



SACRAMENTO COUNTY

Annual Investment Policy of the Pooled Investment Fund

CALENDAR YEAR 2021

*Approved by the
Sacramento County Board of Supervisors*

December 8, 2020
Resolution No. 2020-0783

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I. Authority

Under the Sacramento County Charter, the Board of Supervisors established the position of Director of Finance and by ordinance will annually review and renew the Director of Finance's authority to invest and reinvest all the funds in the County Treasury.

II. Policy Statement

This Investment Policy (Policy) establishes cash management and investment guidelines for the Director of Finance, who is responsible for the stewardship of the Sacramento County Pooled Investment Fund. Each transaction and the entire portfolio must comply with California Government Code and this Policy. All portfolio activities will be judged by the standards of the Policy and its investment objectives. Activities that violate its spirit and intent will be considered contrary to the Policy.

III. Standard of Care

The Director of Finance is the Trustee of the Pooled Investment Fund and therefore, a fiduciary subject to the prudent investor standard. The Director of Finance, employees involved in the investment process, and members of the Sacramento County Treasury Oversight Committee (Oversight Committee) shall refrain from all personal business activities that could conflict with the management of the investment program. All individuals involved will be required to report all gifts and income in accordance with California state law. When investing, reinvesting, purchasing, acquiring, exchanging, selling and managing public funds, the Director of Finance shall act with care, skill, prudence, and diligence to meet the aims of the investment objectives listed in Section IV, Investment Objectives.

IV. Investment Objectives

The Pooled Investment Fund shall be prudently invested in order to earn a reasonable return, while awaiting application for governmental purposes. The specific objectives for the Pooled Investment Fund are ranked in order of importance.

A. Safety of Principal

The preservation of principal is the primary objective. Each transaction shall seek to ensure that capital losses are avoided, whether they be from securities default or erosion of market value.

and qualifications of broker/dealers and direct issuers; investment guidelines, management style and strategy; Approved Lists; and calculation of yield and costs.

VII. Internal Controls

The Director of Finance shall establish internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that the investment objectives are met and to ensure that the assets are protected from loss, theft, or misuse. To assist in implementation and internal controls, the Director of Finance has established an Investment Group and a Review Group.

The Investment Group, which is comprised of the Director of Finance and his/her designees, is responsible for maintenance of the investment guidelines and Approved Lists. These guidelines and lists can be altered daily, if needed, to adjust to the ever-changing financial markets. The guidelines can be more conservative or match the policy language. In no case can the guidelines override the Policy.

The Review Group, which is comprised of the Director of Finance and his/her designees, is responsible for the monthly review and appraisal of all the investments purchased by the Director of Finance and staff. This review includes bond proceeds, which are invested separately from the Pooled Investment Fund and are not governed by this Policy.

The Director of Finance shall establish a process for daily, monthly, quarterly, and annual review and monitoring of the Pooled Investment Fund activity. The following articles, in order of supremacy, govern the Pooled Investment Fund:

1. California Government Code
2. Annual Investment Policy
3. Current Investment Guidelines
4. Approved Lists (see page 9, Section IX.K)

The Director of Finance shall review the daily investment activity and corresponding bank balances.

Monthly, the Review Group shall review all investment activity and its compliance to the corresponding governing articles and investment objectives.

Quarterly, the Director of Finance will provide the Oversight Committee with a copy of the Pooled Investment Fund activity and its compliance to the annual Policy and California Government Code.

Annually, the Oversight Committee shall cause an annual audit of the activities within the Pooled Investment Fund to be conducted to determine compliance to the Policy and California Government Code. This audit will include issues relating to the structure of the investment portfolio and risk.

All securities purchased, with the exception of bank deposits, money market mutual funds, and LAIF, shall be delivered to the independent third-party custodian selected by

The Cash Flow Horizon is the period in which the Pooled Investment Fund cash flow can be reasonably forecasted. This Policy establishes the Cash Flow Horizon to be one (1) year.

Once the Director of Finance has deemed that the cash flow forecast can be met, the Director of Finance may invest funds with maturities beyond one year. These securities will be referred to as the Core Portfolio.

B. Authorized Investments

Authorized investments shall match the general categories established by the California Government Code sections 53601 et seq. and 53635 et seq. Authorized investments shall include, in accordance with California Government Code section 16429.1, investments into LAIF. Authorization for specific instruments within these general categories, as well as narrower portfolio concentration and maturity limits, will be established and maintained by the Investment Group as part of the Investment Guidelines. As the California Government Code is amended, this Policy shall likewise become amended.

C. Prohibited Investments

No investments shall be authorized that have the possibility of returning a zero or negative yield if held to maturity except for securities issued by, or backed by, the United States government during a period of negative market interest rates. Prohibited investments shall include inverse floaters, range notes, and interest only strips derived from a pool of mortgages.

All legal investments issued by a tobacco-related company are prohibited. A tobacco-related company is defined as an entity that makes smoking products from tobacco used in cigarettes, cigars, or snuff or for smoking in pipes. The tobacco-related issuers restricted from any investment are any component companies in the Dow Jones U.S. Tobacco Index or the NYSE Arca Tobacco Index. Annually the Director of Finance and/or his designee will update the list of tobacco-related companies.

D. Credit Requirements

Except for municipal obligations and Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) bank deposits and certificates of deposit, the issuer's short-term credit ratings shall be at or above A-1 by Standard & Poor's, P-1 by Moody's, and, if available, F1 by Fitch, and the issuer's long-term credit ratings shall be at or above A by Standard & Poor's, A2 by Moody's, and, if available, A by Fitch. There are no credit requirements for Registered State Warrants. All other municipal obligations shall be at or above a short-term rating of SP-1 by Standard & Poor's, MIG1 by Moody's, and, if available, F1 by Fitch. In addition, domestic banks are limited to those with a Fitch Viability rating of a or better, without regard to modifiers. The Investment Group is granted the authority to specify approved California banks with Fitch Viability ratings of bbb+ but they must have a Support rating of 1 where appropriate. Foreign banks with domestic licensed offices must have a Sovereign rating of AAA from Standard and Poor's,

E. Maximum Maturities

Due to the nature of the invested funds, no investment with limited market liquidity should be used. Appropriate amounts of highly-liquid investments, such as Treasury and Agency securities, should be maintained to accommodate unforeseen withdrawals.

The maximum maturity, determined as the term from the date of ownership to the date of maturity, for each investment shall be established as follows:

U.S. Treasury and Agency Obligations	5 years
Washington Supranational Obligations ¹	5 years
Municipal Notes.....	5 years
Registered State Warrants.....	5 years
Bankers Acceptances	180 days
Commercial Paper	270 days
Negotiable Certificates of Deposit.....	180 days
CRA Bank Deposit/Certificates of Deposit.....	1 year
Repurchase Agreements	1 year
Reverse Repurchase Agreements	92 days
Medium-Term Corporate Notes.....	180 days
Collateralized Mortgage Obligations	180 days

The Investment Group may reduce these maturity limits to a shorter term as part of the Investment Guidelines and the Approved Lists.

The ultimate maximum maturity of any investment shall be five (5) years. The dollar-weighted average maturity of all securities shall be equal to or less than three (3) years.

¹ The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, International Finance Corporation, and Inter-American Development Bank.

Approved Lists of the County that meet the qualifications of the Policy, with a market value of 102%. Since the market value of the underlying securities is subject to daily market fluctuations, investments in repurchase agreements shall be in compliance if the value of the underlying securities is brought back up to 102% no later than the next business day. Use of mortgage-backed securities for collateral is not permitted. Strictly for purposes of investing the daily excess bank balance, the collateral provided by the Sacramento County's depository bank can be Treasuries or Agencies valued at 110%, or mortgage-backed securities valued at 150%.

H. Community Reinvestment Act Program

The Director of Finance has allocated within the Pooled Investment Fund, a maximum of \$90 million for the Community Reinvestment Act Program to encourage community investment by financial institutions, which includes community banks and credit unions, and to acknowledge and reward local financial institutions that support the community's financial needs. The Director of Finance may increase this amount, as appropriate, while staying within the investment policy objectives and maximum maturity and concentration limits. The eligible banks and savings banks must have Community Reinvestment Act performance ratings of "satisfactory" or "outstanding" from each financial institution's regulatory authority. The minimum credit requirements are located on page 5 of Section IX.D.

I. Criteria and Qualifications of Brokers/Dealers and Direct Issuers

All transactions initiated on behalf of the Pooled Investment Fund and Sacramento County shall be executed through either government security dealers reporting as primary dealers to the Market Reports Division of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York or direct issuers that directly issue their own securities that have been placed on the Approved List of brokers/dealers and direct issuers. Further, these firms must have an investment grade rating from at least two national rating services, if available.

Brokers/Dealers and direct issuers that have exceeded the political contribution limits, as contained in Rule G-37 of the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board, within the preceding four-year period to the Director of Finance, any member of the Board of Supervisors, or any candidate for the Board of Supervisors, are prohibited from the Approved List of brokers/dealers and direct issuers.

Each broker/dealer and direct issuer will be sent a copy of this Policy and a list of those persons authorized to execute investment transactions. Each firm must acknowledge receipt of such materials to qualify for the Approved List of brokers/dealers and direct issuers.

Each broker/dealer and direct issuer authorized to do business with Sacramento County shall, at least annually, supply the Director of Finance with audited financial statements.

Pooled Investment Fund and compliance to the California Government Code, Policy, and Investment Guidelines.

Quarterly, the Director of Finance will provide to the Oversight Committee and to any local agency participant that requests a copy, a detailed report on the Pooled Investment Fund. Pursuant to California Government Code section 53646, the report will list the type of investments, name of issuer, maturity date, par and dollar amount of the investment. For the total Pooled Investment Fund, the report will list average maturity, the market value, and the pricing source. Additionally, the report will show any funds under the management of contracting parties, a statement of compliance to the Policy and a statement of the Pooled Investment Fund's ability to meet the expected expenditure requirements for the next six months.

Each quarter, the Director of Finance shall provide to the Board of Supervisors and interested parties a comprehensive report on the Pooled Investment Fund.

Annually, the Director of Finance shall provide to the Oversight Committee the Investment Policy. Additionally, the Director of Finance will render a copy of the Investment Policy to the legislative body of the local agencies that participate in the Pooled Investment Fund.

XI. Withdrawal Requests for Pooled Fund Investors

The Director of Finance will honor all requests to withdraw funds for normal cash flow purposes that are approved by the Director of Finance at a one dollar net asset value. Any requests to withdraw funds for purposes other than immediate cash flow needs, such as for external investing, are subject to the consent of the Director of Finance. In accordance with California Government Code Sections 27133(h) and 27136, such requests for withdrawals must first be made in writing to the Director of Finance. When evaluating a request to withdraw funds, the Director of Finance will take into account the effect of a withdrawal on the stability and predictability of the Pooled Investment Fund and the interests of other depositors. Any withdrawal for such purposes will be at the market value of the Pooled Investment Fund on the date of the withdrawal.

XII. Limits on Honoraria, Gifts, and Gratuities

In accordance with California Government Code Section 27133(d), this Policy establishes limits for the Director of Finance; individuals responsible for management of the portfolios; and members of the Investment Group and Review Group who direct individual investment decisions, select individual investment advisors and broker/dealers, and conduct day-to-day investment trading activity. The limits also apply to members of the Oversight Committee. Any individual who receives an aggregate total of gifts, honoraria and gratuities in excess of \$50 in a calendar year from a broker/dealer, bank or service provider to the Pooled Investment Fund must report the gifts, dates and firms to the designated filing official and complete the appropriate State forms.

Appendix A

Comparison and Interpretation of Credit Ratings

Long Term Debt & Individual Bank Ratings				
Rating Interpretation	Moody's	S&P	Fitch	Fitch Viability Rating
<i>Best-quality grade</i>	Aaa	AAA	AAA	aaa
<i>High-quality grade</i>	Aa1	AA+	AA+	aa+
	Aa2	AA	AA	aa
	Aa3	AA-	AA-	aa-
<i>Upper Medium Grade</i>	A1	A+	A+	a+
	A2	A	A	a
	A3	A-	A-	a-
<i>Medium Grade</i>	Baa1	BBB+	BBB+	bbb+
	Baa2	BBB	BBB	bbb
	Baa3	BBB-	BBB-	bbb-
<i>Speculative Grade</i>	Ba1	BB+	BB+	bb+
	Ba2	BB	BB	bb
	Ba3	BB-	BB-	bb-
<i>Low Grade</i>	B1	B+	B+	b+
	B2	B	B	b
	B3	B-	B-	b-
<i>Poor Grade to Default</i>	Caa	CCC+	CCC	ccc
<i>In Poor Standing</i>	-	CCC	-	
	-	CCC-	-	
<i>Highly Speculative Default</i>	Ca	CC	CC	cc
	C	-	-	c
<i>Default</i>	-	-	DDD	f
	-	-	DD	f
	-	D	D	f

Short Term / Municipal Note Investment Grade Ratings			
Rating Interpretation	Moody's	S&P	Fitch
<i>Superior Capacity</i>	MIG-1	SP-1+/SP-1	F1+/F1
<i>Strong Capacity</i>	MIG-2	SP-2	F2
<i>Acceptable Capacity</i>	MIG-3	SP-3	F3

Appendix A

Fitch Sovereign Risk Ratings	
<i>Rating</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>
AAA	Highest credit quality. 'AAA' ratings denote the lowest expectation of default risk. They are assigned only in cases of exceptionally strong capacity for payment of financial commitments. This capacity is highly unlikely to be adversely affected by foreseeable events.
AA	Very high credit quality. 'AA' ratings denote expectations of very low default risk. They indicate very strong capacity for payment of financial commitments. This capacity is not significantly vulnerable to foreseeable events.
A	High credit quality. 'A' ratings denote expectations of low default risk. The capacity for payment of financial commitments is considered strong. This capacity may, nevertheless, be more vulnerable to adverse business or economic conditions than is the case for higher ratings.
BBB	Good credit quality. 'BBB' ratings indicate that expectations of default risk are currently low. The capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is considered adequate but adverse business or economic conditions are more likely to impair this capacity.
BB	Speculative. 'BB' ratings indicate an elevated vulnerability to default risk, particularly in the event of adverse changes in business or economic conditions over time.
B	Highly speculative. 'B' ratings indicate that material default risk is present, but a limited margin of safety remains. Financial commitments are currently being met; however, capacity for continued payment is vulnerable to deterioration in the business and economic environment.
CCC	High default risk. Default is a real possibility.
CC	Very high levels of credit risk. Default of some kind appears probable.
C	Exceptionally high levels of credit risk. Default appears imminent or inevitable.
D	<p>Default. Indicates a default. Default generally is defined as one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure to make payment of principal and/or interest under the contractual terms of the rated obligation; • The bankruptcy filings, administration, receivership, liquidation or other winding-up or cessation of the business of an issuer/obligor; or • The coercive exchange of an obligation, where creditors were offered securities with diminished structural or economic terms compared with the existing obligation.