CITY OF RIDGECREST
100 West California Avenue
Ridgecrest, California 93555
Office of the City Treasurer

INVESTMENT POLICY FOR PUBLIC FUNDS

Presented to the Ridgecrest City Council May 18, 2005

RESOLUTION NO. 05-33

A RESOLUTION OF THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL ADOPTING AMD REAFFIRMING THE CITY'S ANNUAL STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS AND DELEGATING THE AUTHORITY TO MAKE SUCH INVESTMENTS TO THE CITY TREASURER

WHEREAS, the State of California Government Code Section 53646 (a) requires the City Treasurer or Chief Financial Officer to annually render a statement of investment policy to the City Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The City Council the City of Ridgecrest does hereby reaffirm and approve the City of Ridgecrest Annual Investment Policy herein attached as Exhibit A; and
2. The Annual Investment Policy adopted herein; and
3. The City Treasurer is hereby designated the authorized official to make all City Investments pursuant to the Government Code and City of Ridgecrest Investment Policy; and such designation shall remain in effect until rescinded.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 18th day of May, 2005, by the following vote:

AYES: Mayor Holloway, Council Members Martin, Clark, Morgan, and Carter

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Marshall G. "Chip" Holloway, Mayor

ATTEST:

Rita Gable
City Clerk

Exhibit “A”

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1. Purpose

This statement is intended to establish the policies for prudent investment of the City’s funds, and to provide guidelines for suitable investments.

It is the policy of the City of Ridgecrest to invest public funds not required for immediate day-to-day operations in safe and liquid investments having a market-average rate of return while conforming to all state statutes governing the investment public funds. The ultimate goal is to enhance the economic status of the City while protecting its funds.

The investment policies and practices of the City of Ridgecrest are based upon Federal, State, and local law and prudent money management.

This statement in intended to provide direction for the investment of the City's temporary idle cash under the prudent man rule. Civil code Section 2261, et seq. States in part "investing…for the benefit of another, a trustee shall exercise the judgment and care, under the circumstances then prevailing, which men of prudence, discretion, and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs…"

2. Objectives

The primary objectives of the City’s investment policy are:

- o Safety
- o Liquidity
- o Yield

The City strives to maintain the level of investment of all idle funds as near 100% as possible, through the optimum operation of its cash management system which is designed to accurately monitor and forecast expenditures and revenue. The City attempts to obtain the highest yield on its investment consistent with preservation of principal and liquidity and consistent with the cooperation of the City's operating departments in avoiding sudden cash withdrawals, loss of interest and possible penalties.

The “Prudent-Investor Standard” as defined in the Government Code of the State of California for liquidity, safety, and return shall guide the City’s investment policy. This objective provides that when making decision, the prudent investor shall act with care, skill, prudence, and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing, 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, thus realizing and optimizing the investment objectives of safety, liquidity, and yield.

3. Funds to be Invested

This policy governs the prudent investment of all idle funds of the City of Ridgecrest. City is defined as the City of Ridgecrest, the Redevelopment Agency, the Ridgecrest Public Financing Authority, Assessment Districts, as well as any future component units of the City, the Agency, or the Authority. Specifically, the funds under investment include:

- General Fund
- All Special Revenue Funds
- Capital Project Funds
- Enterprise Funds
- Trust & Agency Funds
- Bond Reserve Funds
- Trust & Agency Funds
- Any new funds that the City Council may create during the fiscal year

4. Delegation of Authority-Adoption of Policy

The City invests in the spectrum of instruments allowable under the Government Code Section 53600 et. seq. of the State of California. The City Council has delegated, by resolution until rescinded, the authority to invest to the City Treasurer, subject to the limitations set forth in the Investment Policy. The City shall hold its public funds investor harmless for responsible transactions undertaken in accordance with the Investment Policy. The investment policy shall be annually rendered by the City Treasurer and be adopted by City Council resolution.

5. Investment Strategy & Diversification

To maximize returns, the economy and various markets are monitored carefully in order to assess the probable course of interest rates. The City lengthens its maturities when rates are falling and shortens maturities are rising. The City attempts to take advantage of imperfections in the market where a security's price is out of line with other investments, and tries to improve yields during contra cyclical changes in interest rates and through the purchase of occasional odd lots which are offered at bargain prices.

The City of Ridgecrest will diversify its investments by security type, institution, and maturity. The only exception is with the Local Agency Investment Fund. With the exception of U.S. Treasury securities and authorized investment pools no more than 50% of the City’s total investment portfolio may be with a single investment instrument or financial institution.

6. Selection of Financial Institutions

The Deputy City Manager-Administrative Services/City Treasurer (or designated staff) shall investigate all institutions that wish to do business with the City in order to determine if they are adequately capitalized, make markets in securities appropriate to the City’s needs, and agree to abide by the City’s Investment Policy. All financial that desire to become qualified bidders for investment transactions must complete City’s “Broker/Dealer Request for Information” and “Broker/Dealer Certification”.

The Deputy City Manager-Administrative Services/City Treasurer shall conduct an annual review of the financial condition and other qualifications of all approved financial institutions and broker/dealers to determine if they continue to meet the City’s guidelines for qualifications as defined in this section. Additionally, the City shall keep the current audited financial statements on file for each approved financial institution and broker dealer with which the City does business.

7. Investment Instruments

The City invests in the following investment instruments as approved by the California Government Code:

Securities of the U.S. Government, the State of California or any component units including Federal Agency Issues.

Local Agency Investment Fund (State of California) and Demand Deposits.

Certificates of Deposit (Time Deposits) placed with commercial banks and savings and loan companies.

Bankers Acceptances.

Re-purchase Agreements.

Passbook Saving Account Demand Deposits.

Other investments that are, or may become, legal investments through the State of California Government Code and as approved by the City Treasurer.

a. In addition to following all legal guidelines, the portfolio shall preserve principal, maintain adequate liquidity to meet all City obligations, contain an appropriate level of interest rate risk, and with the exception of the Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) be diversified across types of investments, maturities, and institutions to minimize credit risk and maintain an appropriate return.

b. <u>Repurchase Agreements – Master Repurchase Agreements Required</u>
Investments in repurchase agreements are allowable and shall be made only with financial institutions with which the City has an executed master repurchase agreement. The financial institution must be a primary dealer of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

8. Investment Pools/Mutual Funds

A thorough investigation of any pooled investment funds, including mutual funds is required prior to investing, on a continual basis. To accomplish this a questionnaire will be used to evaluate the suitability of the pooled fund. The questionnaire will answer the following general questions:

- A description of eligible investment securities, and a written statement of investment policies and objectives;
- A description of interest calculations and how it is distributed, and how gains and losses are treated.
- A description of how the securities are safeguarded (including the settlement processes) and how often the securities are priced and the program audited;
- A description of who may invest in the program, how often, and what size deposit and withdrawal is allowed;
- A schedule for receiving statements and portfolio listings;
- Are reserves, retained earnings, etc. utilized by the pool/fund?
- A fee schedule and when and how the fees are assessed;

- o Is the pool/fund eligible for bond proceeds and/or will it accept such proceeds?

9. Policy Criteria for Selecting Investment, in Order of Priority

A. Safety

Safety and the minimizing of risk associated with investing refers to attempts to reduce the potential for loss of principal, interest or a combination of the two. The first level of risk control is found in state law, which restricts the particular type of investments permissible for municipalities. The second level of risk control is reduction of default risk by investing in instruments that appear upon examination to be the most credit worthy. The third level of risk control is reduction of market risk by investing in instruments that have maturities coinciding with planned dates of disbursement, thereby eliminating risk of loss from a forced sale.

B. Liquidity

Liquidity refers to the ability to easily sell at any time with a minimal risk of losing some portion of principal or interest. Liquidity is an important quality for an investment to have, for at any time the City may have unexpected or unusual circumstances that result in larger disbursements than expected, and some investments may need to be sold to meet the contingency. Most investments of the City are highly liquid, with the exception of Time Certificates of Deposits issued by banks and savings and loans companies. Maturity dates for Time Certificates of Deposits shall be selected in anticipation of disbursement needs, thereby obviating the need for forced liquidation or lost interest penalties.

C. Yield

Yield is the potential dollar earnings as investment can provide, and also is sometimes described as the rate of return. The City attempts to obtain the highest yield possible when selecting an investment, provided that the criteria stated in the Investment Policy for safety and liquidity are met.

7. Policy Constraints

The City operates its investment program with many State and self-imposed constraints. It does not speculate; its does not buy stock or corporate bonds; its does not deal in futures or options; it does not purchase on margin through Reverse Re-purchase Agreements. The weighted average life of the portfolio is maintained within limits dictated by the cash flow needs of the City. The City diversifies its investment to reduce potential default on market risks. The portfolio is carefully monitored to assure the prudent management of the portfolio.

8. Selection of Investment Contracts

The City determines those firms (broker, broker/dealers, banks, and savings and loans) with which it will do investment business based on the following criteria:

A. Being authorized under California Government Code Section 53635.5 to transact investments within local agencies.

B. Receipt of a positive, audited financial statement. The City Treasurer shall annually review the financial condition and registrations of qualified financial institutions and brokers/dealers with whom the City/Agency/Authority does business.

C. Being in business for a minimum of seven years in the State of California as evidence as appropriate experience in California.

D. These may include primary dealers or regional dealers that qualify under Securities & Exchange Commission Rule 15C3-1.

E. Other rules and regulations as may from time to time be either enacted by State law or administrative necessity as determined by the City Treasurer.

9. Safekeeping & Collateralization

Securities purchased from broker/dealers (if any) shall be held in third party safekeeping by the trust department of the City's bank or other designated third party trust, in the City's name and control.

Collateralization shall be required on certificates of deposits and repurchase agreements. In order to anticipate market changes and provide for a level of security for all funds, the collateralization level will be 105% of market value of principal and accrued interest or the minimum required in the California Government Code (whichever is greater). Collateral will always be held by an independent third party with whom the City has a current custodial agreement. A clearly marked evidence of ownership (safekeeping receipt) must be supplied to the City and retained. Collateral substitution is granted with the written approval of the City Treasurer.

All securities will be received and delivered using a delivery vs. payment basis, which ensures that securities are deposited with the third party custodian prior to the release of funds. Securities will be held by a third party custodian as evidenced by safekeeping receipts. Investments in the Local Agency Investment Fund or mutual funds are undeliverable and are not subject to delivery or third party safekeeping.

10. Investment Controls & Investment Procedures

The City has a System of Internal Investment Controls and a Segregation of responsibilities of Investment Functions. All requests for investment transactions are over the signatures of any two of the following four city officials: 1) Treasurer, 2) City Manager, 3) Mayor, 4) Deputy City Treasurer. In the absence of the City Treasurer, the Deputy City Treasurer, or the City Manager, as designated by the City Treasurer will act as the Treasurer and will make the investment decisions (normally based on the criteria outlined by the Treasurer prior to his departure on business or vacation).

The City Treasurer shall establish a separate written investment procedures manual for the operation of the investment program consistent with this policy. The procedures should explicitly include reference to: safekeeping, wire transfer agreements, banking service contracts, cash flow forecasting, an collateral/depository agreements. Such procedures shall include explicit delegation of authority to persons responsible for investment transactions. No person may engage in an investment transaction except as provided under the terms of this policy and the procedures established by the City Treasurer.

11. Investment Reports

A. The Treasurer annually renders a Statement of Investment Policy to The City Council for their approval.

B. The Treasurer renders an investment report at the frequency dictated by State law, to the City Manager and City Council showing the type of investment, institution, date of maturity, amount of deposit, current market value for all securities with a maturity of more than 12 months, rate of interest, specifying in detail each investment in Re-purchase Agreements, and such other date as may be required by the City.

C. The Investment Report states its relationship to the Statement of Investment Policy by indicating each and every instance that there is a divergence from of violation of Policy or stating that the report is in compliance with the approved Statement of Investment Policy.

12. Investment Audits

Annually, the City Council reviews and evaluates the investment program and updates the Statement of Investment Policy. The City's auditor will include in the scope of the audit investments executed, matured, and ongoing. Appropriate City staff will assist the

Treasurer in confirming the accuracy of his reports and will confirm correlation with City's system of accounts.

13. Benchmark Standard

The benchmark for the portfolio is the LAIF rate.

14. Ethics & Conflicts of Interest

Officers and employees involved in the investment process shall refrain from personal business activities that could conflict with proper execution of the investment program, or which could impair their ability to make impartial investment decisions. Any potential conflicts shall be disclosed to either the City Treasurer, City Manager, or the City Attorney.

GLOSSARY

AGENCIES: Federal agency securities and/or Government-sponsored enterprises.

ASKED: The price at which securities are offered.

BANKERS' ACCEPTANCE (BA): A draft or bill or exchange accepted by a bank or trust company. The accepting institution guarantees payment of the bill, as well as the issuer.

BENCHMARK: A comparative base for measuring the performance or risk tolerance of the investment portfolio. A benchmark should represent a close correlation to the level of risk and the average duration of the portfolio's investments.

BID: The price offered by a buyer of securities. (When you are selling securities, you ask for a bid.) See Offer.

BROKER: A broker brings buyers and sellers together for a commission.

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT (CD): A time deposit with a specific maturity evidenced by a certificate. Large-denomination CD's are typically negotiable.

COLLATERAL: Securities, evidence of deposit, or other property that a borrower pledges to secure repayment of a loan. Also refers to securities pledged by a bank to secure deposits of public monies.

COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT (CAFR):
The official annual report for the City of Ridgecrest. It includes five combined statements for each individual fund and account group prepared in conformity with GAAP. It also includes supporting schedules necessary to demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal and contractual provisions, extensive introductory material, and a detailed Statistical Section.

COUPON: (a) The annual rate of interest that a bond's issuer promises to pay the bondholder on the bond's face value. (b) A certificate attached to a bond evidencing interest due on a payment date.

DEALER: A dealer, as opposed to a broker, acts as a principal in all transactions, buying and selling for his own account.

DEBENTURE: A bond secured only by the general credit of the issuer.

DELIVERY VERSUS PAYMENT: There are two methods of delivery of securities: delivery versus payment and delivery versus receipt. Delivery versus payment is delivery of securities with an exchange of money for the securities. Delivery versus receipt is delivery of securities with an exchange of a signed receipt for the securities.

DERIVATIVES: (1) Financial instruments whose return profile is linked to, or derived from, the movement of one or more underlying index or security, and may include a leveraging factor, or (2) financial contracts based upon notional amounts whose value is derived from an underlying index or security (interest rates, foreign exchange rates, equities or commodities).

DISCOUNT: The difference between the cost price of a security and its maturity when quoted at lower than face value. A security selling below original offering price shortly after sale also is considered to be at a discount.

DISCOUNT SECURITIES: Non-interest bearing money market instruments that are issued a discount and redeemed at maturity for full face value, e.g. U.S. Treasury Bills.

DIVERSIFICATION: Dividing investment funds among a variety of securities offering independent returns.

FEDERAL CREDIT AGENCIES: Agencies of the Federal government set up to supply credit to various classes of institutions and individuals, e.g., S&L's, small-business firms, students, farmers, farm cooperatives, and exporters.

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION (FDIC): A federal agency that insures bank deposits, currently up to $100,000 per deposit.

FEDERAL FUNDS RATE: The rate of interest at which Fed funds are traded. This rate is currently pegged by the Federal Reserve through open-market operations.

FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANKS (FHLB):
Government sponsored wholesale banks (currently 12 regional banks) that lend funds and provide correspondent banking services to member commercial banks, thrift institutions, credit unions and insurance companies. The mission of the FHLBs is to liquefy the housing related assets of its members who must purchase stock in their district Bank.

FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION (FNMA): FNMA, like GNMA was chartered under the Federal National Mortgage Association Act in 1938. FNMA is a federal corporation working under the auspices of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). It is the largest single provider of residential mortgage funds in the United States. Fannie Mae, as the corporation is called, is a private stockholder owned corporation. The corporation's purchases include a variety of adjustable mortgages and second loans, in addition to fixed-rate mortgages. FNMA's securities are also highly liquid and are widely accepted. FNMA assumes and guarantees that all security holders will receive timely payment of principal and interest.

FEDERAL OPEN MARKET COMMITTEE (FOMC): Consists of seven members of the Federal Reserve Board and five of the twelve Federal Reserve Bank Presidents. The President of the New York Federal Reserve Bank is a permanent member, while the other Presidents serve on a rotating basis. The Committee periodically meets to set Federal Reserve guidelines regarding purchases and sales of Government Securities in the open market as a means of influencing the volume of bank credit and money.

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM: The central bank of the United States created by Congress and consisting of a seven member Board of Governors in Washington, D.C., 12 regional banks and about 5,700 commercial banks that are members of the system.

GOVERNMENT NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION (GNMA or Ginnie Mae): Securities influencing the volume of bank credit guaranteed by GNMA and issued by mortgage bankers, commercial banks, savings and loan associations, and other institutions. Security holder is protected by full faith and credit of the U.S. Government. Ginnie Mae securities are backed by the FHA, VA, or FmHA mortgages. The term "passthroughs" is often used to describe Ginnie Maes.

LIQUIDITY: A liquid asset is one that can be converted easily and rapidly into cash without a substantial loss of value. In the money market, a security is said to be liquid if the spread between bid and asked prices is narrow and reasonable size can be done at those quotes.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT POOL (LGIP): The aggregate of all funds from political subdivisions that are placed in the custody of the State Treasurer for investment and reinvestment.

MARKET VALUE: The price at which a security is trading and could presumably be purchased or sold.

MASTER REPURCHASE AGREEMENT: A written contract covering all future transactions between the parties to repurchase—reverse repurchase agreements that establishes each party's rights in the transactions. A master agreement will often specify, among other things, the right of the buyer-lender to liquidate the underlying securities in the event of default by the seller-borrower.

MATURITY: The date upon which the principal or stated value of an investment becomes due and payable.

MONEY MARKET: The market in which short-term debt instruments (bills, commercial paper, bankers' acceptances, etc.) are issued and traded.

OFFER: The price asked by a seller of securities. See Asked and Bid.

OPEN MARKET OPERATIONS: Purchases and sales of government and certain other securities in the open market by the New York Federal Reserve Bank as directed by the FOMC in order to influence the volume of money and credit in the economy. Purchases inject reserves into the bank system and stimulate growth of money and credit; sales have the opposite effect. Open market operations are the Federal Reserve's most important and most flexible monetary policy tool.

PORTFOLIO: Collection of securities held by an investor.

PRIMARY DEALER: A group of government securities dealers who submit daily reports of market activity and positions and monthly financial statements to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and are subject to its informal oversight. Primary dealers include Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)-registered securities broker-dealers, banks, and a few unregulated firms.

PRUDENT INVESTOR RULE: An investment standard. In some states the law requires that a fiduciary, such as a trustee, may invest money only in a list of securities selected by the custody state—the so-called legal list. In other states the trustee may invest in a security if it is one which would be bought by a prudent person of discretion and intelligence who is seeking a reasonable income and preservation of capital.

QUALIFIED PUBLIC DEPOSITORIES: A financial institution which does not claim exemption from the payment of any sales or compensating use or ad valorem taxes under the laws of this state, which has segregated for the benefit of the commission eligible collateral having a value of not less than its maximum liability and which has been approved by the Public Deposit Protection Commission to hold public deposits.

RATE OF RETURN: The yield obtainable on a security based on its purchase price or its current market price. This may be the amortized yield to maturity on a bond the current income return.

REPURCHASE AGREEMENT (RP OR REPO): A holder of securities sells these securities to an investor with an agreement to repurchase them at a fixed price on a fixed date. The security "buyer" in effect lends the "seller" money for the period of the agreement, and the terms of the agreement are structured to compensate him for this. Dealers use RP extensively to finance their positions. Exception: When the Fed is said to be doing RP, it is lending money, that is, increasing bank reserves.

SAFEKEEPING: A service to customers rendered by banks for a fee whereby securities and valuables of all types and descriptions are held in the bank's vaults for protection.

SECONDARY MARKET: A market made for the purchase and sale of outstanding issues following the initial distribution.

SECURITIES & EXCHANGE COMMISSION: Agency created by Congress to protect investors in securities transactions by administering securities legislation.

SEC RULE 15C3-1: See Uniform Net Capital Rule.

STRUCTURED NOTES: Notes issued by Government Sponsored Enterprises (FHLB, FNMA, SLMA, etc.) and Corporations that have imbedded options (e.g., call features, step-up coupons, floating rate coupons, derivative-based returns) into their debt structure. Their market performance is impacted by the fluctuation of interest rates, the volatility of the imbedded options and shifts in the shape of the yield curve.

TREASURY BILLS: A non-interest bearing discount security issued by the U.S. Treasury to finance the national debt. Most bills are issued to mature in three months, six months, or one year.

TREASURY BONDS: Long-term coupon-bearing U.S. Treasury securities issued as direct obligations of the U.S. Government and having initial maturities of more than 10 years.

TREASURY NOTES: Medium-term coupon bearing U.S. Treasury securities issued as direct obligations of the U.S. Government and having initial maturities from two to 10 years.

UNIFORM NET CAPITAL RULE: Securities and Exchange Commission requirement that member firms as well as nonmember broker-dealers in securities maintain a maximum ratio of indebtedness to liquid capital of 15 to 1; also called *net capital rule* and *net capital ratio*. Indebtedness covers all money owed to a firm, including margin loans and commitments to purchase securities, one reason new public issues are spread among members of underwriting syndicates. Liquid capital includes cash and assets easily converted into cash.

YIELD: The rate of annual income return on an investment, expressed as a percentage.

(a) **INCOME YIELD** is obtained by dividing the current dollar income by the current market price for the security.

(b) **NET YIELD or YIELD TO MATURITY** is the current income yield minus any premium above par or plus any discount from par in purchase price, with the adjustment spread over the period from the date of purchase to the date of maturity of the bond.