



**ALBANY COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY  
ANNUAL INVESTMENT REPORT  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019**

**PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
SECTION 2925 OF THE PUBLIC AUTHORITIES LAW**

# Introduction

In accordance with Sections 2925(6) and 2925(7) of the Public Authorities Law and as required by the Albany County Airport Authority (the Authority) Cash Management and Investment Policy (the "guidelines"), the Authority shall annually prepare and approve an Investment Report.

The organization of this report is structured to conform with the prescribed format specified in the section on "Reporting to Oversight Agencies" of the Guidelines. Section I of this Annual Investment Report contains the Authority's Investment Guidelines that were adopted by the Authority on December 7, 2009 and most recently approved on March 18, 2019. Section II presents the amendments to the guidelines since the last investment report. Section III contains a concise explanation of the Guidelines and amendments. Section IV presents the annual independent audit of investments. Section V summarizes the recorded results of the Corporation's investment activity for the year ended December 31, 2019. Section VI presents a list of fees, commissions or other charges paid to firms rendering investment associated services. Section VII presents a list of investments at December 31, 2019.

After the Authority has reviewed and accepted this report, copies of the report will be submitted to the chief executive officer and chief fiscal officer of the County of Albany and the Office of the State Comptroller.

# **Section I**

## **ALBANY COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY**

### **CASH MANAGEMENT AND INVESTMENT POLICY**

Last Amended:

July 23, 2018

**ALBANY COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY**

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Last Amended:

July 23, 2018

Last Reviewed and Approved:

March 18, 2019

# ALBANY COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY

## CASH MANAGEMENT AND INVESTMENT POLICY

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## **ALBANY COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY**

### **CASH MANAGEMENT AND INVESTMENT POLICY**

#### **I. SCOPE**

This cash management and investment policy applies to all moneys and other financial resources held on its own behalf or on the behalf of any entity or individual and the investment of those moneys and resources.

#### **II. OBJECTIVES**

The primary objectives of the Authority's cash management and investment activities are, in priority order:

- To Conform with all applicable federal, state and other legal requirements (legal);
- To Adequately safeguard principal (safety);
- To provide sufficient liquidity to meet all operating requirements (liquidity); and
- To obtain a reasonable rate of return (yield).

#### **III. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY**

The governing board's responsibility for administration of the cash management and investment program for the Authority is delegated to the Chief Financial Officer who shall establish written procedures for the operation of the cash management and investment program consistent with these guidelines. Such procedures shall include an adequate internal control structure to provide a satisfactory level of accountability based on a data base or records incorporating description and amount of receipts, disbursements, and investments, transaction dates, and other relevant information and regulate the activities of subordinate employees.

#### **IV. PRUDENCE**

All participants in the investment process shall seek to act responsibly as custodians of the public trust and shall avoid any transaction that might impair public confidence in the Authority to govern effectively.

Cash management and 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 safety of the principal as well as the probable income to be derived.

All participants involved in the cash management and 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.

#### V. DIVERSIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to safeguard principal from imprudent risks, it is the policy of Authority, where possible, to diversify a portfolio among the investment instruments which it may legally and prudently hold and also among investment firms with which it transacts business. However, since the Authority is legally limited in the type of securities it may invest in, the opportunity to diversify among investments is very limited. The terms of each investment will be consistent with the Authority's cash liquidity requirements. The term of Repurchase Agreements will be for periods no longer than ninety days.

#### VI. INTERNAL CONTROLS

It is the policy of the Authority for all moneys collected by any officer or employee of the Authority to transfer those funds to the Chief Financial Officer within one day for deposit, or within the time period specified in law, whichever is shorter.

The Chief Financial Officer is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that deposits and investments are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, that transactions are executed in accordance with the Authority's authorization and recorded properly, and is managed in compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

#### VII. DESIGNATION OF DEPOSITARIES

Any State or Federally chartered commercial bank that can meet the Authority's requirements for cash vault services, is a member of the National Automated Clearing House Association (NACHA), and is able to act as an Originating Depository Financial Institution (ODFI) for direct deposit of payments. The bank must have a minimum long term credit rating of "A" without regard to subcategories from at least one of the Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organizations (NRSRO) and no rating below investment grade from any other NRSRO.

## VIII. COLLATERALIZING OF DEPOSITS

In accordance with the provisions of Title 32 of the Public Authorities Law, Section 2788, all deposits of the Authority including certificate of deposits and special time deposits, in excess of the amount insured under the provisions of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act shall be secured by obligations with a market value equal at all times to the amount of the deposit. Obligations eligible for use as collateralization include those issued by the United States or issued by the State of New York or any municipality therein rated in one of the three highest rating categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization.

## IX. SAFEKEEPING AND COLLATERALIZATION

Eligible securities used for collateralizing deposits shall be held by a third party bank or trust company subject to security and custodial agreements.

The security agreement shall provide that eligible securities are being pledged to secure Authority deposits together with agreed upon interest, if any, and any costs or expenses arising out of the collection of such deposits upon default. It shall also provide the conditions under which the securities may be sold, presented for payment, substituted or released and the events which will enable the Authority to exercise its right against the pledged securities. In the event the securities are not registered or inscribed in the name of the Authority, such securities shall be delivered in a form suitable for transfer or with an assignment in blank to the Authority or its custodial bank.

The custodial agreement shall provide that securities held by the bank or trust company, or agent of and custodian for, the Authority will be kept separate and apart from the general assets of the custodial bank or trust company and will not in any circumstances, be commingled with or become part of the backing for any other deposit or other liabilities. The agreement shall also describe that the custodian shall confirm the receipt, substitution or release of the securities. The agreement shall provide for the frequency of revaluation of eligible securities and for the substitution of securities when a change in the rating of a security may cause ineligibility. Such agreement shall include all provisions necessary to provide the Authority a perfected interest in the securities.

## X. PERMITTED INVESTMENTS

Title 32 of the Public Authorities Law, Section 2788 authorized the Authority to invest in those obligations specified pursuant to the provisions of Section 98-a of the State Finance Law. In accordance therewith, the Authority authorized the Chief Financial Officer to invest moneys not required for immediate expenditure for terms not to exceed its projected cash flow needs in the investments designated in Appendix A to this policy.



All investment obligations shall be payable or redeemable at the option of the Authority within such times as the proceeds will be needed to meet expenditures for purposes for which the moneys were provided and, in the case of obligations purchased with the proceeds of bond or notes, shall be payable or redeemable at the option of the Authority within two years of the date of purchase.

#### XI. AUTHORIZED FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND DEALERS

The Authority shall maintain a list of financial institutions and dealers approved for investment purposes and establish appropriate limits to the amount of investments which can be made with each financial institution or dealer. All financial institutions with which the Authority conducts business must be business worthy. Banks shall provide their most recent Consolidated Report of Condition (Call Report) at the request of the Authority. Security dealers not affiliated with a bank shall be required to be classified as reporting dealers affiliated with the New York Federal Reserve Bank, as primary dealers. The Chief Financial Officer is responsible for evaluating the financial position and maintaining a listing of proposed depositories, trading partners and custodians. Such list shall be evaluated at least annually.

#### XII. PURCHASE OF INVESTMENTS

The Chief Financial Officer is authorized to contract for the purchase of investments:

1. Directly, including by use of a repurchase agreement, from an authorized trading partner.
2. By utilizing an ongoing investment program with an authorized trading partner.

All purchased obligations, unless registered or inscribed in the name of the Authority shall be purchased through, delivered to and held in the custody of a bank or trust company. Such obligations shall be purchased, sold or presented for redemption or payment by such bank or trust company only in accordance with prior written authorization from the officer authorized to make the investment. All such transactions shall be confirmed in writing to the Authority by the bank or trust. However, written contracts are not practical, nor is it a regular business practice to enter such contracts for permitted investments other than Repurchase Agreements. Any obligation held in the custody of a bank or trust company shall be held pursuant to a written custodial agreement.

The custodial agreement shall provide that securities held by the bank or trust company, as agent of and custodian for, the Authority will be kept separate and apart from the general assets of the custodial bank or trust company and will not, in any circumstances, be commingled with or become part of the backing for any other deposits or other liabilities. The agreement shall describe how the custodian shall confirm the receipt and

release of the securities. Such agreement shall include all provisions necessary to provide the local government a perfected interest in the securities.

### XIII. REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS

Repurchase agreements are authorized subject to the following restrictions:

1. All repurchase agreements must be entered into subject to a Master Repurchase Agreement;
2. Repurchase Agreements shall be for no more than 90 days and agreements which are “open” (continuing in nature) shall not be made;
3. Trading partners are limited to banks or trust companies authorized to do business in the State of New York and primary reporting dealers;
4. Obligations shall be limited to obligations of the United States and obligations of agencies of the United States where principal and interest are guaranteed by the United States;
5. The Authority or its custodian must take possession of the securities by physical delivery or book entry;
6. The custodian shall be a party other than the trading partner and shall be a member of the Federal Reserve Bank or maintain accounts with member banks to accomplish book-entry transfer of securities to the credit of the Authority.

The Master Repurchase Agreements must include:

1. The events of default which would permit the purchaser to liquidate the pledged collateral;
2. The relationship between parties to the agreement, which shall ordinarily be purchaser and seller;
3. Procedures which ensure that the Authority obtains a perfected security interest in the securities which are the subject of the agreement;
4. The method of computing margin maintenance requirements and providing for timely correction of margin deficiencies or excesses. Specific guidelines regarding margin maintenance shall be established, taking into consideration:
  - a. the type of collateral or purchased security;
  - b. the maturity of the collateral or purchased security;
  - c. the method by which additional margin will be maintained; and
5. Circumstances, if any, under which substitution of securities (collateral) subject to the agreement shall be permitted.

#### XIV. REQUIRED REPORTS

##### Internal Management Reporting

In accordance with Section 2925(5) of the Public Authorities, the Chief Financial Officer shall cause to be prepared and filed with the Authority's board of directors a quarterly report on any new investments, the inventory of existing investments and the selection of investment bankers, brokers, agents, dealers, or auditors.

##### Reporting to Oversight Agencies

Annually, in accordance with Sections 2925(6) and 2925(7) of the Public Authorities Law, the Authority shall prepare and approve an investment report which shall include:

1. the investment guidelines;
2. amendments to such guidelines since the last investment report;
3. an explanation of the investment guidelines and amendments;
4. the results of the annual independent audit;
5. the investment income record of the Authority; and
6. a list of the total fees, commissions or other charges paid to each investment banker, broker, agent, dealer and adviser rendering investment associated services to the Authority since the last investment report.

Such investment report may be a part of any other annual report that the Authority is required to make. The Investment Report shall be submitted to the chief executive officer and chief fiscal officer of the County of Albany and the Office of the State Comptroller.

##### Performance Evaluation and Audit

The Authority shall annually engage its financial statement auditor to perform an audit of investments to determine whether: the Authority complies with its own investment policies; investment assets are adequately safeguarded; adequate accounts and records are maintained which accurately reflect all transactions and report on the disposition of Authority investment assets; a system of adequate internal controls is maintained; the Authority complied with the applicable laws and regulations.

The audit of investments shall be designed, to the extent practical, to satisfy both the common interests of the Authority and the public officials accountable to others.

A written audit report shall be prepared presenting the results of the annual independent audit of all investments and shall include:

- 1 a description of the scope and objectives of the audit;
- 2 a statement attesting that the audit was conducted in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards;
- 3 a description of any material weaknesses found in the internal controls;
- 4 a description of all non-compliance with the Authority's own investment policies as well as applicable laws and regulations;
- 5 a statement of positive assurance of compliance on the items tested; and
- 6 a statement on any other material deficiency or finding identified during the audit not covered in (5) above.

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**APPENDIX A**

**SCHEDULE OF ELIGIBLE INVESTMENTS**

(Pursuant to Section 98-a of the State Finance Law)

- (i) Bonds and notes of the United States.
- (ii) Bonds and notes of this state.
- (iii) General obligation bonds and notes of any state other than this State, provided that such bonds and notes receive the highest rating of at least one independent rating agency designated by the State Comptroller.
- (iv) Obligations for the payment of which the faith and credit of the United States or of this state are pledged. Notes, bonds, debentures, mortgages and other evidences of indebtedness of the United States Postal Service; the federal national mortgage association; federal home loan mortgage corporation; student loan marketing association; federal farm credit system or any other United States government sponsored agency, provided that at the time of the investment such agency or its obligations are rated and the agency receives, or its obligations receive, the highest rating of all independent rating agencies that rate such agency or its obligations, provided, however, that no more than two hundred fifty million dollars may be invested in the obligations of any one agency.
- (v) Bonds and notes of the Savings and Loan Bank of the state of New York.
- (vi) Collateral trust notes issued by a trust company, all of the capital stock of which is owned by not less than twenty savings banks of the state of New York.
- (vii) Obligations of any corporation organized under the laws of any state in the United States maturing within six days provided that such obligations received the highest rating of two independent rating services designated by the State Comptroller and that the issuer of such obligations has maintained such ratings on similar obligations during the preceding year, provided however, that no more than one hundred million dollars may be invested in such obligations of any one corporation.
- (viii) Bonds and notes issued for any of the corporate purposes of the New York state housing finance agency.
- (ix) Judgments or awards of the court of claims of New York

- \_\_\_\_(x) Bonds and notes issued for any of the corporate purposes of the New York state medical care facilities finance agency.
- \_\_\_\_(xi) Bonds and notes issued for any of the corporate purposes of the New York state project finance agency.
- \_\_\_\_(xii) Bonds and notes issued for any of the corporate purposes of the municipal assistance corporation for New York City.
- X  (xiii) Certificate of deposits of a bank or trust company in this state. Any certificate of deposit shall be fully secured by the issuer thereof.
- X  (xiv) Repurchase agreements using United States Treasury obligations seven years or less.

All investments must conform to section 98-a of the State Finance Law as may be amended from time to time.

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## **Section II**

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE GUIDELINES SINCE THE LAST ANNUAL INVESTMENT REPORT**

There have been no amendments to the Investment Guidelines since the last annual investment report.

# Section III

## Explanation of the Guidelines and Amendments

The Albany County Airport Authority "Cash Management and Investment Policy" most recently amended by the Board on July 23, 2018 is based on the principles of investment safety and control. The Authority's Guidelines contained in Section I are the Authority's Investment Guidelines which are currently in effect.

The Guidelines set forth the Authority's statement of policy regarding the investment of Authority funds and the objectives of such investments. By the Guidelines, the Authority has determined that the basic guide for the investment of Authority funds shall be the "prudent person rule" as further limited by statute and the Authority's Bond Resolutions. As indicated in the Guidelines, the Authority's objectives for its investment program are to:

- To conform with all applicable federal, state and other legal requirements (legal);
- To adequately safeguard principal (safety);
- To provide sufficient liquidity to meet all operating requirements (liquidity);  
and
- To obtain a reasonable rate of return (yield).

The Authority has not amended its investment guidelines since July 23, 2018.



# **Section IV**

## **Annual examination of Compliance with Investment Guidelines**

## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

To the Members  
Albany County Airport Authority

We have examined the Albany County Airport Authority's (the Authority) compliance with its investment guidelines included in the attached annual investment report, and with the requirements of Section 2925 of the NYS Public Authorities Law for the year ended December 31, 2019. Management is responsible for the Authority's compliance with the specified requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Authority's compliance with the specified requirements based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and, accordingly, included examining, on a test basis, evidence about the Authority's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our examination provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the Authority's compliance with the specified requirements.

In our opinion, the Albany County Airport Authority complied, in all material respects, with the aforementioned requirements for the year ended December 31, 2019.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we are required to report significant deficiencies in internal control, identifying those considered to be material weaknesses, violations of provisions of contracts or grant agreements, and abuse that could have a material effect on the Authority's compliance with Section 2925 of the NYS Public Authorities Law and any fraud and illegal acts that are more than inconsequential that come to our attention during our examination. We performed our examination to express an opinion on whether the Authority complied with the aforementioned requirements and not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the internal control over compliance with those requirements or other matters; accordingly, we express no such opinion. Our examination disclosed no matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Our examination is not intended to provide any assurance as to the income from investments, fees paid, or investments at the end of the year in Section V through Section VII.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management and the Members of the Albany County Airport Authority, and the chief executive officer and chief fiscal officer of the County of Albany and the Office of the State Comptroller and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

*Marvin and Company, P.C.*

Latham, NY  
March 16, 2020

# Section V

The Authority's cash management and investment strategy is intended to comply with the Authority's Cash Management and Investment Policy, its' Master Bond Resolution, and other external restrictions.

The Authority's investment and cash management activity during 2019 resulted in \$1,714,905 in interest income to the Authority, which includes \$161,028 in interest received from investments in U.S. Treasury Obligations and \$1,553,877 from interest on insured or collateralized bank demand deposits.

Based on the provisions of the Master Bond Resolution and the Federal Aviation Administration Passenger Facility Charge handbook, the interest earned by the Authority's cash and investments during 2019 were allocated as follows:

Passenger Facility Charges	\$ 290,775
Debt Service Funds	370,477
Construction Funds	391,796
Development Fund	310,400
Operating Funds	<u>351,457</u>
	<u>\$ 1,714,905</u>

## **Section VI**

The Authority paid no fees, commissions or other charges to firms rendering investment associated services during 2019.

## **Section VII**

The Authority's cash is invested when market conditions are appropriate based on the Chief Financial Officer's determination of the permissibility and risk of temporary or permanent loss of market value of any cash invested. Because investments, even Treasury Obligations, are reported at fair market value, there is no tolerance for market declines in Debt Service Reserve funds or Construction funds. Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) funds must be retained in interest bearing accounts. Investment of other funds is based upon an assessment of the value of additional potential income versus the loss of liquidity.

There were no investments held by the Authority at December 31, 2019.