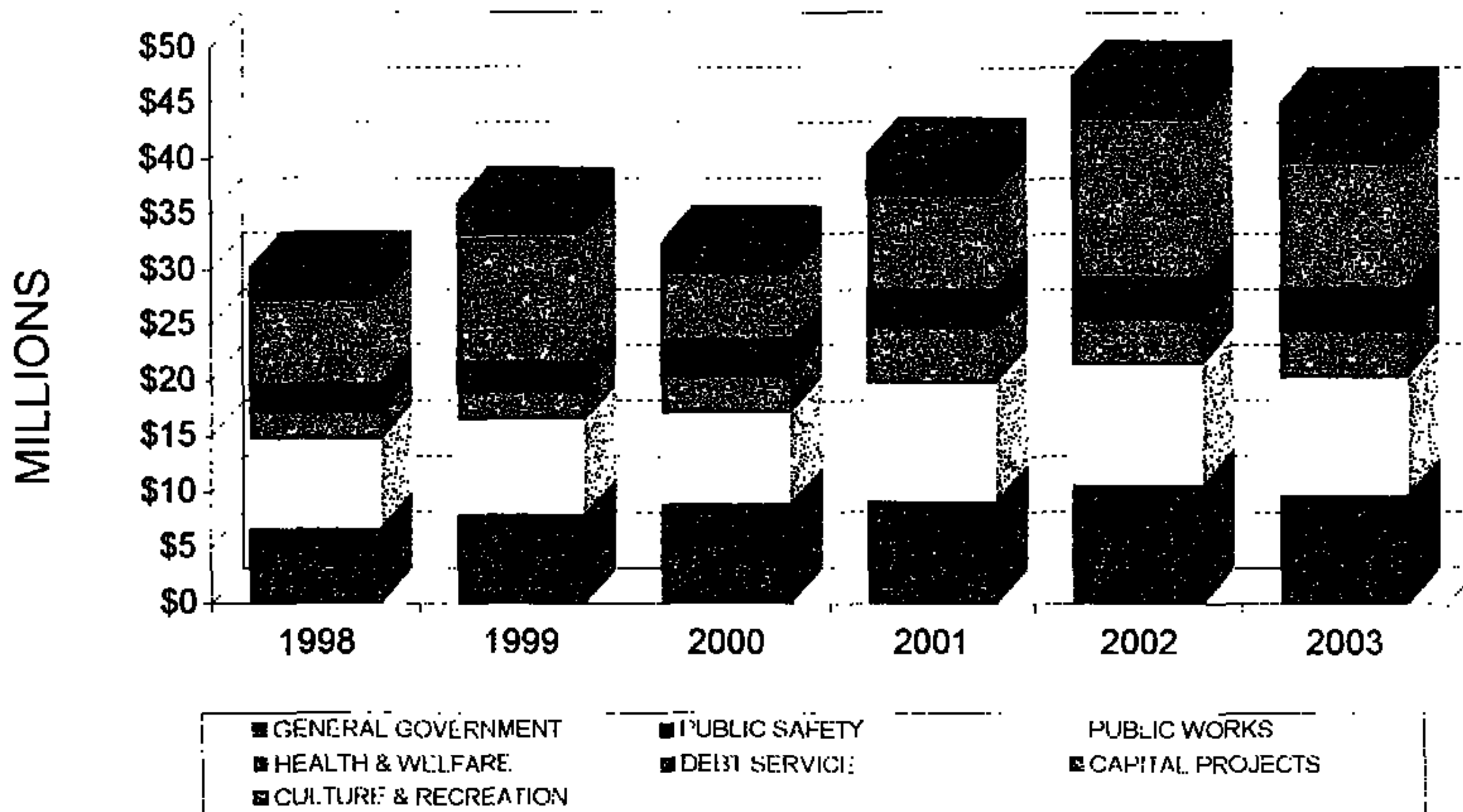
SPECIAL REVENUE AND GENERAL
 DEBT SERVICE
 CAPITAL PROJECTS
 INTERNAL SERVICE
 ENTERPRISE

* IN THOUSANDS

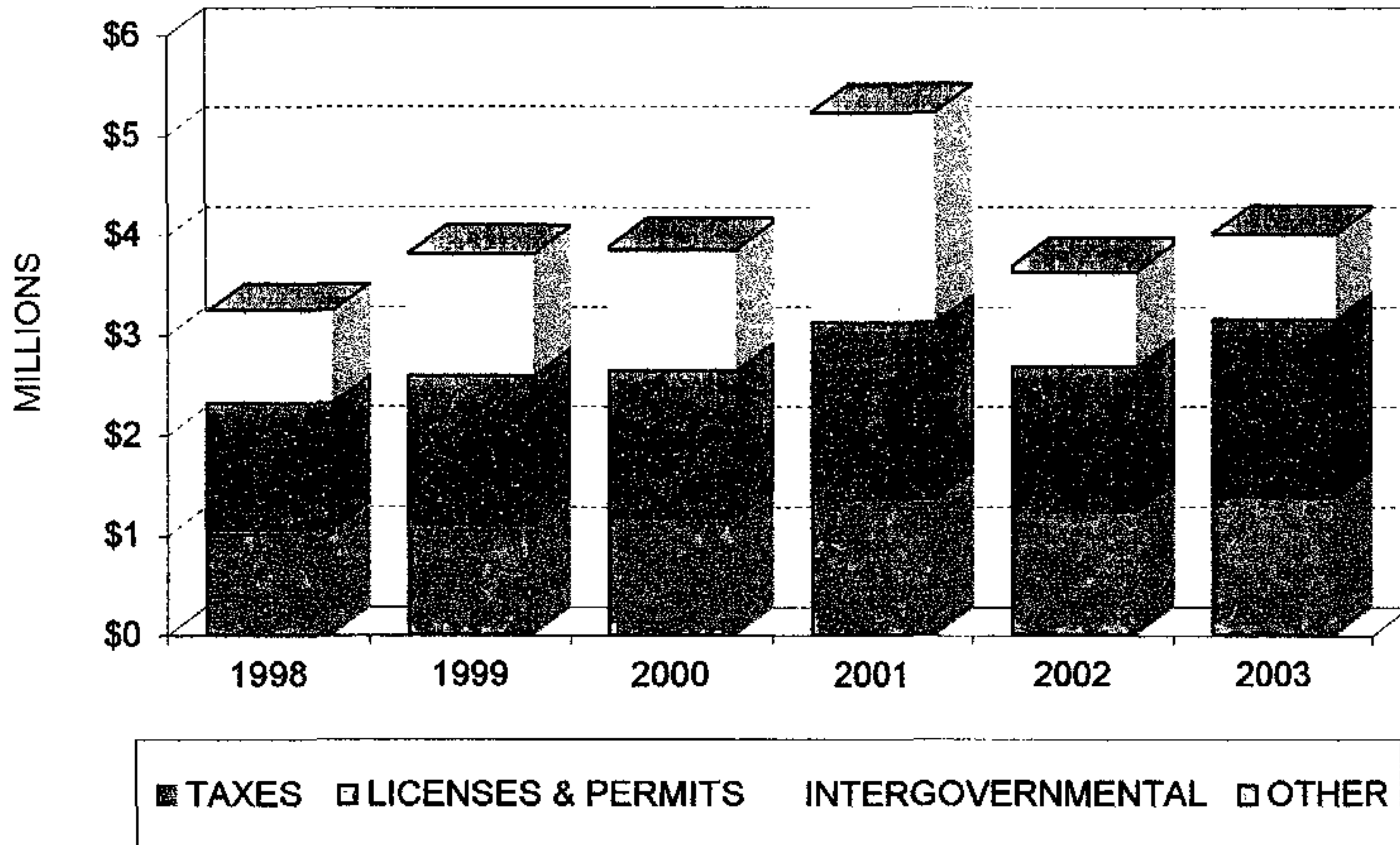
**REVENUES - PRIMARY GOVERNMENT
GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPE ONLY
PARISH OF ASCENSION**



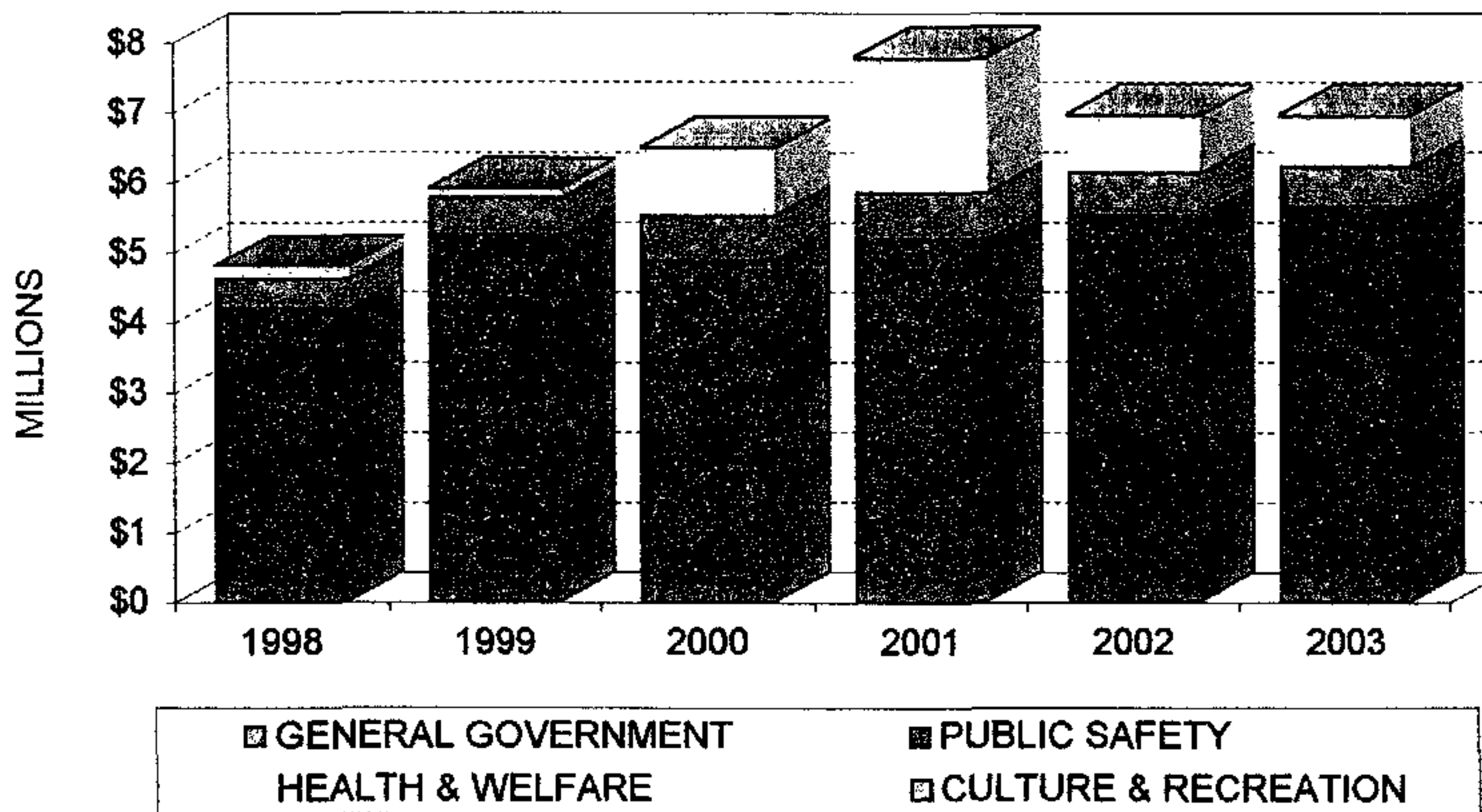
**EXPENDITURES - PRIMARY GOVERNMENT
GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPE ONLY
PARISH OF ASCENSION**



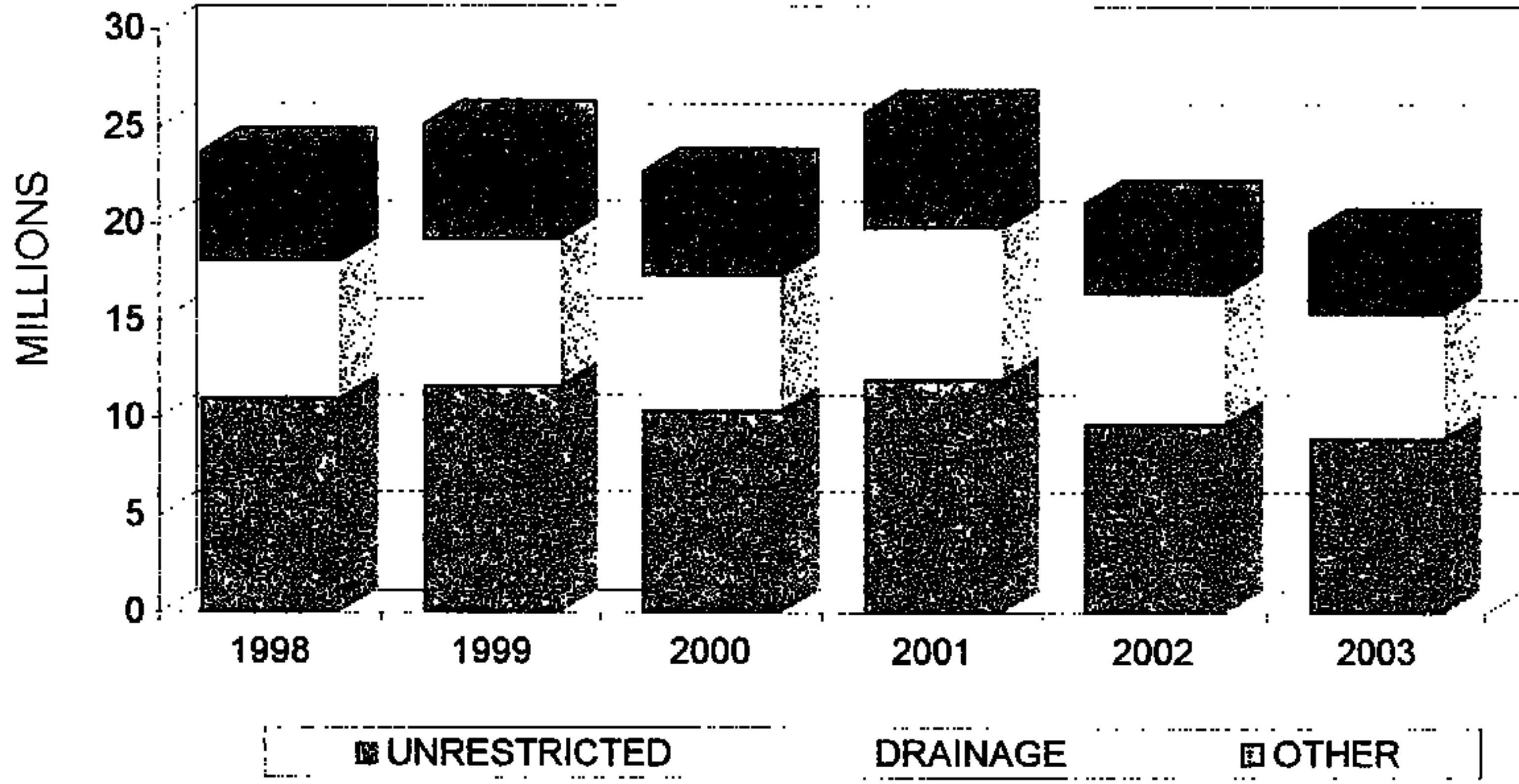
GENERAL FUND REVENUES PARISH OF ASCENSION



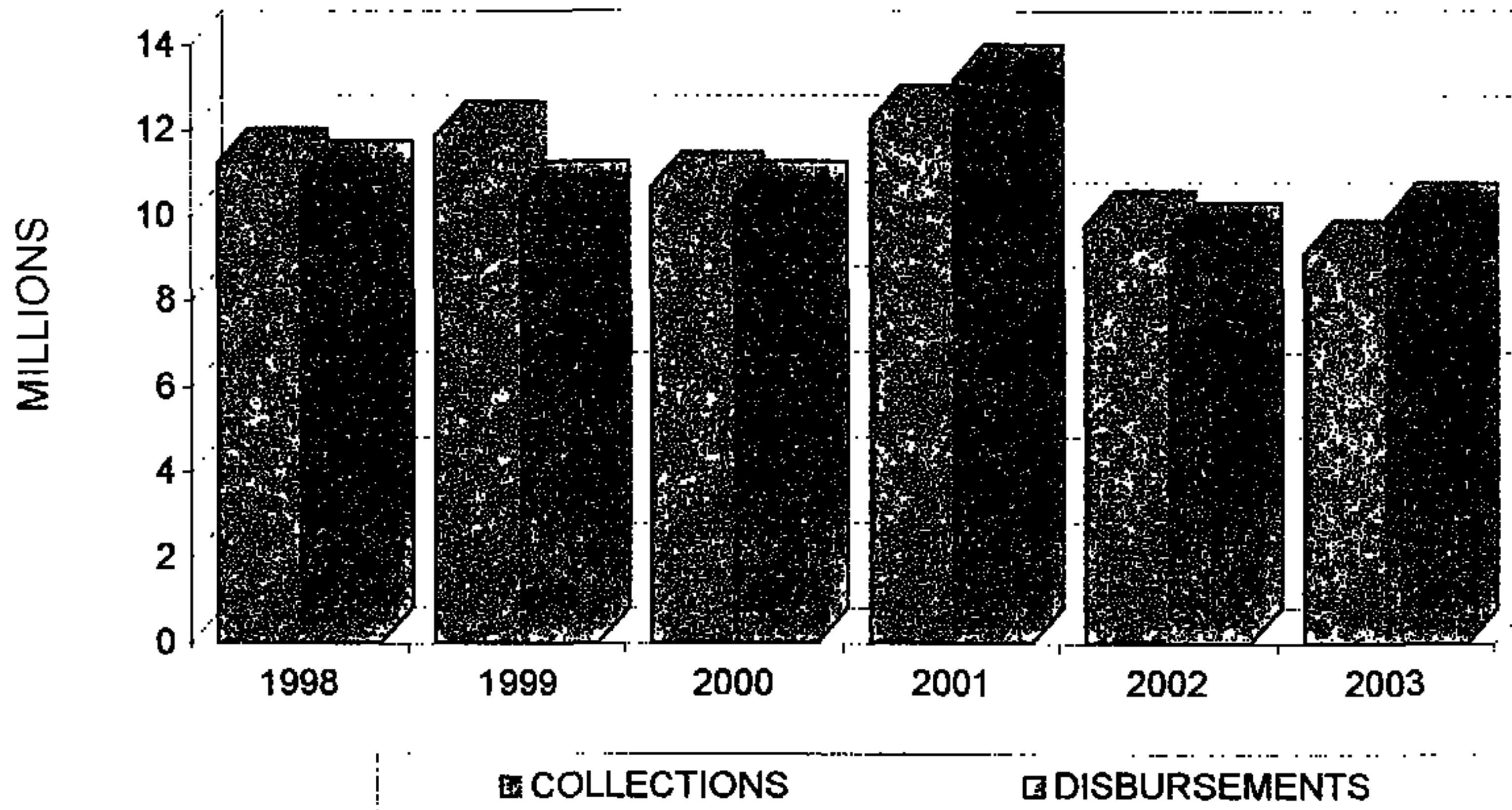
GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES PARISH OF ASCENSION



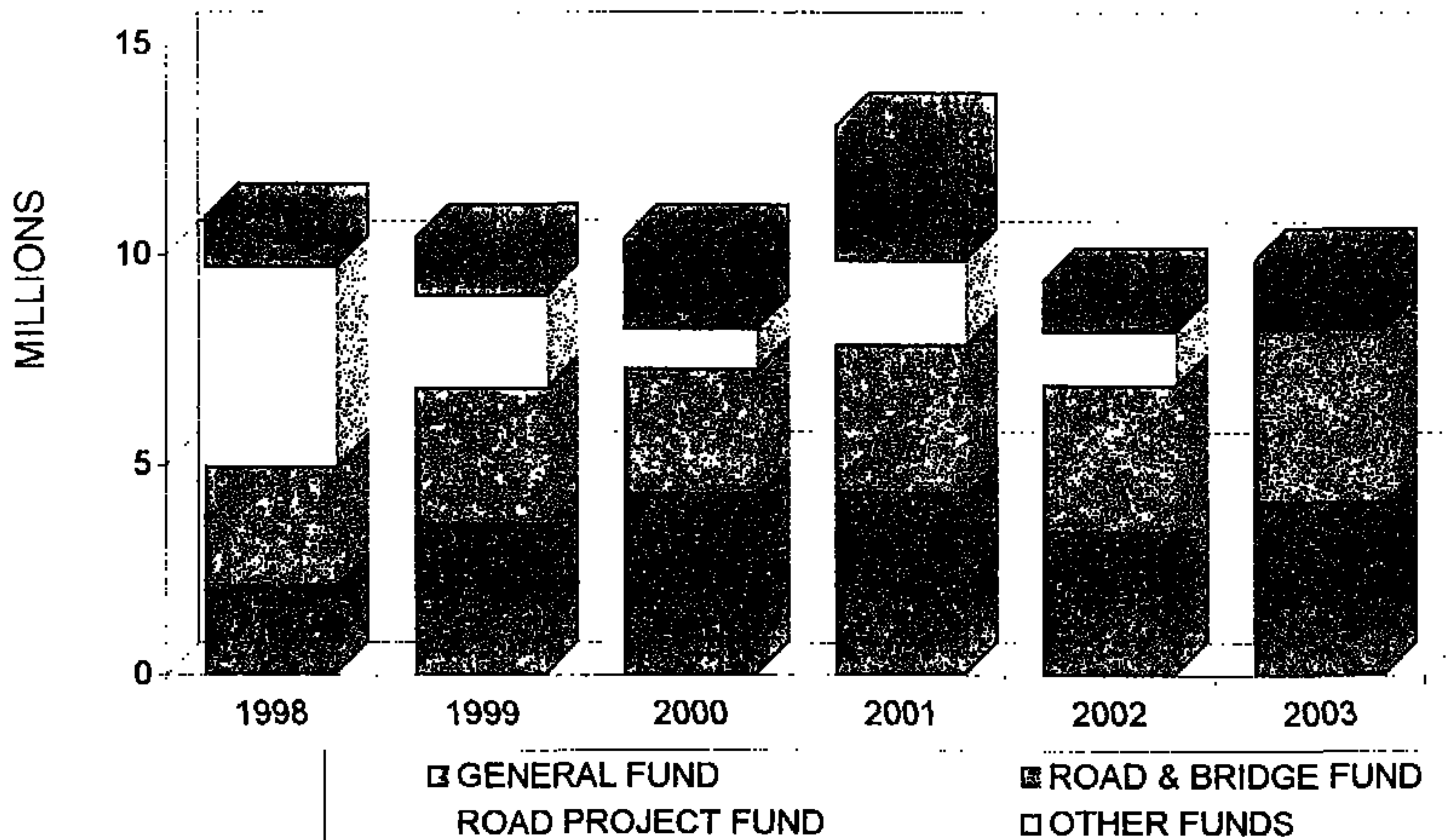
SALES TAX COLLECTIONS RESTRICTED & UNRESTRICTED PARISH OF ASCENSION



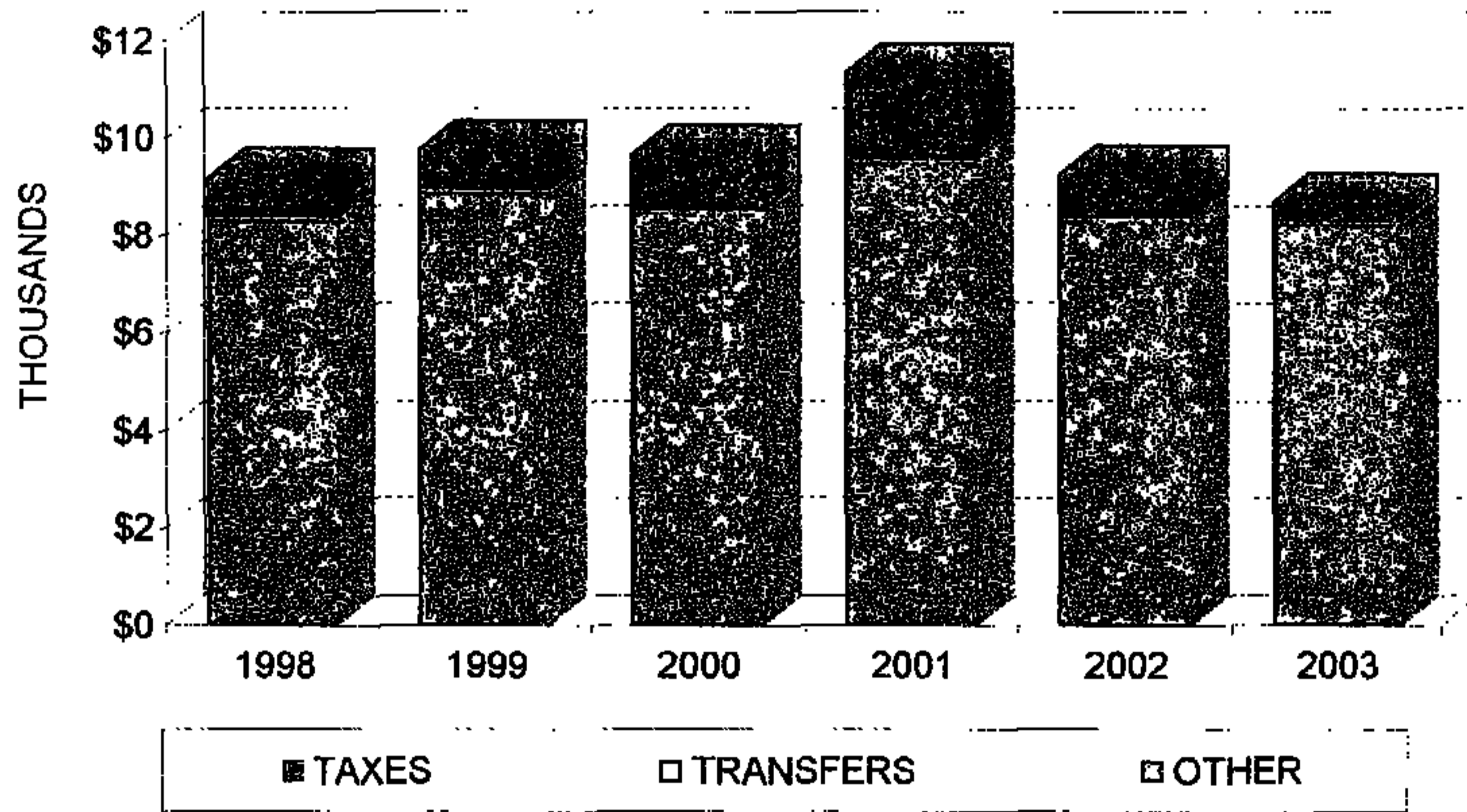
UNRESTRICTED SALES TAX COLLECTIONS & DISBURSEMENTS PARISH OF ASCENSION



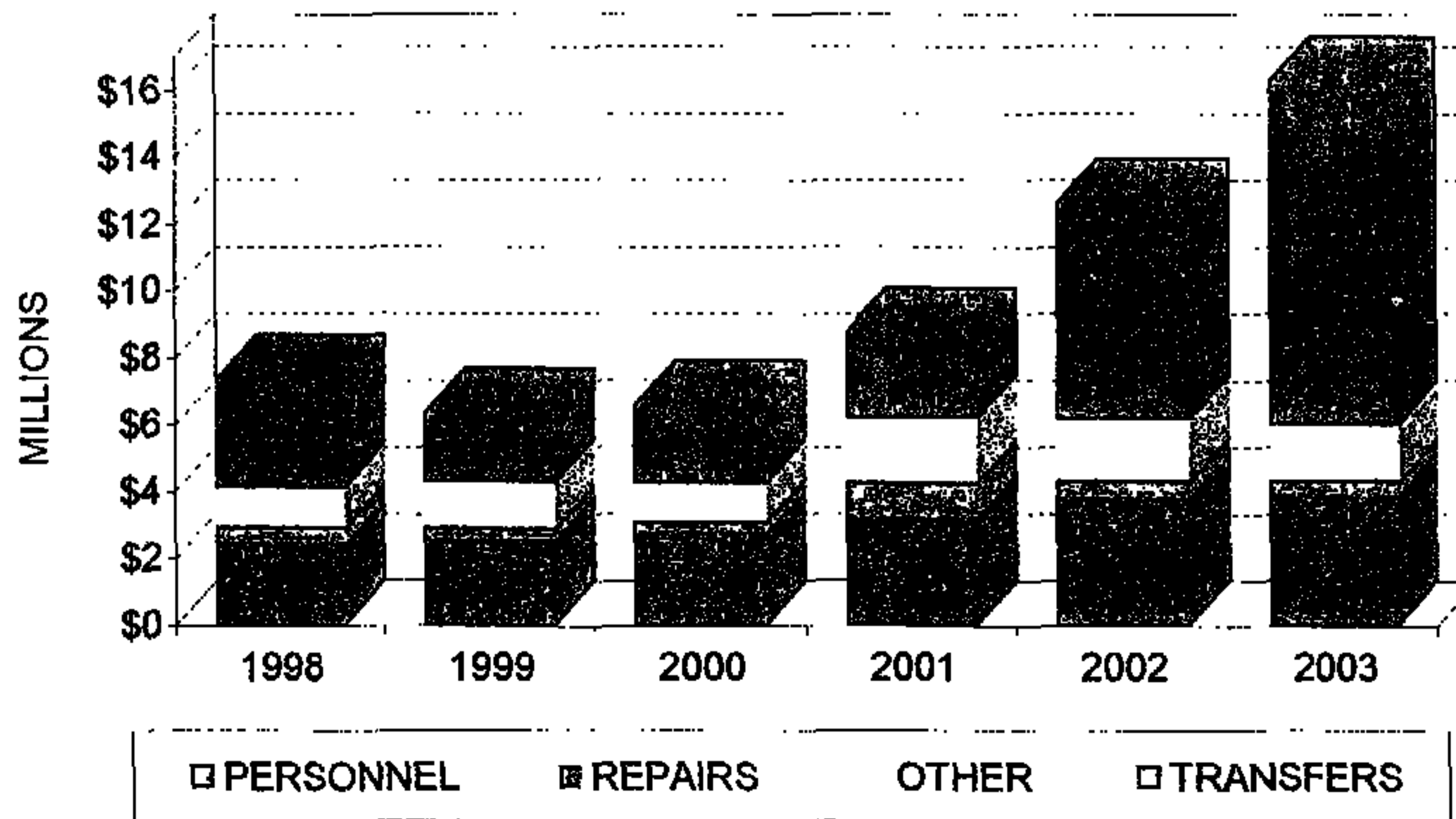
UNRESTRICTED UNDEDICATED SALES TAX TRANSFERS PARISH OF ASCENSION



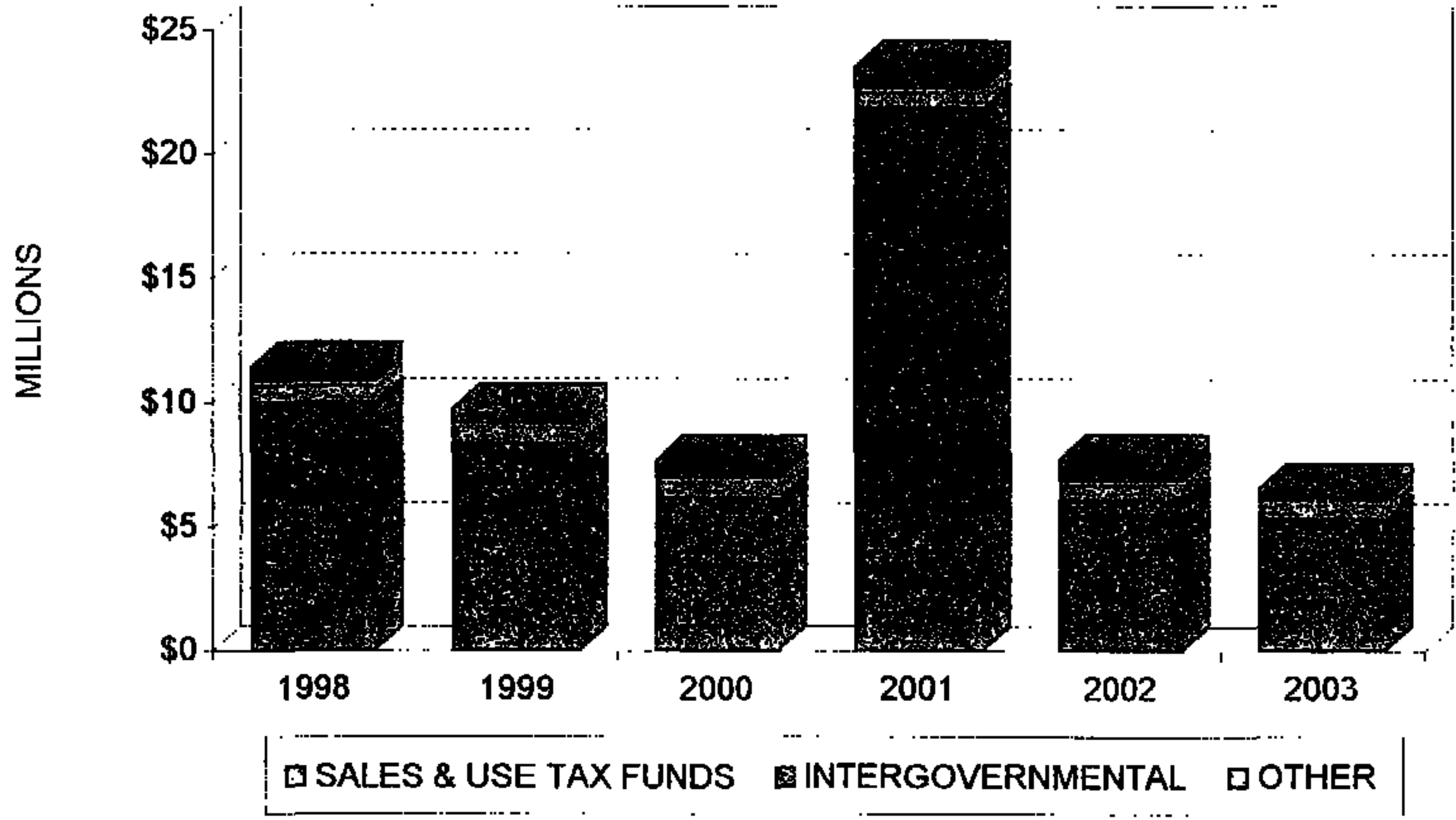
EAST ASC DRAIN REVENUES PARISH OF ASCENSION



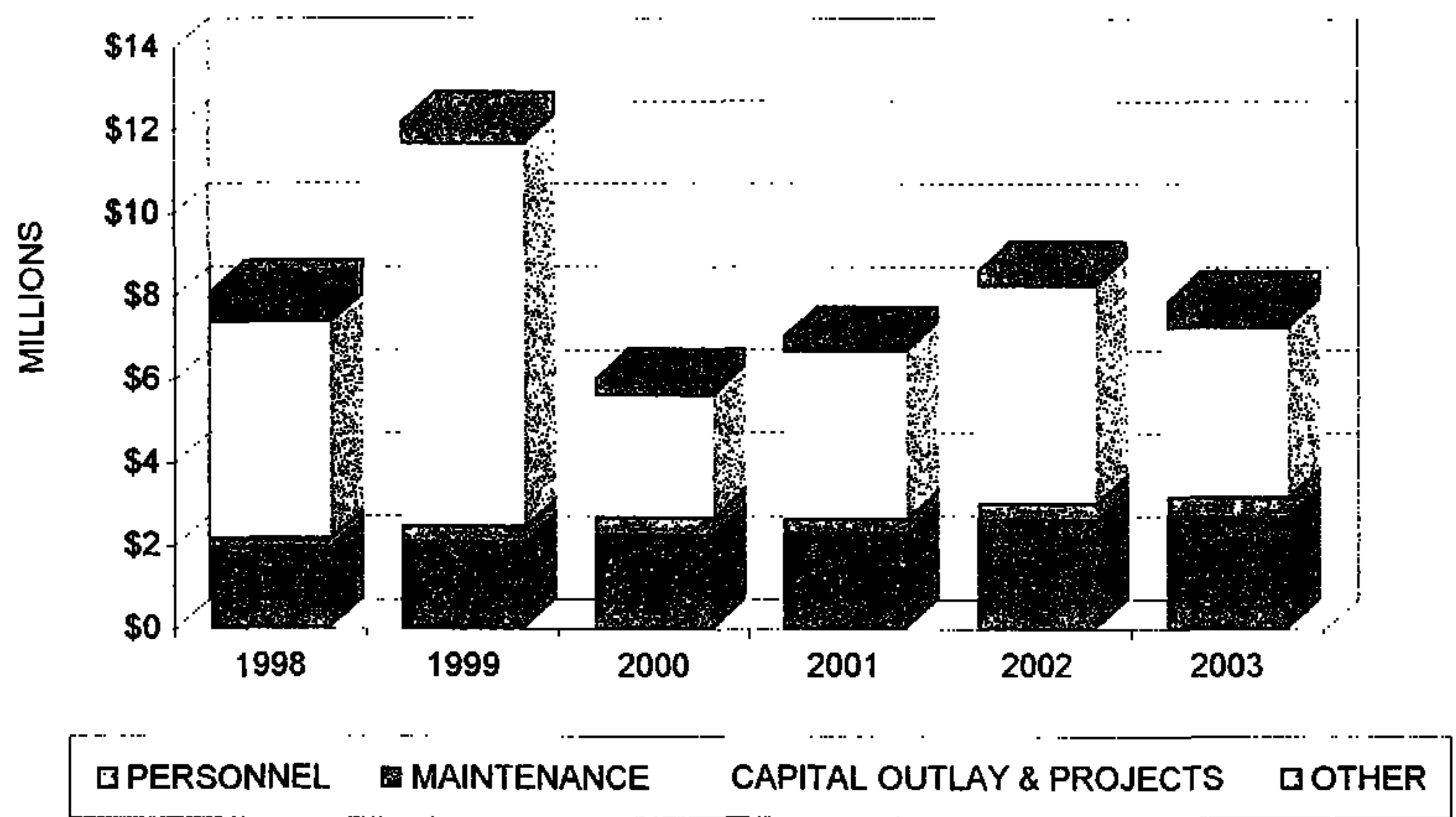
EAST ASC DRAIN EXPENDITURES PARISH OF ASCENSION



ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE RESOURCES PARISH OF ASCENSION



ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE EXPENDITURES PARISH OF ASCENSION







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LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR
04 JUN 23 AM 11:05

Honorable Chairman and Members of
The Ascension Parish Council
Donaldsonville, Louisiana

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the Parish of Ascension (the Parish) for the year ended December 31, 2003, we considered its internal control to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control.

However, during our audit, we became aware of several matters that are opportunities for strengthening internal controls and operating efficiency. We previously reported on the Parish's internal control in our report dated May 7, 2004. This letter does not affect our report dated May 7, 2004 on the financial statements of the Parish.

We will review the status of these comments during our next audit engagement. We have already discussed these comments and suggestions with various Parish personnel, and we will be pleased to discuss these comments in further detail at your convenience, to perform any additional study of these matters, or to assist you in implementing the recommendations. Our comments are summarized on Attachment A.

Attachment B, on page 12, recaps the 2003 actual and 2004 budgeted operating surplus (deficit) along with fund balances for 2003 and 2002.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Parish Council, management, the Louisiana Legislative Auditor, and others within the organization and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. Under Louisiana Revised Statutes 24:513, this report is distributed by the Louisiana Legislative Auditor as a public document.

Faulk & Winkler, LLC

Certified Public Accountants

Baton Rouge, Louisiana
May 7, 2004

PRIOR YEAR OPERATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

OR 2002-1 DENTAL INSURANCE FUND (Resolved)

Prior Year Finding: During 2002, the Parish established a fund to account for a newly established employee benefit program for dental insurance benefits. At December 31, 2002, the fund experienced a deficit of approximately \$11,800, which is due to an inadequate funding of premiums to cover claims made during the period. Premiums collected during 2002 were approximately \$140,000, while claims and expenses incurred were approximately \$152,000. During 2003, the Parish increased the claims deductible and premiums charged to employees along with matching contributions, which eliminated the deficit previously sustained. As a result, the Parish believes that the current funding level is adequate to avoid operating deficits.

OR 2002-2 SEWER UTILITY OPERATING LOSSES

Observation: During 2003 and 2002, the Parish operated a sewer system in Country Ridge Subdivision and experienced operating losses of approximately \$25,000 and \$40,000, respectively. Additionally, user fees increased during late 2003 for Country Ridge. However, the fee increase approved by the Parish was not implemented during 2003 by the third-party billing provider as instructed by the Parish. As a result, essential service fees were neither billed nor collected by the Parish to alleviate this deficit. Finally, the Trailerland sewer system was operational in late 2003 with customer billings starting in December 2003. The system sustained an operating loss of approximately \$18,000 for 2003.

Recommendation: As an enterprise fund, user fees and/or other funding sources should be adequate to prevent operating deficits. The basic premise is that capital facilities require on-going maintenance and replacement that can only be achieved through the appropriate level of revenues to correspond to related expenses. Accordingly, the Parish should establish adequate fees charged to utility users or reduce the related expenses incurred for these utility systems so that profitability is achieved.

It is likely that the user rates will need to be adjusted periodically and/or an alternative source of revenues be identified to support the operation of these utility systems on an on-going basis. To eliminate these operating deficits, a user fee of at least \$35 per month is necessary. The Parish should resolve the billing errors with its billing service provider immediately.

Management's corrective action plan: During 2002, the Parish Council and Administration committed to operating the Country Ridge sewer system in compliance with environmental regulations. A significant portion of the commitment was monetary, which included repairs to collection lines, equipment replacement and removal of the oxidation pond previously used. As a result of these efforts, the system has complied with EPA standards. Parish management is reviewing this situation on a regular basis. During 2003, user rates were increased for Country Ridge, which was considered adequate to achieve an appropriate level of However, the Parish intends to resolve the billing errors immediately. Finally, the Parish intends to control expenses at these sewer systems within the resources available as generated by user fees. The implementation of these measures should eliminate the recurring operating losses.

OR 2002-3 PLAN OF OPERATION FOR PARISH ROADS (Resolved)

Prior Year Finding: The Parish's written unitary plan of operation for selection of parish roads for new construction and maintenance required updating in 2002. During its May 2003 meeting, the Council adopted the updated document for road maintenance and construction procedures relating to its existing six-year capital improvement plan. As a result of this corrective action, management considers the matter resolved.

OR 2002-4 DEBT SERVICE RESERVE FUNDS (Resolved)

Observation: The Parish currently maintains cash of approximately \$2.5 million to meet debt service reserve requirements for three separately issued bonds payable. Previously, we recommended the Parish explore alternative methods to comply with the debt service reserve fund requirement and utilize these cash reserves for capital projects.

During 2003, management of the Parish requested its Bond Counsel to review this issue and present a recommendation for consideration by the Parish Council and East Ascension Drainage Board. However, the proposed cost to undertake this opportunity was considered unreasonable and as a result no action was taken. As a result, the Parish considers this matter resolved.

OR 2001-1 FIRE DISTRICT PURCHASES (Resolved)

Observation: It was reported in 2002 and 2001 that the Fire Districts of the Parish were deviating from standard parish procedures of procurement through the Parish's purchasing department. In particular, the fire departments in District No. 1 were issuing purchase orders for expenditures separate from the purchase order system of the Parish. Additionally, the fire departments in District No. 2 did not issue purchase orders, but approved expenditures at each board meeting prior to forwarding to the Parish finance office for payment.

In November 2002, the Parish Council adopted a resolution to instruct both Districts to comply with the Parish's purchasing policy effective January 1, 2003. The Districts adopted a resolution to adhere to the purchasing policies currently in practice. During 2003, the Districts successfully implemented the use of the Parish's purchasing procedures. As a result, the Parish considers this matter resolved.

OR 2001-2 SELF-INSURANCE FUND

Observation: During the year ended December 31, 2002, the Parish's insurance plan for general liability and property damage was significantly changed based on policies offered by insurance companies, and its previous insurer terminating such coverage for its Louisiana customers. Previously, the Parish was responsible for claims sustained of \$30,000 per occurrence and an aggregate self-insured retention of \$125,000 per policy year. Additionally, the Parish is responsible for workers' compensation claims incurred of \$250,000 per occurrence and an aggregate self-insured retention of \$1,000,000.

During 2002, the Parish's insurance policy increased the loss exposure for claims sustained relating to general liability and property damage of \$100,000 per occurrence and an aggregate self-insured retention of \$600,000. No significant changes have occurred to the Parish's insurance policies during 2003. The effect on incurred claims prior to 2002 are not affected by these policy changes.

As a result, losses incurred from future claims will be borne in greater amounts by the Parish than what has been customary. The 2003 actuarial analysis of its insurance program indicated a claims reserve of approximately \$1.2 million, which is a decrease of approximately \$500,000 from 2002. These amounts were separated into two amounts, (1) estimated required reserves of \$527,000 and (2) incurred but not reported losses of \$615,000.

Based on increased premiums charged to the various funds of the Parish and the decrease in estimated claims, the fund deficit was eliminated in 2003. As a result, the Self-Insurance Fund has a fund balance of approximately \$650,000.

Recommendation: We recommend that the Parish periodically review for its risk exposure its self-insurance program. The premiums charged to the various Parish funds need to be reviewed more frequently than annually after year-end.

Specifically, during the budget process, your actuary should be consulted concerning the incurred but unreported liability for the current and subsequent year so that interfund charges can be more accurately determined. Furthermore, from a policy perspective, an appropriate fund balance should be established to provide consistency in annual charges as well as to absorb unanticipated losses not anticipated in the actuarial determinations. Your actuary should be consulted to provide guidance concerning a recommendation.

Management's corrective action plan: During 2003, insurance charges were increased to an amount sufficient to eliminate the 2002 deficit and to assess for 2003 based on the 2002 amounts, which has resulted in an overstatement. For 2004, the actuary will be consulted as recommended above.

OR 2001-4 FUND DEFICITS

Observation: At December 31, 2003, deficit fund balances existed in the Law Officers' Court Fund of \$2,921 and the Bunn Hood/Fontana Canal Fund of \$16,848.

Additionally, three additional funds had deficit fund balances at December 31, 2002, which were the Jail Fund of \$44,945, the Dental Insurance Fund of \$11,797 and the Self-Insurance Fund of \$428,956. The fund deficits in these funds were eliminated during 2003.

Recommendation: The Parish should increase the fees charged for court cost to operate the fund without operating deficits. Alternatively, the Parish could appropriate an interfund transfer from the General Fund to the Law Officers' Court Fund to eliminate this deficit.

Additionally, the Parish should appropriate transfers to the Bunn Hood/Fontana Canal capital project to eliminate the fund deficit.

See OR 2002-1 for corrective action concerning the Dental Insurance Fund and OR 2001-2 for corrective action concerning the Self-Insurance Fund.

Management's corrective action plan: The Parish will appropriate interfund transfers during 2004 to eliminate the deficit in the Bunn Hood/Fontana Canal capital project fund. On the other hand, the fund deficit in the Law Officers' Court Fund is expected to be eliminated through the increase in the charges for court cost.

OR 2000-1 FINANCIAL PROCESSING

Observation: During the last three fiscal years, certain recommendations were made concerning financial processing procedures and assignment of duties to Finance department personnel.

During recent years, the close out of the Parish's year-end financial statements has historically occurred in March of the subsequent year. Additionally, the Parish has implemented some of the recommendations made in 2000. For instance, the Parish is utilizing its accounting system to record accounts payable through a subsidiary module on a daily basis. Previously, the Parish recorded accounts payable through journal entry and maintained manual records of its vendor itemization. The use of its accounting software to accumulate accounts payable data greatly reduces personnel time relating to this essential accounting function.

The Parish initiated the transition of duties from its Assistant Treasurer to accounting managers as recommended in 2000. Certain duties relating to grant monitoring, budgeting, capital construction monitoring and accounting staff supervision were transitioned to the accounting managers during 2002. However, the complete implementation of our recommendations has not fully occurred. Additionally, the closing of the financial statements continues to occur approximately 3 months after year-end.

Recommendation: We recommend the following:

- The monthly routine for closing of the books should more closely resemble the year-end process with transition to a monthly accrual basis financial statement. Accordingly, greater attention could be devoted to monitoring the accuracy of balance sheet accounts, which are primarily receivables and property, so that monthly financial statements more closely resemble the year-end accrual basis. As a result, the monthly financial statements will be more accurate and the year-end closing of the books maybe accomplished closer to December 31.
- A definitive program of transferring job duties to Finance accounting managers needs to be finalized, which will essentially move all accounting tasks of the Assistant Treasurer to the accounting managers as stated below. In addition, such a program will address all of the suggestions included in this letter that have not been resolved as of this date.
- As suggested in this observation and throughout this letter, our recommendations surround redefining the role of Finance in administration of Parish activities. Our suggestion is that Finance activities go beyond traditional accounting responsibilities. In particular, such areas could be as follows:

- Re-defining the budgeting process which would implement a focus on performance measurements and goal achievement. This process would also include the concept of multi-year budgeting which is discussed later in this letter,
- Enhancement of investment management strategies,
- Grant solicitation strategies,
- The use of electronic means to accomplish Parish business,

The Parish Finance office operates with competence and integrity; however, the change in the Parish's operating environment creates a demand to function differently. With the growth of the Parish over the last 5-10 years, there have been no drastic changes in processing procedures in the Parish Finance office to accommodate these higher demands. This suggestion merely points out the need to "step-up" the role of the Parish Finance office to be a more proactive partner in the administration of activities undertaken by the Parish.

A significant factor related to the finance department operations is the various requests for information submitted from a variety of parties. As a result, a considerable amount of their resources, primarily time of key personnel, is consumed by special projects that prevent the addressing of improved procedures to enhance productivity. This situation is only a specific instance of the challenges facing the Parish government; i.e., more demand for enhanced services with limited resources.

Management's corrective action plan: The finalization of the Finance department reorganization will occur in 2004. During the remainder of 2004, the Assistant Treasurer will continue to assign duties to the accounting managers and pursue the development of other accounting staff.

Management of the Parish will explore the suggestions mentioned above for implementation during 2004.

OR 1999-1 MULTI-YEAR BUDGETING

Observation: Ascension Parish does not utilize a multi-year budgeting process for its operating and its capital budgets. On the other hand, in early 2004, the Parish assembled a committee of administration and Council members to explore the use of multi-year budgeting. Recently, a presentation was made to the Council concerning a four year plan for public works.

Recommendation: With the rapid growth that has occurred and the reduction of sales tax collections in recent years, the use of multi-year budgeting provides a critical means to establish priorities for the use of resources on a conceptual basis in contrast to isolated instances of decision-making on major items. This approach will be particularly beneficial in terms of the infrastructure needs that continue to increase with the Parish growth being experienced.

Additionally, the use of multi-year budgets would dovetail into the development of a financial plan to accomplish the following:

- Identification of on-going governmental service priorities,
- Development of long-range capital budgeting for infrastructure improvements,
- Development of forecasted revenue based on anticipated economic conditions, primarily sales tax revenues, and the ultimate impact on governmental services,
- Development of financial policies for the use of anticipated resources and existing fund balances to address service priorities as identified by Parish officials.

The key consideration in this process is not the development of budgetary amounts, but the identification of the core concerns embraced by the Parish's leadership and the use of its limited resources for application to such concerns. For that reason, our judgment is that the capital budgeting process would be more critical than operating budgets, and would be developed in greater detail. However, in light of recent events concerning operating budget shortfalls, the operating budget for the next few fiscal years will require attention.

Management's corrective action plan: Parish Management endorses this recommendation. The Parish has developed a six-year capital improvement plan for road and drainage needs of the Parish. The Parish intends to utilize this project as a model for the implementation of long-term budgeting.

Additionally, the Parish is initiating the first steps to begin developing multi-year budgets. Management intends to implement this recommendation during the 2004 fiscal year.

OR 1999-2 MONITORING OF PARISH COMPONENT UNITS

Observation: By resolution in December 1983, the Parish Police Jury adopted a procedure for the monitoring of component units of Ascension Parish. Component units are basically those boards and commissions that are established by the Parish Governing Authority. The Parish Council appoints the governing boards of component units and the component unit generally seeks the approval and/or access to the borrowing capacity of the Parish when issuing debt. The purpose of these procedures was to maintain a first-hand working knowledge of the operations of such agencies, such that the Parish was knowledgeable about the operations and related finances of such units.

The Parish, as well as the components units, has ignored compliance with the stated objectives and procedures of that action for sometime. The Parish has initiated steps during 2002 and 2003 to address this recommendation. Primarily, the Parish has contacted its component units through written correspondence as to the procedure adopted by the Parish Police Jury. Additionally, the Parish has initiated the process of obtaining minutes and financial information on an on-going basis. Finally, Parish officials anticipate attending public meetings held by these agencies during 2004. Although some progress was made, additional improvement is needed to address this observation.

Recommendation: We recommend that the Parish establish the policy to address the Parish's level of working knowledge of the operations and related finances of such component units. In particular, the Parish listed the following as information necessary to properly exercise its responsibility of oversight over its component units:

1. Copies of the operating budgets within the first month of the budget year,
2. Quarterly financial statements, with budgetary comparisons,
3. Financial statements for the year with budgetary comparisons by January 31st of the subsequent year,
4. Copies of all minutes,
5. Council approval for issuing debt and submitting grant applications.

Management's corrective action plan: Parish Management endorses this recommendation. The manner in which this suggestion can be implemented is being initiated. Additionally, an accounting manager with the Parish Finance office has been assigned the task of gathering the minimum requirements listed in the Parish policy. Finalization of implementing this recommendation should occur during 2004.

OR 1999-3 ACCOUNTING AND PURCHASING MANUAL (Resolved)

Observation: It was previously reported that the Parish's accounting and purchasing procedures manuals have not been updated for changes made to the accounting and purchasing systems. During 2003, the Parish created an updated accounting and purchasing procedures manual to document its various financial cycles.

OR 1999-4 MONITORING OF CAPITAL OUTLAY PROJECTS (Resolved)

Observation: We previously reported that major capital projects were maintained by manual records. During 2001 and 2002, newly started capital projects were assigned an identification number, within the Parish's accounting system, that is used for the accumulation of costs by code. However, these system reports are only used to gather information for preparation of the manual project summary reports. As a result, The Parish is satisfied with the implementation strategy used.

OR 1998-1 FIXED ASSETS

Observation: Historically, the staff of the Parish's Finance office accomplished the updating of fixed assets annually. During recent years, the Parish began updating its fixed asset system on a quarterly basis. The tracking of this inventory was accomplished through the Parish's accounting system as recommended in 1999. However, the records relating to property were not finalized and presented until May 2004. Although additions and deletions to property were periodically recorded during the year, the reports were not finalized timely.

Additionally, our observations of system procedures and limitations are as follows:

- The fixed asset module does not remove deleted assets from reports issued. As a result, previously disposed assets were manually removed from the reports generated from the fixed asset system.
- Interdepartmental property transfers should be more clearly documented. Our understanding, based on interviews with Parish personnel, indicates that property is transferred among departments on a regular basis. However, reporting to the accounting managers that are responsible for record keeping has not been forthcoming on a timely basis. As a result, proper tracking of Parish property is difficult.
- With the implementation of GASB No. 34, which included a requirement to depreciate Parish infrastructure property, the fixed asset records were not completed until May 2004.
- The reports generated by the accounting system are poor. In particular, due to reporting limitations expressed by the Finance staff, the information was exported to an excel spreadsheet for calculation of depreciation.
- Infrastructure assets were compiled in May 2004 based on procedures and representations made by the Parish engineering and public works departments. However, such information requests were made over a year in advance, but the necessary data was compiled in 2004 and was untimely.

Finally, the Finance staff conducted independent physical counts of assets during 2003. The result of these inspections resulted in favorable findings. However, certain departments were not timely in responding to discrepancies discovered or to physical counting of assets held at year-end.

Recommendation: We recommend that the accounting for fixed assets continue to be maintained, at a minimum, on a quarterly basis. Accounting on a regular basis creates efficiency and promotes more effective control over financial reporting and accountability of property owned by the Parish.

Finally, the perceived software limitations should be reviewed with the Parish's technology department and/or consultant to achieve greater flexibility in accounting for property and related depreciation. Alternatively, if such reporting limitations cannot be overcome, the Parish should select an alternative fixed asset management system to implement this recommendation.

Additionally, in terms of asset management, we recommend that each department of the Parish assign fixed asset inventory and management to one individual within that department. The one individual would be responsible for the collection of data necessary for year-end reporting and physical counting. In addition, that individual would be the primary contact with the Parish Finance department for annual reporting and interim inspections. In particular, this individual would have responsibility for the reporting of interdepartmental transfers of property to the Finance department for accurate accounting and monitoring of property.

In any event, this observation and recommendation has been an on-going matter that was initially identified for correction in the 1998 audit. As a result, this matter is long overdue for resolution.

Management's corrective action plan: The accounting for 2004 additions and deletions will continue to be accomplished throughout the current year with depreciation records being prepared with asset additions. This effort will result in efficient and timely reporting for Parish property.

The Parish Finance office is dissatisfied with the software package that is currently being utilized. As a result, the Parish has scheduled a review with its technology consultant to alleviate the software limitations experienced and will consider other software alternatives.

Finally, the Parish conducted a complete physical inventory of Parish property during 2003. The Parish Finance department anticipates continuing interim inspection of property owned.

OR 1998-4 ELECTRONIC DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS

Observation: Presently, the Parish disburses most expenditures by check. Considerable effort and time could be eliminated through the use of alternative disbursement procedures. In particular, the following should be reviewed for implementation:

- **Payroll disbursements** - The disbursement of payroll directly to employee bank accounts would alleviate substantial effort associated with check preparation, delivery and subsequent reconciliation. In addition, Finance employees would not be burdened with administration of returned or lost employee checks. Presently, employees of the Parish distribute payroll checks for those not participating in the electronic disbursement program.

The benefit of this procedure is to eliminate the processes of check preparation and delivery, cash reconciliation and storage, and to provide a benefit to Parish employees with timely and effortless deposit of their funds.

- **Disbursements to Parish vendors** - A number of vendors that conduct business with the Parish on a recurring basis are susceptible to alternate forms of payment processes. These vendors may presently be divided into two categories, as follows:

Utilities: These expenditures are generally processed with virtually no discrepancies (i.e. Eatel, Entergy, and BellSouth). Small charges: Typically, in these situations, the Parish issues blanket purchase orders to select vendors that allows Parish employees to purchase smaller items on an "as needed" basis without an individual purchase order being issued.

The Parish initiated steps during 2003 and 2002 for implementation of electronic disbursement of payroll and certain other expenditures. However, the electronic disbursement of payroll is on a voluntary basis and a large number of Parish personnel have elected not to participate in this benefit.

Additionally, in 2003, the Parish contacted selected vendors to initiate the payment of expenditures on a direct draft basis for utility services. The vendors that were capable of providing this means of payment were initiated in 2003 for direct drafting on the Parish bank account. However, the Parish has indicated that it has experienced some difficulty in application of this disbursement means. In particular, utility payments are not timely drafted by the Parish vendor in certain cases. On the other hand, the Parish has contacted its utility vendor and financial institution to alleviate the problems encountered.

Finally, the Parish adopted a written policy for credit card use during 2002. The Parish contracted with a provider for use of credit cards and actively implemented this recommendation during 2003. The Parish has indicated that the use of credit cards as an alternative means of disbursements has been beneficial.

Recommendation: We recommend that the Parish consider the following:

- Disburse its payroll by electronic transfer for all employees. To experience the full benefit from the electronic disbursement of payroll, all employees should participate. Alternatively, the requirement could be that all new employees must participate.
- Finalize the utilization of Visa or similar credit cards for the payment of smaller charge items on a larger basis.

The general focus of this comment is to take advantage of technology advances to reduce the administrative expense of processing expenses for disbursement.

Management's corrective action plan: Management agrees with the concept of electronic disbursements and intends to implement the following:

- The Parish will explore mandating the payment of payroll on an electronic means. However, the Parish is satisfied with its voluntary program.
- The payment of certain vendors by authorizing the payment through direct drafting is considered an efficient means to process Parish transactions. Additionally, the Parish anticipates finalizing procedures with its fiscal agent during 2004 to disburse funds to certain vendors as recommended.

OR 1996-3 SEWER DISTRICT NO. 6 (Resolved)

Prior Year Finding: The Parish should formally authorize the resolution of uncollectible sewerage assessments and sewerage service fees due to the District, and the amount due to the Parish by the District. The District's board was abolished in 1999.

The Parish Council authorized the write-off of uncollectible receivables at its April 2003 meeting. Additionally, during 2003, the Parish authorized a budget amendment that provided for an operating transfer from the General Fund to eliminate the interfund payable. As a result of these actions, the matter is considered resolved.

**Parish of Ascension
Council Administered Funds
For the year ended December 31, 2003**

Fund	December 31, 2002 Actual Fund balance	December 31, 2003 Actual Operating Surplus (Deficit)	December 31, 2003 Actual Fund balance	December 31, 2004 Budgeted Operating Surplus (Deficit)	December 31, 2004 Projected Fund balance
General fund	\$ 307,823	\$ (156,089)	\$ 151,734	\$ 8,800	\$ 160,534
EA Major Drainage	\$ 15,210,624	\$ (7,649,807)	\$ 7,560,817	\$ (1,363,400)	\$ 6,197,417
S&U No. 1	3,683,732	(852,670)	2,831,062	(238,400)	2,592,662
Recreation	1,005,996	(801,371)	204,625	(183,200)	21,425
Tourist Commission Fund	679,818	(314,504)	365,314	(261,900)	103,414
West Ascension Drainage	469,417	(269,569)	199,848	(57,300)	142,548
Dedicated Special Project Fund	166,795	(166,700)	95	-	95
Health Unit	1,067,362	(141,536)	925,826	(402,700)	523,126
Fire District No. 2	591,755	(52,446)	539,309	(300,600)	238,709
Recreation Fund B	70,334	(43,588)	26,746	39,300	66,046
FEMA - Repetitive Loss Reduction	72,319	(31,099)	41,220	-	41,220
Supplemental Environmental Project	147,225	(31,022)	116,203	(48,800)	67,403
Judicial District FINS	23,348	(13,013)	10,335	(600)	9,735
Law Officers Court	7,825	(10,746)	(2,921)	(6,200)	(9,121)
Road Lighting #2	65,782	(4,164)	61,618	(3,500)	58,118
Road Lighting #7	5,086	(2)	5,084	(600)	4,484
Road and Bridge	82,485	410,099	492,584	(463,500)	29,084
Mental Health	779,235	193,938	973,173	28,600	1,001,773
Jail	(44,945)	89,042	44,097	9,000	53,097
Fire District No. 1	3,600,626	56,850	3,657,476	(340,300)	3,317,176
EA Drainage	949,184	42,420	991,604	(138,400)	853,204
Road Lighting #6	266,492	39,875	306,367	10,600	316,967
Road Lighting #1	177,751	12,456	190,207	12,900	203,107
Road Lighting #5	22,984	8,099	31,083	5,400	36,483
Council on Aging	684,129	7,194	691,323	3,000	694,323
S&U No. 2	91,337	6,207	97,544	(92,400)	5,144
Road Lighting #3	46,042	5,694	51,736	3,300	55,036
Road Lighting #4	2,812	391	3,203	(400)	2,803
Special Revenue	\$ 29,925,550	\$ (9,509,972)	\$ 20,415,578	\$ (3,790,100)	\$ 16,625,478
Bayou Terrace Bond Fund	\$ 280,829	\$ (257,572)	\$ 23,257	\$ 23,000	\$ 46,257
EAD Sinking	181,120	(1,802)	179,318	(3,100)	176,218
Library Sinking	39	(39)	-	-	-
S&U Tax No. 1 Reserve	265,478	-	265,478	-	265,478
EAD Reserve	2,187,654	-	2,187,654	-	2,187,654
S&U Tax No. 2 Sinking	335,754	2,912	338,666	800	339,466
Council on Aging Sinking	94,524	2,050	96,574	(96,300)	274
S&U Tax No. 1 Sinking	216,728	1,814	218,542	(42,300)	176,242
Debt Service	\$ 3,562,126	\$ (252,637)	\$ 3,309,489	\$ (117,900)	\$ 3,191,589
Road Project	\$ 26,928,414	\$ (2,001,889)	\$ 24,926,525	\$ (7,222,000)	\$ 17,704,525
Courthouse East Construction	1,451,741	(612,529)	839,212	(545,800)	293,412
Office Building Construction	482,702	(321,373)	161,329	(32,000)	129,329
Waste Water Fund	1,933,225	(247,902)	1,685,323	(791,400)	893,923
Giesmar Community Center	172,792	(139,561)	33,231	-	33,231
Bunnhood Canal Project Fund	-	(16,848)	(16,848)	-	(16,848)
EA Drainage project	3,513,574	5,340,238	8,853,812	(3,695,000)	5,158,812
Fire District #1 Construction	785,036	257,209	1,042,245	(250,000)	792,245
Sewer Project	-	3,174	3,174	-	3,174
Capital Projects	\$ 35,267,484	\$ 2,260,519	\$ 37,528,003	\$ (12,536,200)	\$ 24,991,803
Insurance	\$ (428,956)	\$ 1,081,904	\$ 652,948	\$ 447,800	\$ 1,100,748
Maintenance	406,037	75,628	481,665	(218,600)	263,065
Dental Insurance	(11,797)	26,930	15,133	15,900	31,033
Internal Service	\$ (34,716)	\$ 1,184,462	\$ 1,149,746	\$ 245,100	\$ 1,394,846