

# STAFF REPORT

## City of Lancaster

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04/22/08
MVB

Date: April 22, 2008

To: Mayor and City Council Members

From: Barbara Boswell, Finance Director

Subject: **Monthly Report of Investments – February 2008**

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**Recommendation:**

Accept and approve the February 29, 2008 Monthly Report of Investments as submitted.

**Fiscal Impact:**

None

**Background:**

Each month, the Finance Department prepares a report listing the investments for all the separate entities under jurisdiction of the City as identified in the City’s Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. These component units include: the City of Lancaster, Lancaster Redevelopment Agency, and Lancaster Housing Authority.

Portfolio Recap

February portfolio transactions:

Purchases:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Maturity</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Federal Home Loan (FHLB)	01/28/2011	3.00%	\$2,000,000

Sold, Matured or Called:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Maturity</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Federal Home Loan (FHLB)	02/15/2008	4.70%	\$2,000,000

Yields:

	<u>February 2008</u>	<u>January 2008</u>
Total Portfolio	4.111%	4.193%
Wells Fargo Sweep Account	1.502%	1.751%
Local Agency Investment Fund	4.161%	4.620%
Total Portfolio Balance:	\$145,131,153	\$160,585,966

The City had one security mature during this period and purchased one additional security. The total portfolio balance is slightly lower due to various large payments such as payments to L A Co. Sheriff’s Dept in the amount of \$1,462,056 (contract services and special events), Sierra Cascade Construction in the amount of \$719,907 (capital project), Ironwood Management in the amount of \$235,039 (capital project), Radich Construction Inc. in the amount of \$191,213 (capital project), and various other payments for capital projects. The Federal Open Market

Committee (FOMC) cut rates another 75 basis points to 2.25% at its March 18, 2008 meeting believing this action should help to promote moderate growth over time and to mitigate the risks to economic activity. Recent information indicates that the outlook for economic activity has weakened further.

The City's temporary idle cash, those funds that are not immediately needed to pay current bills and not governed by bond indentures or bond resolutions, is invested in accordance with the City's adopted Investment Policy. This policy is reviewed annually by the City Council, with the latest policy adopted December 11, 2007 by Resolution No. 07-204.

The City's cash management system is designed to accurately monitor and forecast expenditures and revenues, thus enabling the City to invest funds to the fullest extent possible within the guidelines of this Investment Policy. The City attempts to achieve the highest yield obtainable through a diversified portfolio only after meeting the criteria established for safety and liquidity in that order. The principal investment objectives of the City are:

1. Preservation of capital and protection of investment principal.
2. Maintenance of sufficient liquidity to meet anticipated cash flows.
3. Attainment of a market rate of return.
4. Diversification to avoid incurring unreasonable market risks.
5. Compliance with the City's Municipal Code and with all applicable City resolutions, California statutes and Federal regulations.

The City's portfolio is a short-term and intermediate-term fixed income portfolio. The maximum maturity of any investment is 5 years, with consideration of anticipated cash flow requirements and known future liabilities. The City contracts with an investment advisory service (MBIA Asset Management Group) to assist in the effort to maximize the return on the City portfolio. The City investments include publicly traded Treasury notes, Treasury Bills, Federal Agency Investments, Time Deposits, and Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) under the auspices of the State Treasurer for investment. Funds invested in the LAIF are available within 24 hours, and other investments are available upon maturity at full face value. These investments enable the City and Agency to meet its expenditure requirements for the next six months, as required by state law.

The City's investments are governed by Sections 53600 et. seq. of the California Government Code. Additional limitations have been placed on the City's authorized investments by the Investment Policy (a copy is available in the Finance Department or from the City Clerk), and all investments listed on the attached report adhere to these limitations.