



## **BOARD MEETING AGENDA SUBMITTAL**

**TO:** CVCS Board of Directors

**FROM:** Peter Kampa, General Manager

**DATE:** December 20, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Item 7g) Adoption of a Resolution Establishing an Account with the California Class Joint Powers Authority Investment Pool

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### **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Staff recommends the following action:

*I move to approve a Resolution establishing an account with the California Class Joint Powers Authority Investment Pool and to authorize the General Manager to sign related documents.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Currently, District funds that are not needed to sustain ongoing operational needs have been invested in the state's Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF). The interest earned on these invested funds has steadily declined over the last several years as a result of the ongoing decline in rates that are occurring with LAIF.

Staff met with CSDA Finance and Administration Director Rick Wood to discuss the newly created California Class Joint Powers Authority Investment Pool in an effort to ascertain whether or not this would be an ideal alternative investment option for District funds. Staff has come to the conclusion that it would be in the District's best interest to establish an account with the CA Class Investment Pool as the current return rate is at 4%, whereas LAIF is at 1.35%. There is more flexibility with the CA Class Investment Pool that is not offered with LAIF such as the ability to have multiple subaccounts if needed, an option not available through LAIF. The process for transferring funds is much like LAIF with a requirement of notification the previous day by 11am.

At this time, staff is recommending that the Board authorize the creation of an investment account with CA Class Investment Pool to allow more investment opportunities for District funds. The CA Class Investment Pool meets the safety, liquidity and return requirements of our investment policy.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

Potential for significantly increased interest earned on invested funds.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. CA Class Handouts
2. CA Class Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement



A New Joint Powers Authority Investment Pool for California Public Agencies

www.californiaclass.com

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Diversify and Strengthen Your Public Funds Investment Program

- Endorsed by Cal Cities and CSDA
Preservation of principal and access to liquidity
Securities marked-to-market daily
Same-day liquidity for Prime fund
Next-day liquidity for Enhanced Cash fund
No minimum balance requirements nor maximum contributions
Managed to generate a competitive daily yield
Prime fund for agency operating dollars and Enhanced Cash fund for reserves
Ratings of 'AAAm' & 'AAAf/S1'

Learn more about investing for California public agencies, and contact us today.



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Many factors affect performance including changes in market conditions and interest rates and in response to other economic, political, or financial developments. Investment involves risk including the possible loss of principal. No assurance can be given that the performance objectives of a given strategy will be achieved. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Any financial and/or investment decision may incur losses. California CLASS is rated 'AAAm' by S&P Global Ratings. A 'AAAm' rating by S&P Global Ratings is obtained after S&P evaluates a number of factors including credit quality, market price exposure, and management. For a full description on rating methodology, please visit www.spglobal.com. California CLASS Enhanced Cash is rated 'AAAf/S1' by FitchRatings. The 'AAAf' rating is Fitch's opinion on the overall credit profile within a fixed-income fund/portfolio and indicates the highest underlying credit quality of the pool's investments. The 'S1' volatility rating is Fitch's opinion on the relative sensitivity of a portfolio's total return and/or net asset value to assumed changes in credit spreads and interest rates. The 'S1' volatility rating indicates that the fund possesses a low sensitivity to market risks. For a full description on rating methodology, please visit www.fitchratings.com. Ratings are subject to change and do not remove credit risk. More information to come.

## What is California CLASS?

California Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities System (California CLASS) is a joint exercise of powers entity authorized under Section 6509.7, California Government Code. California CLASS is a pooled investment option that was created via a joint exercise of powers agreement by and among California public agencies. California CLASS offers public agencies a convenient method for investing in highly liquid, investment-grade securities carefully selected to optimize interest earnings while maximizing safety and liquidity. The California CLASS Prime and Enhanced Cash funds offer public agencies the opportunity to strengthen and diversify their cash management programs in accordance with the safety, liquidity, and yield hierarchy that provides the framework for the investment of public funds.

## How is it governed and managed?

California CLASS is overseen and governed by a Board of Trustees. The Board is made up of public agency finance professionals who participate in California CLASS and are members of the Joint Powers Authority (JPA). The Board of Trustees has entered into an Investment Advisor and Administrator Agreement with Public Trust Advisors, LLC. Public Trust is responsible to the Board for all program investment and administrative activities as well as many of the services provided on behalf of the Participants.

## How can we participate?

Enrolling in California CLASS is simple. Public agencies may become Participants simply by filling out the Participant Registration Form that can be found in the document center on the California CLASS website. Public agencies may submit the completed registration packet to California CLASS Client Services for processing at [clientservices@californiaclass.com](mailto:clientservices@californiaclass.com). To obtain account forms and fund documents, visit [www.californiaclass.com/document-center/](http://www.californiaclass.com/document-center/).

## Endorsed By:



LEAGUE OF  
**CALIFORNIA  
CITIES**

[www.calcities.org](http://www.calcities.org)



**California Special  
Districts Association**

*Districts Stronger Together*

[www.csda.net](http://www.csda.net)

## Participants benefit from the following:

- Same-day availability of funds in Prime Fund (11:00 a.m. PT cut-off)
- Deposits by wire or ACH
- Ratings of 'AAAm' & 'AAAf/S1'
- Prime fund transacts at stable NAV
- Portfolio securities marked-to-market daily
- Secure online access for transactions and account statements
- No withdrawal notices for Prime Fund
- Participant-to-Participant transactions
- Interest accrues daily and pays monthly
- No maximum contributions
- No minimum balance requirements
- No transaction fees\*
- Annual audit conducted by independent auditing firm\*\*
- Dedicated client service representatives available via phone or email on any business day

\*You may incur fees associated with wires and/or ACH transactions by your bank, but there will be no transaction fees charged from California CLASS for such transactions.  
\*\*External audits may not catch all instances of accounting errors and do not provide an absolute guarantee of accuracy.





## What are the objectives of California CLASS?

### Safety

The primary investment objective of the California CLASS Prime fund is preservation of principal. Both California CLASS portfolios are managed by a team of investment professionals who are solely focused on the management of public funds nationwide. The custodian for California CLASS is U.S. Bank, N.A.

### Liquidity

When you invest in the California CLASS Prime fund, you have access to your funds on any business day. You must notify California CLASS of your funds transaction requests by 11:00 a.m. PT via the internet or phone. There are no withdrawal notices for the daily-liquid California CLASS Prime fund. Enhanced Cash is a variable NAV fund that provides next-day liquidity and a one-day notification of withdrawal.

### Competitive Returns

California CLASS strives to provide competitive returns while adhering to the objectives of safety and liquidity. Participants benefit from the investment expertise and institutional knowledge provided by the team of Public Trust professionals. Portfolio performance is strengthened by the extensive knowledge of California public agency cash flows that the Public Trust team possesses.

### Ease of Use

To make cash management streamlined and efficient, California CLASS includes many features that make it easy to access account information and simplify record keeping. Participants can transact on any business day using the California CLASS phone number (877) 930-5213, fax number (877) 930-5214, email [clientservices@californiaclass.com](mailto:clientservices@californiaclass.com) or via the California CLASS Online Transaction Portal at [www.californiaclass.com](http://www.californiaclass.com).

### Flexibility

You may establish multiple California CLASS subaccounts. You will receive comprehensive monthly statements that show all of your transaction activity, interest accruals, and rate summaries. These statements have been specifically designed to facilitate public sector fund accounting and to establish a clear accounting and audit trail for your records.

### Legality

California CLASS only invests in securities permitted by California State Code Section 53601; permitted investments are further restricted to those approved by the Board of Trustees as set forth in the California CLASS Investment Policies.

**Have Questions?** Contact us or visit [www.californiaclass.com](http://www.californiaclass.com) for more information.



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Any financial and/or investment decision should be made only after considerable research, consideration, and involvement with an experienced professional engaged for the specific purpose. **Past performance is not an indication of future performance. Any financial and/or investment decision may incur losses.** Please see the Information Statement for further details on the fee calculation and other key aspects about California CLASS. California CLASS Prime is rated 'AAAm' by S&P Global Ratings. A 'AAAm' rating by S&P Global Ratings is obtained after S&P evaluates a number of factors including credit quality, market price exposure, and management. For a full description on rating methodology, please visit [www.spglobal.com](http://www.spglobal.com). California CLASS Enhanced Cash is rated by 'AAAf/S1' by FitchRatings. The 'AAAf' rating is Fitch's opinion on the overall credit profile within a fixed-income fund/portfolio and indicates the highest underlying credit quality of the pool's investments. The 'S1' volatility rating is Fitch's opinion on the relative sensitivity of a portfolio's total return and/or net asset value to assumed changes in credit spreads and interest rates. The 'S1' volatility rating indicates that the fund possesses a low sensitivity to market risks. For a full description on rating methodology, please visit [www.fitchratings.com](http://www.fitchratings.com). Ratings are subject to change and do not remove credit risk.



A JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY INVESTMENT POOL

Client-First & User-Friendly Cash Management Solutions Designed for Public Agencies of All Sizes

California CLASS provides Participants the following benefits:

- ✓ Robust and modern transaction portal
- ✓ Dedicated client service team equally committed to all public agencies
- ✓ Portfolios managed in accordance with California Government Code
- ✓ Transparent governance by Board of Trustees
- ✓ Portfolios marked-to-market with net asset value and yields posted to website daily

Fund Option	Prime	Enhanced Cash
Portfolio Type	Prime-style fund	Enhanced cash
Purpose	Operating Funds	Strategic Reserves
Rating	'AAAm'	'AAAf/S1'
Min/Max Investment	None	None
Withdrawals	Unlimited	Unlimited
Investment Horizon	Day-to-Day	12-18 Months
Liquidity	Same-Day	Next-Day
WAM	≤60 days	90-200 days
Net Asset Value (NAV)	Stable \$1.00 per share	Variable \$10.00 per share

Learn more about building an optimal liquidity portfolio for your public agency; contact us today.



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