Meeting Date: July /17/2007

ACTION	TYPE OF ITEM
☐ Approved Recommendation	■ Info/Consent
☐ Ord. No(s). _____	☐ Report
☐ Res. No(s). _____	☐ Public Hearing (Info/consent)
☐ Other _____	☐ Other _____

Prepared By: Carrie Sabatini Agenda Item No. I-4

Reviewed By: City Manager City Attorney Finance Other

DATE: July 6, 2007

TO: Housing Authority Board of Commissioners

FROM: Carrie Sabatini, Housing Finance Officer
Housing Authority

SUBJECT: **Housing Authority Investment Policy**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the City of Oxnard adopt a resolution adopting an investment policy for the Housing Authority of the City of Oxnard for FY 2007-2008.

DISCUSSION

On July 18, 2006, the Housing Authority of the City of Oxnard ("Authority") adopted an Investment Policy for Fiscal Year 2006-2007. The law requires the Authority to adopt an Investment Policy each year. The Authority is bound by State law, as is the City, but has further constraints imposed by the federal government involving the investment of Authority funds. The investment policy governs investment of funds, including funds on deposit. HUD has defined 'funds on deposit' as comprised of:

1. Funds for current transactions
2. Capital or development funds
3. Funds exceeding daily requirements
4. Operation reserve funds

This Investment Policy deals with Items 3 and 4 above. In recent history, the Authority has invested excess cash utilizing a combination of in-house efforts and an outside agent (State of California Local Agency Investment Fund), which is permitted by HUD and State law. Staff is recommending this practice be continued through FY 2007-2008 because it is a safe, cost effective and successful program.

This Investment Policy insures prudent investing, and adequate reporting of investment results and position to the Authority and public. It also provides for periodic reporting and annual approval.

Safety is assured by adherence to HUD-approved investments. The restriction placed on allowable investment provides a degree of diversification to assure that potential loss on individual investments does not compromise the remainder of the portfolio. The Authority is not permitted to invest in instruments, except those authorized by HUD.

Liquidity is addressed by HUD to assure the Authority is able to meet its operating requirements on a daily basis.

The final objective is earnings. The portfolio shall be designed to provide a reasonable rate of return throughout budgetary and economic cycles, taking into account the investment risk constraints and the cash flow characteristics of the portfolio.

The Investment Policy includes a delegation of authority from the Housing Authority to an Investment Committee consisting of the Housing Director, Housing Finance Officer, Management Accountant/Auditor, and Housing Accountant. This action continues to formalize procedures, which have been in place for a number of years.

The adoption of this Investment Policy will not effect the operations of the Authority to any material extent. The Investment Policy does not contain any material alterations in policy or procedures of the Authority. The Investment Policy satisfies requirements of State law combined with HUD's existing requirements.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None

Attachment: 1 - Investment Policy
2 - Investment Portfolio Procedures
3 - Resolution

INVESTMENT POLICY
OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY
OF THE CITY OF OXNARD

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This policy is intended to provide guidance for the investing of surplus cash of the Housing Authority of the City of Oxnard (Authority). The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has established requirements governing cash management and approved investment instruments for certain funds under the control of Public Housing Authorities. The Legislature of the State of California (CGC53600.6) has declared that the deposit and investment of funds by officials and local agencies is an issue of statewide concern. The Board of Commissioners of the Authority may invest surplus moneys not required for the immediate necessities of the Authority in accordance with the provisions of HUD Notice PIH 02-13 and California Government Code Sections 5922 and 53601. The Housing Finance Officer of the Authority shall annually prepare and submit a statement of investment policy and such policy, and any changes thereto shall be considered by the Board of Commissioners at a public meeting. The policy of the Authority is to invest funds in a manner which will provide the highest investment return with the maximum security while meeting the daily cash flow demands of the Authority and conforming to all statutes governing the investment of Authority funds.

2.0 SCOPE

This investment policy applies to the Authority's pooled investment fund, which encompasses all money under the direct oversight of the Housing Finance Officer. These include the Low Rent Public Housing Fund, Grant Funds, Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation and Voucher Funds, Capital Funds and the Central Fund. This policy is generally applicable to bond proceeds with consideration given to specific provisions of each issuance. Reports of the investment of bond proceeds are issued periodically by the Trustee and are not included in the Housing Finance Officer's quarterly report of the pooled investment fund. The employee's retirement and deferred compensation funds are also not included.

3.0 PRUDENCE

Investments shall be made with foresight and care -- under circumstances then prevailing -- which persons of prudence, discretion and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs, not for speculation, but for investment, considering the probable safety of their capital as well as the probable income to be derived.

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

4.0 OBJECTIVES

The Authority's cash management system is designed to accurately monitor and forecast revenues and expenditures thus enabling the Housing Finance Officer to invest funds to the fullest extent possible. The Housing Finance Officer shall maintain a portfolio, which accomplishes the primary objectives of safety, liquidity, and yield (in that order of priority).

4.1 Safety: According to HUD Notice PIH 02-13, safety is achieved through adherence to the list of permitted investments which are backed by the full faith and credit of, or a guarantee of principal and interest by, the U. S. Government, a Government agency or issued by a Government sponsored agency, coupled with an appropriate maturity date.

4.2 Liquidity: All investments must be capable of being liquidated on one days notice.

4.3 Yield: The Authority should strive to achieve the highest yield consistent with the objectives of the Investment Policy.

5.0 DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

Authority to manage the investment program is derived from Section 401 (E) of the HUD/PHA Annual Contributions Contract and California Government Code Sections 53601, et seq. Management responsibility for the investment program is hereby delegated to the Housing Finance Officer, who shall establish written procedures for the operation of the investment program consistent with Section 12.2 of this investment policy. Procedures should include references to: safekeeping, PSA repurchase agreements, wire transfer agreements, collateral/depository agreements and banking services contracts, as appropriate. Such procedures shall include explicit delegation of authority to persons responsible for investment transactions. No person may engage in an investment transaction except as provided under the terms of this policy and the procedures established by the Housing Finance Officer. The Housing Finance Officer shall be responsible for all transactions undertaken and shall establish a system of controls to regulate the activities of the investment committee. The Housing Finance Officer is a trustee and a fiduciary subject to the prudent investor standard. The other housing staff with signatory authority on Authority checking and other accounts are the Housing Director, Management Accountant/Auditor, Modernization Superintendent and Housing Program Manager.

6.0 ETHICS AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Housing Finance Officer shall refrain from personal business activity that could conflict with proper execution of the investment program, or which could impair the ability to make impartial investment decisions. The Housing Finance Officer is governed by the Political Reform Act of 1974 regarding disclosure of material financial interests.

7.0 AUTHORIZED FINANCIAL DEALERS AND INSTITUTIONS

The Housing Finance Officer shall transact business only with banks, savings and loans, securities dealers and approved State and county investment pools.

7.1 Authorization: The Authority may conduct business with major registered broker/dealers and with dealers designated Primary by the Federal Reserve provided all the following criteria are met. Broker/Dealers must: 1) have offices located in the State of California, 2) be adequately capitalized, 3) locate markets for securities appropriate to the Authority needs, and 4) agree to abide by the conditions set forth in the Authority's Investment Policy and be among the authorized institutions approved by the City Treasurer.

7.2 Certification: Before engaging in investment transactions with a broker/dealer, the Housing Finance Officer shall have received from said firm a signed certification that the responsible party from that firm has reviewed the Authority's Investment Policy. The Certification shall also state that the firm understands the policy and intends to present investment recommendations and transactions to the Authority that are appropriate under the terms and conditions of the Investment Policy.

8.0 AUTHORIZED AND SUITABLE INVESTMENTS

HUD Notice PIH 02-13 states an Authority should compare the return of an 'in house' cash management program with a program managed by an agent. It also states the Authority may contract with an approved governmental unit such as a State agency established for this purpose, such as a Local Agency Investment Fund. The Notice also sets forth the following HUD-approved investments. The types of HUD-approved investments may change from time to time. It is the responsibility of the Housing Finance Officer to stay informed of the latest California Government Code and HUD-approved investments. HUD approved investments may be further limited by California Government Code Section 53601.

8.1 U.S. Treasury Bills, Notes and Bonds

8.2 Obligations issued by Agency or Instrumentality of the U.S. Government.

8.3 State or Municipal Depository Funds, such as the Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF), or pooled cash investment funds managed by County Treasurers.

8.4 Insured Demand and Savings Deposits, provided that deposits in excess of the insured amounts must be 100% collateralized by securities listed in 8.1 or 8.2 above.

8.5 Insured Money Market Deposit Accounts, provided that deposits in excess of the insured amount must be 100% collateralized by securities listed in 8.1 or 8.2 above.

8.6 Insured Super NOW Accounts, provided that deposits in excess of the insured amount must be 100% collateralized by Securities listed in 8.1 or 8.2 above.

8.7 Negotiable Certificates of Deposit issued by Federally or state chartered banks or associations. Not more than 30% of surplus funds can be invested in certificates of deposit.

8.8 Repurchase/Reverse Repurchase Agreements of any securities authorized by this section. (See special limits and qualifications in HUD Notice 99-48, and CGC 53601.0).

8.9 Sweep Accounts that are 100% collateralized by securities listed in 8.1 or 8.2 above.

8.10 Shares of beneficial interest issued by diversified management companies (money market mutual funds) investing in the securities and obligations authorized by this section. Such Funds must carry the highest rating of at least two national rating agencies. Not more than 20% of surplus funds can be invested in money market mutual funds.

8.11 Funds held under the terms of a Trust Indenture or other contract or agreement, including the HUD/PHA Annual Contributions Contract, may be invested according to the provisions of those indentures or contracts.

8.12 Principal only STRIPS.

8.13 Any other investment security authorized under the provisions of HUD Notice PIH 02-13.

8.14 Prohibit securities that take the form of inverse floaters, range notes, mortgage-backed interest-only strips and floating-rate investments without a floor.

9.0 COLLATERAL

Collateral requirements are addressed in HUD Notice PIH 02-13 as well as California Government Code Section 53652. All Certificates of Deposits must be collateralized by US Treasury Obligations. Collateral must be held by a third party, and valued on a monthly basis.

10.0 SAFEKEEPING AND CUSTODY

Security transactions entered into by the Authority shall be conducted on a delivery-versus-payment (DVP) basis. Securities of duration exceeding 30 days to maturity shall be held by a third party custodian designated by the Housing Finance Officer. Evidence of account for each time deposit will be held in the Housing Authority safe.

11.0 DIVERSIFICATION

In an effort to reduce portfolio risk while attaining market average rates, the Authority's portfolio will be suitably diversified by type and institution.

11.1 With the exception of U. S. Treasury securities and authorized pools, no more than 50 percent of the total portfolio will be invested in a single security type. Investments are further limited by specific language relating to each investment type as stated in Section 8 of this Policy.

11.2 To the extent possible, the Housing Finance Officer will attempt to match investments with anticipated cash flow requirements. Operating reserve funds may not be invested in securities exceeding five years (maturity of such investments should coincide as nearly as practicable with expected use of funds).

12.0 INTERNAL CONTROLS

A system of internal controls will be maintained to assure compliance with Federal and State regulations, Housing Commission direction, and prudent cash management procedures.

12.1 Investment Review Committee: The Housing Director, Housing Finance Officer, Management Accountant/Auditor, and Housing Accountant are the members of the Investment Review Committee tasked with quarterly review of procedures and adherence to this Investment Policy.

12.2 Investment Portfolio Guidelines: Guidelines have been established for procedures within the Housing Finance Officer's office to assure internal investment controls and a segregation of responsibilities of investment functions. (Attachment No. 2)

12.3 Annual Audit: The Authority portfolio is included in the Independent Auditors' scope of examination during testing of the Authority's financial management at the annual audit.

13.0 REPORTING

The Housing Finance Officer shall provide investment information to the Housing Commission.

13.1 Periodic Reports: The Housing Finance Officer will provide detailed reports of the investments in the pooled investment fund portfolio on a quarterly basis to the Housing Commission. Within thirty days of the end of each quarter, these reports will be provided with such additional information as market pricing. Summarized reports from Trustees regarding investments of bond proceeds will be provided as they become available.

13.2 Annual Report: This Investment Policy will be presented annually, following the close of the fiscal year, to the Housing Commission for approval. Each of the four quarterly reports, which are submitted to the commission as briefing reports, will provide a detailed report of the current status of the portfolio.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF OXNARD

INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO GUIDELINES

July 1, 2007

INTRODUCTION. These guidelines are established to direct and control investment activities in such a manner to assure that the goals established in the Investment Policy are attained.

A. **GENERAL FACTORS**. Several factors must be considered in preparation for effective portfolio management.

1. **Cash Forecast.** The projected cash flow of the Authority shall be prepared annually, and updated as required throughout the year. A close working relationship with Authority Divisions having a significant impact on cash flow is maintained to maximize the efficiency of the Investment Program.

2. **Pooled Cash.** Whenever practical, the Authority cash will be consolidated into one bank account and invested on a pooled concept basis. Interest earnings are allocated according to the average daily balances specific to fund ledger balances. No Authority bank account may be opened without the knowledge and consent of the Housing Finance Officer.

3. **Authorized Institution.** A list of institutions that meet the criteria of the Investment Policy and have been authorized by the Housing Finance Officer to do business with the Authority will be established, maintained and regularly updated. Investment transactions will be executed only with approved broker/dealers, banks, and savings and loans.

B. **INVESTMENT PROCEDURES**. The Housing Finance Officer has developed internal investment procedures to provide for effective cash management. Segregation of responsibilities is maintained to assure an adequate system of internal control over the investment function.

1. **Investment Transactions**. The Housing Finance Officer will authorize investment transactions. In his/her absence, the Housing Director will execute transactions as prescribed by the Housing Finance Officer prior to his/her absence.

2. **Wire Transfers.** The Authority will use pre-formatted wire transfers to restrict the transfer of funds to pre-authorized accounts only. All wire transfers require an initiator plus an approval by an authorized employee.

3. **Safekeeping.** Securities purchased from broker/dealers (on which maturity is greater than 30 days) shall be held in third party safekeeping. All purchases will be on a delivery versus-payment basis. Evidences of accounts for certificates of deposit will be issued in the Authority name and held in Housing Finance Officer's safe.

C. **INVESTMENT CRITERIA**. All investments will be made in compliance with Federal, State, and Local laws governing the investment of Authority funds, and in accordance with the Authority's Investment Policy.

1. **Maturity of Investment.** Investments longer than one year may be made if consistent with the Authority cash flow needs and related intent of holding until maturity. Securities may be sold prior to maturity for cash flow purposes or to otherwise enhance the portfolio. If the rating of any depository declines to an unacceptable level prior to the maturity of an investment of Authority funds, the investment will be matured at the earliest possible convenience. If the rating drops below the allowable level of any one of the rating services, the investment will be sold if no significant loss of principal is involved. The Housing Finance Officer will determine such sales.

2. **Certificate of Deposit Evaluation.** Time Certificates of Deposit shall be evaluated in terms of FDIC coverage. For deposits in excess of the insured maximum of $100,000, approved collateral shall be required at the percentage above market value as specified by HUD Notice PIH 02-13 and CGC Section 53652 and/or 53651.

F. **INTERNAL CONTROL OF INVESTMENTS.** Investment transactions are controlled through distribution of responsibilities within the Housing Finance Officer's office by the following procedures:

1. The Housing Finance Officer or Management Accountant/Auditor initiates each investment transaction.

2. A journal entry detailing the investment is prepared by the Housing Accountant and approved by the Housing Finance Officer.

3. The journal entry entered on a cash balance spread sheet by the Housing Accountant and into the books of the Housing Authority by the Management Accountant/Auditor.

4. At month end the balances on the spreadsheet, maintained by the Housing Accountant, must balance with the portfolio balance maintained independently by the Management Accountant/Auditor.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF OXNARD

RESOLUTION NO._____

RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF OXNARD APPROVING ADOPTION OF AN INVESTMENT POLICY FOR THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF OXNARD

WHEREAS, the U. S. Department of Housing & Urban Development has established requirements governing cash management and approved investment instruments for certain funds under the control of public housing authorities (PIH Notice 02-13); and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of California has declared that the deposit and investment of public funds by local officials and local agencies is an issue of statewide concern (California Government Code Section 53600.6); and

WHEREAS, the legislative body of the Housing Authority may invest surplus monies not required for the immediate necessities of the local agency in accordance with the provisions of U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development Notice PIH 02-13 and California Government Code sections 5922 and 53601; and

WHEREAS, the Housing Finance Officer of the Housing Authority of the City of Oxnard (Authority) is required to annually prepare and submit a statement of investment policy and such policy, and any changes thereto, shall be considered by the Authority at a public meeting [California Government Code Section 53646(a)]; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Authority ("Commission") determines that the policy of the Authority is to invest funds in a manner which will provide the highest investment return with the maximum security while meeting the daily cash flow demands of the Authority and conforming to all statutes governing the investment of Authority funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the City of Oxnard resolves: the Investment Policy of the Housing Authority of the City of Oxnard attached hereto as Attachment No.1 along with the Investment Portfolio Guidelines attached thereto are hereby approved and adopted as the instruments to govern investments for the Housing Authority of the City of Oxnard.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 10th day of July 2007 by the following votes:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

_____
Dr. Thomas E. Holden, Chairperson

ATTEST:

_____
Daniel Martinez, Secretary Designate

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

_____
Gary Gillig, General Counsel