



**SAN MATEO COUNTY**

**Investment Policy Statement**

**Calendar Year 2012**

*Approved by the  
San Mateo County Board of Supervisors  
Date: June 26, 2012  
Resolution #072056*

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SAN MATEO COUNTY  
**Investment Policy Statement**  
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**I. Introduction**

It is the policy of the San Mateo County Treasurer to invest public funds in a manner which will provide maximum security of principal invested with secondary emphasis on providing adequate liquidity to pool participants, achieving the highest yield while conforming to all applicable statutes and resolutions governing the investment of public funds.

To meet liquidity and long term investing needs, the County has established the County Investment Pool. This fund is suitable for planned expenditures or capital funds.

**II. Delegation of Authority**

By Resolution #071855, effective February 28, 2012, the County Board of Supervisors has delegated to the Treasurer authority to invest and reinvest the funds of the County and other depositors as specified in California Government Code Sections §27000.1 and §53607 for the period calendar year 2012. The Treasurer may delegate investment authority to such persons within the Treasurer's Department as deemed appropriate.

**III. Policy Statement**

This Investment Policy establishes cash management and investment guidelines for the Treasurer, and those to whom he/she delegates investment authority, who are responsible for the stewardship of the San Mateo County Pooled Investment Fund. Each transaction and the entire portfolio must comply with California Government Code and this Policy. All portfolio activities will be monitored and judged by the standards of this Policy and its investment objectives. Activities that violate its spirit and intent will be considered contrary to policy.

The Treasurer will annually render to the Board of Supervisors and any Oversight Committee a statement of investment policy, which the Board shall review and approve at a public meeting. Any change in the policy shall also be reviewed and approved by the Board at a public meeting.

**IV. Standard of Care**

The Treasurer is a fiduciary of the pooled investment fund and therefore subject to the prudent investor standard. The Treasurer, employees involved in the investment process and members of the San Mateo County Treasury 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. (See Section XXI)

When investing, reinvesting, purchasing, acquiring, exchanging, selling and managing public funds, the Treasurer, and those to whom he/she delegates investment authority, shall act with due professional care, skill, prudence and diligence taking into consideration circumstances then prevailing, including, but limited to, general economic conditions and anticipated needs of the County and other depositors. This should be accomplished with the care that a prudent person acting in a like capacity would use to safeguard the principal and maintain the liquidity needs of the County and other depositors.

As outlined in the California Government Code Section §27000.3, the standard of prudence to be used by the County investment officers shall be the “prudent investor” standard and shall be applied in the context of managing the portfolio. Investment officers shall act in accordance with written procedures and the investment policy, exercise due diligence, report in a timely fashion, and implement appropriate controls for adverse development.

## **V. Investment Objectives**

The San Mateo County Pool shall be prudently invested in order to preserve principal while earning a reasonable rate of return while awaiting application for governmental purposes. Investments should be made with precision and care considering the safety of the principal investment, as well as the income to be derived from the investment. The specific objectives for the program are ranked in order of importance:

- A. Safety of Principal** - The Treasurer shall seek to preserve principal and minimize capital losses by mitigating credit risk and market risk as follows:

Credit Risk - Defined as an issuer(s) ability and willingness to repay interest and principal. Credit risk shall be minimized by diversifying the fund among issues and issuers so that the failure of any one issue or issuer would not result in a significant loss of income or principal to participants. Credit rating evaluations for all securities are monitored on a consistent basis.

Market Risk - Defined as the risk of market value fluctuations due to changes in the general level of interest rates. Because longer-term securities generally have greater market risk than shorter-term securities; market risk will be minimized by establishing the maximum Weighted Average Maturity of the pool at three years. The maximum allowable maturity for any instrument in the pool at time of purchase is 7 years (Treasuries and Agencies only). Occasional market losses on individual securities are inevitable with active portfolio management and must be considered within the context of the overall investment return.

- B. Liquidity**

The Treasurer’s Office attempts to match maturities with its 15 month projected cash flow. The nature of the planning process behind the cash flow of the pool is relatively predictable and less volatile than is the case of discretionary money.

This allows leeway for some of the underlying investments in the County Pool to maintain a somewhat longer duration.

### **C. Yield**

The County Pool is designed as an income fund to maximize the return on investable funds over various market cycles, consistent with the pool's first priority of safeguarding principal. Yield will be considered only after the basic requirements of safety and liquidity have been met. The County Pool is managed as an income fund whose purpose is to provide its investors with a reasonably predictable level of income, as opposed to a growth fund or fund measured on the basis of total return.

## **VI. Management Style and Strategy**

This policy describes the County's strategic investment objective, risk tolerance and investment constraints. The County Treasurer or designee, at the Treasurer's discretion, prepares an economic outlook and evaluates the capital markets environment. The investment programs reflect a common strategy that is based on conservative principles of fixed income portfolio management consistently applied in a disciplined fashion.

## **VII. Authorized Investments**

Subject to the limitations set forth in California Government Code §53600 et seq. which may be amended from time to time, the Treasurer may invest in the following instruments, subject to the limits described in the following sections. Long-term credit ratings, where shown, specify the minimum credit rating category required at time of purchase without regard to modifiers (e.g. +/- or 1,2,3) if any. As noted previously, all securities purchased shall be regularly monitored and re-evaluated should their ratings be downgraded below the minimum investment grade level required of the Pool. The Treasury Oversight Committee will be notified, within 10 days of any security downgrades that fall below the pool's investment standards and the course of action to be taken if any. In addition the information will be posted on the Treasurer's website within the same time frame. Decisions regarding the holding of, or the potential sale of, securities are based on factors such as remaining time to maturity and the need for liquidity in the Pool.

Where a percentage limitation of eligible security percentages and maximum maturity is established, for the purpose of determining investment compliance, that maximum amount will be applied on the date of trade settlement. Therefore, depending on the liquidation of other securities and the performance of other securities in the pool, the percentage of the pool of any given security or instrument could exceed the initial percentage limitations without violating the Investment Policy.

### **A. U.S. Treasury Securities**

United States Treasury bills, notes, bond or certificates of indebtedness, for which the full faith and credit of the United States is pledged for the payment of principal and interest. The maximum maturity of U.S. Treasury Securities is 7 years.

**B. U.S. Government Agency/GSE (Government Sponsored Enterprise)**

Obligations, participations, or other instruments of, or issued by, a federal agency or a United States government sponsored enterprise. The maximum percent of the fund per issuer is 40%. The maximum percent of the fund for U.S. Agencies Callables Securities is 25%. U.S. Government Agency/GSE securities must be rated AA, long-term, or A-1, Short-term, or better by at least two of the three nationally recognized rating services (S&P, Moody's and Fitch). The maximum maturity for Agency Securities is 7 years.

**C. Commercial Paper**

At the time of purchase, commercial paper must be rated either A-1/P-1/F1 or better by at least two of the three nationally recognized rating services (S&P, Moody's and Fitch) and a long term rating of single A or better when applicable. Eligibility is limited to U.S. organized and operating corporations. Corporations must have assets in excess of \$5 Billion, and have an A rating or better on the issuer's debt other than commercial paper by at least two of the three nationally recognized rating services. Maturities may not exceed 270 days. Purchases of commercial paper will not exceed 40% of the pool's investable money.

**D. Negotiable Certificates of Deposit**

Negotiable certificates are negotiable money market instruments that trade on the open market. At the time of purchase, negotiable certificates of deposit must be rated either A-1/P-1/F1 or better by at least two of the three nationally recognized rating services (S&P, Moody's and Fitch) and a long term rating of single A or better when applicable. These certificates must be issued by a U.S. National or State chartered bank or state or federal association (as defined by section 5102 of the California Financial Code) or by a state licensed branch of a foreign bank. Eligible foreign banks must have branches or agencies in the U.S. Issuers must be a corporation with total assets in excess of \$5 Billion. Purchases of Negotiable Certificates of Deposit will not exceed 30% of the pool.

**E. Bankers Acceptances**

Bankers Acceptances (BAs) is a draft drawn and accepted by banks that is based upon funds that will pay its face value at maturity. The security is normally traded at a discounted price. Because the accepting institution is obligated to pay for the bill, a Bankers Acceptance is considered less risky than commercial paper.

At the time of purchase, BAs must be rated A-1/P-1/F1 or better by at least two of the three nationally recognized rating services (S&P, Moody's and Fitch) and a long term rating of single A or better if applicable. BAs are primarily used to finance international trade. BAs are timed drafts (bills of exchange) drawn on and accepted by a commercial bank. Issuers must be a corporation with total assets in excess of \$5 Billion. Purchases of Bankers Acceptances will not exceed 15% of

the pool for domestic commercial banks and 15% of the pool for foreign commercial banks.

#### **F. Certificates of Deposit**

Collateralized Certificates of Deposit must comply with Bank Deposit Law. Purchases of Collateralized Certificates of Deposit will not exceed 15% of the pool.

#### **G. Asset Backed Securities**

The issuer of these securities must be rated “AAA” by at least two of the three nationally recognized rating services (S&P, Moody’s and Fitch). Securities shall have a maximum remaining maturity of five years. Purchases of Asset Backed Securities will not exceed 20% of the pool.

The allowable types of Asset Backed Securities include the following:

1. U.S. Government Agency Mortgage pass-through securities.
2. Collateralized Mortgage Obligations (CMO) where the underlying mortgages have U.S. government backing.
3. Equipment lease back certificates.
4. Consumer receivable backed bonds.
5. Auto loan receivable backed bonds.

#### **H. Corporate Securities**

The maximum maturity for corporate securities is five years. Eligible securities shall be issued by corporations organized and operating within the United States or by depository institutions licensed by the United States or any state and operating within the United States. At the time of purchase, corporate securities must be rated A or better by at least two of the three nationally recognized rating services (S&P, Moody’s and Fitch). Securities in this classification must be dollar denominated and registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission and be publicly traded or at least have undergone shelf registration. If a security is owned and downgraded below the pool’s investment standards, the Treasury Oversight Committee will be notified within 10 days of any security downgrades that fall below the pool’s investment standards and the course of action to be taken if any. In addition, the information will be posted on the Treasurer’s website within the same time frame.

Purchases of Corporate Securities shall not exceed 30% of the pool. At the time of purchase, a maximum of 25% of the entire core position of 30% can be rated single A. The remaining 75% must be AA rated or higher. There is a 5% limitation of the fund in any single issuer of Corporate Securities, however, the Pool has a target of holding no more than 3%. The 3% target may be exceeded under exceptional circumstances. (i.e.: peak tax collection periods, G.O. Bond issuances, etc.) when there is a large influx of cash.



## **I. Repurchase Agreements**

Repurchase Agreements must be executed with dealers with whom the County has written agreements and who report to the Market Reports Division of the Federal Reserve Bank of N.Y. (Primary Dealers). All transactions must be collateralized at 102% of current value plus accrued interest and must be marked to market daily. The only acceptable collateral for these transactions include Treasuries or Agencies with a maximum maturity of seven years.

For purposes of this authorized investments section, the term “Repurchase Agreement” means a purchase of a security by the County pursuant to an agreement by which the seller will repurchase the securities on or before a specified date and for a specified dollar amount and will deliver the underlying securities to the County by book entry. All County pool transactions are conducted through the County custodian on a payment vs. delivery basis. When the transaction is unwound, the transfer of the underlying securities will revert to the counter party’s bank account by book entry. The term “Counter party” means the other party to the transaction with the County. The Counter Party, or its parent, must have a short-term rating of A-1, P-1 or F1 by at least two of the three nationally recognized rating services (S&P, Moody’s and Fitch). The maximum allowable term of a repurchase agreement shall not exceed 92 days.

## **J. Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF)**

The Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) is an investment fund run by the Treasurer of the State of California to pool local agency monies. LAIF will be used as a comparative fund to the County’s pool. The maximum percent of the fund that can be invested is up to the current State limit.

## **K. Registered Warrants**

In accordance with Government Code §17202 – All registered warrants issued by the state are legal investments for all:

1. Trust funds.
2. Funds of all insurers.
3. Funds of savings and loan associations.
4. Funds of all banks, including any legal combination of commercial banks, savings banks and trust companies.
5. Funds of all counties, municipal corporations, districts, public corporations, political subdivisions, or state agencies.

## **L. Mutual Funds**

Shares of beneficial interest issued by diversified management companies as defined in Government Code Section § 53601. Purchases of Mutual Funds will not exceed 10%.

## **VIII. Security Lending**

Security Lending is a temporary exchange of portfolio assets for acceptable collateral between a lender and an approved borrower. The additional income generated from this transaction can be used to enhance portfolio performance. This process can be summarized in three key steps:

- A.** The Security Lending agent lends securities from our portfolio to an approved borrower at a negotiated rate. The negotiated rate is dependent upon the level of demand for the securities.
- B.** The Security Lending agent invests the cash collateral in highly liquid, short duration, high credit quality instruments approved by our investment policy.
- C.** The earnings generated net of rebates from these transactions are split between the third party agent and the County based on the contract agreement.

Our contract with The Bank of New York requires daily reporting of the securities borrowed, the borrowers, and the short term investments made with the collateral. The County retains the right to recall securities at any given time; cutoffs are 9:30 a.m. eastern standard time for same day recalls of treasuries/agencies and 1:30 p.m. eastern standard time on trade date for corporates. We also require acknowledgement of the County Investment Policy, and check the adherence to that policy daily.

All securities purchased with any funds received as a result of such lending shall be regularly monitored and re-evaluated. Should their ratings fall below the pool's investment standards, the Treasury Oversight Committee will be notified within 10 days of any security downgrades that fall below the pool's investment standards and the course of action if any. In addition the information will be posted on the Treasurer's website within the same time frame.

Additionally, the percentage of the Fund's market value in any one issuer's securities shall be regularly monitored and the Treasury Oversight Committee will be notified within 10 days, and the information posted on the Treasurer's website, of any instances where the percentage of the Fund's market value in any one issuer's securities exceeds the percentage limitations set forth herein or where there is any change in diversification and the course of action, if any.

There are always risks in any financial transaction. The three most common risks in Security Lending are as follows:

- A. Borrower Default Risk** – Although rare, a borrower may not return a security in a timely manner. To protect against this risk, we require 102% cash collateral, which is marked to market and monitored daily. In the event of borrower default, the Security Lending agent is responsible for replacing the securities or providing the cash value of the securities. In other words, The Bank of New York indemnifies the County of San Mateo against borrower default.
- B. Collateral Investment Risk** – The value of the securities in which we invest the cash collateral may decline due to fluctuations in interest rates or other market related events. This risk is controlled by investing in a huge investment pool with highly liquid short duration, high credit quality instruments identified in this investment policy.
- C. Operational Risks** – critical operations, such as maintaining the value of the collateral, collecting interest and dividend payments are essential to a smooth running Security Lending operation. Operational risks are the responsibility of the Security Lending agent. We further mitigate this risk by reviewing all transactions and collateral requirements on a daily basis.

### **Schedule 1 – Securities Lending**

#### **Securities Loans**

- No more than 5% of the Pool can be on loan to any single counterparty.
- A single loan shall not exceed 3% of the total portfolio.
- The maximum maturity of a securities loan shall not exceed 92 days.

#### **Collateral**

##### Acceptable Collateral

U.S. Treasuries and Agencies and cash

##### Collateral Investment

The only authorized investments are shown in the following table. No floating or reset notes are permitted.

“Fund” means actual market value of all securities lending collateral.

INSTRUMENT	RATING	LIMITATIONS		
		% of Fund	% of Fund per Issuer	Maturity
U.S. Treasury Obligations		100	100%	1 year
Obligations of U.S. Agencies or government sponsored enterprises	AA or A-1	100	40% per issuer	1 year
Repurchase agreements secured by U.S. Treasury or agency obligation (102% collateral)	A-1	100	50%	overnight
Bankers Acceptances Domestic	A-1 / P-1/ F1	15	5% Aggregate	180 days
Foreign		15	5% Aggregate	180 days
Commercial paper	A-1 / P-1 / F1	40	5% Aggregate	270 days or less

**Other****Agent Qualifications**

The only acceptable Agent is the Pool's custodian bank.

**Contract Provisions**

The Agent must indemnify the Pool against borrower default.

The Agent must acknowledge and accept the Policy in writing. A copy of this acceptance will be attached to future policies.

The Agent must submit monthly reports showing securities out on loan (terms and borrowers), defaults, earnings, and the percent by sector of Pool assets out on loan as well as information on the collateral investments (including market values, income and realized and unrealized gains and losses).

**Oversight**

The Treasurer shall include copies of the Agent's most recent report with his reports to the Treasury Oversight Committee.

**IX. Community Reinvestment Act Program**

- A.** This policy sets aside up to \$5 million dollars for investment in banks whose primary operations are located in San Mateo County. Investments from this fund must meet the requirements of this investment policy. Eligible banks must have Community Reinvestment Act performance ratings of "satisfactory" or "outstanding" from each financial institution's regulatory authority. In addition, deposits greater than the federally-insured amount must be collateralized. Banks must place securities worth between 110% and 150% of the value of the deposit with a custodial bank.

**X. Diversification and Maturity Restrictions**

It is the policy of the Treasurer to diversify the Fund's portfolios. Investments are diversified to minimize the risk of loss resulting in over concentration of assets in a specific maturity, specific issuer or a specific class of securities. Diversification strategies shall be established by the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer.

<b>INSTRUMENT</b>	<b>RATING</b>	<b>% of Fund</b>	<b>LIMITATIONS % of Fund per Issuer</b>	<b>Maturity</b>
U.S. Treasury Obligations		100%	100%	7 years
Obligations of U.S. Agencies or government sponsored enterprises	AA or A-1	100%	40%	7 years
U.S. Agencies Callables	AA		25%	7 years

<b>INSTRUMENT</b>	<b>RATING</b>	<b>% of Fund</b>	<b>LIMITATIONS % of Fund per Issuer</b>	<b>Maturity</b>
Bankers Acceptances *Domestic: (\$5 billion minimum assets) *Foreign: (\$5 billion minimum assets)	A-1 / P-1/ F1	15% 15%	5% Aggregate 5% Aggregate	180 days 180 days
Collateralized Time Deposits within the state of CALIFORNIA	A-1/P-1/ F1	15%	5% Aggregate	1 year
Negotiable Certificates of Deposit (\$5 billion minimum assets)	A-1/P-1/ F1	30%	5% Aggregate	5 years
Commercial paper	A-1/P-1/ F1	40%	5% Aggregate	270 days or less
Repurchase Agreements secured by U.S. Treasury or agency obligation (102% collateral)	A-1	100%	See limitations for Treasuries and Agencies above	92 days
Corporate bonds, Medium Term Notes & Covered Bonds (two agencies)	AA/A  A	30%  25% of the 30% above	5% Aggregate	5 years
Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF)			Up to the current state limit	
Shares of beneficial interest issued by diversified management companies as defined in Government Code Section § 53601 (Mutual Funds)	Money Market A-1/P-1	10%	5% Aggregate	
Mortgage Backed Securities/CMO's: No Inverse Floaters No Range Notes No Interest only strips derived from a pool of Mortgages	A	20%	5% Aggregate	5 Years
Asset Backed Securities	AAA	20%		5 Years

## **XI. Average Life**

The maximum dollar weighted average maturity of the fund will be 3 years. The focus of this fund is in order of priority: preservation of principal, liquidity and then yield. The policy of maintaining a maximum dollar weighted maturity or weighted average maturity (WAM) of 3 years leaves open the flexibility to take advantage of interest rate trends to maximize the return on investment. The imposed maximum 3 year average maturity limits the market risk to levels appropriate to a short, intermediate income fund. The word "Maturity" refers to the instrument's stated legal final redemption date - not coupon reset, put or call dates.

Securities purchased specifically to match the maturity of a bond issue and/or a contractual arrangement must be authorized by California Government Code §53601 and §53635 but are not included in the requirements listed above. Such securities shall be clearly designated in the appropriate investment journals and reports.

## **XII. Prohibited Transactions**

At the time of purchase, all permitted investments shall conform in all respects with this Investment Policy and with California Government Code Sections §53601, §53601.1, §53601.2, §53601.6, and §53635, as may be amended from time to time. No investment prohibited by California Government Code shall be permitted herein.

Any investment transactions, credit risk criterion, percentage limitations or market valuation that are not in compliance with this Investment Policy **at time of purchase** must be documented and approved by the Treasurer in writing. Thereafter, action shall be taken by the Treasurer to correct such matter as soon as practical. If a percentage restriction is adhered to at the time of purchase, a later increase or decrease in percentage resulting from a change in values or assets will not constitute a violation of that restriction.

The Treasurer shall not leverage the County pool through any borrowing collateralized or otherwise secured by cash or securities held unless authorized by this investment policy.

Security Lending is authorized by this policy and will be limited to a maximum of 20% of the portfolio.

### **The following transactions are prohibited:**

- A.** Borrowing for investment purposes ("Leverage")
- B.** Inverse floaters, leveraged floaters, equity-linked securities, event-linked securities, structured investment vehicles (SIV)

Simple "floating rate notes" whose periodic coupon adjustment is based on a short-term (one-year or less) rate index (such as Treasury bills, federal funds, prime rate or LIBOR) and which have a reasonable expectation of maintaining a value at par at each interest rate adjustment through final maturity, are exempt from this definition. Additionally, U.S. Treasury and Agency zero coupon bonds,

U.S. Treasury and Agency strips, Resolution Funding Corporation (REFCORP) strips or other callable securities which otherwise meet quality, maturity and percent limitations assigned to their respective security category, are exempt from this section.

- C. Derivatives (e.g. swaptions, spreads, straddles, caps, floors, collars, etc.) shall be prohibited.
- D. Trading of options and futures are prohibited.

### **XIII. Method of Accounting:**

- A. For earnings calculations, investments will be carried at original purchase cost (plus purchased accrued interest, if applicable). Premiums or discounts acquired in the purchase of securities will be amortized or accreted over the life of the respective securities. For GASB purposes, investments will be carried at cost and marked to market.
- B. Gains or losses from investment sales will be credited or charged to investment income at the time of sale. All interest income, gains/ losses are posted quarterly.
- C. Premiums paid for callable securities will be amortized to the 1<sup>st</sup> call date after purchase.
- D. Purchased accrued interest will be capitalized until the first interest payment is received. Upon receipt of the first interest payment, the funds will be used to reduce the investment to its principal cost with the remaining balance credited to investment income.
- E. Yield is calculated on an accrual basis using a 365-day calendar year. Earnings are calculated as follows:

$$\frac{(\text{Earnings}^* + \text{Capital Gains}) - (\text{Banking Cost} + \text{Fees} + \text{Amortized Premiums} + \text{Capital Losses})}{\text{Average Daily Pool Balance}}$$

\* Earnings equal net interest payments + accrued interest + accreted discounts.

- F. The County Pool is operated as a single investment pool in which the banking and reporting services, required by the participant, will determine level of charges assigned to the account. Funds that generate specific volume of related banking charges such as payroll, extra reporting, etc. (variable costs) will be charged both fixed and variable banking costs as well as administrative fees before interest allocation and will be designated as Pool 1. Those funds that do not generate excessive banking cost but utilize the basic banking services (fixed costs) will be designated as Pool 2 and charged fixed banking costs and administrative fees. The final classification is designated as Pool 3 and represents those funds that

have only an incidental use of the County banking system and therefore only pay administrative fees.

- G. Effective July 1, 2010, the administrative fee was lowered from 12.5 basis points to 11.5 basis points and will be evaluated annually.

#### **XIV. Safekeeping**

All deliverable security transactions, including collateral for repurchase agreements, entered into by the Treasurer shall be conducted on a Delivery-versus-Payment basis (DVP)

All deliverable securities shall be held by a third party custodian designated by the Treasurer. The third party custodian shall be required to issue a safekeeping statement to the Treasurer listing the specific instrument, rate, maturity and other pertinent information.

#### **XV. Performance Evaluation**

The Treasurer shall submit monthly, quarterly and annual reports, in compliance with Government Code Sections §53607, §53646 and §27134, to the Treasury Oversight Committee, Pool participants and the Board of Supervisors. These reports shall contain sufficient information to permit an informed outside reader to evaluate the performance of the investment program and shall be in compliance with Government Code. This includes 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 Investments Fund's ability to meet the expected expenditure requirements for the next 6 months. In accordance with GASB Statements 31 and 40, the Treasurer shall provide financial information on the treasury for the County's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

#### **XVI. Withdrawal Requests for Pool Participants**

- A. Any request to withdraw funds shall be released at no more than 20% per month.
- B. Property tax revenue which had previously been distributed to redevelopment agencies prior to their dissolution, and which, effective as of February 1, 2012, shall be distributed to Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Funds will be exempt from the 20% withdrawal rule.
- C. Any additional withdrawal requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- D. All requests for withdrawals must first be made in writing to the Treasurer, at a minimum, 24 hours in advance.



In accordance with the California Government Code § 27136 et seq, and 27133 (h) et seq, these requests are subject to the Treasurer's consideration of the stability and predictability of the pooled investment fund, or the adverse effect on the interests of the other depositors in the pooled investment fund.

## **XVII. Internal Controls**

The County Treasurer 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. The County Treasurer shall also be responsible for ensuring that all investment transactions comply with the County's investment policy and the California Government Code.

The County Treasurer shall establish a process for daily, monthly, quarterly and annual review and monitoring of investment program activity.

Daily, the County Treasurer or authorized treasury personnel shall review the investment activity, as well as corresponding custodial and commercial bank balances and positions for compliance with the investment policy and guidelines. The County Controller's Office shall conduct an annual audit of the investment program's activities. It is to be conducted to determine compliance with the County's investment policy and the Government Code. The audit shall be conducted by staff with experience in auditing large, complex investment programs consistent with industry standards as promulgated by the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS) adopted by the CFA Institute Board of Governors.

### **A. Investment Authority and Responsibility**

The responsibility for conducting the County's investment program resides with the Treasurer, who supervises the investment program within the guidelines set forth in this policy. The Treasurer may delegate the authority for day-to-day investment activity to the Assistant Treasurer.

### **B. County Treasury Oversight Committee**

The Board of Supervisors, in consultation with the Treasurer, hereby establishes the County Treasury Oversight Committee pursuant to California Government Code § 27130 et seq. Members of the County Treasury Oversight Committee shall be selected pursuant to California Government Code §27131. The Treasury Oversight Committee will meet at least three times a year to evaluate general strategies and to monitor results and shall include in its discussions the economic outlook, portfolio diversification, maturity structure and potential risks to the County pool's funds. All actions taken by the Treasury Oversight Committee are governed by rules set out in § 27131 et seq. of the California Government Code.

Members of the County Treasury Oversight Committee must pay particular attention to the California Government Code § 27132.1, 27132.2, 27132.3 and 27132.4, which read as follows:

27132.1 A member may not be employed by an entity that has (a) contributed to the campaign of a candidate for the office of local treasurer, or (b) contributed to the campaign of a candidate to be a member of a legislative body of any local agency that has deposited funds in the county treasury, in the previous three years or during the period that the employee is a member of the committee.

27132.2 A member may not directly or indirectly raise money for a candidate for local treasurer or a member of the governing board of any local agency that has deposited funds in the county treasury while a member of the committee.

27132.3 A member may not secure employment with bond underwriters, bond counsel, security brokerages or dealers, or with financial services firms, with whom the Treasurer is doing business during the period that the person is a member of the committee or for one year after leaving the committee.

27132.4 Committee meetings shall be open to the public and subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act (chapter 9 (commencing with section 54950) of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5).

### **C. Reporting**

The Treasurer will prepare a monthly report for the County pool participants and members of the County Treasury Oversight Committee stating, for each investment: the type of investment, name of the issuer, maturity date, par value of the investment, current market value and the securities S&P/Moody's rating. For the total pooled investment fund, the report will list average maturity, effective duration, cost, the current market value, net gains/losses and the sector and issuer concentrations. In addition, the report will break down distribution by maturities, coupon, duration and both S&P/Moody's ratings. The Treasurer shall prepare a monthly cash flow report which sets forth projections for revenue inflows, and interest earnings as compared to the projections for the operating and capital outflows of depositors. This projection shall be for a minimum of 12 months. All Reports will be available on the County Treasurer's website at [www.sanmateocountytreasurer.org](http://www.sanmateocountytreasurer.org)

### **D. Annual Audit of Compliance**

The County Treasury Oversight Committee shall cause an annual audit to be conducted of the portfolio, procedures, reports and operations related to the County pool in compliance with the California Government Code § 27134.

### **E. Pool Rating**

The Pool strives to maintain the highest credit rating at all times. Annually, a contract may be requested for a rating from one of the three leading nationally recognized credit rating organizations (S&P, Moody's or Fitch).

## **F. External Investment Advisor**

An external investment advisor will be contracted to conduct independent monthly compliance reviews of the County's portfolio holdings and provide a monthly written report which will:

1. Verify the accuracy of holdings information
2. Provide summary level information about the portfolio
3. Verify compliance with California Government Code
4. Verify compliance with the County's written Investment Policy
5. List any exceptions or discrepancies identified

## **G. Loss Control**

While this Investment Policy is based on "the Prudent Investor Rule", the Treasurer shall seek to enhance total portfolio return by means of actively managing the portfolio. In any professionally managed portfolio, occasional controlled losses are inevitable and must be realized and judged within the context of overall portfolio performance. Losses shall be allocated as otherwise described in this policy in section XIII, entitled "Method of Accounting".

## **H. Credit Quality**

Should any investment or financial institution represented in the portfolio, be downgraded by any of the major rating services to a rating below those established in this investment policy, the Treasurer must immediately make an informed decision as to the disposition of that asset and will so advise the County Treasury Oversight Committee. The situation will be monitored daily by the Treasurer until final disposition has been made.

## **I. Approved Brokers**

The Treasurer will maintain a current list of Approved Brokers and Dealers who may conduct business with the County. All financial institutions on the approved list will be evaluated individually, with preference given to primary dealers, who possess a strong capital and credit base appropriate to their operations. The Treasurer will forward a copy of the County Investment Policy to all approved brokers and require written acknowledgment of the policy from the broker.

No broker, brokerage, dealer or securities firm is allowed on the approved list if, within any consecutive 48-month period, they have made a political contribution in an amount exceeding the limitations contained in Rule G-37 of the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board, to the local Treasurer, any member of the governing board of the local agency or any candidate for those offices.

## **J. Transaction Settlement**

Payment of settlement in a securities transaction will be against delivery only. A due bill or other substitution will not be acceptable. All securities purchased from the

brokers/dealers must be held in safekeeping by the County's safekeeping agent or designated third party.

### **K. Internal Controls**

The Treasurer has established a system of controls designed to prevent losses of pooled funds due to fraud, employee error, and misrepresentations by third parties, and unanticipated changes in financial markets or imprudent actions by employees of the County. The controls include:

1. Procedures for investment activity which includes separation of duties for transaction authority, accounting and operations and requires clear documentation of activity.
2. Custodial safekeeping as prescribed in California Government Code § 53601.
3. Independent audit, both external and internal.
4. Clear delegation of authority.
5. Written confirmations of all telephone transactions.
6. Establishment of written ethical standards and rules of behavior.

### **XVIII. Execution of Investment Authority**

**A.** All transactions are documented as to date, time and vendor, signed by the originator and include the following information:

1. Buy or sell
2. Specific description of security involved (CUSIP)
3. Settlement date
4. Price
5. The total amount of funds involved
6. On non-treasury or agency transactions a notation will be made on the transaction ticket of competitive bids and offers
7. Broker/dealer

**B.** Information in "A" must be provided to the Investment Specialist for the following purpose:

1. To contact the dealer to verify the information on the trade with the dealer's instructions. Any misunderstanding must be clarified prior to settlement.
2. To provide the County's custodian bank with the specifics of the pending transaction to assure a smooth settlement.
3. To compare with the daily custodian transaction report to assure there are no errors.
4. To generate the internal entries necessary for the movement of funds to complete the transaction.
5. To compare with the broker's confirmations when received.

- C. At the end of each day, the Investment Specialist summarizes all of the current day transactions in a “Daily Cash Flow Report” available immediately the following morning. This report includes:
1. A summary of all the day’s investment transaction
  2. A listing of the day’s incoming and outgoing wires
  3. A listing of the day’s state automatics and other deposits received
  4. If the pool has “Repos” out, the current earnings rate statement
  5. An estimate of the total anticipated clearings for the day
- D. A best effort will be made to obtain a minimum of three prices from different brokers before executing a security transaction whenever possible. Exceptions will occur with Treasuries. In those cases the Bloomberg screen will be printed as close to the actual executed price as possible. In the case of money market, agencies or corporate securities, a best effort will be made to obtain differential bids and offers.
- E. Repurchase Agreements All Repurchase Agreements with approved dealers will be governed by a Public Securities Association (PSA) agreement that has been approved in writing by the Treasurer.
- F. Confirmations resulting from securities purchased or sold under a Repurchase Agreement shall state the exact and complete nomenclature of the underlying securities bought or sold, as well as the term structure (i.e. maturity) of the transaction.
- G. Securities on loan and their corresponding investments under the County Security Lending Program must be monitored daily by the Investment Specialist to assure the Assistant Treasurer has a list of those securities that are out on loan. Interest earned will be monitored daily and compared to the monthly report of earnings by the custodial bank.
- H. The assets of the County shall be held in safekeeping by the County’s safekeeping agent, or secured through third-party custody and safekeeping procedures. A due bill or other substitution will not be acceptable.
- I. Safekeeping procedures shall be reviewed annually by the Treasurer’s office and an external auditor. Surprise audits of safekeeping and custodial procedures must be conducted at least once a year.
- J. Security Lending: The custodial bank may be authorized to lend out up to 20% of the portfolio within the guidelines of this policy. Guidelines for securities lending and the investment of collateral are attached to this policy as Schedule 1. Securities on loan must be monitored daily by the Treasurer’s office to assure that the Treasurer has a list of those securities that are out on loan. Interest earned will be monitored daily and compared to the monthly report of earnings by the custodial bank.

- K.** Voluntary Participants will be accepted for participation in the San Mateo County Pooled Fund if they meet the following requirements:
1. A public agency
  2. Domiciled in the County of San Mateo.
  3. Agree to abide by the approved San Mateo County Pooled Fund Investment Policy Statement.
  4. Acknowledge changes to the policy annually in writing and meet the minimum balance requirements (250K).
- L.** Agencies whose jurisdiction includes San Mateo County, but are not domiciled in San Mateo County, may participate in the San Mateo County Pooled Fund with the approval of the Treasurer and the County Treasury Oversight Committee.

### **XIX. Disaster Recovery**

The San Mateo County Treasurer's Disaster Recovery Plan includes critical phone numbers and addresses of key personnel as well as active bankers and brokers/dealers. Portable devices have been issued to key personnel for communicating between staff, banks and broker/dealers. The plan includes an offsite location to be communicated at the time of readiness if our offices are uninhabitable.

In the event investment staff is unable to invest the portfolio, the custodial bank will automatically sweep all un-invested cash into a collateralized account at the end of the business day. Union Bank, as the County bank, has full FDIC through 1/1/13.

Should this guarantee program not be extended, a collateralized account will be set up. Until normal operations of the Treasurer's office have been restored, the limitations on the size of an individual issuer and the percentage restrictions by investment type would be allowed to exceed those approved in this Investment Policy.

### **XX. Ethics and Conflict of Interest**

The Treasurer and all investment personnel shall refrain from personal business activity which could create a conflict with proper execution of the investment program or which could impair the ability to execute impartial investment decisions. The Treasurer and all investment personnel shall disclose to the Treasury Oversight Committee any material financial interests in financial institutions which conduct business with San Mateo County and shall disclose any material financial investment positions which could be related in a conflicting manner to the performance of San Mateo County's investment portfolio.

### **XXI. Limits on Honoraria, Gifts and Gratuities**

In accordance with California Government Code Section 27133, this policy establishes limits for the Treasurer; individuals responsible for management of the portfolios; and members of the Treasury Oversight Committee; select individual investment advisors and broker/dealers who conduct day-to-day investment trading activity.

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.

No individual designated in a conflict of interest code may receive aggregate gifts, honoraria and gratuities in a calendar year in excess of the amount specified in Section 18940.2(a) of Title 2, Division 6 of the California Code of Regulations. Gifts from a single source are subject to a \$420 limit. Any violation must be reported to the State Fair Political Practices Commission.

## Comparison and Interpretation of Credit Ratings<sup>1</sup>

### Long Term Debt Ratings

Rating Interpretation	Moody's	Standard & Poor's	Fitch
Best-Quality grade	Aaa	AAA	AAA
High-Quality Grade	Aa1 Aa2 Aa3	AA+ AA AA-	AA+ AA AA-
Upper Medium Grade	A1 A2 A3	A+ A A-	A+ A A-
Medium Grade	Baa1 Baa2 Baa3	BBB+ BBB BBB-	BBB+ BBB BBB-
Speculative Grade	Ba1 Ba2 Ba3	BB+ BB BB-	BB+ BB BB-
Low Grade	B1 B2 B3	B+ B B-	B+ B B-
Poor Grade to Default	Caa	CCC+	CCC
In Poor Standing	- -	CCC CCC-	- -
Highly Speculative Default	Ca C	CC -	CC -
Default	- - -	- - D	DDD DD D

**Short Term/Commercial Paper Investment Grade Ratings**

<b>Rating Interpretation</b>	<b>Moody's</b>	<b>Standard &amp; Poor's</b>	<b>Fitch</b>
Superior Capacity	P-1	A-1+/A-1	F1+/F1
Strong Capacity	P-2	A-2	F2
Acceptable Capacity	P-3	A-3	F3

<sup>1</sup> These are general credit rating guidelines and are for information only



## **GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

### **ACCRUED INTEREST**

Interest that has accumulated but has not yet been paid from the most recent interest payment date or issue date to a certain date.

### **BANKERS' ACCEPTANCES**

A time bill of exchange drawn on and accepted by a commercial bank to finance the exchange of goods. When a bank "accepts" such a bill, the time draft becomes, in effect, a predated, certified check payable to the bearer at some future specified date. Little risk is involved for the investor because the commercial bank assumes primary liability once the draft is accepted.

### **BASIS POINT**

One basis point is equal to 1/100 of one percent. For example, if interest rates increase from 4.25% to 4.50%, the difference is referred to as a 25-basis-point increase.

### **BENCHMARK**

A comparative base for measuring the performance or risk tolerance of the investment portfolio. A benchmark should represent a close correlation to the level of risk and the average duration of the portfolio's investments.

### **BID**

The price at which a buyer offers to buy a security.

### **BOND**

A bond is essentially a loan made by an investor to a division of the government, a government agency or a corporation. The bond is a promissory note to repay the loan in full at the end of a fixed time period. The date on which the principal must be repaid is called the maturity date or maturity. In addition, the issuer of the bond, that is, the agency or corporation receiving the loan proceeds and issuing the promissory note, agrees to make regular payments of interest at a rate initially stated on the bond. Bonds are rated according to many factors, including cost, degree of risk and rate of income.

### **BOOK VALUE**

The value of a held security as carried in the records of an investor. May differ from current market value of the security.

### **BROKER/DEALER**

Any person engaged in the business of effecting transactions in securities in this state for the account of others or for her/his own account. Broker/dealer also includes a person engaged in the regular business of issuing or guaranteeing options with regard to securities not of her/his own issue.

### **CALLABLE SECURITIES**

An investment security that contains an option allowing the issuer to retire the security prior to its final maturity date.

### **COMMERCIAL PAPER**

Short-term, unsecured promissory notes issued in either registered or bearer form and usually backed by a line of credit with a bank. Maturities do not exceed 270 days and generally average 30-45 days.

### **COUPON RATE**

The annual rate of interest payable on a security expressed as a percentage of the principal amount.

### **COVERED BOND**

A covered or mortgage bond is an on-balance sheet obligation of the issuing institution.

Typically, a covered bond receives the legal structure, the issuer's backing and the pledge of quality assets, should the issuer fail to qualify for a higher rated bond.

**CREDIT RISK**

The risk to an investor that an issuer will default in the payment of interest and/or principal on a security.

**CURRENT YIELD**

The annual income from an investment divided by the current market value. Since the mathematical calculation relies on the current market value rather than the investor's cost, current yield is unrelated to the actual return the investor will earn if the security is held to maturity.

**CUSIP NUMBERS**

CUSIP is an acronym for Committee on Uniform Security Identification Procedures. CUSIP numbers are identification numbers assigned each maturity of a security issue and usually printed on the face of each individual security in the issue. The CUSIP numbers are intended to facilitate identification and clearance of securities.

**DISCOUNT**

The amount by which the par value of a security exceeds the price paid for the security.

**DIVERSIFICATION**

Dividing investment funds among a variety of securities offering independent returns.

**DURATION**

The weighted average time to maturity of a bond where the weights are the present values of future cash flows. Duration measures the price sensitivity of a bond to changes in interest rates.

**EARNINGS APPORTIONMENT**

The quarterly interest distribution to the Pool Participants where the actual investment costs incurred by the Treasurer are deducted from the interest earnings of the Pool.

**FAIR VALUE**

The amount at which an investment could be exchanged in a current transaction between willing parties, other than in a forced or liquidation sale.

**FEDERAL FUNDS**

Funds placed in Federal Reserve banks by depository institutions in excess of current reserve requirements. These depository institutions may lend Fed funds to each other overnight or on a longer basis. They may also transfer funds among each other on a same-day basis through the Federal Reserve banking system. Fed funds are considered to be immediately available funds.

**FEDERAL FUNDS RATE**

Interest rate at which banks lend federal funds to each other.

**FEDERAL OPEN MARKET COMMITTEE (FOMC)**

This committee sets Federal Reserve guidelines regarding purchases and sales of government securities in the open market as a means of influencing the volume of bank credit and money.

**FIDUCIARY**

An individual who holds something in trust for another and bears liability for its safekeeping.

**FLOATING RATE NOTE**

A debt security whose interest rate is reset periodically (monthly, quarterly, annually) and is based on a market index (e.g. Treasury bills, LIBOR, etc.).

**FUTURES**

Commodities, which are sold to be delivered at a future date

**INTEREST**

The amount earned while owning a debt security, generally calculated as a percentage of the principal amount.

**INVERSE FLOATING RATE NOTES**

Variable-rate notes whose coupon and value increase as interest rates decrease.

**LIQUIDITY**

The ease with which investments can be converted to cash at their present market value.

Liquidity is significantly affected by the number of buyers and sellers trading a given security and the number of units of the security available for trading.

**LOCAL AGENCY INVESTMENT FUND (LAIF)**

The State of California investment pool in which money of local agencies is pooled as a method for managing and investing local funds.

**MARKET RISK**

Market risk is the risk that investments will change in value based on changes in general market prices.

**MARKET VALUE**

The price at which a security is trading and could presumably be purchased or sold.

**MASTER REPURCHASE AGREEMENT**

A written contract covering all future transactions between the parties to repurchase-reverse repurchase agreements that establishes each party's rights in the transaction. A master agreement will often specify, among other things, the right of the buyer-lender to liquidate the underlying securities in the event of default by the seller-borrower.

**MATURITY**

The date upon which the principal of a security becomes due and payable to the holder.

**MONEY MARKET MUTUAL FUND**

A mutual fund with investments directed in short-term money market instruments only, which can be withdrawn daily without penalty.

**MUNICIPAL BOND**

Debt obligation of a state or local government entity

**OPTION**

A contract that provides the right, but not the obligation, to buy or to sell a specific amount of a specific security within a predetermined time period. A call option provides the right to buy the underlying security. A put option provides the right to sell the underlying security. The seller of the contracts is called the writer.

**PAR**

The stated maturity value, or face value, of a security.

**PAR VALUE**

The stated or face value of a security expressed as a specific dollar amount marked on the face of the security; the amount of money due at maturity. Par value should not be confused with market value.

**PREMIUM**

The amount by which the price paid for a security exceeds the security's par value.

**PRIME RATE**

A preferred interest rate charged by commercial banks to their most creditworthy customers. Many interest rates are keyed to this rate.

**RATE OF RETURN**

The yield obtainable on a security based on its purchase price or its current market price. This may be the amortized yield to maturity on a bond and the current income return.

**REPURCHASE AGREEMENT OR RP OR REPO**

An agreement consisting of two simultaneous transactions whereby the investor purchases securities from a bank or dealer and the bank or dealer agrees to repurchase the securities at

the same price on a certain future date. The interest rate on a RP is that which the dealer pays the investor for the use of his funds. Reverse repurchase agreements are the mirror image of the RPs when the bank or dealer purchases securities from the investor under an agreement to sell them back to the investor.

**SAFEKEEPING**

A service to customers rendered by banks for a fee whereby securities and valuables of all types and descriptions are held by the bank in the customer's name.

**SECURITIES LENDING**

A transaction wherein the Treasurer's Pool transfers its securities to broker/dealers and other entities for collateral which may be cash or securities and simultaneously agrees to return the collateral for the same securities in the future.

**SETTLEMENT DATE**

The date on which the purchase or sale of securities is executed. For example, in a purchase transaction, the day securities are physically delivered or wired to the buyer in exchange for cash is the settlement date.

**STRIPs**

Bonds, usually issued by the U.S. Treasury, whose two components, interest and repayment of principal, are separated and sold individually as zero-coupon bonds. Strips are an acronym for Separate Trading of Registered Interest and Principal of Securities.

**TRADE DATE**

The date and time corresponding to an investor's commitment to buy or sell a security.

**U.S. AGENCY OBLIGATIONS**

Federal agency or United States government-sponsored enterprise obligations, participants, or other instruments. The obligations are issued by or fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by federal agencies or United States government-sponsored enterprises. Issuers include: Fannie Mae, Farmer Mac, Federal Farm Credit Banks, Freddie Mac, Federal Home Loan Banks, Financing Corporation, Tennessee Valley Authority, Resolution Trust Funding Corporation, World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank and PEFCO.

**U.S. TREASURY OBLIGATIONS (TREASURIES)**

Securities issued by the U.S. Treasury and backed by the full faith and credit of the United States. Treasuries are considered to have no credit risk and are the benchmark for interest rates on all other securities in the U.S. and overseas. The Treasury issues both discounted securities and fixed coupon notes and bonds.

**WEIGHTED AVERAGE MATURITY**

The remaining average maturity of all securities held in a portfolio.

**YIELD**

The rate of annual income return on an investment, expressed as a percentage. Yield does not include capital gains. (a) INCOME YIELD is obtained by dividing the current dollar income by the current market price for the security. (b) NET YIELD or YIELD TO MATURITY is the current income yield minus any premium above par or plus any discount from par in purchase price, with the adjustment spread over the period from the date of purchase to the date of maturity of the bond.

**ZERO-COUPON BOND**

A bond on which interest is not payable until maturity (or earlier redemption), but compounds periodically to accumulate to a stated maturity amount. Zero-coupon bonds are typically issued at a discount and repaid at par upon maturity.