

## **CHAPTER 14.A INVESTMENT POLICY**

### **14.1 INTRODUCTION**

It shall be the policy of the District to invest its cash assets in such a manner as to comply with the requirements of the California Government Code, to maintain the integrity of the principal of all investments, and to provide for necessary liquidity. Within those restrictions, the District shall attempt to obtain the highest return possible.

### **14.2 SCOPE**

This Investment Policy (Policy) covers all District funds.

### **14.3 OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of this investment policy include the following in order of importance:

A. Safety –

It shall be the primary duty and responsibility of those authorized to invest the District's funds to protect, preserve, and maintain cash and investments placed in trust on behalf of the citizens of the District. Diversification is allowed within the guidelines of California Government Code (CGC) § 53601 et seq.

B. Liquidity –

An adequate amount shall be maintained in liquid short-term securities, which can be converted to cash as necessary to meet disbursement requirements. Since all cash requirements cannot be anticipated, investments in securities with active secondary or resale markets will be used. Emphasis will be on marketable securities with low sensitivity to market risk.

C. Yield –

Yield shall be a consideration only after the basic requirements of safety and liquidity have been met.

## 14.4 POLICY

### A. Legal Investment Authority –

All available funds shall be invested in accordance with the provisions of the California Government Code (CGC) § 53601 et seq., and as authorized in accordance with GUIDELINES Section 14.5.A.

1. The Board, as the legislative body of the District and in accordance with § 53607 of the CGC, delegates and authorizes the Treasurer to invest or reinvest funds of the District, to sell or exchange securities so purchased and to assume full responsibility for those transactions as described in this Statement of Investment Policy. Under the provision of CGC § 53600.3, the Treasurer is a trustee and a fiduciary subject to the prudent investor standard. Said authority shall be held at the pleasure of the Board, and shall be subject to renewal annually.
2. The Treasurer may delegate a portion of his/her investment authority to a Deputy Treasurer. Prior to the delegation of the investment authority to a Deputy Treasurer, the Treasurer shall notify the Board and request confirmation of the delegation. Delegation of investment authority will not remove or abridge the Treasurer's investment responsibility.
3. The Treasurer may engage the services of one or more external investment advisors to assist in the management of the District's investment portfolio in a manner consistent with the District's objectives and in accordance with this Policy. Such external managers may provide advice and effectuate trades in a discretionary capacity within the guidelines established in this Policy. Such managers must be registered under the Investment Advisors Act of 1940 and must have not less than five years' experience investing in the securities and obligations authorized by the CGC § 53601, and with assets under management in excess of five hundred million dollars (\$500,000,000).

### B. Those Authorized to Invest District Funds –

In accordance with Section 21187 of the California Water Code, the Treasurer has appointed the following as "Deputy Treasurers" to assist in handling the **investment practices of the District**. By approval of this document these appointments are hereby ratified by the Board. The Board shall review the appointment of Deputy Treasurers annually at the first Board meeting each January.

District Manager  
Assistant District Manager

The Treasurer and Deputy Treasurers are authorized to direct and invest District funds in accordance with this Policy.

C. Reports –

Monthly: Report of Transactions. All transactions into, out of or between various investments will be monitored and summaries reported monthly.

Quarterly:

1. Procedure.

The Treasurer shall furnish a Quarterly Investment/Cash report to the Board within forty-five (45) days following the close of the preceding quarter.

2. Content of Report.

Shall include a statement of compliance with this policy, and, as necessary, liquidity versus forecasted cash flow for the next six (6) months.

Detail Reports

Description of each investment

Cost

Market value (identify source)

Rate of Return - face and current

Date purchased (except LAIF)

Earned interest accrued and received

Maturity Date

Identify holder of security

Identify any funds managed or controlled by outside parties (except LAIF)

Summary by Investment Type (i.e., Treasury Notes, GNMA, LAIF)

Summary by Maturity Date

0 – 90 days

90 – 365 days

1 – 2 years

2 – 3 years

Etc.

Summary of Beginning Balance, Transactions, and Ending Balance

Annually:

Prior to January 31st at a meeting of the Board, the Board shall review the Statement of Investment Policy (including the authorization of the Treasurer to assume full responsibility for investment transactions) and amend it as appropriate or otherwise ratify its continuance. The Board will also confirm the delegation of the Investment functions as provided in Section 14.4.A. of this Policy.

D. Selling Securities Prior to Maturity –

Except for investments with maturities of one year or less, sale transactions prior to maturity shall be made only to provide for cash requirements, to sell an investment which does not meet current Investment Policy or to restructure maturities to meet current goals. However, such sales prior to maturity may be made to secure higher yields provided the objectives of safety and liquidity are met first.

Sufficient written documentation to facilitate audit of the transaction must be maintained.

E. Interest –

Interest shall be accounted for on the accrual basis quarterly. Gains or losses on the sale of securities will be recorded on the transaction date.

## 14.5 GUIDELINES

The following Guidelines are established to direct and control investment activities and are a part of the above policies:

A. Investments –

The investment portfolio shall be reviewed periodically by one of the following: Treasurer, District Manager, Assistant District Manager or Finance Committee Board member to ensure compliance with this Policy.

B. Pooled Cash –

Whenever practical District cash shall be consolidated and invested on a pooled concept basis. Interest earnings will be allocated according to specific Board designated reserve accounts and other non-designated funds at monthly intervals.

C. Competitive Bids –

Purchase and sale of securities should be made on the basis of competitive offers and bids when applicable.

D. Cash Forecast –

Treasurer shall prepare six-month cash forecast for basis of setting goals for investment maturities quarterly or annually, and when any significant changes take place that would materially revise the forecast.

E. Investment Limitations –

Security purchases and holdings will be maintained within statutory limits imposed by the California Government Code § 53601 et seq. and contractual agreements.

F. Liquidity –

The marketability (salability) of a security should be considered at the time of purchase, as the security may have to be sold at a later date to meet unanticipated cash demands. The portion of the portfolio which may have to be liquidated in order to meet cash requirements should, therefore, consist largely of securities with active secondary or resale markets. This would include short-term maturities to limit the effect of market risk on the market price of securities.

G. Long-Term Maturities –

Maturities over three years should be limited to those funds, which clearly will not be required before maturity (or one year before maturity). A line of credit collateralized by the investment portfolio shall be established for short term borrowing. Any use of this line of credit is subject to Board Approval prior to execution.

H. Broker / Dealers –

Broker / Dealers and investment advisors shall be provided with a copy of this Policy to assure that they are aware of what are designated as Permitted Investments as well as those investments which are specifically prohibited.

I. Diversification –

The purpose of diversifying is to reduce the overall portfolio risks while attaining a market rate of return. Therefore, it needs to be conceptualized in terms of maturity, instrument types and issuer. The portfolio should consist of a mix of various types of securities, issuers, and maturities.