



**CITY OF LONG BEACH**  
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

**C-10**

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June 15, 2004

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
City of Long Beach  
California

SUBJECT: Investment Report for Quarter Ending March 31, 2004 (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

The Department of Financial Management, City Treasurer's Office, invests City funds in compliance with the California Government Code, Section 53600 et seq., and the City's Investment Policy. As of March 31, 2004, these funds had a market value of approximately \$1.24 billion, with approximately \$340 million, or 27.4 percent of funds, maturing within six months, ensuring that sufficient funds are available to meet the City's budgeted expenditure requirements during this time.

COMPLIANCE

All investment transactions have been executed in conformance with the City's Investment Policy and the California Government Code. According to the California Government Code, the maturity term of all investments is limited to a maximum of five years unless the local agency legislative body gives prior approval to exceed this limitation. The City's Investment Policy currently requires that all funds invested in the City's investment pool not exceed an average weighted maturity of three years. In addition, the Investment Advisory Committee, composed of a representative from the City Manager's office, Assistant City Auditor, Assistant City Attorney, Director of Financial Management, City Treasurer, City Controller, Budget Manager and the financial officers of the Harbor, Water and Community Development Departments, meets quarterly, or as needed, to review investment policies, strategies and performance.

RATING SECTION

The City's investment holdings received an affirmation from Standard and Poor's of their highest credit rating of AAA and the lowest volatility rating of S1 in November 2003.

INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

The City Treasurer's Office invests in a variety of fixed-income securities that vary in maturity from one day to five years as authorized by the City's Investment Policy and the California Government Code. The City's adopted 2004 Investment Policy divides the City's investment portfolio into two segments: a short-term maturity and a long-term maturity. The short-term portfolio is benchmarked against the Three-month U.S. Treasury Bill, although the investments can range up to five years depending on the forecasted cash needs. The long-term portfolio is benchmarked against the Merrill Lynch one- to three-year Treasury/Agency index. The average weighted maturity for the City's total portfolio cannot exceed three years although an individual security can range up to five years.

The following table summarizes the relative performance of the City's investment portfolios as of March 31, 2004:

Portfolio Funds	Amount of Funds	Values as of Month Ending 3/31/04		
		Benchmark Yield	Avg Wtg Maturity	Effective Yield
Short-Term Investment Pool	\$ 349,776,236	0.94 percent	297 days	1.59 percent
Long-Term Investment Pool	\$ 890,143,070	2.38 percent	1.7 years	3.17 percent
Total Investment Pool	\$ 1,239,919,306	1.97 percent	1.5 years	2.72 percent
<i>State of California L.A.I.F.*</i>	<i>For comparative purposes only</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>159 days</i>	<i>1.46 percent</i>

\* Local Agency Investment Fund

A complete listing of investment balances, portfolio distribution and performance values can be found in Attachment A.

The City's investment pool consists of all City funds except Subsidence, certain bond proceeds, and special assessment district proceeds. The non-pooled investments are invested separately in accordance with bond indenture provisions or other legal requirements.

INVESTMENT ENVIRONMENT

Interest rates continue to remain at historically low levels. On March 31, 2004, the Federal Funds rate was at one percent. The One-year Treasury Bill rate was yielding 1.16 percent, and the Five-year Treasury Note was at 2.80 percent. As of May 19, 2004, the One-year Treasury Bill rate has risen to 1.80 percent, and the Five-year Treasury Note to 3.91 percent. Based on recent comments from the Chairman of the Federal Reserve (Fed), Alan Greenspan, it may be likely that interest rates will rise as early as June or August 2004. Chairman Greenspan said rates are not going to be increased at the present but removed the word "patience" from the Federal Open Market Committee's statement in order to allow flexibility of a rate increase in the future to head off inflation. Many analysts and investors now believe the Fed will raise rates at its meeting in June or August, based on a recovering labor market and signs of inflation.

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

June 15, 2004

Page 3

Based on current market conditions, the City has adopted an investment strategy for the short-term portfolio that maintains sufficient liquidity within a rolling 12-month period to continue to satisfy the City's cash needs.

The long-term portfolio will continue to be invested within an 18- to 30-month range to maximize earnings while not overextending in this low interest rate environment. Treasury staff members monitor market conditions and interest rates on a daily basis to determine what changes, if any, are necessary to maximize earnings while maintaining safety of principal and liquidity needs.

The decline in interest rates has affected the City's return on funds. For comparison, during the month of March 2003, the City's pooled investments earned 3.02 percent. As indicated in the table above, the City's investment earnings rate for the month of March 2004 was 2.72 percent. Nonetheless, pooled investment interest earnings for FY 04 are estimated to attain the budget forecast of 2.50 percent.

#### CASH MANAGEMENT GOALS

The City's cash management goals are to maintain and preserve the safety of funds in custody and provide liquidity for anticipated expenditure needs. As of March 31, 2004, the General Fund represents approximately \$62.6 million or 5.05 percent of the pooled funds.

This report was reviewed by Budget Manager Michael Killebrew on May 5, 2004, and Chief Assistant City Attorney Heather Mahood on May 4, 2004.

#### TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action on this item is not time critical.


#### FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

Receive and file this report.

Respectfully submitted,

  
MICHAEL KILLEBREW  
ACTING DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

APPROVED:

  
GERALD R. MILLER  
CITY MANAGER

MK:JDS:EF

Attachment