



Chandler + Arizona
Where Values Make The Difference

***FY 2015-16
COUNCIL MICRO-RETREAT:
UPDATED FINANCIAL POLICIES
DISCUSSION***

***COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM
DECEMBER 7, 2015,***

Chandler Arizona

**A Progressive,
Dynamic
Destination with
Hometown
Traditions Amid a
World-Class
Innovation Hub.....**

The Place To Be!

CHANDLER FINANCIAL POLICIES AGENDA



- **Overview of Policies**
- **Preamble about Policies**
- **Individual Policy Discussions**
 - **Operating Management Policy - *Updated***
 - **Capital Management Policy - *Updated***
 - **Reserves Policy – *Update Completed in October***
 - **Debt Management Policy - *Updated***
 - **Long-Range Financial Planning Policy – *Updated***
 - **Grant Management Policy – *New***
 - **Investment Policy – *Updated***
 - **Accounting, Auditing & Financial Reporting Policy – *Updated***
- **Next Steps**



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CHANDLER FINANCIAL POLICIES OVERVIEW AND PREAMBLE



FINANCIAL POLICY OVERVIEW



■ Purpose of Financial Policies

- Set the Baseline Standard (Rule Book) for Stewardship over Financial Resources and Practices
- Guide Important Decisions



■ Why Financial Policies are Important

- Institutionalize Good Financial Management Practices
- Clarify and Crystallize Strategic Intent for Financial Management
- Define Boundaries
- Supports Good Bond Ratings (minimizes borrowing costs)
- Manage Risks to Financial Condition
- Comply with Established Public Management Best Practices

FINANCIAL POLICY OVERVIEW



- **2015 Council Strategic Policy Goal (Action Plan)**
 - Continue Adherence to and Improve Upon Fiscal Policies

- **Currently Reviewed Annually, Displayed in the Budget Book, and Approved at Adoption**
 - Future Updates to be Approved by Council Resolution
 - Separate Link on Website will be Added to Make Easily Accessible

- **Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Best Practices and Book on Financial Policies Followed**
 - Notes Policies that are Essential, Advisable and Important
 - Chandler Currently has all Essential Policies

FINANCIAL POLICY OVERVIEW



- **Recommended Policy Updates Based on GFOA Best Practices**
 - Rationale Added to Each Policy to Clarify its Purpose
 - Reorganized / Restructured
 - New Components Added (i.e. align with A.R.S., document current practice)

- **Each Policy Discussion That Follows Provides**
 - Summary of Policy Purpose
 - Summary of Policy Components
 - New or Changed Policy Components by **Red Font**

FINANCIAL POLICY PREAMBLE



The City of Chandler’s financial policies have been developed to set standards for stewardship over financial resources and practices. The policies institutionalize strong financial management practices, clarify the strategic intent for financial management, define boundaries, manage risks to financial condition, support good bond ratings to minimize borrowing costs, and comply with established public management best practices. The policies provide a guide for sound fiscal planning, while maintaining fiscal integrity.

The financial policies are divided into eight categories: Operating Management, Capital Management, Reserves, Debt Management, Long-Range Financial Planning, Grants Management, Investment, and Accounting, Auditing, and Financial Reporting policies. The policies are reviewed annually and updates approved by City Council before the new budget year. Listed below are the financial policies implemented for the FY 2016-17 budget and have kept the City of Chandler fiscally strong.

#1

OPERATING MANAGEMENT POLICY

UPDATED



OPERATING MANAGEMENT POLICY



- **Policy Purpose:** *To ensure ongoing financial sustainability and operating practices through guidance and clarification of budget structure, development, control system, and amendment process, as well as revenue and expenditure principles.*

- **GFOA Recommended Components**
 - **Key Budget Features** – Includes scope and length of budget period, level of control, balanced budget definition, basis of budgeting, cost allocation, long-term financial forecasts and performance measurement.

 - **Budget Principles and Process** – Includes link of budget to strategic financial plans, examination of spending patterns, prioritization of services, funding liabilities, and clarifies essential budget processes.

OPERATING MANAGEMENT POLICY



■ GFOA Recommended Components Cont'

- Budget Control system – Includes explanation of Modified Expenditure Control Budgeting (MECB), base budget method, personnel budgeting, transfer and carry forward authority, and State expenditure limitation.
- Budget Amendments– Includes State and City Charter direction on amendments as well as timing of when recommended.
- Revenue and Expenditure Principles– Includes direction on one-time and ongoing revenues/expenditures, **revenue diversification**, revenue projections (**expanded**), user fees and charges, utility reviews and studies, revenue collections, review of expenditures, personnel expenditures (**expanded**), **employee benefits expenditures**, and **periodic review of compensation packages**.

#2

CAPITAL MANAGEMENT POLICY

UPDATED



CAPITAL MANAGEMENT POLICY



- **Policy Purpose:** *To provide guidance on capital planning, budgeting, and management to ensure well maintained infrastructure.*

- **GFOA Recommended Components**
 - **Timing and Scope** – Includes City Charter direction on Capital Improvement Program (CIP) approval and that City projects out further than required; and defines amount and **useful life** to be capital.

 - **Project Identification and Review** – Includes detail to be submitted with proposed projects and the CIP Coordination Team purpose.

CAPITAL MANAGEMENT POLICY



■ GFOA Recommended Components Cont'

- **Project Selection** – Includes items to consider when selecting/funding CIP (i.e. capital forecasts, impact on other projects and operations).
- **Balanced CIP**– Defines balanced CIP, including review of bond capacity and related secondary tax, as well as utility rate impacts.
- **Capital Asset Maintenance**– Includes direction to prioritize existing asset maintenance/replacement and maintaining replacement funds.

#3

RESERVES POLICY

**UPDATED AND DISCUSSED
AT OCTOBER 19, 2015
COUNCIL MICRO-RETREAT**



#4

DEBT MANAGEMENT POLICY

UPDATED



DEBT MANAGEMENT POLICY



- **Policy Purpose:** *To provide guidelines for issuance of bonds and other forms of indebtedness to finance future capital programs and guidelines for monitoring outstanding debt.*
 - Defines appropriate uses of debt financing and sets debt mgmt. goals.
 - Assists with maintaining or improving credit ratings, assuming prudent levels of financial risk and preserving flexibility.

- **GFOA Recommended Components**
 - **Scope** – Applies to all debt and lease financings funded in the capital markets, except as covered by Federal, State, Charter & City Code.

 - **Debt Issuance Process** – Includes direction for assessing financing needs for capital programs, issuance approval, method of sale, using financial service providers, and obtaining credit ratings.

DEBT MANAGEMENT POLICY



■ GFOA Recommended Components Cont'

- Limitations on City Indebtedness– Includes debt coverage goals (expanded), target limitations on general obligation debt, revenue/excise tax secured debt obligations, lease-purchase financing, improvement district debt, and variable rate debt.
- Voter Authorized Debt– Includes direction on when voter and non-voter authorized debt can be used and conditions to consider.
- Debt Management Process– Includes direction on debt service structuring, maturity, investment of bond proceeds, refunding bonds, continuing disclosure & post issuance compliance, arbitrage rebate, issuance & post-issuance compliance procedures, continuing disclosure undertaking (CDU), and declaration of official intent.

#5

LONG-RANGE FINANCIAL PLANNING POLICY

**PREVIOUSLY CALLED FINANCIAL
FORECASTS - UPDATED**



LONG-RANGE FINANCIAL PLANNING POLICY



- **Policy Purpose:** *To establish a consistent practice for financial planning that results in stable tax rates and services to the community over a multi-year period.*

- **GFOA Recommended Components**
 - **Timing and Scope** – Includes direction to update long-range financial forecasts prior to preparation of CIP and Annual Budget, as well as **funds/elements** to be forecasted for 10 years into the future.

 - **Principles** – Includes direction on how to forecast (i.e. baseline service assumption, ongoing/one-time, trends), issue/solution identification and discussion, and goal of maintaining structurally balanced plans.

#6

GRANT MANAGEMENT POLICY

NEW



GRANT MANAGEMENT POLICY



- **Policy Purpose:** *To ensure grant oversight to support creativity and innovation in identifying and addressing existing and desired City program or partnership needs that cannot be resolved with existing resources, but may be suitable areas for seeking grant funds.*
- Sets standards for consistent acquisition and administration of grants.
- States grant must not conflict with the City's strategic goals, generate more cost than benefit, or restrict the mission of the City.

GRANT MANAGEMENT POLICY



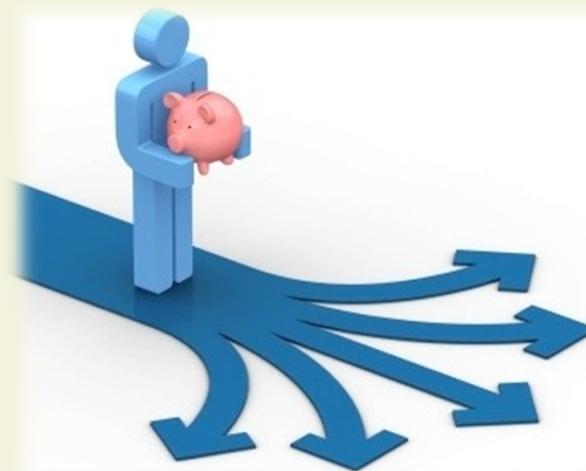
■ GFOA Recommended Components

- Grant Identification, Evaluation and Application – Includes evaluation of consistency with City strategic goals and Department goals, funding evaluation and other factors to consider.
- Grant Approval, Administration and Operational Oversight – Includes grant approval authority (i.e. City Council if over \$30K with resource commitments), Grant Committee structure and purpose, and grant monitoring and compliance standards.

#7

INVESTMENT POLICY

UPDATED



INVESTMENT POLICY



- **Policy Purpose:** *To define the parameters within which public funds are to be Managed based on City Code 3.2.*
- **Reorganized Based on GFOA Recommended Order/ Components** (Since more technical, defines ambiguous terms)
 - **Scope** – Applies to all public funds, **excluding bond proceeds since governed by indentures.**
 - **Objectives** – Defines as safety, liquidity and return on investments.
 - **Standards of Care** – Includes **standard of prudence, ethics and conflicts of interest, and delegation of authority and responsibilities (including use of external investment manager).**

INVESTMENT POLICY



■ GFOA Recommended Components Cont'

- Permitted Investment Instruments – Includes alignment with A.R.S., credit requirements from **Nationally Recognized Statistical Ratings Organization (NRSRO)**, and allocation limits (30% each commercial paper, negotiable CDs and medium corporate notes).
- Investment Parameters – Includes diversification and max maturity of 5 years from date of purchase (A.R.S. limit).
- Portfolio Management – Includes primary objective of preservation of capital...manage to take advantage of market opportunities.
- Purchase and Sales of Securities – Objective of best bid of 3, responsibility of investment personnel **and external investment advisors.**

INVESTMENT POLICY



■ GFOA Recommended Components Cont'

- Authorized Financial Institution – Added to ensure standards for monitoring and use of brokers/dealers by City and external investment advisors.
- Safekeeping and Custody – Allows to be held by City or external 3rd party safekeeping institution and adds GFOA language on requirements.
- Performance Evaluation and Reporting – Same but updates Management Services Director title.
- Approval – Review policy annually and changes must be approved by City Council.

#8

ACCOUNTING, AUDITING, AND FINANCIAL REPORTING POLICY

UPDATED



ACCOUNTING, AUDITING, AND FINANCIAL REPORTING POLICY



- **Policy Purpose:** *To set guidelines on how the City will account for its financial resources and be accountable for making financial information available to the public.*

- **GFOA Recommended Components**
 - **Accounting and Internal Control** – Includes standards for maintaining financial reporting system and **internal control system requirements**.

 - **Independent Audit** – Includes requirements for independent audit (City Charter) of Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), posting CAFR online (State), and **independent audit of Trust funds (City Code)**.

 - **Financial Reporting**– Includes external financial reporting (i.e. GFOA CAFR and budget document certifications), and **internal financial reporting (i.e. monthly and quarterly budget/actual reports)**.

NEXT STEPS



- Bring updated financial policies forward **1/14/16** for adoption by resolution
- Post on www.chandleraz.gov for transparency
- Use as a baseline standard for stewardship over financial resources
- Use to guide important decisions as we develop future budgets, starting with **FY 2016-17**

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?



City of Chandler Updated/New Financial Policies ***DRAFT***

The City of Chandler's financial policies have been developed to set standards for stewardship over financial resources and practices. The policies institutionalize strong financial management practices, clarify the strategic intent for financial management, define boundaries, manage risks to financial condition, support good bond ratings to minimize borrowing costs, and comply with established public management best practices. The policies provide a guide for sound fiscal planning, while maintaining fiscal integrity.

There are eight (8) financial policies: Operating Management, Capital Management, Reserves, Debt Management, Long-Range Financial Planning, Grant Management, Investment, and Accounting, Auditing, and Financial Reporting policies. The policies are reviewed annually and updates approved by City Council before the new budget year. Listed below are the financial policies implemented for the FY 2016-17 budget and have kept the City of Chandler fiscally strong.

1. Operating Management Policy

The purpose of this Operation Management Policy is to provide guidance and clarification on how the budget will be structured and developed, define the budget control system, how to amend the budget, and specific revenue and expenditure principles to ensure ongoing financial sustainability and operating practices.

Key Budget Features

Scope and Length of Budget Period: The budget shall be based on a fiscal year beginning July 1 through June 30, and revenue and expenditures for all funds shall be adopted annually (excluding funds maintained for financial reporting purposes only).

Level of Control: The budget process shall be decentralized, allowing all Departments to provide updated revenue and expenditure amounts entered directly into an online budget system. Budgetary control shall be at the Departmental level and managed separately between the Personnel budget (5100-series of accounts) and the Operating budget (5200-8900 series of accounts). A Department cannot spend more than the budget appropriated; however, line item appropriations shall be established for each cost center (division) within each Department.

Balanced Budget Definition: According to the City Charter, the total of proposed expenditures shall not exceed the total of estimated income and fund balances available. Each fund in the budget must also be in balance; total anticipated revenues plus the necessary portion of fund balance (all resources) must equal total expenditure appropriations for the upcoming fiscal year. Appropriation shall be for a specific fund and balanced based on specific funding sources, therefore savings in one fund shall not be used to cover over-expenditure in another fund.

Basis of Budgeting: The City's accounting system is maintained on the same basis as the Adopted Budget. This enables Departmental budgets to be easily monitored via accounting system reports on a monthly basis. The City's financial records, as reported each year in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), are maintained in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). For comparison purposes, the City's CAFR shows fund revenues and expenditures on both a budget basis and a GAAP basis in all funds for which budgets are adopted.

The budgets for general governmental fund types, (i.e., General Fund, Special Revenue, Capital Projects, and Expendable Trust) are prepared on a modified accrual basis, which is a mixture of the cash and accrual basis. This basis is consistent with GAAP except for the following:

- a. Compensated absences are recorded as expenditures when paid (cash basis) as opposed to a liability that is expected to be liquidated from available financial resources as earned and accrued by employees (GAAP basis).

- b. Sales tax and grant revenue are recorded on the basis of cash collected (cash basis) as opposed to the accrual basis (GAAP basis) whereby amounts are recorded to the period the revenue was earned.
- c. Capital outlays for Enterprise funds are recorded as expenses (cash basis) as opposed to fixed assets (GAAP basis).
- d. Principal payments on long-term debt are recorded as expenses (cash basis) as opposed to a reduction of a liability (GAAP basis).
- e. Proceeds from the sale of bonds and utility system development fee revenues are recognized as revenue when received (cash basis) as opposed to a reduction of a liability and an increase in contributed capital (GAAP basis).
- f. No depreciation is budgeted (on a cash basis for any fund) as opposed to depreciation expense recorded in financial statements (GAAP basis).

The budgets for Proprietary fund types such as the City's Enterprise (water, wastewater, reclaimed water, reverse osmosis, solid waste, and airport), Internal Service, Fiduciary, and Permanent Trust funds are budgeted and reported on a full accrual basis of accounting. Under the full accrual basis, expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, and revenues are recognized when they are obligated to the City (for example, water user fees are recognized as revenue when bills are produced, not when the cash is received). All operating and capital expenditures (except depreciation) are identified in the budgeting process because of the need for appropriation authority.

Cost Allocation: Costs incurred in the General Fund to support the operations of the Enterprise funds (water, wastewater, reclaimed water, reverse osmosis, solid waste and airport) will be recovered through an indirect cost allocation. The indirect cost allocation plan will be reviewed annually and costing adjustments made after approval of the City Manager or Designee.

Long-Term Financial Forecasts: Forecasts will be prepared annually covering a ten year period and considered during budget development.

Performance Measurement: Each Department will establish goals and objectives and create and track performance measurements to assure the goals and objectives are achieved in an efficient and effective manner. Performance measures may be eliminated if approved by the Department Director; however the information will remain in the budget document for four years as required by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA).

Budget Principles and Process

Budget Links to Strategic Financial Plans: The City's annual budget will be developed in accordance with the policies and priorities set forth in the Council Strategic Goals, the needs of the community, and local, federal and state laws.

Examination of Spending Patterns: The City will seek to maximize the value the public receives through its spending by critically examining existing spending patterns to make sure they continue to provide value, and if not, reallocate to services that do.

Prioritizing Services: The Priority Based Budgeting (PBB) results will be used annually to prioritize City services based on City Council's long-term desired results. Costs of City services will be updated every three years.

All competing Department needs (decision package requests), will be weighed taking into account PBB results and other information based on available City resources within projected fiscal constraints. All requests must be fully justified to show that they will maintain or enhance service delivery or support new programs.

Additions to Department budgets outside of the annual budget process are discouraged and only approved by the City Manager's office in unique circumstances or by Mayor and Council when required by City Code.

Funding Liabilities: The current portion of long-term liabilities (i.e. Capital infrastructure, annual costs of maintaining and replacing capital assets, contributions to employee pensions), at a minimum, should be funded in the annual budget so as to maintain the trust of creditors and ensure a manageable payment plan.

Budget Process: The budget will be developed following a detailed calendar to ensure timely preparation and execution, provide opportunities for citizen participation at different points, follow State law and City Charter, and be summarized within a budget document to clearly communicate policy decisions.

Budget Control System

Modified Expenditure Control Budgeting (MECB): MECB will be utilized in order to encourage cost effectiveness while providing quality services to Chandler citizens. MECB assumes existing service levels will be maintained and new or enhanced programs require an ongoing source of funding before initiation. The use of MECB supports the following basic philosophies:

- a. Department management is expected to manage wisely and to look for effective and efficient ways to deliver quality services to our citizens while meeting the goals of Council; and
- b. Department management can find ways to do things more efficiently if given the freedom to innovate and control their own resources.

Base Budget Method: The base budget method will be utilized for ongoing Operations and Maintenance (O&M) appropriation. Departments shall be allocated the prior year's base budget to support all ongoing operations, but may request supplemental funding through a decision package. Requests approved in the Adopted Budget shall be incorporated into Department's base budgets. Departments develop their own expenditure line item budgets; however, exceptions exist for certain citywide expenditure line items and can only be spent for the specified purpose (department fleet, equipment and technology replacement transfers out, and fuel).

Under the MECB philosophy, Departments may request to carryforward savings achieved in their Base Budget operating accounts to the next year, with justification, through a request to the City Manager. Funds available for carryforward will exclude the above noted exceptions.

The City will use an Encumbrance Accounting System whereby budgeted funds are committed and no longer available for spending when a purchase order is approved in the financial system. Encumbered funds will be carried forward to the next budget year if not spent by year end.

Personnel Services Budgeting: All personnel costs are funded outside of the base budgets, and any personnel savings accumulated remain in their original fund. The Budget Division develops all personnel services budgets based on full funding of all approved positions. If revenues are available during the budget process, positions may be added to maintain or enhance service levels after City Manager review and City Council approval. Additions outside of the budget process are discouraged and only approved by the City Manager's Office in unique circumstances. Overspending of overtime and temporary budgets must be funded from base budgets if not directly related to a vacancy.

Budget Resolution Transfer Authority: The Adopted Budget Resolution for each fiscal year gives authority to the City Manager or his/her designee regarding transfers to/from departments of non-departmental encumbrance, carryforward, lump sum agreements, fuel and utility reserves, non-departmental personnel, department operations and maintenance savings, and Information Technology telecommunications appropriation.

Budget Expenditure Limitation: State Expenditure Limitation options, the level at which expenditures cannot legally exceed the appropriated amount, will be reviewed and implemented as required by State statute to ensure the best approach for the City. The City of Chandler currently falls under the Home Rule Option: Under the Home Rule Option, the expenditure limitation is free from any ties to the State imposed expenditure limitation if the majority of the qualified electors vote in favor of this alternative. On August 26, 2014, the City of Chandler voters approved to continue under Home Rule for four years. Chandler adopts its expenditure limitation along with the annual budget. The maximum legal expenditure limit is the total of all departmental appropriations in the final budget adopted by the City Council. The City's next Home Rule election will be in 2018.

Budget Amendments

In accordance with the City's Alternative Expenditure Limitation, total expenditures may not exceed the final appropriation once the budget is adopted. The City can amend the total appropriation for an individual fund; however, if one fund's total appropriation is increased, another fund must be decreased by an equal amount.

Amendments moving budget appropriation between departments may be processed at any time during the fiscal year upon written request by the City Manager to the City Council (Section 5.08, City of Chandler Charter). Organizational changes resulting in appropriation shifts between departments should be timed for the start of a new budget year, whenever possible.

Revenue and Expenditure Principles

One-time expenses will be funded from one-time balances/revenues and ongoing expenses will be funded by ongoing revenues, except as is provided for by the budget stabilization reserve as described in the Reserve Policy.

Fund balances are non-recurring revenue, and will be appropriately used for one-time expenditures or budgeted as contingency fund appropriations.

Revenues: The City should strive to ensure diversification and stabilization of its revenue base.

Revenue projections will be based on historical trends by developing base lines for ongoing types of revenues versus one-time.

Projections used to balance revenues to expenditures will be prepared for a five to ten-year period and updated annually to ensure financial sustainability. A revenue manual will be maintained to document important characteristics and historical background of each revenue source.

Conservative but realistic revenue projections will be prepared to assess the limits of budget appropriation using trend analysis and current data to minimize estimating too high, which could result in mid-fiscal year budget cuts.

User fees and charges will be periodically analyzed and updated to ensure that all direct and indirect costs are recovered for services benefiting individuals/groups (unless an economic disadvantage is caused) versus a larger public benefit.

Utility rate consultant studies will be performed at a minimum every four years, and internal rate analyses will be completed every year for Water, Wastewater, and Solid Waste funds based on ten-year projections. Reviews will ensure fees are adequate to fund operations, debt service, bond covenants and reserves. Additionally, periodic reviews of the rate design and cost of service between customer classes will be completed.

The City will vigilantly pursue outstanding collections through revenue collectors, and periodic Transaction Privilege Tax audits will be performed on businesses to ensure compliance with City tax code. Education will always be a part of taxpayer interactions to protect this major revenue source.

Expenditures: The City will commit to a level of expenditures sufficient to ensure the ongoing health, safety, and welfare of citizens.

Departments are encouraged to periodically review operations for efficiencies and reallocate existing expenditure appropriation before requesting new funding.

Personnel expenditures, the largest operating cost, will be appropriated based on full funding of all approved positions, but a vacancy saving percentage will be determined based on past trends and reduce the ongoing personnel services budget for forecasting purposes in the General Fund, shifting the amount to one-time funding. Vacant public safety sworn positions will be budgeted at bottom of range and other general positions will be budgeted at mid-range.

Employee benefits expenditures (i.e. pensions, health, worker's compensation) will be appropriated at levels to ensure adequate funding to remain current and maintain appropriate reserves if self-insured.

Compensation packages will be reviewed periodically to ensure they are sufficient to attract and retain quality employees.

2. Capital Management Policy

The purpose of this Capital Management Policy is to provide guidance on capital planning, budgeting, and management to ensure well maintained infrastructure, allowing Chandler to provide quality services, and maintain economic vitality and quality of life in a financial sustainability manner.

Timing and Scope: The City Charter requires a minimum of a five-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to be developed annually and submitted to Council on or before the fifteenth day of June (Section 5.07, City of Chandler Charter). The City develops a ten-year plan, exceeding the minimum requirements. The Council shall adopt the CIP on the same date as the final adoption of the Annual Budget. The first year of the adopted capital plan, along with any estimated prior year unspent CIP projects will be the capital budget for that fiscal year.

CIP projects shall be over \$50,000 and include items with a useful life of 3 or more years. CIP projects may be for infrastructure, facilities, equipment, technology software/hardware, and studies to determine infrastructure needs.

Project Identification and Review: Proposed CIP projects will include a detailed project description, full cost estimates (i.e. design, construction, right-of-way, land, equipment, etc.), anticipated funding sources, recommended time schedules for each improvement, reference to planning document(s) that identified the need for the investment when applicable, and the estimated operating income or cost of maintaining the facilities to be constructed (i.e. personnel, operations and maintenance). Contributions to reserves for replacement of technology, equipment, and vehicles will be incorporated into the operating cost estimate.

The City's CIP Coordination Team will serve as a central forum for cross-departmental communication regarding capital planning, identifying opportunities for efficiencies, and making a CIP recommendation to the City Manager.

Project Selection: Long-term capital fund forecasts will be updated annually to assess financial feasibility of proposed CIP projects. Other considerations for project selection may be their impact on other projects, ability to fund preliminary design, maintaining existing infrastructure versus new construction, impact on operations, and alignment with planning documents (i.e. Council Goals, General Plan).

CIP project funding will be evaluated for pay-as-you-go versus financing, by considering various economic factors, asset useful life, bond authorization levels, and projects nature/ability to finance.

Balanced CIP: The CIP projected expenditures must equal capital resources using conservative, yet realistic revenue projections. Extensive review of the secondary property tax rate will be completed to determine bond capacity. Impacts to tax and utility rates should be clearly weighed and communicated.

Capital Asset Maintenance: Maintenance and replacement of existing infrastructure and capital assets will be prioritized to keep assets in good condition and well maintained. Replacement funds will be maintained to plan for replacement of technology, equipment, and vehicles, allowing for the monitoring of inventory, standardization, right-sizing, and cost containment.

3. Reserve Policy (Blue Text is Informational Only)

The purpose of this financial policy is to ensure the City remains a financially stable organization by maintaining appropriate reserves. Adequate reserves position an organization to effectively plan for cash funded needs, as well as unplanned needs caused by significant economic downturns, manage the consequences of outside agency actions that may result in revenue reductions, and address unexpected emergencies, such as natural disasters, catastrophic events caused by human activity, or excessive liabilities or legal judgments against the organization. In concert with the City's other financial policies, the City's Reserve Policy serves as an important tool to guide the use of City resources in meeting the City's financial commitments and provides a framework for addressing unexpected future events in a fiscally prudent manner.

This policy documents the City's approach to establishing and maintaining adequate reserves (target levels) based on consideration of risks to operations, in the budgetary fund balance across a spectrum of City operations in various funds. The budgetary fund balance represents the one-time amount accumulated from prior years, which is different than the fund balance under Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), but includes the same constraints on spending.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 54 defines five reserve classifications of fund balance based on the level of restrictions placed on the specific purposes for which amounts can be spent: nonspendable fund balance, restricted fund balance, committed fund balance, assigned fund balance, and unassigned fund balance. The last three classifications are termed *Unrestricted Fund Balance* since the constraint on spending is imposed by the government itself, therefore subject to this reserve policy. Additionally, contingencies and reserves can be appropriated and unappropriated, depending if the City would like the reserve to be available for spending in the current budget year or not.

General Fund Reserve Policy

The General Fund is the main operating fund that pays for general services provided by the City, such as public safety, parks, and library services. The General Fund accounts for all general revenues of the City and for expenditures related to the rendering of the City's general services. The General Fund is considered to have a high level of risk to operations due to its dependence on revenue streams that are susceptible to economic downturns and revenue reduction impacts from outside agency actions. In addition, the General Fund is the main funding source when responding to unexpected events or emergencies.

Consideration of potential risk and other drivers influence the targeted minimum level of total Unrestricted Fund Balance that should be maintained. The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) recommends no less than two months of General Fund Unrestricted Budgetary Fund Balance.

The City desires to maintain a prudent level of reserves based on the revenue impacts described above and the City's desire to maintain strong bond ratings to minimize borrowing costs. This reserve policy sets the targeted minimum level at four months of budgeted General Fund operating revenues, excluding one-time transfers in to provide stability and flexibility to respond to unexpected adversity and/or opportunities (FY 2015-16: \$68.3M). Should the minimum reserve level fall below its target, a plan will be formulated to restore within a three year period. The Unrestricted Budgetary General Fund Balance can include the following contingency and reserve types.

General Fund Contingencies/Reserves (Type/ Appropriated or Not/ GASB 54 Classification)

General Fund Contingency / Appropriated / Unassigned: This Contingency will be maintained equal to 15% of General Fund operating revenues, excluding one-time transfers in. Acceptable contingency reserve uses are emergency situations, unexpected one-time opportunities, and appropriation transfers to allow spending in other funds. Use of this reserve requires Council approval unless delegated in the Budget Resolution. The 15% General Fund Contingency reserve must be replenished annually.

FY 2015-16: 15% General Fund Contingency amount is \$30,725,000

Council Contingency / Appropriated / Unassigned: This Contingency will be created annually for use by Mayor and Council during the Council budget amendment process or during the year for initiatives identified.

FY 2015-16: Council Contingency is \$400,000 (\$325,000 one-time and \$75,000 ongoing)

Budget Stabilization Reserve / Not Appropriated / Assigned: This reserve may be created to offset operating deficits that result from economic downturns and revenue reduction impacts from outside agency actions that can create adverse service impacts, allowing time to reduce spending and/or find other ongoing revenue opportunities. Council may add to the reserve from time to time but not draw from it for more than three consecutive fiscal years.

FY 2015-16: Budget Stabilization Reserve amount is \$15,000,000

Capital and Economic Development Reserves / Appropriated and/or Not Appropriated / Assigned: These reserves may be created to fund economic development opportunities, planned new and redevelopment capital projects and capital maintenance projects to sustain existing City infrastructure and minimize additional borrowing to help manage tax rate impacts.

FY 2015-16 thru FY 2019-20:

- a. Strategic Economic Development Opportunities (SEDO) Reserve \$1,100,000 Appropriated and \$4,907,500 Not Appropriated
- b. Downtown Redevelopment Reserve \$5,061,686 Appropriated
- c. Capital Projects Reserve \$29,782,959 Not Appropriated
- d. Infrastructure Maintenance Reserve \$10,850,000 Not Appropriated (to be used in FY 16-17)
- e. Lump Sum Reserve \$450,000 Appropriated (for capital projects utilizing funds the developer has previously deposited with the City in lieu of making required offsite improvements)
- f. Ambulance Reserve \$992,639 Not Appropriated

Personnel and Operating Reserves / Appropriated and/or Not Appropriated / Assigned: These reserves may be created to fund specific operating expenditure areas that are susceptible to economic fluctuations and to fund personnel costs that can be reasonably estimated and are short-term in nature.

FY 2015-16:

- a. Fuel and Utility Reserves \$200,000 Appropriated for each (covers mid-year price increases)
- b. Compensated Absence and Miscellaneous Personnel (CAMP) Reserve \$950,000 Appropriated (covers payout of employee sick and vacation, military leave and light duty overtime, and other misc.)
- c. Personnel Reclassification Reserve \$50,000 Appropriated (covers mid-year position Reclassifications)
- d. Public Safety Reserve \$1,706,000 Appropriated and \$564,000 Not Appropriated (for potential personnel costs associated with early hires due to projected retirements or loss of grant funding for certain programs)
- e. PSPRS Unfunded Liability Pay-Down Reserve: Begin FY 2016-17
- f. Domestic Violence Reserve \$332,408 Not Appropriated

Other Fund Reserve Policies

Other funds have been identified as needing reserves due to one or more of the following reasons: Self-supporting nature, the potential for unanticipated revenue or expense changes that can negatively affect operations, to help maintain a stable fee structure, or to cover the potential of unanticipated events threatening the public health, safety, or welfare. Reserves have been created in Enterprise Operating Funds (i.e. Water, Wastewater, Solid Waste, and Airport), Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF), Self-Insurance Funds and Replacement Funds (i.e. Vehicle and Technology).

Targeted reserves will be maintained as described below. A portion of the reserve will be appropriated annually for each applicable fund to provide for unanticipated revenue shortfalls and/or unexpected expense increases in the current year. Reserves should only be utilized after all other budget sources

have been examined for available funds. Should the minimum target level for any of the funds identified fall below its target, a plan will be formulated to restore within the next year, but no more than three years.

Water Operating Enterprise Fund accounts for specific services funded directly by fees and charges to City Water customers. The fund is intended to be self-supporting and will maintain a minimum target reserve of 20% of operating revenues. Other Water reserves may be created when deemed appropriate (i.e. fuel, utilities, lump sum).

FY 2015-16:

- a. Contingency Reserve \$3,000,000 Appropriated and a Balance Not Appropriated that Meets the 20% Minimum Target Reserve
- b. Fuel Reserves \$52,800 Appropriated (covers mid-year price increases)
- c. Personnel Reclassification Reserve \$5,000 Appropriated (covers mid-year position reclassifications)
- d. Lump Sum Reserve \$250,000 Appropriated

Wastewater Operating Enterprise Fund accounts for specific services funded directly by fees and charges to City Wastewater customers. The fund is intended to be self-supporting and will maintain a minimum target reserve of 15% of operating revenues. Other Wastewater reserves may be created when deemed appropriate (i.e. fuel, utilities, lump sum).

FY 2015-16:

- a. Contingency Reserve \$15,000,000 Appropriated and a Balance Not Appropriated that Meets the 15% Minimum Target Reserve
- b. Fuel Reserves \$15,000 Appropriated (covers mid-year price increases)
- c. Personnel Reclassification Reserve \$10,000 Appropriated (covers mid-year position reclassifications)
- d. Lump Sum Reserve \$250,000 Appropriated

Solid Waste Operating Enterprise Fund accounts for specific services funded directly by fees and charges to City Solid Waste customers. The fund is intended to be self-supporting and will maintain a minimum target reserve of 10% of operating revenues. Other Solid Waste reserves may be created when deemed appropriate (i.e. fuel, utilities). A Landfill Post-Closure Compliance Reserve will also be maintained as required by State and Federal law.

FY 2015-16:

- a. Contingency Reserve \$1,400,000 Appropriated and a Balance Not Appropriated that Meets the 10% Minimum Target Reserve
- b. Landfill Post-Closure Compliance Reserve \$4,340,000 Not Appropriated
- c. Fuel Reserves \$8,500 Appropriated (covers mid-year price increases)
- d. Personnel Reclassification Reserve \$5,000 Appropriated (covers mid-year position reclassifications)

Airport Operating Enterprise Fund accounts for specific services funded directly by fees and charges to City Airport customers. The fund is not currently intended to be self-supporting, and depends on General Fund to fund a portion of operating and capital costs; therefore a minimum target reserve is not a reasonable expectation until the Airport is determined as self-sustainable by Council.

FY 2015-16:

- a. Fuel Reserves \$1,500 Appropriated (covers mid-year price increases)

Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF) will maintain a minimum target reserve of 15% of operating revenues. Other HURF reserves may be created when deemed appropriate (i.e. fuel, utilities).

FY 2015-16:

- a. Contingency Reserve \$3,000,000 Appropriated and a Balance Not Appropriated that Meets the 15% Minimum Target Reserve
- b. Fuel Reserves \$52,800 Appropriated (covers mid-year price increases)
- c. Personnel Reclassification Reserve \$5,000 Appropriated (covers mid-year position reclassifications)

Self-Insurance Risk Fund reserve will be maintained at a level, together with purchased umbrella insurance policies, that will adequately indemnify the City's property and liability risk.

Health and Worker's Compensation Self-Insurance Funds reserves are maintained based on their Trust documents approved by Council. Qualified actuarial firms shall be retained on an annual basis in order to recommend appropriate funding levels for Risk, Health and Worker's Compensation Self-Insurance Funds. A minimum reserve of 70% of outstanding claims will be maintained for each.

The General Fund contributions to Self-Insurance Funds (i.e. Insured and Uninsured Liability Funds, Workers Compensation Trust Fund, Health Benefits Trust Fund, Short-Term Disability Fund and Dental Fund) will be reassessed annually and incorporated into the budget process, in order to ensure that the targeted goal is met in a manner that is balanced with other budget priorities.

FY 2015-16:

Workers Compensation Trust Fund

- a. Contingency Reserve \$678,004 Appropriated

Insured Liability Fund

- a. Contingency Reserve \$500,000 Appropriated

Uninsured Liability Fund

- a. Contingency Reserve \$500,000 Appropriated

Short Term Disability Fund

- a. Contingency Reserve \$300,000 Appropriated

Dental Insurance Fund

- a. Contingency Reserve \$300,000 Appropriated

Health Benefits Trust Fund

- a. Contingency Reserve \$500,000 Appropriated

Vehicle Replacement Fund will maintain a minimum target reserve of 10% of the total City fleet replacement value. A fleet management vehicle replacement plan will be reviewed annually by the Fleet Advisory Committee to ensure systematic replacement of vehicles based on a combination of miles driven, repairs and maintenance schedules, and years of service.

FY 2015-16: Contingency Reserve \$500,000 Appropriated

Technology Replacement Fund will maintain a minimum target reserve of 10% of the total City technology asset replacement value.

FY 2015-16: Contingency Reserve \$500,000 Appropriated

4. Debt Management Policy

The purpose of this Debt Management Policy is to provide guidelines for the issuance of bonds and other forms of indebtedness to finance necessary land acquisitions, capital construction, equipment, and other items for the City, as well as guidelines for monitoring outstanding debt. This policy will assist the City in determining appropriate uses of debt financing, establish certain debt management goals and assist the City in maintaining, and if possible, improving its current credit ratings, while assuming a prudent level of financial risk and preserving the City's flexibility to finance future capital programs and requirements.

Scope

This policy shall govern, except as otherwise covered by Federal and State regulations, City Charter and City Code, the issuance and management of all debt and lease financings funded in the capital markets. While adherence to this policy is desired, changes in the capital markets as well as unforeseen circumstances may from time to time produce situations that are not covered by the policy and may require modifications or exceptions to achieve City goals. The City's Debt Management Policy shall be reviewed annually.

Debt Issuance Process

Assessing Financing Needs for Capital Programs: The determination of how much indebtedness the City can afford begins by assessing the sufficiency of future revenues to fund the 10-year CIP. Factors such as debt service coverage requirements outlined in the bond indentures, the impact on businesses and citizens, tax rates, user fees, voter authorization and any impact on the bond ratings will be carefully considered.

Approval of Issuance: The bond sale amount will be determined based on financial cash flow projections, will comply with federal, state, and local legal requirements, and will obtain issuance approval from City Council.

Method of Sale: Three methods of sale for issuing debt obligations will be considered; competitive sale, negotiated sale and private placement. Each type of bond sale has the potential to provide the lowest cost given the right market conditions. The method of sale that is most advantageous to the City will be determined under consultation with the City's Financial Advisor.

Financial Service Providers: The City's Management Services Director shall be responsible for establishing a solicitation and selection process that complies with City Code requirements for securing professional services (i.e. bond counsel, financial advisor, arbitrage compliance specialist, underwriters) that are required to develop and implement the City's debt program.

Credit Ratings: Staff will assess the importance of credit ratings for each new debt. If credit ratings are to be obtained, the goal will be to maintain or improve ratings from all 3 rating agencies.

Limitations on City Indebtedness

Debt Coverage Goals: Utility rates will be set, as a minimum, to ensure the rates of revenue to debt service meet bond indenture requirements of 1.2 times coverage (ongoing system revenues will cover ongoing debt 120%) to comply with existing Water/Sewer Revenue Debt Covenants. The goal will be from 1.5 to 2 times coverage to allow fluctuations in revenue collection and to achieve the highest credit rating when bonds are sold. Excise tax revenue will be greater than 3 times (the goal will be over 5 times) the amount of debt service outstanding to meet Excise Tax Revenue Obligations debt coverage requirements.

Target Limitation on General Obligation (GO) Debt: State Statutes limit the amount of GO debt that a municipality can have outstanding. In general the City's outstanding general obligation debt for the water, sewer, parks, public safety, transportation and street lighting programs is limited to 20 percent of the City's net assessed limited property valuation (LPV) and for all other programs the amount of outstanding GO debt is limited to 6 percent of the City's LPV. Other factors such as providing capacity for future programs will also be taken into consideration.

Target Limitations on the Issuance of Revenue/Excise Tax Secured Debt Obligations: The City shall seek to finance the capital needs of its revenue producing enterprise activities through the issuance of revenue secured or excise tax secured debt obligations. Prior to issuing revenue secured debt obligations, financial plans will be updated and reviewed to determine required rates and charges needed to support the planned financing, and the impact on ratepayers and other affected parties. The amount of revenue-secured debt

obligations issued by the City will be limited by the feasibility of the overall financing. Revenue secured debt levels shall be limited by coverage and parity covenants and potential credit rating impacts.

Target Limitation on Lease-Purchase Financing: The City may enter into short-term lease-purchase obligations to finance the acquisition of capital equipment with estimated useful lives of less than seven years. Repayment of these lease-purchase obligations shall occur over a period not to exceed the useful life of the underlying asset. The Management Services Department shall be responsible for developing procedures for use by city departments interested in participating in the lease-purchase program, and for setting repayment terms and amortization schedules, in consultation with participating departments.

Improvement District Debt: The City may issue Improvement District debt only when there is a general City benefit. Improvement Districts are generally formed only by property owners in a designated area within the City in which they agree to be assessed for the repayment of the costs of constructing improvements that benefit the owner's property. Improvement District debt is secured by a lien on the property and improvements of all parcels within each district. Each Improvement District financing must be closely evaluated since it is also secured by the General fund and is viewed by the credit rating agencies as an indirect debt of the City.

Variable Rate Debt: The City shall not issue variable rate debt.

Voter Authorized Debt

Voter authorized debt shall be used, but non-voter authorized debt (i.e. Municipal Property Corporation (MPC), Excise Tax Revenue Obligations (ETROs)) may be used when dedicated revenue sources (i.e., water and wastewater user fees) other than secondary property taxes can be identified to pay debt service expenses and the following conditions are considered:

- a. Project requires additional funds over and above what is available from other sources and meets the City's goals and objectives.
- b. Emergency situations, such as an unfunded mandate or circumstance affecting the public health and welfare.
- c. The project will generate a positive net revenue position (i.e., revenues will exceed the cost of financing).

Debt Management Process

Debt Service Structure: The Management Services Director will carefully consider the debt service structure for each bond issue. Factors such as the flow of revenues available for a particular credit, the need to fill in gaps created by refunding specific principal maturities or to structure savings from a refunding in a particular year will be considered. Accelerated repayment may be considered within the bonding capacity constraints to provide capacity for future capital programs. Bonds will be amortized over a period of time not to exceed the useful life of the assets being financed.

Maturity: The final maturity of a bond sale shall be equal to or less than the remaining useful life of the assets being financed, and the average life of the financing shall not exceed 120% of the average useful life of the assets being financed.

Investment of Bond Proceeds: The City shall comply with all applicable Federal, State, and indenture restrictions, if any, regarding the use and investment of bond proceeds. This includes compliance with any restrictions on the types of investment securities allowed, restrictions on the allowable yield of invested funds as well as restrictions on the time period over which some bond proceeds may be invested. The Management Services Director, or his/her designee, will direct the investment of bond proceeds in accordance with the permitted investments for each particular bond issue. Investments such as guaranteed investment contracts may be considered when their use is in the best interest of the City and will be selected on a competitive basis.

Refunding Bonds: Refunding bonds are issued to retire all or a portion of an outstanding bond issue. Most typically this is done to refinance at a lower interest rate to reduce debt service. Alternatively, some refundings are executed for reasons other than to achieve cost savings, such as to restructure the repayment schedule of the debt, to change the type of debt instruments being used, or to retire an indenture in order to remove undesirable covenants. A present value analysis must be prepared that identifies the economic

effects of any potential refunding. For refunding transactions solely undertaken to achieve cost savings, the target savings amount shall be measured using the present value savings as percentage of par method. The target present value savings from any particular refunding candidate shall generally be at least 3% of the refunded par amount net of all transaction expenses and in excess of \$1,000,000. The Management Services Director shall have discretion in making the final determination to include individual refunding candidates that are slightly below the target in order to optimize the City's financial objectives.

Arbitrage Rebate: The City shall comply with all arbitrage rebate requirements as established by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and establish a system of record keeping and reporting to meet the arbitrage rebate compliance requirements of the federal tax code. This effort shall include tracking project expenditures financed with bond proceeds, tracking investment earnings on bond proceeds, calculating rebate payments in compliance with tax law, and remitting any rebatable earnings to the federal government in a timely manner in order to preserve the tax exempt status of the City's outstanding tax-exempt debt issues. Arbitrage service providers may be used to assist the City with complying with arbitrage regulations.

Issuance & Post-Issuance Compliance Procedures: Adopted procedures for tax exempt bonds shall be followed. Staff will work closely with the City's Bond Counsel, Financial Advisor, and Arbitrage Compliance Specialist to ensure tax exempt bonds remain in compliance with federal tax requirements from the time they are issued until they are no longer outstanding.

Continuing Disclosure Undertaking (CDU): The City will comply with the requirements of Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) when applicable. The Management Services Director, or his/her designee, will be responsible for filing the annual requirements and any Material Event Notices with Electronic Municipal Market Access (EMMA) as required by each outstanding CDU Certification.

Declaration of Official Intent: In order to ensure debt can be issued to reimburse the City for project expenses prior to issuing debt, a Declaration of Official Intent (under Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2) must be completed annually and filed with the City Clerk. The Declaration shall list all projects for the upcoming fiscal year. This will allow the City to reimburse certain capital expenses with the proceeds from tax-exempt reimbursement bonds, should such bonds be sold in the upcoming fiscal year.

5. Long-Range Financial Planning Policy

The purpose of this Long-Range Financial Planning Policy is to establish a consistent practice for financial planning that result in stable tax rates and services to the community over a multi-year period.

Timing and Scope: In preparation for both the Capital Improvement Program and the Annual Budget, long-term financial forecasting models will be updated to analyze the impact of budget decisions on the City's future financial condition.

The financial plans will forecast revenues, expenditures, debt, long-term liabilities, reserve levels when applicable, and financial position for ten years into the future for the General Fund, Enterprise Funds, Capital and Operating Funds.

Principles: The financial plans will start with a baseline assumption that current service levels will be maintained and include meaningful analysis of ongoing and one-time trends and conditions to allow consideration of long-term financial implications of current spending patterns.

If future issues are identified through long-term financial planning, possible solutions should be identified and discussed, with the ultimate goal of structurally balanced plans (ongoing revenues support ongoing expenditures) that supports fiscal sustainability for many years into the future.

6. Grant Management Policy

The purpose of this financial policy is to ensure grant oversight to support creativity and innovation in identifying and addressing existing and desired City program or partnership needs that cannot be resolved with existing resources, but may be suitable areas for seeking grant funds. The policy sets standards for the consistent acquisition and administration of grants and applies to all grants provided to or facilitated by City departments (federal, state, county, local, corporate, Indian community, and private foundation). Grant support is encouraged unless the prospective grant conflicts with the City's Strategic Goals, generates more cost than benefit, or restricts the mission of the City.

Grant Identification, Evaluation and Application

Once potential grants have been identified and prior to the submittal of a grant application to an agency or acceptance of funds from an organization, the Department should give consideration as to whether the grant is consistent with the City's Strategic and Department Goals, and a funding evaluation should be completed to determine the effect of the grant on the current and future City resources or operations. Factors to consider are:

- a. Available funding for required grant matches (i.e. the City's portion of project costs or in-kind costs)
- b. Current and future year(s) budget implications (i.e. added positions, equipment)
- c. Capacity and experience of the Department and staff to effectively administer and implement all aspects of the grant.

Grant Approval, Administration and Operational Oversight

To ensure transparent management of grants, grants valued with City resource commitments that exceed \$30,000, or any amount if required by the grant agreement, require City Council approval prior to acceptance of funds or upon submittal if award signifies acceptance. Grants do not require City Council approval if governed by another authority (i.e. Public Housing Authority Commission). Transportation capital grants that require a rapid response to prevent forfeiting the grant may be approved by the City Manager or designee, prior to Council approval of capital project funded by said grant. The City Council item should include the grant's purpose, term and amount, as well as current and future year budget or operational implications, during and after the grant is completed. City Manager or Designee are authorized to approve, apply for, and execute documents related to grants with a gross value of less than \$30,000, unless grant agreement requires City Council approval.

If an approved grant requires an ongoing General Fund commitment from the City, it will be incorporated into the forecast to ensure expenditures can be supported when the grant expires. If the position funding is only for the life of the grant, the expenditures shall be budgeted from one-time funding.

The City of Chandler's City Code and administrative regulations related to procurement shall be utilized for the purchase of materials, services, and construction with grant funds, in conjunction with any procurement requirements stipulated in the grant requirements.

The City's Grant Committee shall be made up of Department Grant Liaisons, and will provide grant management guidance and oversight to ensure adherence to the Grant Management Policy. The Committee will serve as a central source for cross-departmental communications regarding the pursuit of grants and effective application of administrative procedures.

Department Directors shall ensure compliance with all grant requirements through ongoing administrative and operational support (i.e. trained staff resources, financial and/or program reporting, subcontractor monitoring of activities and/or performance, pass-thru monitoring, audit compliance by grantor and/or by external auditors, record retention, and any additional requirements detailed in the Grant award documentation such as federal circulars related to federal grants).

7. Investment Policy

The purpose of the Investment Policy is to ensure investment of cash funds will be maintained in accordance with City Charter and State Statutes by defining the parameters within which public funds are to be managed. In methods, procedures and practices, the policy formalizes the framework for the City's investment activities that must be exercised to ensure effective and judicious fiscal and investment management of the City's funds. The guidelines are intended to be broad enough to allow the Management Services Director to function properly within the parameters of responsibility and authority, yet specific enough to adequately safeguard the investment assets.

Scope

This investment policy applies to all monies invested by the City pursuant to Section 3-2 of the City Code, and applies to those investments authorized by the Code and Arizona Revised Statute 35-323. Bond proceeds are governed by specific indentures and are excluded from the scope of this Policy.

Objectives

The primary objectives, in order of priority, of the City's investment activities shall be:

- a. **Safety.** Safety of principal is the foremost objective of the investment programs. Investments shall be undertaken in a manner that seeks to ensure preservation of principal in the overall portfolio.
- b. **Liquidity.** The investments will remain sufficiently liquid to meet all operating requirements that might be reasonably anticipated.
- c. **Return on Investment.** The investment pools and funds shall be managed with the objective of attaining the maximum rate of return given the constraints of the aforementioned safety and liquidity objectives.

Standards of Care

Prudence: 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. Management Services Director and designees acting in accordance with procedures and this investment policy and exercising due diligence shall be relieved of personal liability 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.

The "prudent person" standard states that, "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 probably income to be derived."

Ethics and Conflicts of Interest: Employees involved in the investment process shall refrain from personal business activity that could conflict with proper execution of the investment program, or which could impair their ability to make impartial investment decisions. Employees and investment officials shall disclose any material interests in financial institutions with which they conduct business. Disclosure shall be made to the governing body. They shall further disclose any personal financial/investment positions that could be related to the performance of the investment portfolio. Employees and officers shall refrain from undertaking any personal investment transactions with the same individual with whom business is conducted on behalf of the City.

Delegation of Authority and Responsibilities: Responsibility for the operation of the investment program is hereby delegated to the Management Services Director who shall act in accordance with established procedures and internal controls for the operation of the investment program consistent with this Investment Policy. All participants in the investment process shall seek to act responsibly as custodians of the public trust. No officer or designee may engage in an investment transaction except as provided under the terms of this policy and supporting procedures.

The City may engage the services of an external investment manager to assist in the management of the City's investment portfolio in a manner consistent with the City's objectives. Such external managers may be granted

discretion to purchase and sell investment securities in accordance with this Investment Policy. Such managers must be registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.

Permitted Investment Instruments

The City shall invest and reinvest City monies as provided in statute and City Code in any of the following items.

Obligations issued or guaranteed by the full faith and credit of the United States of America.

Obligations issued or guaranteed by the United States or any of the senior debt of its agencies, sponsored agencies, corporations, sponsored corporations or instrumentalities.

Bonds or other evidences of indebtedness of this state or any of the counties or incorporated cities, towns or duly organized school districts which carry as a minimum a AA rating or its equivalent by an nationally recognized statistical ratings organization (NRSRO).

Commercial paper of prime quality that is rated within the top two ratings by a NRSRO. All commercial paper must be issued by a corporation organized and doing business in the United States. The portfolio is limited to a maximum 30% allocation in the commercial paper sector.

Bonds, notes or evidences of indebtedness of any county, municipal district, municipal utility or special taxing district of any state that are payable from revenues, earnings or a special tax specifically pledged for the payment of the principal and interest on the obligations, and for the payment of which a lawful sinking fund or reserve fund has been established and is being maintained, but only if no default in payment on principal or interest on the obligations to be purchased has occurred within five years of the date of the investment, or, if such obligations were issued less than five years before the date of investment, no default in payment of principal or interest has occurred on the obligations to be purchased nor any other obligations of the issuer within five years of the investment.

Bonds, notes or evidences of indebtedness issued by any county improvement district or municipal improvement district of any state to finance local improvements authorized by law, if the principal and interest of the obligations are payable from assessments on real property within the improvement district. An investment shall not be made if:

- a. The face value of all such obligations, and similar obligations outstanding, exceeds fifty percent of the market value of the real property, and if improvements on which the bonds or the assessments for the payment of principal and interest on the bonds are liens inferior only to the liens for general ad valorem taxes.
- b. A default in payment of principal or interest on the obligations to be purchased has occurred within five years of the date of investment, or, if the obligations were issued less than five years before the date of investment, a default in the payment of principal or interest has occurred on the obligations to be purchased or on any other obligation of the issuer within five years of the investment.

Negotiable or brokered certificates of deposit (CD) issued by a nationally or state chartered bank or savings and loan association. CD issuers must have a short-term rating of A1 or its equivalent by a NRSRO. The portfolio is limited to a maximum 30% allocation in the negotiable CD sector.

Certificates of deposit in eligible depositories.

Deposits in one or more federally insured banks or savings and loan associations placed in accordance with the procedures prescribed in section 35-323.01.

Interest bearing savings accounts in banks and savings and loan institutions doing business in this state whose accounts are insured by federal deposit insurance for their industry, but only if deposits in excess of the insured

amount are secured by the eligible depository to the same extent and in the same manner as required under this article.

Bonds, debentures, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness that are denominated in United States dollars and that carry at a minimum an "A" or better rating, at the time of purchase, from at least two nationally recognized rating agencies and may be issued by corporations that are organized and doing business in the United States. The portfolio is limited to a maximum 30% allocation in the medium-term corporate note sector.

Participation in the Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) established pursuant to Section 35-326, Arizona Revised Statutes and operated by the State Treasurer whose portfolio is consistent with this policy.

Securities of or any other interests in any open-end or closed-end management type investment company or investment trust, including exchange traded funds whose underlying investments are invested in securities allowed by state law, registered under the investment company act of 1940, as amended.

Investment Parameters

Diversification: It is the policy of the City to diversify the investment portfolio so as to protect City monies from material losses due to over-concentration of assets in a specific maturity, a specific issuer, a specific geographical distribution, or a specific class of securities. No more than five percent (5%) of market value of the portfolio shall be invested in securities issued by a single corporation and its subsidiaries/affiliates or municipality. Securities issued by the federal government or its agencies, sponsored agencies, corporations, sponsored corporations or instrumentalities are exempted from this provision. Portfolio percentage is calculated at the time purchase.

Maximum Maturities: To the extent possible, the City shall attempt to match its investments with anticipated cash flow requirements. The City will not directly invest in securities maturing more than five (5) years from the date of purchase.

Because of inherent difficulties in accurately forecasting cash flow requirements, a portion of the portfolio should be continuously invested in readily available funds such as LGIP or money market funds to ensure that appropriate liquidity is maintained to meet ongoing obligations.

Portfolio Management

Following the primary objective of preservation of capital, investments shall be managed to take advantage of market opportunities. In so doing, negotiable securities may be sold prior to their maturity to provide liquid funds as needed for cash flow purposes to enhance portfolio returns, or to restructure maturities to increase yield and/or decrease risk.

Purchases and sales of Securities

All trades shall be executed with the objective of realizing the best bid or offer price available. It is the responsibility of the investment personnel and external investment advisors to know the "market price" or relative value of all securities before trades are executed. The method used by the investment personnel and investment advisors shall be the one that will obtain the best execution price or value given the objective of the transaction. A minimum of three (3) bids will be solicited for all transactions.

Authorized Financial Institutions

A list will be maintained of financial institutions and depositories authorized to provide investment services. In addition, a list will be maintained of approved security broker/dealers selected by conducting a process of due diligence. This may include 'primary' dealers or regional dealers that qualify under Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) Rule 15C3-1 (uniform net capital rule).

All broker/dealers who desire to become qualified for investment transactions must supply the following (as appropriate):

- a. Audited financial statements demonstrating compliance with state and federal capital adequacy guidelines

- b. Proof of FINRA certification
- c. Proof of state registration
- d. Completed broker/dealer questionnaire (not applicable to Certificate of Deposit counterparties)
- e. Certification of having read and understood and agreeing to comply with the City's investment policy.
- f. Evidence of adequate insurance coverage.

All financial institutions who desire to become depositories must supply the following (as appropriate):

- a. Audited financial statements demonstrating compliance with state and federal capital adequacy guidelines
- b. Proof of state registration
- c. Evidence of adequate insurance coverage

A periodic review of the financial condition and registration of all qualified financial institutions and broker/dealers will be conducted.

If the City utilizes an external investment advisor, the advisor may be authorized to transact with its own Approved Broker/Dealer List on behalf of the City. In the event that the investment advisor utilizes its own Broker/Dealer List, the advisor will perform due diligence for the brokers/dealers on its Approved List. Upon request, the advisor will provide the City their Approved Broker/Dealer List.

Safekeeping and Custody

All security transactions, including collateral for repurchase agreements, entered into by the City shall be conducted on a delivery versus payment basis. Securities shall be held by the City or an independent third-party safekeeping institution designated by the City and evidenced by safekeeping receipts in the City's name. The safekeeping institution shall annually provide a copy of its most recent report on internal controls – Service Organization Control Reports (formerly 70, or SAS 70) prepared in accordance with the Statement on Standards for Attestation Engagements (SSAE) No. 16.

Performance Evaluation and Reporting

Investment performance shall be continually monitored and evaluated by the City's Management Services Director. Investment performance statistics and activity reports shall be generated by the Accounting Division and will provide summary reports on a monthly basis for the Management Services Director, and for the annual financial report.

Monthly Performance Analysis: On a monthly basis the following information, at a minimum, will be provided to the Management Services Director:

- a. The portfolio duration at the end of the current period.
- b. The portfolio yield to maturity at the end of the current period.
- c. The periodic realized return. Realized return is defined as the sum of the portfolio interest earnings plus amortization/accretion plus realized gains minus fees divided by the average portfolio value during the period.
- d. The periodic total return. Total return is defined as the sum of all investment income plus changes in the capital value of the portfolio.
- e. Year to date portfolio interest earnings plus amortization/accretion for the current year compared with the corresponding portion of the prior year.
- f. Cumulative unrealized gains on the portfolio.

Approval

Any deviation from the preceding policy shall require the prior specific written authority of the City Council. The Policy shall be reviewed on an annual basis.

Definitions

Agency – A debt security issued by a government-sponsored enterprise (GSE). While not explicitly guaranteed by the government, GSEs are generally traded with an “implied” guarantee. An example of a GSE is the Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA).

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

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 Ratings Scales –

Credit quality comparison of short term and long term ratings are as follows:

Rating	Standard & Poor’s		Moody’s	Fitch	
Short Term	A-1+	A-1	P-1	F-1+	F-1
Long Term	AAA -A-	A+-A-	Aaa-A3	AAA-A-	A+-A-

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 to the purchaser or the custodian.

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.

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.

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”.

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.

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

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

Premium – The amount by which the price paid for a security exceeds the security’s par value

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

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

Total Return – The sum of the portfolio interest earnings plus amortization/accretion plus realized gains plus unrealized gains minus fees divided by the average portfolio value during the period.

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.

Treasury Notes – Intermediate U.S. government debt securities with maturities of one to ten 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.

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

8. Accounting, Auditing, and Financial Reporting Policy

The purpose of this Accounting, Auditing, and Financial Reporting Policy is to set guidelines on how the City will account for its financial resources and be accountable for making financial information available to the public.

Accounting and Internal Control

The City's accounting and financial reporting systems will be maintained in conformance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), standards of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), and the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA).

Financial systems will be maintained to monitor operating and capital revenues, expenditures, and program performance on an ongoing basis.

The City will maintain a system of internal control to safeguard its assets against loss, check the accuracy and reliability of its accounting data, promote operational efficiency, and encourage adherence to prescribed managerial policies.

Independent Audit

An annual audit (Section 5.10, City of Chandler Charter) of the City will be performed by an independent public accounting firm with an audit opinion to be included in the City's published Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). An electronic copy of the CAFR will be posted online in compliance with State statutes. Annual audits will also be performed by an independent public accounting firm for the Health Care Benefits Self-Insurance Trust Fund (City Code, Section 2-15.1(d)) and the Workers Compensation and Employer Liability Self-Insurance Trust Fund (City Code, Section 2-16.1(d)).

Financial Reporting

External Financial Reporting: As an additional independent confirmation of the quality of the City's financial reporting, the City will annually seek to obtain the GFOA Certification of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. The CAFR, in conformity with GAAP, will be presented in a way designed to effectively communicate with citizens about the financial affairs of the City.

As an additional independent confirmation of the quality of the City's budget document, the City will annually seek to obtain the GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. The budget will satisfy criteria as a financial and programmatic policy document, a comprehensive financial plan, an operations guide for all organizational units, and a communication device. The Adopted Budget and Auditor General Budget forms will be posted online in compliance with State statutes.

Internal Financial Reporting: Monthly (General fund) and Quarterly (major funds) budget to actual financial reports will be presented to the City Council throughout the Fiscal Year. Such reports will enable the City Council to be constantly informed of the financial status of the City. These reports will be available online for viewing by citizens as well.