



Board Report

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FINANCE, BUDGET AND AUDIT COMMITTEE MARCH 20, 2024

SUBJECT: INVESTMENT POLICY

ACTION: APPROVE RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION

CONSIDER:

- A. ADOPTING the Investment Policy in Attachment A;
- B. APPROVING the Financial Institutions Resolution authorizing financial institutions to honor signatures of LACMTA Officials in Attachment B; and
- C. DELEGATING to the Treasurer or his/her designees, the authority to invest funds for a one-year period, pursuant to California Government Code ("Code") Section 53607.

ISSUE

Section 53646 of the Code, requires the Board, on an annual basis and at a public meeting, to review and approve the Investment Policy. Section 53607 of the Code requires the Board to delegate investment authority to the Treasurer on an annual basis.

Section 10.8 of the Investment Policy requires that the Treasurer submit the Financial Institutions Resolutions to the Board annually for approval.

BACKGROUND

Metro's investment policy allows for operating funds to be invested consistent with Board approved investment policy guidelines. The policy is updated on an annual basis and was last updated on March 23, 2023.

DISCUSSION

The Board approves the objectives and guidelines that direct the investment of these operating funds. Changes to the Investment Policy have been made to incorporate updates to the California Government Code, to increase diversification, provide more liquidity, and clarify definitions of asset

backed and mortgage-backed securities. A redlined version of Investment Policy Changes is presented as Attachment A.

Financial Institutions require Board authorization to establish custody, trustee, and commercial bank accounts. The Financial Institutions Resolution is presented as Attachment B. The only change is to add “Deputy Chief Financial Officer” to this year’s resolution.

To streamline this board report, the following reference materials may be found on the Internet:

Current Investment Policy:

<http://www.metro.net/about/financebudget/> <<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.metro.net%2Fabout%2Ffinancebudget%2F&data=05%7C01%7CYANJ%40metro.net%7Cdf8af3eebcd64a89360508db52437486%7Cab57129bdbfd4caca77fc74c40364af%7C1%7C0%7C638194221887779499%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjojV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=mZPWvHYDFTO38HFcF3J6RJC2dE249cxzHHkD75PFOXI%3D&reserved=0>>

California Government Code: Section 53600 to 53609, Section 53646, Section 53652, Section 16429.1 to 16429.4:

http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displayText.xhtml?lawCode=GOV&division=2.&title=5.&part=1.&chapter=4.&article=1

DETERMINATION OF SAFETY IMPACT

This Board Action will not have an impact on safety standards for Metro operations.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The funds required to update the Investment Policy are included in the FY24 budget in cost center 5210 and project number 610340.

Impact to Budget

The sources of funds budgeted to manage assets in accordance with the Investment Policy are Proposition A, Proposition C, Measure R, Measure M and TDA administration funds. These funds are not eligible for bus and rail operating and capital expenses.

EQUITY PLATFORM

This Board Action will not have any equity impacts or concerns. However, the proposed investment policy provides the guidelines for Metro’s internally and externally managed investment portfolios and contains socially responsible considerations. Eight firms are under contract to invest Metro’s external portfolio. Five of them are either Small Business, Minority owned, Women owned, or employee-

owned firms The managers must invest in securities that comply with Metro's investment policy and CA Gov't code.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

Metro's Investment Policy supports Metro's Vision 2028 Goal#5: Provide responsive, accountable, and trustworthy governance within the Metro Organization.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The Investment Policy and California Government Code require an annual review and adoption of the Investment Policy, delegation of investment authority, and approval of the Financial Institutions Resolution. Should the Board elect not to delegate the investment authority annually or approve the policy and resolution, the Board would assume daily responsibility for the investment of working capital funds and the approval of routine administrative actions.

NEXT STEPS

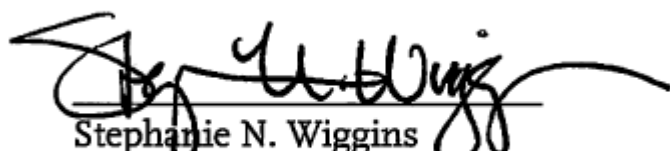
Upon Board approval, staff shall distribute the Investment Policy to external investment managers and broker-dealers. The Investment Policy and Financial Institutions Resolution will be issued to financial institutions with whom Metro engages.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A - Investment Policy Redline
Attachment B - Financial Institutions Resolution

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ATTACHMENT A

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

INVESTMENT POLICY

Approved on March 23~~8~~, 202~~3~~4

INVESTMENT POLICY

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1.0 Policy

It is the policy of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) to ensure that the temporarily idle funds of the agency are prudently invested to preserve capital and provide necessary liquidity, while maximizing earnings, and conforming to state and local statutes governing the investment of public funds.

This investment policy conforms to the California Government Code ("Code") as well as to customary standards of prudent investment management. Investments may only be made as authorized by the Code, Section 53600 et seq., Sections 16429.1 through 16429.4 and this investment policy. Should the provisions of the Code become more restrictive than those contained herein, such provisions will be considered as immediately incorporated in this investment policy. Changes to the Code that are less restrictive than this investment policy may be adopted by the Board of Directors (Board).

2.0 Scope

- 2.1 This investment policy sets forth the guidelines for the investment of surplus General, Special Revenue, Capital Projects, Enterprise (excluding cash and investments with fiscal agents), Internal Service, and any new fund created by the Board, unless specifically exempted. Excluded from this investment policy are guidelines for the investment of proceeds related to debt financing, defeased lease transactions, Agency (Deferred Compensation, 401K, and Benefit Assessment District), Other Post Employment Benefit (OPEB) Trust funds and Pension Trust Funds.
- 2.2 Internal and external portfolio managers may be governed by Portfolio Guidelines that may on an individual basis differ from the total fund guidelines outlined herein. The Treasurer is responsible for monitoring and ensuring that the total funds subject to this investment policy remain in compliance with this investment policy, and shall report to the Board regularly on compliance.

3.0 Investment Objectives

- 3.1 The primary objectives, in priority order, of investment activities shall be:
 - A. Safety: Safety of principal is the foremost objective of the investment program. The investments shall be undertaken in a manner that seeks to ensure the preservation of capital in the overall portfolio. The LACMTA shall seek to ensure that capital losses are avoided whether from institutional default, broker-dealer default, or erosion of market value. Diversification is required in order that potential losses on individual securities do not exceed the income generated from the remainder of the portfolio.
 - B. Liquidity: The investment portfolio will remain sufficiently liquid to meet all operating requirements that might be reasonably anticipated.
 - C. Return on Investments: The LACMTA shall manage its funds to maximize the return on investments consistent with the two objectives above, with the goal of exceeding the performance benchmarks (Section 12.0) over a market cycle (typically a three to five year period).
- 3.2 It is policy to hold investments to maturity. However, a security may be sold prior to its maturity and a capital gain or loss recorded if liquidity needs arise, or in order to improve the quality, or rate of return of the portfolio in response to market conditions and/or LACMTA risk preferences.

Internal and external investment managers shall report such losses to the Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer immediately.

3.3

When investing, reinvesting, purchasing, acquiring, exchanging, selling, or managing LACMTA funds, a trustee shall act with care, skill, prudence, and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing, including, but not limited to, the general economic conditions and the anticipated needs of the agency, that a prudent investor acting in a like capacity and familiarity with those matters would use in the conduct of funds of a like character and with like aims, to safeguard the principal and maintain the liquidity needs of the agency. Within the limitations of this section and considering individual investments as part of an overall strategy, investments may be acquired as authorized by law.

3.4 The standard of prudence to be used by investment officials shall be the "prudent investor" standard and shall be applied in the context of managing an overall portfolio. Investment officers acting in accordance with this investment policy, written portfolio guidelines and procedures and exercising due diligence shall be relieved of personal responsibility for an individual security's credit risk or market price changes, provided deviations from expectations are reported in the quarterly investment report to the Board, and appropriate action is taken to control adverse developments.

4.0 Delegation of Authority

4.1 The Board shall be the trustee of funds received by the LACMTA. In accordance with Code Section 53607, the Board hereby delegates the authority to invest or reinvest the funds, to sell or exchange securities so purchased and to deposit securities for safekeeping to the Treasurer for a one year period, who thereafter assumes full responsibility for such transactions and shall make a monthly report of those transactions to the Board. Subject to review by the Board, the Board may renew the delegation of authority each year.

4.2 The Treasurer shall establish written procedures for the operation of the investment program consistent with this investment policy, including establishment of appropriate written agreements with financial institutions. Such procedures shall include explicit delegation of authority to persons responsible for investment transactions. The Treasurer may engage independent investment managers to assist in the investment of its financial assets.

4.3 No person may engage in an investment transaction except as provided under the terms of this investment policy and the procedures established by the Treasurer.

4.4 Officers and employees involved in the investment process shall be governed by the standards regarding ethical behavior and conflicts of interest established in the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Ethics Policy and annually shall file a Statement of Economic Disclosure with the Ethics Office.

5.0 Permitted Investments

5.1 All funds which are not required for immediate cash expenditures shall be invested in income producing investments or accounts, in conformance with the provisions and restrictions of this investment policy as defined in Section 5.1A and as specifically authorized by the Code, (Sections 53600, et seq.). Securities held by the LACMTA's custodial bank must be in compliance with Section 5.0 Permitted Investments at the time of purchase.

- 5.2 In order to reduce overall portfolio risk, investments shall be diversified among security type, maturity, issuer and depository institutions. See Section 5.1A for specific concentration limits by type of investment.
- A. Percentage limitations where listed are only applicable at the date of purchase.
 - B. In calculating per issuer concentration limits commercial paper, bankers' acceptances, medium term notes, asset-backed securities, placement service assisted deposits, and negotiable certificates of deposit shall be included; deposits collateralized per Section 7.3 of this investment policy are excluded from this calculation.
 - C. Credit requirements listed in this investment policy indicate the minimum credit rating (or its equivalent by any nationally recognized statistical rating organization) required at the time of purchase without regard to modifiers (e.g., +/- or 1,2,3), if any.
- 5.3 Maturities of individual investments shall be diversified to meet the following objectives:
- A. Investment maturities will be first and foremost determined by anticipated cash flow requirements.
 - B. Where this investment policy does not state a maximum maturity in Section 5.1A, no investment instrument shall be purchased which has a stated maturity of more than five years from the date of settlement, unless the instrument is specifically approved by the Board or is approved by the Board as part of an investment program and such approval must be granted no less than three months prior to the investment. The Board hereby grants express authority for the purchase of new issue securities with a 5 year stated maturity with extended settlement of up to 45 days from date of purchase.
 - C. The average duration of the externally managed funds subject to this investment policy shall not exceed 150% of the benchmark duration. The weighted average duration of the internal portfolios shall not exceed three (3) years.
- 5.4 State and local government sponsored Investment Pools and money market mutual funds as authorized by this investment policy are subject to due diligence review prior to investing and on a continual basis as established in Section 5.1A, #11 and #12.
- 5.5 This investment policy specifically prohibits the investment of any funds subject to this investment policy in the following securities:
- A. Derivative securities, defined as any security that derives its value from an underlying instrument, index, or formula, are prohibited. The derivative universe includes, but is not limited to, structured and range notes, securities that could result in zero interest accrual if held to maturity, variable rate, floating rate or inverse floating rate investments, financial futures and options, and mortgage derived interest or principal only strips. Callable or putable securities with no other option features, securities with one interest rate step-up feature, and inflation indexed securities meeting all other requirements of this investment policy are excluded from this prohibition, as are fixed rate mortgage-backed securities and asset-backed securities.
 - B. Reverse repurchase agreements and securities lending agreements.

- C. Securities of fossil fuel companies, tobacco or tobacco-related companies, and companies in support of the production of weapons, military systems, or nuclear power.

6.0 Selection of Depository Institutions, Investment Managers and Broker-Dealers

- 6.1 To minimize the risk to the overall cash and investment portfolio, prudence and due diligence as outlined below shall be exercised with respect to the selection of Financial Institutions in which funds are deposited or invested. ~~The LACMTA's Financial Advisor (FA) will conduct competitive processes to recommend providers of financial services including commercial banking, investment management, investment measurement and custody services.~~

Commented [YJ1]: Removing FA language as it's no longer applicable.

- A. In selecting Depositories pursuant to Code Sections 53630 (et seq.), the credit worthiness, financial stability, and financial history of the institution, as well as the cost and scope of services and interest rates offered shall be considered. No funds will be deposited in an institution unless that institution has an overall rating of not less than "satisfactory" in its most recent evaluation by the appropriate federal financial supervisory agency. The main depository institutions will be selected on a periodic and timely basis.
- B. Deposits which are insured pursuant to federal law by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), or the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) may be excluded from the collateralization requirements of Section 7.3 of this investment policy, at the Treasurer's discretion. A written waiver of securitization shall be executed, provided to the Depository Institution, and kept on file in the Treasury Department.
- C. The Treasurer shall seek opportunities to deposit funds with disadvantaged business enterprises, provided that those institutions have met the requirements for safety and reliability and provide terms that are competitive with other institutions.

- 6.2 In selecting external investment managers and brokers, past performance, stability, financial strength, reputation, area of expertise, and willingness and ability to provide the highest investment return at the lowest cost within the parameters of this investment policy and the Code shall be considered. External investment managers must be registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) under the Investment Advisor Act of 1940.

- 6.3 Pursuant to Code Section 53601.5, the LACMTA and its investment managers shall only purchase statutorily authorized investments either from the issuer, from a broker-dealer licensed by the state, as defined in Section 25004 of the Corporations Code, from a member of a federally regulated securities exchange, a national or state-chartered bank, a federal or state association (as defined by Section 5102 of the Financial Code), or from a brokerage firm designated as a primary government dealer by the Federal Reserve Bank.

- A. Internal investment manager will only purchase or sell securities from broker-dealers that are Primary Dealers in U.S. Government Securities or are a direct affiliate of a Primary Dealer. Internal investment manager will only purchase securities from broker-dealers who have returned a signed Receipt of Investment Policy and completed the Broker-Dealer Questionnaire, and have been approved by the Treasurer (see Appendices B and C). A current copy of the Broker-Dealer's financial statements will be kept on file in the Treasury Department. Should market conditions limit access to inventory, the Treasurer may approve executing transactions through non-Primary Dealers who meet all of the criteria listed below:

- a. The broker dealer must qualify under Securities Exchange Commission rule 15C3-1 (Uniform Net Capital Rule);
- b. Must be licensed by the state as a broker/dealer as defined in Section 25004 of the Corporations Code or a member of a federally registered securities exchange (i.e. FINRA, SEC, MSRB);
- c. Have been in operation for more than five years; and
- d. Have a minimum annual trading volume of \$100 billion in money market instruments or \$500 billion in U.S. Treasuries and Agencies.

B. In addition to Primary Dealers in U.S. Government Securities and direct affiliates of a Primary Dealer, external investment managers may purchase or sell securities from non-Primary Dealers qualified under U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15C3-1, the Uniform Net Capital Rule, and provided that the dealer is a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority. External investment managers shall submit, at least quarterly, a list of the non-Primary Dealers used during the period.

C. External investment managers must certify in writing that they will purchase securities in compliance with this investment policy, LACMTA Procedures, and applicable State and Federal laws.

6.4 Financial institutions and external investment managers conducting investment transactions with or for LACMTA shall sign a Certification of Understanding. The Certification of Understanding (see Appendix A) states that the entity:

- A. Has read and is familiar with the Investment Policy and Guidelines as well as applicable Federal and State Law;
- B. Meets the requirements as outlined in this investment policy;
- C. Agrees to make every reasonable effort to protect the assets from loss;
- D. Agrees to notify the LACMTA in writing of any potential conflicts of interest.

Completed certifications shall be filed in the Treasurer's Office. Failure to submit a Certification of Understanding shall result in the withdrawal of all funds held by that financial institution, or investment manager and/or the rescission of any and all authority to act as an agent to purchase or invest funds.

6.5 All broker-dealers who do business with the LACMTA's internal investment managers shall sign a Receipt of Investment Policy. The Receipt of Investment Policy (see Appendix B) states that the broker dealer:

- A. Has received, read, and understands this investment policy;
- B. Has communicated the requirements of this investment policy to all personnel who may select investment opportunities for presentation.

Failure to submit a Receipt of Investment Policy shall preclude the LACMTA from purchasing or selling securities from such broker-dealer. Completed receipts shall be filed in the Treasurer's Office.

7.0 Custody and Safekeeping of Securities and LACMTA Funds

- 7.1 A Master Repurchase Agreement must be signed with the bank or dealer before any securities and collateral for repurchase agreements shall be purchased and maintained for the benefit of the LACMTA in the Trust Department or safekeeping department of a bank as established by a written third party safekeeping agreement between the LACMTA and the bank. Specific collateralization levels are defined in Section 5.1A.
- 7.2 All investment transactions shall be settled "delivery vs. payment", with the exception of deposits, money market mutual fund investments, and Local Agency Investment Fund or other Local Government Investment Pools. Delivery may be physical, via a nationally recognized securities depository such as the Depository Trust Company, or through the Federal Reserve Book Entry system.
- 7.3 Funds deposited shall be secured by a Depository in compliance with the requirements of Code Section 53652. Such collateralization shall be designated and agreed to in writing.

8.0 Reports and Communications

- 8.1 The Treasurer is responsible for ensuring compliance with all applicable Local, State, and Federal laws governing the reporting of investments made with public funds. All investment portfolios will be monitored for compliance. Non-compliance issues will be included in the quarterly Board report as stated in Section 8.3 of this investment policy.
- 8.2 The Treasurer shall annually submit a statement of investment policy to the Board for approval. The existing approved investment policy will remain in effect until the Board approves the recommended statement of investment policy.
- 8.3 The Treasurer shall render a quarterly cash, investment, and transaction report to the CEO and Board, and quarterly to the Internal Auditor within 45 days following the end of the quarter covered by the report. The report shall include a description of LACMTA's funds, investments, or programs that are under the management of contracted parties, including lending programs. The report shall include as a minimum:
 - A. Portfolio Holdings by Type of Investment and Issuer
 - B. Maturity Schedule and Weighted Average Maturity (at market)
 - C. Weighted Average Yield to Maturity
 - D. Return on Investments versus Performance Benchmarks on a quarterly basis
 - E. Par, Book and Market Value of Portfolio for current and prior quarter-end
 - F. Percentage of the portfolio represented by each investment category
 - G. Total Interest Earned

H. Total Interest Received

I. A statement of compliance with this investment policy, or notations of non-compliance.

J. At each calendar quarter-end a subsidiary ledger of investments will be submitted with the exception listed in 8.3K.

K. For investments that have been placed in the Local Agency Investment Fund, in Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation-insured accounts in a bank or savings and loan association, in National Credit Union Administration insured accounts in a credit union, in a county investment pool, or in shares of beneficial interest issued by a diversified management company that invest in the securities and obligations as authorized by this investment policy and the Code, the most recent statement received from these institutions may be used in lieu of the information required in 8.3 J.

L. At each calendar quarter-end the report shall include a statement of the ability to meet expenditure requirements for the next six months.

M. A quarterly gain or loss report on the sale or disposition of securities in the portfolio.

8.4 Internal and external investment managers shall monitor investments and market conditions and report on a regular and timely basis to the Treasurer.

A. Internal and external investment managers shall submit monthly reports to the Treasurer, such reports to include all of the information referenced in Section 8.3, items A-J of this investment policy. Portfolios shall be marked-to-market monthly and the comparison between historical cost (or book value) and market value shall be reported as part of this monthly report.

B. Internal and external investment managers shall monitor the ratings of all investments in their portfolios on a continuous basis and report all credit downgrades of portfolio securities to the Treasurer in writing within 24 hours of the event. If an existing investment's rating drops below the minimum allowed for new investments made pursuant to this investment policy, the investment manager shall also make a written recommendation to the Treasurer as to whether this security should be held or sold.

C. External and internal investment managers shall immediately inform the Treasurer, or the Chief Financial Officer in writing of any major adverse market condition changes and/or major portfolio changes. The Chief Financial Officer or the Treasurer shall immediately inform the Board in writing of any such changes.

D. External investment managers shall notify the LACMTA internal managers daily of all trades promptly, via fax or via email.

E. Internal investment managers will maintain a file of all trades.

9.0 Portfolio Guidelines

Portfolio Guidelines are the operating procedures used to implement this investment policy approved by the Board. The Treasurer may impose additional requirements or constraints within the parameters set by this investment policy.

10.0 Internal Control

- 10.1 The Treasurer shall establish a system of internal controls designed to prevent losses of public funds arising from fraud, employee or third party error, misrepresentation of third parties, unanticipated changes in financial markets, or imprudent actions by employees or agents. Such internal controls shall be approved by the Chief Financial Officer and shall include authorizations and procedures for investment transactions, custody/safekeeping transactions, opening and dosing accounts, wire transfers, and clearly delineate reporting responsibilities.
- 10.2 Treasury personnel and LACMTA officials with signature authority shall be bonded to protect against possible embezzlement and malfeasance, or at the option of the governing board self-insured.
- 10.3 Electronic transfer of funds shall be executed upon the authorization of two official signatories.
- 10.4 Transaction authority shall be separated from accounting and record keeping responsibilities.
- 10.5 All investment accounts shall be reconciled monthly with custodian reports and broker confirmations by a party that is independent of the investment management function. Discrepancies shall be brought to the attention of the investment manager, the Treasurer and Deputy Executive Officer, Finance in the Treasury Department, the Controller, and if not resolved promptly, to the Chief Financial Officer.
- 10.6 The Treasurer shall establish an annual process of independent review by an external auditor. This review will provide independent confirmation of compliance with policies and procedures.
- 10.7 The Treasurer is responsible for the preparation of the cash flow model. The cash flow model shall be updated monthly based upon the actual and projected cash flow.

Annually, the Treasurer shall notify the external investment managers of the cash flow requirements for the next twelve months. The Treasurer shall monitor actual to maximum maturities within the parameters of this investment policy.

- 10.8 The Treasurer shall annually submit the Financial Institutions Resolution to the Board for approval. The existing resolution will remain in effect until the Board approves the recommended resolution.

11.0 Purchasing Guidelines

- 11.1 Investment managers shall purchase and sell securities at the price and execution that is most beneficial to the LACMTA. The liquidity requirements shall be analyzed and an interest rate analysis shall be conducted to determine the optimal investment maturities prior to requesting bids or offers. Investments shall be purchased and sold through a competitive bid/offer process. Bids/offers for securities of comparable maturity, credit and liquidity shall be received from at least three financial institutions, if possible.
- 11.2 Such competitive bids/offers shall be documented on the investment managers' trade documentation. Supporting documentation from the Wall Street Journal, Bloomberg or other financial information system shall be filed with the trade documentation as evidence of general market prices when the purchase or sale was effected.

12.0 Benchmarks

Internal and external investment managers' performance shall be evaluated against the following agreed upon benchmarks. If the investment manager does not meet its benchmark over a market cycle (3 to 5 years), the Treasurer shall determine and set forth in writing reasons why it is in the best interests of the LACMTA to replace or retain the investment manager.

Portfolio	Investment Benchmarks
<u>External</u> Intermediate Duration Portfolios	ICE Bank of America/Merrill Lynch AAA-A 1-5 year Government & Corporate Index (BV10)
<u>External Short Duration Portfolios</u>	ICE BofA one-year US. Treasury Bill <u>Index</u> (GC03)
<u>Internal</u> Short Duration Portfolios	Three month Treasury

Commented [YJ2]: The Investment Manager Bench contract approved on March 2023 added a new external short duration portfolio.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Section 5.1A
Statement of Investment Policy ^a

* The percentage of portfolio authorized is based on market value.

Investment Type	Maximum Maturity	Maximum Allowable Percentage of Portfolio *	Minimum Quality and Other Requirements
Bonds Issued by the LACMTA	5 years ^b	100%	None
U.S. Treasury notes, bonds, bills or certificates of indebtedness or those for which the full faith and credit of the United States are pledged for payment of principal and interest	5 years ^b	100%	None
Registered state warrants or treasury notes or bonds of the other 49 states in addition to California.	5 years ^b	25%	Such obligations must be rated “A1” or better short term; or “AA” or better long term, by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization
Bonds, notes, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness of any local agency within the State of California	5 years ^b	25%	Such obligations must be rated “A1” or better short term; or “AA” or better long term, by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization
Federal Agency or United States government-sponsored enterprise obligations, participations, or other instruments, including those issued by or fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by federal agencies or United States government –sponsored enterprises	5 years ^b	100%	None
Bills of exchanges or time drafts drawn on and accepted by a commercial bank, otherwise known as bankers’ acceptances	180 days	40% ^c	The issuer’s short-term debt must have the highest letter and numerical rating as provided for by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization
Commercial paper or “prime” quality of the highest ranking or of the highest letter and numerical rating as provided for by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization	270 days	40% ^d	See Footnote e
Negotiable certificates of deposits issued by a nationally or state-chartered bank or a state or federal savings and loan association, a state or federal credit union, or by a state licensed branch of a foreign bank, or a federally licensed branch of a foreign bank.	5 years ^b	30% ^c	See Footnote f

Placement Service Assisted Deposits	5 years b	30% c	See Footnote g
Investments in repurchase agreements	90 days	20%	Limited to no more than 90 days. See Footnote h
United States dollar denominated senior unsecured unsubordinated obligations issued or unconditionally guaranteed by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, International Finance Corporation or Inter-American Development Bank.	5 years b	30% c	Maximum remaining maturity of five years or less, and eligible for purchase and sale within the United States. Investments shall be rated "AA" or better by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization and shall not exceed 30% of the portfolio.
Medium-term notes 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	5 years b	30% d	Must be rated "A" or better by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. If rated by more than one rating agency, both ratings must meet the minimum credit standards.
Shares of beneficial interest issued by diversified management companies that are money market funds registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission, as authorized by Code Section 53601	Not applicable	20% c	See Footnote i
State of California Local Agency Investment fund (LAIF) Code Section 16429.1 through 16429.4 or other Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) established by public California entities pursuant to Section 53684	Not applicable	Set by LAIF and LGIP	See Footnote j
Asset-backed Securities	5 years b	15 20% combined with mortgage-backed securities	See Footnote k
Mortgage-backed Securities	5 years b	15 20% combined with asset-backed securities	See Footnote l

Commented [JY3]: Increase the combined ABS and MBS holdings from 15% to 20% allowed by the code but bring up the credit rating from AA allowed by the code to AAA (ratings shown as Footnote k and l).

**Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Statement of Investment Policy**

Footnotes for Section 5.1A Statement of Investment Policy	
a	Sources: California Government Code Sections 16429.1, 53601, 53601.8, 53635 and 53638
b	Maximum maturity of five (5) years unless a longer maturity is approved by Board of Directors, either specifically or as part of an investment program, at least three (3) months prior to the settlement. New issue securities with a stated 5 year maturity can be purchased in the primary market with extended settlements of up to 45 days from the date of settlement.
c	Limited to no more than 10% of the portfolio in any one issuer (i.e. bankers' acceptances, negotiable certificates of deposit, and money market funds)
d	Limited to no more than 10% of the portfolio in the commercial paper and the medium-term notes of any one issuer.
e	<p>Commercial paper of "prime" quality of the highest ranking or of the highest letter and number rating as provided for by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. The entity that issues the commercial paper shall meet all of the following conditions in either paragraph (1) or (2):</p> <p>(1) The entity meets the following criteria: Is organized and operating in the United States as a general corporation; Has total assets in excess of five hundred million dollars (\$500,000,000); Has debt other than commercial paper, if any, that is rated in a rating category of "A" or its equivalent or higher by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization.</p> <p>(2) The entity meets the following criteria: Is organized within the United States as a special purpose corporation, trust, or limited liability company; Has program-wide credit enhancements including, but not limited to, overcollateralization, letters of credit, or a surety bond; Has commercial paper that is rated "A-1" or higher, or the equivalent, by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization.</p>
f	The legislative body of the local agency, the treasurer or other official of the local agency having custody of the money are prohibited from investing in negotiable certificates of deposit of a state or federal credit union if a member of the legislative body or any other specified city officer or employee also serves on the board of directors or certain committees of that credit union
g	Investments in placement services assisted deposits is authorized under Sections 53601.8, 53635.8, and 53601 (i) of the California Government Code.
h	Repurchase agreements shall be executed through Primary Broker-Dealers. The repurchase agreement must be covered by a master repurchase agreement. Repurchase agreements shall be collateralized at all times. Collateral shall be limited to obligations of the United States and Federal Agencies with an initial margin of at least 102% of the value of the investment, and shall be in compliance if brought back up to 102% no later than the next business day. Collateral shall be delivered to a third party custodian in all cases. Collateral for term repurchase agreements shall be valued daily by the LACMTA's investment manager (for internal funds) or external investment manager. 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. The LACMTA shall obtain a first lien and security interest in all collateral
i	

	Companies must have either 1) the highest ranking or the highest letter and numerical rating provided by not less than two of the nationally recognized statistical rating organizations, or (2) retained an investment advisor registered or exempt with the Securities and-Exchange Commission, with no less than five years experience investing in the securities and obligations authorized by California Government Code 53601 a-k inclusive and m-o inclusive and with assets under management in excess of five hundred million dollars (\$500,000,000). The purchase price may not include any commissions charged by these companies
j	Maximum investment per individual pool limited to the amount for LAIF as set by the State Treasurer's Office. Limit does not include funds required by law, ordinance, or statute to be invested in pool. Each pool must be evaluated and approved by the Treasurer, as to credit worthiness, security, and conformity to state and local laws. An evaluation should cover, but is not limited to establishing, a description of who may invest in the program, how often, what size deposit and withdrawal; the pool's eligible investment securities, obtaining a written statement of investment policy and objectives, a description of interest calculations and how it is distributed; how gains and losses are treated; a description of how the securities are safeguarded and how often the securities are priced and the program audited. A schedule for receiving statements and portfolio listings. A fee schedule, when and how fees are assessed
k	Limited to senior class securities with stated maturities of no more than 5 years. Further limited to securities rated in a rating category of "AAA" or its equivalent or better as provided for by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. Further limited to fixed rate, publicly offered, generic credit card, automobile receivables, and equipment receivables only. Deal size must be at least \$250 million, and tranche size must be at least \$25 million
l	Pass-Through securities: Limited to Government Agency or Government Sponsored issuers , fixed rate, stated maturity no more than 5 years. CMOS: Limited to Government Agency or Government Sponsored Issuers and Planned Amortization Classes (PAC) only. Securities eligible for investment under this category shall be rated "AAA" or its equivalent or better by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. The following are prohibited: ARMS, floaters, interest or principal (IOs, POs), Targeted Amortization Classes, companion, subordinated, collateral classes, or zero accrual structures

Commented [JY4]: ABS rating moved up from AA to AAA

Commented [YJ5]: MBS rating moved up from AA to AAA; Delete "Limited to Government Agency or Government Sponsored issuers" to comply with CA Gov't Code 53601 (o).

APPENDIX A

LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

CERTIFICATION OF UNDERSTANDING

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) Investment Policy as approved by the Board of Directors requires that all Financial Institutions and Investment Managers' conducting investment transactions with or for LACMTA sign a Certification of Understanding acknowledging that:

1. *You have read and are familiar with the LACMTA's Investment Policy as well as applicable Federal and State laws.*
2. *You meet the requirements as outlined in Investment Policy.*
3. *You agree to make every reasonable effort to protect the assets from loss.*
4. *You agree to notify the LACMTA in writing of any potential conflicts of interest.*
5. *You agree to notify the LACMTA in writing of any changes in personnel with decision-making authority over funds within 24 hours of such event.*

Failure to submit a Certification of Understanding shall result in the withdrawal of all funds held by the financial institution or investment manager and the immediate revocation of any rights to act as an agent of the LACMTA for the purchase of securities or investment of funds on behalf of LACMTA.

The Board of Directors is committed to the goals of the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA). As part of the certification process for depository institutions, it is requested that you remit evidence of your most recent CRA rating.

SIGNED: _____ DATE: _____
Print Name and Title _____

After reading and signing this Certification of Understanding please return with *any* supporting documentation to:

LACMTA
Treasury Department
Attention: Treasurer
One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2932

LACMTA use only:

Approved: _____ Disapproved: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

LACMTA Treasurer

BROKER-DEALER RECEIPT OF INVESTMENT POLICY

We are in receipt of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (LACMTA) Investment Policy.

We have read the policy and understand the provisions and guidelines of the policy. All salespersons covering LACMTA's account will be made aware of this policy and will be directed to give consideration to its provisions and constraints in selecting investment opportunities to present to LACMTA.

Signed _____
Name Name

Title	Title
-------	-------

Firm Name

Date	Date
------	------

After reading and signing this Receipt of Investment Policy, please return with supporting documentation to:

LACMTA
Treasury Department
Attention: Treasurer
One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2932

LACMTA use only:

Approved: _____ Disapproved: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

LACMTA Treasurer

APPENDIX C

LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION
AUTHORITY

BROKER/DEALER QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Name of Firm_____

2. Address_____

(Local)

(National Headquarters)

3. Telephone No. () _____ Telephone No. () _____

(Local)

(National Headquarters)

4. Primary Representative Manager/Partner-in-Charge

Name_____ Name_____

Title_____ Title_____

Telephone No._____ Telephone No._____

No. of Yrs. in Institutional Sales_____ No. of Yrs. in Institutional Sales_____

Number of Years with Firm_____ Number of Years with Firm_____

5. Are you a Primary Dealer in U.S. Government Securities? [] YES [] NO

If NO, Is the parent company or its subsidiary a Primary Dealer in U.S. Government Securities? Provide proof of certification.

[] YES [] NO

Please explain your firm's relationship to the Primary Dealer below:

Please provide proof certification from the National Association of Securities Dealer.

6. Are you a Broker instead of Dealer, i.e., you DO NOT own positions of Securities?

[] YES [] NO

7. What is the net capitalization of your Firm? _____

8. What is the date of your Firm's fiscal year-end? _____

9. Is your Firm owned by a Holding Company? If so, what is its name and net capitalization?

10. Please provide your Wiring and Delivery Instructions.

11. Which of the following instruments are offered regularly by your local desk?

☐ T-Bills ☐ Treasury Notes/Bonds ☐ Discount Notes ☐ NCD's
☐ Agencies (specify) _____
☐ BA's (Domestic) ☐ BA's (Foreign) ☐ Commercial Paper
☐ Med-Term Notes ☐ Repurchase Agreements

12. Does your Firm specialize in any of the instruments listed above?

13. Please identify your comparable government agency clients in the LACMTA's geographical area.

<u>Entity</u>	<u>Contact Person</u>	<u>Telephone No.</u>	<u>Client Since</u>
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14. What reports, confirmations, and other documentation would LACMTA receive? Please include samples of research reports or market information that your firm regularly provides to government agency clients.

15. What precautions are taken by your Firm to protect the interests of the public when dealing with government agencies as investors?

16. Have you or your Firm been censored, sanctioned or disciplined by a Regulatory State or Federal Agency for improper or fraudulent activities, related to the sale of securities within the past five years? ☐ YES ☐ NO

17. If yes, please explain

18. Please provide your most recent audited financial statements within 120 days of your fiscal year-end.

19. Please indicate the current licenses of the LACMTA representatives:

Agent: _____ License or registration: _____

APPENDIX D
LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
INVESTMENT POLICY GLOSSARY

ASKED: The price at which securities are offered from a seller.

ASSET-BACKED SECURITY (ABS): ABS is a debt instrument collateralized or backed by consumer receivables such as automobile loans, credit card receivables and equipment receivables.

Commented [YJ6]: Add ABS definition

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BANKERS' ACCEPTANCE (BA): Time drafts which a bank "accepts" as its financial responsibility as part of a trade finance process. These short-term notes are sold at a discount, and are obligations of the drawer (or issuer - the bank's trade finance client) as well as the bank. Once accepted, the bank is irrevocably obligated to pay the BA upon maturity if the drawer does not.

BID: The price offered by a buyer of securities.

BOOK VALUE: The original cost of the investment, plus accrued interest and amortization of any premium or discount.

BROKER: A broker brings buyers and sellers together for a commission.

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT (CD): A time deposit with a specific maturity evidenced by a certificate. Large-denomination CD's are typically negotiable (marketable or transferable).

COLLATERAL: Securities, evidence of deposit, or other property which a borrower pledges to secure repayment of a loan. Also refers to securities pledged by a bank to secure deposits of public moneys.

COMMERCIAL PAPER (CP): Unsecured promissory notes issued by companies and government entities at a discount. Commercial paper is negotiable, although it is typically held to maturity. The maximum maturity is 270 days, with most CP issued for terms of less than 30 days.

CUSTODY or SAFEKEEPING: A service to customers rendered by banks for a fee whereby securities and valuables of all types and descriptions are held in the bank's vaults for protection.

DEALER: A dealer, as opposed to a broker, acts as a principal in all transactions, buying and selling for his own account.

DELIVERY VERSUS PAYMENT: Delivery of securities with a simultaneous exchange of money for the securities.

FEDERAL AGENCIES AND U.S. GOVERNMENT SPONSORED ENTERPRISES (AGENCIES): U.S. Government related organizations, the largest of which are government financial intermediaries assisting specific credit markets (housing, agriculture). They include:

- ◆ Federal Home Loan Banks (FHLB)
- ◆ Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (FHLMC or "Freddie Mac")
- ◆ Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA or "Fannie Mae")

- ◆ Federal Farm Credit Banks (FFCB)
- ◆ Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)

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 establish each party's rights in the transactions. A master agreement will 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 or stated value of an investment becomes due and payable.

MEDIUM TERM NOTES (MTN): Interest bearing, continuously offered debt, issued in the 9 month to ten year maturity range. Deposit notes, like Certificates of Deposit, actually represent an interest bearing deposit at a bank or other depository institution.

MORTGAGE--BACKED SECURITY (MBS) is a bond or security that reflects an interest in a pool of real estate loans as the underlying collateral.

Commented [Y37]: Add MBS definition

OFFER: The price asked by a seller of securities.

PAR VALUE: The face value, or principal amount payable at maturity.

PRIMARY DEALER: A group of government securities dealers who submit daily reports of market activity and positions and monthly financial statements to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, and are subject to its informal oversight.

QUALIFIED INSTITUTIONAL BUYER (QIB): Defined in SEC 144A as a class of investors that can be conclusively assumed to be sophisticated and in little need of the protection afforded by the Securities Act's Registration Provisions. They must own and invest on a discretionary basis at least 100 million in securities of issuers that are not affiliated with such a qualified institutional buyer. This includes any institutional investors included in the accredited investor definition, provided they satisfy the \$100 million threshold.

REPURCHASE AGREEMENT (RP OR REPO): A purchase of securities under a simultaneous agreement to sell these securities back at a fixed price on some future date. This is in essence a collateralized investment, whereby the security "buyer" in effect lends the "seller" money for the period of the agreement, and the difference between the purchase price and sale price determining the earnings. Dealers use RP extensively to finance their positions.

SECURITIES & EXCHANGE COMMISSION (SEC): An agency created by Congress to protect investors in securities transactions by administering securities legislation.

TREASURY BILLS: A non-interest bearing discount security issued by the U.S. Treasury to finance the national debt. Most bills are issued to mature in three months, six months, or one year.

TREASURY NOTES AND BONDS: Long-term U.S. Treasury securities having initial maturities of 2 to 30 years.

YIELD: The rate of annual income return on an investment, expressed as a percentage.

YIELD TO MATURITY (YTM): The rate of return earned on an investment considering all cash flows and timing factors: interest earnings, discounts, and premiums above par.

ATTACHEMENT B
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that any financial institutions, including all banks and their correspondent banks doing business with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA), are hereby authorized, requested and directed to honor all checks, drafts, wires, or other orders for payment of money drawn in the LACMTA's name on its account(s) (including those drawn on the individual order of any person or persons whose names appear thereon as a signer or signers thereof) when bearing the original and/or facsimile signature of the Chair; Chief Executive Officer; Chief Financial Officer; Deputy Chief Financial Officer; Treasurer; Deputy Executive Officer, Finance in Treasury Department; or Assistant Treasurer (collectively, LACMTA Officials). LACMTA Officials are the only representatives empowered to open, close or authorize changes to accounts on behalf of LACMTA. LACMTA Officials may designate individuals as Official Signatories for financial accounts. The duties of Official Signatories shall be limited to check signing, wire or fund transfers, balance reporting and/or monitoring of bank processes.

And, those financial institutions, including correspondent banks, currently doing business with LACMTA shall be entitled to honor and charge LACMTA for all such checks, drafts, wires, or other orders for the payment of money, regardless of by whom or by what means when the actual or facsimile signature or signatures resemble the specimens filed with those financial institutions by the Secretary or other officer of LACMTA.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, duly qualified and acting as Secretary of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, certifies that the foregoing is a true Resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority held on _____.

Dated: _____

(SEAL)

Board Clerk

Investment Policy

**Finance, Budget and Audit Committee
March 20, 2024**

Investment Policy

Recommendation:

- Adopt the Investment Policy;
- Approve the Financial Institutions Resolution; and
- Delegate to the Treasurer the authority to invest funds for a one-year period.

Investment Policy

Changes to the Investment Policy have been made to:

- Incorporate updates to the California Government Code
- Define Asset-backed securities and Mortgage-backed securities
- Add a new short duration portfolio (implemented to encourage SBE participation) and its benchmark
- Remove reference to the use of a financial advisor as it is no longer applicable

Investment Policy

Next Steps:

- Upon Board approval, staff shall distribute the Investment Policy to external investment managers and broker-dealers.
- The Investment Policy and Financial Institutions Resolution will be issued to financial institutions with whom Metro engages.