RESOLUTION NO. 09-106

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BENICIA APPROVING THE ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE CITY'S INVESTMENT POLICY WITH RECOMMENDED CHANGES

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it is in the City's best interest to adopt and periodically review the City's Investment Policy in accordance with California State Government Code §53600 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Audit and Budget Committee and Finance Director have reviewed the City Investment Policy and recommend approval of the annual review process with recommended changes; and

WHEREAS, the City Council last reviewed the Investment Policy on February 5, 2008, recognizing the City's investment reporting practices are in accordance with California State Government Code §53600 et seq.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Council of the City of Benicia hereby approves the annual review of the City's Investment Policy as presented.

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On motion of Council Member **Schwartzman**, seconded by Council Member **Hughes**, the above Resolution was introduced and passed by the City Council of the City of Benicia at a regular meeting of the Council held on the 20th day of October, 2009 and adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: **Council Members Campbell, Hughes, Ioakimedes, Schwartzman and Mayor Patterson**

Noes: **None**

Absent: **None**

Elizabeth Patterson, Mayor

Attest:

Lisa Wolfe, City Clerk

City of Benicia
Investment Policy
(Revised October 20, 2009)

The City Council of the City of Benicia (the "City") has adopted this Investment Policy (the "Investment Policy") in order to establish the investment scope, objectives, delegation of authority, standards of prudence, reporting requirements, internal controls, eligible investments and transactions, diversification requirements, risk tolerance, and safekeeping and custodial procedures for the investment of the funds of the City. All City funds will be invested in accordance with this Investment Policy and with applicable sections of the California Government Code.

This Investment Policy was endorsed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Benicia on October 20, 2009 pursuant to City Council Resolution No.09-106. It replaces any previous investment policy of the City.

I. SCOPE

The provisions of this Investment Policy shall apply to all financial assets as accounted for in the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

All cash shall be pooled for investment purposes. The investment income derived from the pooled investment account shall be allocated to the contributing funds based upon the proportion of the respective average balances relative to the total pooled balance in the City's investment portfolio. Interest earnings shall be distributed to the individual funds not less than annually.

II. OBJECTIVES

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 value 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.

III. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

Management responsibility for the City's investment program is delegated annually by the City Council to the Treasurer pursuant to California Government Code Section 53607, and has been further delegated to the Finance Director and the Assistant Finance Director. The Finance Director has primary responsibility for daily management of the City's investment portfolio. No person may engage in an investment transaction except as expressly provided under the terms of this Investment Policy.

The Finance Director shall develop written administrative procedures and internal controls, consistent with this Investment Policy, for the operation of the City's investment program. Such procedures shall be designed to prevent losses of public funds arising from fraud, employee error, misrepresentation by third parties, or imprudent actions by employees of the City.

The City may engage the support services of outside investment advisors in regard to its investment program, so long as it can be clearly demonstrated that these services produce a net financial advantage or necessary financial protection of the City's financial resources.

The Treasurer, the Finance Director and the Assistant Finance Director, acting as an investment committee will meet monthly to review the day to day management of the City's investment portfolio. They will meet quarterly to discuss overall portfolio performance.

IV. PRUDENCE

The standard of prudence to be used for managing the City's investments shall be California Government Code Section 53600.3, the prudent investor standard which states, "When investing, reinvesting, purchasing, acquiring, exchanging, selling, or managing public funds, a trustee shall act with care, skill, prudence, and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing, including, but not limited to, the general economic conditions and the anticipated needs of the agency, that a prudent person acting in a like capacity and familiarity with those matters would use in the conduct of funds of a like character and with like aims, to safeguard the principal and maintain the liquidity needs of the agency."

The City's overall investment program shall be designed and managed with a degree of professionalism that is worthy of the public trust. The City recognizes that no investment is totally without risk and that the investment activities of the City are a matter of public record. Accordingly, the City recognizes that occasional measured losses may occur in a diversified portfolio and shall be considered within the context of the overall portfolio's return, provided that adequate diversification has been implemented and that the sale of a security is in the best long-term interest of the City.

The Finance Director and authorized investment personnel acting in accordance with written procedures and exercising due diligence shall be relieved of personal responsibility for an individual security's credit risk or market price changes, provided that the deviations from expectations are reported in a timely fashion to the City Council and appropriate action is taken to control adverse developments.

V. ETHICS AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Elected officials and City employees involved in the investment process shall refrain from personal business activity that could conflict with proper execution of the investment program or could impair or create the appearance of an impairment of their ability to make impartial investment decisions. Elected officials and employees shall disclose to the City Council any business interests they have in financial institutions that conduct business with the City and they shall subordinate their personal investment transactions to those of the City. In addition, the Treasurer, the Finance Director, the Assistant Finance Director and others with delegated investment authority shall file a Statement of Economic Interests each year in accordance with California Government Code Section 87203 and regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission and the City's Open Government Ordinance.

VI. AUTHORIZED SECURITIES AND TRANSACTIONS

All investments and deposits of the City shall be made in accordance with California Government Code Sections 16429.1, 53600-53609 and 53630-53686, except that in accordance with California Government Code Section 5903(e), proceeds of bonds and any moneys set aside or pledged to secure payment of the bonds may be invested in securities or obligations described in the ordinance, resolution, indenture, agreement, or other instrument providing for the issuance of the bonds. Any revisions or extensions of these code sections will be assumed to be part of this Investment Policy immediately upon being enacted. However, in the event that amendments to these sections conflict with this Investment Policy and past City investment practices, the City may delay adherence to the new requirements when it is deemed in the best interest of the City to do so. In such instances, after consultation with the City Attorney, the Finance Director will present a recommended course of action to the City Council for approval.

The City has further restricted the eligible types of securities and transactions as follows:

1. United States Treasury bills, notes, bonds, or strips with a final maturity not exceeding five years from the date of trade settlement.

2. Federal Agency debentures and mortgage-backed securities with a final maturity not exceeding five years from the date of trade settlement issued by the Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA).

3. Federal agency or United States government-sponsored enterprise obligations, participations, or other instruments, including those issued by or fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by federal agencies or United States government-sponsored enterprises, such as Federal Home Loan Banks (FHLB), Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA), Federal Farm Credit Banks (FFCB) and Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (FHLMC), with a final maturity not exceeding five years from the date of trade settlement.

   Federal Instrumentality securities shall be rated at least AAA or the equivalent by a nationally recognized statistical-rating organization (NRSRO) at the time of purchase.

4. Repurchase Agreements with a final termination date not exceeding 30 days collateralized by U.S. Treasury obligations, Federal Agency securities, or Federal Instrumentality securities listed in items 1, 2 and 3 above with the maturity of the collateral not exceeding 10 years. For

the purpose of this section, the term collateral shall mean purchased securities under the terms of the City's approved Master Repurchase Agreement. The purchased securities shall have a minimum market value including accrued interest of 102% of the dollar value of the funds borrowed. Collateral shall be held in the City's custodian bank, as safekeeping agent, and the market value of the collateral securities shall be marked-to-the-market daily. Repurchase agreements with any one counterparty shall be limited to $1 million.

Repurchase Agreements shall be entered into only with broker/dealers recognized as a primary dealer by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, or with broker/dealers that have a primary dealer within their holding company structure. Approved Repurchase Agreement counterparties shall have a short-term credit rating of at least A-1 or the equivalent and a long-term credit rating of at least A or the equivalent by a NRSRO. Repurchase agreement counterparties shall execute a City approved Master Repurchase Agreement with the City. The Finance Director shall maintain a copy of the City's approved Master Repurchase Agreement along with a list of broker/dealers who have executed same.

5. <u>Prime Commercial Paper</u> with a maturity not exceeding 270 days from the date of trade settlement with the highest ranking or of the highest letter and number rating as provided for by a NRSRO. The entity that issues the commercial paper shall meet all of the following conditions in either sub-paragraph A. or sub-paragraph B. below:

   A. The entity shall (1) be organized and operating in the United States as a general corporation, (2) have total assets in excess of $500,000,000 and (3) have debt other than commercial paper, if any, that is rated A, or higher, or the equivalent, by a NRSRO.

   B. The entity shall (1) be organized within the United States as a special purpose corporation, trust, or limited liability company, (2) have program wide credit enhancements, including, but not limited to, over collateralization, letters of credit or surety bond and (3) have commercial paper that is rated A-1 or higher, or the equivalent, by a NRSRO.

   The total investment in the commercial paper of any one issuer shall be limited to the lesser of 10% of the City's total portfolio or $1 million, and the aggregate investment in commercial paper shall not exceed 25% of the City's total portfolio.

6. <u>Eligible Bankers Acceptances</u> rated at least A-1 or the equivalent by each NRSRO that rates them at the time of purchase, with maturities not exceeding 180 days from the date of trade settlement; issued by a FDIC insured commercial bank whose senior long-term debt is rated at the time of purchase A or the equivalent by a NRSRO. The total investment in bankers acceptances of any one issuer shall be limited to the lesser of 5% of the City's total portfolio or $3 million, and the aggregate investment in bankers acceptances shall not exceed 20% of the City's total portfolio.

7. Non-negotiable Certificates of Deposit with a maturity not exceeding five years, in banks that meet the criteria set forth in Section X of this Investment Policy. The aggregate amount invested in Certificates of Deposit shall not exceed 25% of the City's total portfolio.

8. State of California's Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF), created by California Government Code Section 16429.1.

9. Money Market Funds registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 that (1) are "no-load" (no commission or fee shall be charged on purchases or sales of shares); (2) have a constant net asset value per share of $1.00; (3) invest only in the securities and obligations authorized in the applicable California statutes and (4) have a rating of at least AAA or the equivalent by a NRSRO. The total investment in money market funds of any one issuer shall be limited to the lesser of 10% of the City's total portfolio or $5 million, and the aggregate investment in money market funds shall not exceed 20% of the City's total portfolio.

Credit criteria and maximum percentages listed in this section refer to the credit of the issuing organization and/or maturity at the time the security is purchased. The City may from time to time be invested in a security whose rating is downgraded. In the event a rating drops below the minimum allowed rating category for that given investment type, the investment advisor shall notify the Finance Director and/or Designee and recommend a plan of action.

It is the intent of the City that the foregoing list of authorized securities and transactions is strictly interpreted. Any deviation from this list must be pre-approved by resolution of the City Council.

VII. PORTFOLIO MATURITIES, DIVERSIFICATION, and REALIGNMENTS

To the extent possible, investments shall be matched with anticipated cash flow requirements and known future liabilities. The City will not invest in securities maturing more than five years from the date of trade settlement, unless the City Council has by resolution granted authority to make such an investment at least three months prior to the date of investment.

Securities shall generally be held until maturity with the following exceptions:

- A security with declining credit may be sold early to minimize loss of principal.
- A security swap would improve the quality, yield, or target duration in the portfolio.
- Liquidity needs of the portfolio require that the security be sold.

The City shall diversify its investments to avoid incurring unreasonable risks inherent in over-investing in specific instruments, individual financial institutions or maturities. Nevertheless, the asset allocation in the investment portfolio should be flexible depending upon the outlook for the economy, the securities markets and the City's anticipated cash flow needs.

The City recognizes that occasional measured losses may occur in a diversified portfolio when securities are traded for other similar securities to improve yield, maturity, or credit risk. These losses shall be considered within the context of the long-term interest of the portfolio and may be incurred for accounting purposes, provided any of the following occurs with respect to the replacement security:

- Yield has been increased,
- Maturity has been adjusted to anticipate interest rate changes, or
- Credit quality of the investment has been improved.

Prior to purchasing securities for the City's portfolio, the credit rating of the security and the credit rating of the senior debt of the issuer, if applicable, shall be verified to assure compliance with investment policy guidelines. Securities that have been downgraded to below the minimum ratings will be sold or held at the Finance Director's discretion. The Finance Director is responsible for bringing the portfolio back into compliance as soon as practicable.

VIII. SELECTION OF BROKER/DEALERS

The Finance Director shall maintain a list of broker/dealers approved for investment purposes, and it shall be the policy of the City to purchase securities only from those brokers and the firms they represent. Each approved broker/dealer must possess an authorizing certificate from the California Commissioner of Corporations as required by Section 25210 of the California Corporations Code. The firms they represent must:

1. be recognized as primary dealers by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York or have a primary dealer within their holding company structure, or
2. report voluntarily to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, or
3. qualify under Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) Rule 15c3-1 (Uniform Net Capital Rule).

Broker/dealers will be selected by the Finance Director on the basis of their expertise in public cash management and their ability to provide services for the City's account.

Annually, each authorized broker/dealer shall submit a City approved Broker/Dealer Information Request form and the firm's most recent financial statements.

The City may purchase commercial paper from direct issuers even though they are not on the approved broker/dealer list as long as the purchase meets the criteria outlined in Item 5 of the Authorized Securities and Transactions section of this Investment Policy.

IX. COMPETITIVE TRANSACTIONS

Each investment transaction shall be competitively transacted with approved broker/dealers. At least three broker/dealers shall be contacted for each transaction and their bid or offering prices shall be recorded.

If the City is offered a security for which there is no other readily available competitive offering, then the Finance Director will document quotations for comparable or alternative securities.

X. SELECTION OF BANKS

The Finance Director shall maintain a list of FDIC insured banks approved to provide depository and other banking services for the City. To be eligible, a bank shall qualify as a depository of public funds in the State of California as defined in California Government Code Section 53630.5 and shall secure deposits in excess of FDIC coverage in accordance with California Government Code Section 53652.

XI. SAFEKEEPING AND CUSTODY

The Finance Director shall select one or more banks to provide safekeeping and custodial services for the City, in accordance with the provisions of Section 53608 of the California Government Code. A Safekeeping Agreement approved by the City shall be executed with each custodian bank prior to utilizing that bank's safekeeping services.

Custodian banks will be selected on the basis of their ability to provide services for the City's account and the competitive pricing of their safekeeping related services.

The purchase and sale of securities and repurchase agreement transactions shall be settled on a delivery versus payment basis. All securities shall be perfected in the name of the City. Sufficient evidence to title shall be consistent with modern investment, banking and commercial practices.

All investment securities, except non-negotiable Certificates of Deposit, Money Market Funds and LAIF will be delivered by either book entry or physical delivery and will be held in third-party safekeeping by a City approved custodian bank, its correspondent bank or its Depository Trust Company (DTC) participant account.

All Fed wireable book entry securities shall be held in the Federal Reserve system in a customer account for the custodian bank which will name the City as "customer."

All DTC eligible securities shall be held in the custodian bank's DTC participant account and the custodian bank shall provide evidence that the securities are held for the City as "customer."

All non-book entry (physical delivery) securities shall be held by the custodian bank or its correspondent bank and the custodian bank shall provide evidence that the securities are held by the bank for the City as "customer."

XII. PORTFOLIO PERFORMANCE

The investment portfolio shall be designed to attain a market rate of return throughout budgetary and economic cycles, taking into account prevailing market conditions, risk constraints for eligible securities, and cash flow requirements. The performance of the investment portfolio shall be compared to the average yield on the Merrill Lynch 1-3 Year Treasury Index. The Merrill Lynch 1-3 Year Treasury Index represents all U.S. Treasury securities maturing over one year, but less than three years. This maturity range is an appropriate benchmark based on the objectives of the City. When comparing the performance of the investment portfolio, all fees involved with managing i shall be included in the computation of its rate of return net of fees.

XIII. REPORTING

Quarterly, the Treasurer, the Finance Director and the Audit and Finance Committee shall submit to the City Manager and the City Council a report of the investment earnings and performance results of the City's investment portfolio. The report shall include the following information:

1. Investment type, issuer, date of maturity, par value and dollar amount invested in all securities, and investments and monies held by the City;
2. The weighted average maturity of the investment portfolio;
3. A description of investments that are under the management of contracted parties;
4. A market value as of the date of the report and the source of the valuation;
5. A statement of compliance with this Investment Policy or an explanation of non-compliance; and
6. A statement of the City's ability to meet expenditure requirements for the following six months or an explanation of why sufficient funds may not be available.

XIV. POLICY REVIEW

This Investment Policy shall be adopted by resolution of the City Council. It shall be reviewed at least annually by the Treasurer, the Finance Director and the Audit and Finance Committee to ensure it remains consistent with the City's investment objectives, current law and economic trends. Any revisions to this Investment Policy must be approved by the City Council.

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GLOSSARY OF CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE

The glossary below briefly defines each California Government Code that is referenced in the City's policy and in the order in which they are cited.

Sections 53600 – 53609 are collectively referred to as Article I: Investment of Surplus

53600: Defines the term "local agency".

53600.3: Describes the standard of prudence in California for authorized persons.

53600.5: Defines the primary, secondary, and third objectives of investing and managing public funds.

53600.6: Declares that the deposit and investment of public funds by local officials and agencies is an issue of statewide concern.

53601: Provides guidelines for the investment of money in a sinking fund.

53601.1: Gives authority for investing in financial futures or financial option contracts.

53601.2: Defines "corporation" to include a limited liability company.

53601.5: Restricts investment purchases to be from authorized issuers and institutions.

53601.6: Restricts agencies from purchasing inverse floaters, range notes, or mortgage-derived, interest-only strips.

53601.8: Outlines the parameters under which a local agency may invest surplus funds in certificates of deposit.

53602: Lists the various types of indebtedness in which a legislative body is permitted to invest.

53603: Dictates how a legislative body may make a direct issue investment.

53604: Allows the legislative body authority to sell or exchange and then reinvest the proceeds of securities that have been purchased.

53605: Gives the legislative body to sell securities so that proceeds may be applied to the purposes for which the original purchase money was placed.

53606: Allows purchased bonds which were issued by the purchaser to be cancelled.

53607: Delegates authority to invest or reinvest funds of a local agency to the Treasurer for a one-year period.

53608: Defines the terms of safekeeping with a federal or state association.

53609: Outlines the ways in which deferred portions of an employee's compensation may be invested.

Sections 53630 – 53686 are collectively referred to as Article 2: Deposit of Funds

53630: Defines the following terms: local agency, Treasurer, depositor, agent of depository, security, pooled securities, administrator, savings association or federal association, federally insured industrial loan company, and corporation.

53630.1: Declares that the deposit and investment of public funds by local officials and local agencies is an issue of statewide concern.

53630.5: Defines depositories.

53631: Describes conditions established by the legislative body under which the Treasurer of a local agency may establish accounts at banks and deposit money in those accounts.

53632: Outlines the three classes of deposits.

53632.5: Outlines the three classes of security for deposits.

53633: States that the Treasurer shall determine the amount of money to be deposited as inactive, active, and interest-bearing active deposits.

53634: Defines the circumstances under which the Treasurer may place money in active deposits.

53635: Recognizes the distinct characteristics of investment pools.

53635.2: States that all money belonging to or in the custody of a local agency shall be deposited for safekeeping in state or national banks, savings associations, federal associations, credit unions, or federally insured industrial loan companies in California and selected by the Treasurer.

53635.7: Mandates that the legislative body shall discuss, consider, and deliberate each attempt to borrow $100,000 or more.

53636: States that money so deposited is deemed to be in the treasury of the local agency.

53637: Requires that the money be deposited in the institutions approved in 53635.2 with the objective of realizing maximum return.

53638: States that the deposit shall not exceed the shareholder's equity of any depository bank.

53639: Expresses that the depository shall bear the expenses of transportation of money to and from the depository.

53640: States that the depository shall handle, collect, and pay all checks, drafts, and other exchange without cost to the local agency.

53641: Requires the Treasurer to take and preserve a receipt, certificate of deposit, or other evidence of depository when money is deposited in a depository.

53642: Enables the money deposited to be drawn out by check or order of the Treasurer.

53643: Allows the Treasurer to deposit any part of the money as agreed upon between the Treasurer and the depository.

53644: Outlines the options allowed if an agreement is not made as provided for in 53643.

53646: Discusses requirements of a local agencies investment policy and investment reports.

53647: States how interest on deposited money shall be paid.

53647.5: Provides that interest earned on bail money deposited in a bank account shall be allocated for the support of the courts in that county.

53648: Regards the payment of interest of public moneys.

53648.5: Provides for the conditions under which a depository may be terminated.

53469: Allows the Treasurer to be responsible for the safekeeping of money.

53651: Defines eligible securities.

53651.2: Defines the provision with which a promissory note shall comply.

53651.4: Outlines the requirements of reports that depositories using eligible securities shall file.

53651.6: Lists the requirements of letters of credit for eligible securities.

53652: Outlines the collateral required to secure active and inactive deposits.

53653: Provides the conditions under which the Treasurer may waive security for a portion of deposits.

53654: Delineates the circumstances under which the depository may add or substitute securities in a pool.

53655: Defines the effect that the placement of securities by a depository with an agent of depository shall have.

53656: Defines how the Treasurer shall enter into a contract with a depository.

53657: Defines who shall act as an agent of depositories.

53658: Outlines how an agent of a depository shall hold and pool securities.

53659: Allows for an agent of depository that accepts securities to place such securities for safekeeping.

53660: Outlines the information that the Treasurer shall provide when deposits of a local agency are secured by pooled securities.

53661: Defines the responsibilities of the Commissioner of Financial Institutions.

53663: Defines the information that an agent of depository shall report in writing to the administrator after a withdrawal, substitution, or addition or pooled securities.

53664: States that the individual reports specified in Sections 53654, 53660, 53661, and 53663 are not public documents.

53666: Stipulates that the only liability that shall attach to the administrator as the result of the operation of this article is that which would attach as a result of other laws of this state.

53667: Discusses the expenses incurred by the administrator in conjunction with carrying out the duties and responsibilities assigned to the administrator.

53669: States that the Treasurer or other authorized official is not responsible for money while it is deposited pursuant to this article.

53676: States that the Treasurer is not responsible for securities delivered to and receipted for by any bank, savings and loan association, credit union, federally insured industrial loan company, or trust company.

53678: Calls for the charges for the handling and safekeeping of any such securities not to be charged against the Treasurer but to be paid for by the depository owning the securities.

53679: States how money belonging to a local agency under control of any of its officers shall be deposited.

53680: Mandates that any tax collector of a local agency shall immediately deposit with the Treasurer all money under his control, unless otherwise states.

53681: Stipulates that an officer of a local agency who deposits money belonging to a local agency in a manner other than prescribed in this article is subject to forfeiture of his office.

53682: Specifies contract requirements for monies being deposited.

53683: States how the consideration payable by the agency shall be paid by the Treasurer.

53684: Outlines how the Treasurer may deposit excess funds in investment pools.

53686: Discusses audits and reports related to the investment of local agency funds.

5903(e): States how the proceeds of bonds may be invested.

16429.1: Pertains to general requirements on how and where public money may be invested.

25210: Outlines the requirements of approved broker/dealers.

GFOA's GLOSSARY OF CASH MANAGEMENT TERMS

Accrued Interest - The accumulated interest due on a bond as of the last interest payment made by the issuer.

Agency - A debt security issued by a federal or federally sponsored agency. Federal agencies are backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government. Federally sponsored agencies (FSAs) are backed by each particular agency with a market perception that there is an implicit government guarantee. An example of federal agency is the Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA). An example of a FSA is the Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA).

Amortization - The systematic reduction of the amount owed on a debt issue through periodic payments of principal.

Average Life - The average length of time that an issue of serial bonds and/or term bonds with a mandatory sinking fund feature is expected to be outstanding.

Basis Point - A unit of measurement used in the valuation of fixed-income securities equal to 1/100 of 1 percent of yield, e.g., "1/4" of 1 percent is equal to 25 basis points.

Bid - The indicated price at which a buyer is willing to purchase a security or commodity.

Book Value - The value at which a security is carried on the inventory lists or other financial records of an investor. The book value may differ significantly from the security's current value in the market.

Callable Bond - A bond issue in which all or part of its outstanding principal amount may be redeemed before maturity by the issuer under specified conditions.

Call Price - The price at which an issuer may redeem a bond prior to maturity. The price is usually at a slight premium to the bond's original issue price to compensate the holder for loss of income and ownership.

Call Risk - The risk to a bondholder that a bond may be redeemed prior to maturity.

Cash Sale/Purchase - A transaction which calls for delivery and payment of securities on the same day that the transaction is initiated.

Collateralization - Process by which a borrower pledges securities, property, or other deposits for the purpose of securing the repayment of a loan and/or security.

Commercial Paper - An unsecured short-term promissory note issued by corporations, with maturities ranging from 2 to 270 days.

Convexity - A measure of a bond's price sensitivity to changing interest rates. A high convexity indicates greater sensitivity of a bond's price to interest rate changes.

Coupon Rate - The annual rate of interest received by an investor from the issuer of certain types of fixed-income securities. Also known as the "interest rate."
Credit Quality - The measurement of the financial strength of a bond issuer. This measurement helps an investor to understand an issuer's ability to make timely interest payments and repay the loan principal upon maturity. Generally, the higher the credit quality of a bond issuer, the lower the interest rate paid by the issuer because the risk of default is lower. Credit quality ratings are provided by nationally recognized rating agencies.

Credit Risk - The risk to an investor that an issuer will default in the payment of interest and/or principal on a security.

Current Yield (Current Return) - A yield calculation determined by dividing the annual interest received on a security by the current market price of that security.

Delivery Versus Payment (DVP) - A type of securities transaction in which the purchaser pays for the securities when they are delivered either to the purchaser or his/her custodian.

Derivative Security - Financial instrument created from, or whose value depends upon, one or more underlying assets or indexes of asset values.

Discount - The amount by which the par value of a security exceeds the price paid for the security.

Diversification - A process of investing assets among a range of security types by sector, maturity, and quality **rating.**

Duration - A measure of the timing of the cash flows, such as the interest payments and the principal repayment, to be received from a given fixed-income security. This calculation is based on three variables: term to maturity, coupon rate, and yield to maturity. The duration of a security is a useful indicator of its price volatility for given changes in interest rates.

Fair Value - The amount at which an investment could be exchanged in a current transaction between willing parties, other than in a forced or liquidation sale.

Federal Funds (Fed Funds) - Funds placed in Federal Reserve banks by depository institutions in excess of current reserve requirements. These depository institutions may lend fed funds to each other overnight or on a longer basis. They may also transfer funds among each other on a same-day basis through the Federal Reserve banking system. Fed funds are considered to be immediately available funds.

Federal Funds Rate - Interest rate charged by one institution lending federal funds to the other.

Government Securities - An obligation of the U.S. government, backed by the full faith and credit of the government. These securities are regarded as the highest quality of investment securities available in the U.S. securities market. See "Treasury Bills, Notes, and Bonds."

Interest Rate - See "Coupon Rate."
Interest Rate Risk - The risk associated with declines or rises in interest rates which cause an investment in a fixed-income security to increase or decrease in value.

Internal Controls - An internal control structure designed to ensure that the assets of the entity are protected from loss, theft, or misuse. The internal control structure is designed to provide reasonable assurance that these objectives are met. The concept of reasonable assurance recognizes that 1) the cost of a control should not exceed the benefits likely to be derived and 2) the valuation of costs and benefits requires estimates and judgments by management. Internal controls should address the following points:

1. **Control of collusion** - Collusion is a situation where two or more employees are working in conjunction to defraud their employer.
2. **Separation of transaction authority from accounting and record keeping** - By separating the person who authorizes or performs the transaction from the people who record or otherwise account for the transaction, a separation of duties is achieved.
3. **Custodial safekeeping** - Securities purchased from any bank or dealer including appropriate collateral (as defined by state law) shall be placed with an independent third party for custodial safekeeping.
4. **Avoidance of physical delivery securities** - Book-entry securities are much easier to transfer and account for since actual delivery of a document never takes place. Delivered securities must be properly safeguarded against loss or destruction. The potential for fraud and loss increases with physically delivered securities.
5. **Clear delegation of authority to subordinate staff members** - Subordinate staff members must have a clear understanding of their authority and responsibilities to avoid improper actions. Clear delegation of authority also preserves the internal control structure that is contingent on the various staff positions and their respective responsibilities.
6. **Written confirmation of transactions for investments and wire transfers** - Due to the potential for error and improprieties arising from telephone and electronic transactions, all transactions should be supported by written communications and approved by the appropriate person. Written communications may be via fax if on letterhead and if the safekeeping institution has a list of authorized signatures.
7. **Development of a wire transfer agreement with the lead bank and third-party custodian** - The designated official should ensure that an agreement will be entered into and will address the following points: controls, security provisions, and responsibilities of each party making and receiving wire transfers.

Inverted Yield Curve - A chart formation that illustrates long-term securities having lower yields than short-term securities. This configuration usually occurs during periods of high inflation coupled with low levels of confidence in the economy and a restrictive monetary policy.

Investment Company Act of 1940- Federal legislation which sets the standards by which investment companies, such as mutual funds, are regulated in the areas of advertising, promotion, performance reporting requirements, and securities valuations.

Investment Policy - A concise and clear statement of the objectives and parameters formulated by an investor or investment manager for a portfolio of investment securities.

Investment-grade Obligations - An investment instrument suitable for purchase by institutional investors under the prudent person rule. Investment-grade is restricted to those obligations rated BBB or higher by a rating agency.

Liquidity - An asset that can be converted easily and quickly into cash.

Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) - An investment by local governments in which their money is pooled as a method for managing local funds.

Mark-to-market - The process whereby the book value or collateral value of a security is adjusted to reflect its current market value.

Market Risk - The risk that the value of a security will rise or decline as a result of changes in market conditions.

Market Value - Current market price of a security.

Maturity - The date on which payment of a financial obligation is due. The final stated maturity is the date on which the issuer must retire a bond and pay the face value to the bondholder. See "Weighted Average Maturity."

Money Market Mutual Fund - Mutual funds that invest solely in money market instruments (short-term debt instruments, such as Treasury bills, commercial paper, bankers' acceptances, repos and federal funds).

Mutual Fund - An investment company that pools money and can invest in a variety of securities, including fixed-income securities and money market instruments. Mutual funds are regulated by the Investment Company Act of 1940 and must abide by the following Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) disclosure guidelines:

1. Report standardized performance calculations.
2. Disseminate timely and accurate information regarding the fund's holdings, performance, management and general investment policy.
3. Have the fund's investment policies and activities supervised by a board of trustees, which are independent of the adviser, administrator or other vendor of the fund.
4. Maintain the daily liquidity of the fund's shares.
5. Value their portfolios on a daily basis.

6. Have all individuals who sells SEC-registered products licensed with a self-regulating organization (SRO) such as the National Association of Securities Dealers (NASD).
7. Have an investment policy governed by a prospectus which is updated and filed by the SEC annually.

Mutual Fund Statistical Services - Companies that track and rate mutual funds, e.g., IBC/Donoghue, Lipper Analytical Services, and Morningstar.

National Association of Securities Dealers (NASD) - A self-regulatory organization (SRO) of brokers and dealers in the over-the-counter securities business. Its regulatory mandate includes authority over firms that distribute mutual fund shares as well as other securities.

Net Asset Value - The market value of one share of an investment company, such as a mutual fund. This figure is calculated by totaling a fund's assets which includes securities, cash, and any accrued earnings, subtracting this from the fund's liabilities and dividing this total by the number of shares outstanding. This is calculated once a day based on the closing price for each security in the fund's portfolio. (See below.) [(Total assets) - (Liabilities)]/(Number of shares outstanding)

No Load Fund - A mutual fund which does not levy a sales charge on the purchase of its shares.

Nominal Yield - The stated rate of interest that a bond pays its current owner, based on par value of the security. It is also known as the "coupon," "coupon rate," or "interest rate."

Offer - An indicated price at which market participants are willing to sell a security or commodity. Also referred to as the "Ask price."

Par - Face value or principal value of a bond, typically $1,000 per bond.

Positive Yield Curve - A chart formation that illustrates short-term securities having lower yields than long-term securities.

Premium - The amount by which the price paid for a security exceeds the security's par value.

Prime Rate - A preferred interest rate charged by commercial banks to their most creditworthy customers. Many interest rates are keyed to this rate.

Principal - The face value or par value of a debt instrument. Also may refer to the amount of capital invested in a given security.

Prospectus - A legal document that must be provided to any prospective purchaser of a new securities offering registered with the SEC. This can include information on the issuer, the issuer's business, the proposed use of proceeds, the experience of the issuer's management, and certain certified financial statements.

Prudent Person Rule - An investment standard outlining the fiduciary responsibilities of public funds investors relating to investment practices.

Regular Way Delivery - Securities settlement that calls for delivery and payment on the third business day following the trade date (T+3); payment on a T+1 basis is currently under consideration. Mutual funds are settled on a same day basis; government securities are settled on the next business day.

Reinvestment Risk - The risk that a fixed-income investor will be unable to reinvest income proceeds from a security holding at the same rate of return currently generated by that holding.

Repurchase Agreement (repo or RP) - An agreement of one party to sell securities at a specified price to a second party and a simultaneous agreement of the first party to repurchase the securities at a specified price or at a specified later date.
Reverse Repurchase Agreement (Reverse Repo) - An agreement of one party to purchase securities at a specified price from a second party and a simultaneous agreement by the first party to resell the securities at a specified price to the second party on demand or at a specified date.

Rule 2a-7 of the Investment Company Act - Applies to all money market mutual funds and mandates such funds to maintain certain standards, including a 13- month maturity limit and a 90-day average maturity on investments, to help maintain a constant net asset value of one dollar ($1.00).

Safekeeping - Holding of assets (e.g., securities) by a financial institution.

Serial Bond - A bond issue, usually of a municipality, with various maturity dates scheduled at regular intervals until the entire issue is retired.

Sinking Fund - Money accumulated on a regular basis in a separate custodial account that is used to redeem debt securities or preferred stock issues.

Swap - Trading one asset for another.

Term Bond - Bonds comprising a large part or all of a particular issue which come due in a single maturity. The issuer usually agrees to make periodic payments into a sinking fund for mandatory redemption of term bonds before maturity.

Total Return - The sum of all investment income plus changes in the capital value of the portfolio. For mutual funds, return on an investment is composed of share price appreciation plus any realized dividends or capital gains. This is calculated by taking the following components during a certain time period. (Price Appreciation) + (Dividends paid) + (Capital gains) = Total Return

Treasury Bills - Short-term U.S. government non-interest bearing debt securities with maturities of no longer than one year and issued in minimum denominations of $10,000. Auctions of three-and six-month bills are weekly, while auctions of one-year bills are monthly. The yields on these bills are monitored closely in the money markets for signs of interest rate trends.

Treasury Notes - Intermediate U.S. government debt securities with maturities of one to 10 years and issued in denominations ranging from $1,000 to $1 million or more.

Treasury Bonds - Long-term U.S. government debt securities with maturities of ten years or longer and issued in minimum denominations of $1,000. Currently, the longest outstanding maturity for such securities is 30 years.

Uniform Net Capital Rule - SEC Rule 15C3-1 outlining capital requirements for broker/dealers.

Volatility - A degree of fluctuation in the price and valuation of securities.

"Volatility Risk" Rating - A rating system to clearly indicate the level of volatility and other non-credit risks associated with securities and certain bond funds. The ratings for bond funds range from those that have extremely low sensitivity to changing market conditions and offer the greatest stability of the returns ("aaa" by S&P; "V-1" by Fitch) to those that are highly sensitive with currently identifiable market volatility risk ("ccc-" by S&P, "V-10" by Fitch).

Weighted Average Maturity (WAM) - The average maturity of all the securities that comprise a portfolio. According to SEC rule 2a-7, the WAM for SEC registered money market mutual funds may not exceed 90 days and no one security may have a maturity that exceeds 397 days.

When Issued (WI) - A conditional transaction in which an authorized new security has not been issued. All "when issued" transactions are settled when the actual security is issued.

Yield - The current rate of return on an investment security generally expressed as a percentage of the security's current price.

Yield-to-call (YTC) - The rate of return an investor earns from a bond assuming the bond is redeemed (called) prior to its nominal maturity date. Yield Curve - A graphic representation that depicts the relationship at a given point in time between yields and maturity for bonds that are identical in every way except maturity. A normal yield curve may be alternatively referred to as a positive yield curve.

Yield-to-maturity - The rate of return yielded by a debt security held to maturity when both interest payments and the investor's potential capital gain or loss are included in the calculation of return.

Zero-coupon Securities - Security that is issued at a discount and makes no periodic interest payments. The rate of return consists of a gradual accretion of the principal of the security and is payable at par upon maturity.

This glossary has been adapted from an article, entitled "Investment terms for everyday use," that appeared in the April 5, 1996, issue of Public Investor, GFOA's subscription investment newsletter.