

STAFF REPORT

City of Lancaster

CC 4
05/13/08
MVB

Date: May 13, 2008

To: Mayor Parris and Council Members

From: Barbara Boswell, Finance Director

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

Recommendation:

Accept and approve the March 31, 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

March portfolio transactions:

Purchases:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Maturity</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Federal Home Loan Mtg Corp	03/04/2011	3.04%	\$1,000,000
Federal Farm Credit Bureau	03/25/2011	3.34%	\$1,000,000

Sold, Matured or Called:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Maturity</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Federal Home Loan (FNMA)	03/17/2008	5.57%	\$1,000,000
U. S. Treasury Note	03/31/2008	4.88%	\$1,000,000

Yields:

	<u>March 2008</u>	<u>February 2008</u>
Total Portfolio	3.854%	4.111%
Wells Fargo Sweep Account	0.973%	1.502%
Local Agency Investment Fund	3.777%	4.161%
Total Portfolio Balance:	\$142,592,622	\$145,131,153

The City had two securities mature during this period and purchased two additional securities. The total portfolio balance is slightly lower due to various large payments such as payments to L.A. Co. Sheriff's Department in the amount of \$1,442,317 (contract services and special

events), and A.V. College in the amount of \$1,451,140 (tax increment funds). The Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) cut rates 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; however, downside risks to growth remain. The Committee will act in a timely manner as needed to promote sustainable economic growth and price stability. The FOMC will meet again on April 30, 2008.

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.