

SAN ANTONIO BASIN WATER DISTRICT

Investment Policy

Adopted March 21, 2023

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The deposit and investment of public funds by local officials and local agencies is an issue of statewide concern. (Gov. Code, §§ 53600.6, 53630.1). As representatives of a local agency, the Board of Directors of the San Antonio Basin Water District (“District”) may invest surplus monies not required for the immediate necessities of the District in accordance with the provisions of Government Code sections 5921 *et seq.*, and 53601 *et seq.* This Investment Policy applies to all financial assets and investment activities under the direct control of the District. It does not apply to any employee retirement plans that the District might establish from time to time.

2.0 INVESTMENT AUTHORITY

Management of the District’s investments is delegated for a renewable, one-year period to the Treasurer, who shall make a monthly report of transactions to the Board of Directors. (Gov. Code, § 53607.) No person may engage in an investment transaction on behalf of the District or involving District funds except as provided under the terms of this Policy.

3.0 STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES

In order of priority, the following three fundamental criteria shall be followed in the investment of funds, as required by Government Code section 53600.5:

Safety of Principle — The primary objective of the investment of District funds shall be to safeguard the principal of the funds under its control. Investments shall be undertaken in a manner which first seeks to ensure the preservation of capital in the portfolio. Each investment transaction shall be entered only after taking into consideration the quality of the issuer, the underlying security or collateral, and diversification of the portfolio. Cash flow analysis will be conducted and utilized to avoid the need to sell securities prior to maturity. The District shall seek to preserve capital by mitigating both credit and market risk.

Liquidity — The secondary objective shall be to maintain liquidity as required by the District. Every effort shall be made to ensure that the District’s portfolio is sufficiently liquid to meet current and anticipated operating requirements. Cash flow analysis should be performed on an ongoing basis. Investments shall be made to ensure maturities are compatible with anticipated cash flow requirements.

Return on Investment (Yield) — The tertiary objective shall be to obtain a return on the investment of funds. Investments shall be undertaken to attain a market rate of return and remain consistent with the primary objectives of Safety of Principal and Liquidity, and the Prudent Investor Standard.

4.0 PRUDENT INVESTOR STANDARD

Investments shall be made with judgment 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. The standard of prudence to be used by investment officials shall be the “prudent investor” standard, applied in the context of managing an overall portfolio. (Gov. Code, § 53600.3.) Investment officers acting in accordance with written procedures and the Investment Policy 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 a timely fashion and appropriate action is taken to control adverse developments.

5.0 ETHICS AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Officers and employees involved in the investment process shall refrain from personal business activity that could conflict with the proper execution of the investment program, or which could impair their ability to make impartial investment decisions.

6.0 INVESTMENT GUIDELINES AND ELIGIBLE SECURITIES

The District is empowered by Government Code sections 53601 *et seq.* to invest in the types of investments shown in Figure 1, and the District will conform to the legal provisions set forth in the Government Code with respect to portfolio diversification, maximum maturity, minimum credit rating, and all other criteria.

However, only the following investments are authorized without specific approval by the Board of Directors:

1. Bonds issued by the District.
2. United States Treasury notes, bonds, bills, or certificates of indebtedness, or those for which the faith and credit of the United States are pledged for the payment of principal and interest.
3. Registered state warrants or treasury notes or bonds of this state, including bonds payable solely out of the revenues from a revenue-producing property owned, controlled, or operated by the state or by a department, board, agency, or authority of the state.
4. Registered treasury notes or bonds of any of the other 49 states in addition to California, including bonds payable solely out of the revenues from a revenue-producing property owned, controlled, or operated by a state or by a department, board, agency, or authority of any of the other 49 states, in addition to California.
5. Bonds, notes, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness of a local agency within this state, including bonds payable solely out of the revenues from a revenue-producing property owned, controlled, or operated by the local agency, or by a department, board, agency, or authority of the local agency.

6. The Local Agency Investment Fund established by Government Code, section 16429.1.

7.0 SAFEKEEPING AND CUSTODY

All security transactions entered into by the District shall be conducted on delivery-versus-payment basis. All securities purchased or acquired shall be delivered to the District by book entry, physical delivery, or by third party custodial agreement as required by Government Code section 53601. Financial institutions providing safekeeping services shall provide reports or receipts which verify securities held in safekeeping.

ATTACHMENTS

Figure 1

Table of Notes for Figure 1

Figure 1

INVESTMENT TYPE	MAXIMUM MATURITY ^c	MAXIMUM SPECIFIED % OF PORTFOLIO ^d	MINIMUM QUALITY REQUIREMENTS	GOVT CODE SECTIONS
Local Agency Bonds	5 years	None	None	53601(a)
U.S. Treasury Obligations	5 years	None	None	53601(b)
State Obligations—CA And Others	5 years	None	None	53601(d)
CA Local Agency Obligations	5 years	None	None	53601(e)
U.S Agency Obligations	5 years	None	None	53601(f)
Bankers' Acceptances	180 days	40% ^e	None	53601(g)
Commercial Paper—Non-Pooled Funds ^f	270 days or less	25% of the agency's money ^g	Highest letter and number rating by an NRSRO ^h	53601(h)(2)(C)
Commercial Paper—Pooled Funds ⁱ	270 days or less	40% of the agency's money ^g	Highest letter and number rating by an NRSRO ^h	53635(a)(1)
Negotiable Certificates of Deposit	5 years	30% ^j	None	53601(i)
Non-negotiable Certificates of Deposit	5 years	None	None	53630 et seq.
Placement Service Deposits	5 years	50% ^k	None	53601.8 and 53635.8
Placement Service Certificates of Deposit	5 years	50% ^k	None	53601.8 and 53635.8
Repurchase Agreements	1 year	None	None	53601(j)
Reverse Repurchase Agreements and Securities Lending Agreements	92 days ^l	20% of the base value of the portfolio	None ^m	53601(j)
Medium-Term Notes ⁿ	5 years or less	30%	"A" rating category or its equivalent or better	53601(k)
Mutual Funds And Money Market Mutual Funds	N/A	20%	Multiple ^o	53601(l) and 53601.6(b)
Collateralized Bank Deposits ^p	5 years	None	None	53630 et seq. and 53601(n)
Mortgage Pass-Through and Asset-Backed Securities	5 years or less	20%	"AA" rating category or its equivalent or better	53601(o)
County Pooled Investment Funds	N/A	None	None	27133
Joint Powers Authority Pool	N/A	None	Multiple ^q	53601(p)
Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF)	N/A	None	None	16429.1
Voluntary Investment Program Fund ^r	N/A	None	None	16340
Supranational Obligations ^u	5 years or less	30%	"AA" rating category or its equivalent or better	53601(q)
Public Bank Obligations	5 years	None	None	53601(r), 53635(c) and 57603

Table of Notes for Figure 1

TABLE OF NOTES FOR FIGURE 1

- ^a Sources: Sections 16340, 16429.1, 27133, 53601, 53601.6, 53601.8, 53630 et seq., 53635, 53635.8, and 57603.
- ^b Municipal Utilities Districts have the authority under the Public Utilities Code Section 12871 to invest in certain securities not addressed here.
- ^c Section 53601 provides that the maximum term of any investment authorized under this section, unless otherwise stated, is five years. However, the legislative body may grant express authority to make investments either specifically or as a part of an investment program approved by the legislative body that exceeds this five year remaining maturity limit. Such approval must be issued no less than three months prior to the purchase of any security exceeding the five-year maturity limit.
- ^d Percentages apply to all portfolio investments regardless of source of funds. For instance, cash from a reverse repurchase agreement would be subject to the restrictions.
- ^e No more than 30 percent of the agency's money may be in bankers' acceptances of any one commercial bank.
- ^f Includes agencies defined as a city, a district, or other local agency that do not pool money in deposits or investment with other local agencies, other than local agencies that have the same governing body.
- ^g Local agencies, other than counties or a city and county, may purchase no more than 10 percent of the outstanding commercial paper of any single issuer.
- ^h Issuing corporation must be organized and operating within the U.S., have assets in excess of \$500 million, and debt other than commercial paper must be in a rating category of "A" or its equivalent or higher by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization, or the issuing corporation must be organized within the U.S. as a special purpose corporation, trust, or LLC, have program wide credit enhancements, and have commercial paper that is rated "A-1" or higher, or the equivalent, by a nationally recognized statistical rating agency.
- ⁱ Includes agencies defined as a county, a city and county, or other local agency that pools money in deposits or investments with other local agencies, including local agencies that have the same governing body. Local agencies that pool exclusively with other local agencies that have the same governing body must adhere to the limits set forth in Section 53601(h)(2)(C).
- ^j No more than 30 percent of the agency's money may be in negotiable certificates of deposit that are authorized under Section 53601(i).
- ^k Effective January 1, 2020, no more than 50 percent of the agency's money may be invested in deposits, including certificates of deposit, through a placement service as authorized under 53601.8 (excludes negotiable certificates of deposit authorized under Section 53601(i)). On January 1, 2026, the maximum percentage of the portfolio reverts back to 30 percent. Investments made pursuant to 53635.8 remain subject to a maximum of 30 percent of the portfolio.
- ^l Reverse repurchase agreements or securities lending agreements may exceed the 92-day term if the agreement includes a written codicil guaranteeing a minimum earning or spread for the entire period between the sale of a security using a reverse repurchase agreement or securities lending agreement and the final maturity dates of the same security.
- ^m Reverse repurchase agreements must be made with primary dealers of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York or with a nationally or state chartered bank that has a significant relationship with the local agency. The local agency must have held the securities used for the agreements for at least 30 days.
- ⁿ "Medium-term notes" are defined in Section 53601 as "all corporate and depository institution debt securities with a maximum remaining maturity of five years or less, 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."
- ^o No more than 10 percent invested in any one mutual fund. This limitation does not apply to money market mutual funds.
- ^p A mutual fund must receive the highest ranking by not less than two nationally recognized rating agencies or the fund must retain an investment advisor who is registered with the SEC (or exempt from registration), has assets under management in excess of \$500 million, and has at least five years' experience investing in instruments authorized by Sections 53601 and 53635.
- ^q A money market mutual fund must receive the highest ranking by not less than two nationally recognized statistical rating organizations or retain an investment advisor registered with the SEC or exempt from registration and who has not less than five years' experience investing in money market instruments with assets under management in excess of \$500 million.
- ^r Investments in notes, bonds, or other obligations under Section 53601(n) require that collateral be placed into the custody of a trust company or the trust department of a bank that is not affiliated with the issuer of the secured obligation, among other specific collateral requirements.
- ^s A joint powers authority pool must retain an investment advisor who is registered with the SEC (or exempt from registration), has assets under management in excess of \$500 million, and has at least five years' experience investing in instruments authorized by Section 53601, subdivisions (a) to (o).
- ^t Local entities can deposit between \$200 million and \$10 billion into the Voluntary Investment Program Fund, upon approval by their governing bodies. Deposits in the fund will be invested in the Pooled Money Investment Account.
- ^u Only those obligations issued or unconditionally guaranteed by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), International Finance Corporation (IFC), and Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), with a maximum remaining maturity of five years or less.