

# ACTION PLAN AND BUDGET COMMITTEE

R-17-26 February 21, 2017

**AGENDA ITEM 4** 

# **AGENDA ITEM**

Revised Board Policy 3.06 – Initial and Continuing Disclosures Relating to Bond Issuances

# GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION



Recommend Board approval of revisions to Board Policy 3.06 for disclosures relating to District bond issuances.

# **SUMMARY**

In light of the District's increased bond issuance activity and under the advice and guidance of Bond Counsel, the Board adopted Resolution 14-32 on November 25, 2014 with the goal to enhance transparency and credibility in the marketplace. This resolution established Board Policy 3.06 – Initial and Continuing Disclosures Relating to Bond Issuances. It was foreseen at the time of adoption that the policy would evolve and be revised over time to reflect lessons learned through working with the policy, and changes in the District's organization structure.

# DISCUSSION

The current Board Policy is based upon a template recommended by Jones Hall Law, the District's bond counsel in 2014. It was structured based on a template for a much larger and more complex organization than the District, so we anticipated that it would need revisions after working with it for a time.

During calendar year 2016, the District issued a request for proposal (RFP) to form a new Bond Team to assist the District with its ongoing debt program, incorporating best practices and strategic planning. The various roles of the new Bond Team include a new Disclosure Counsel and as one of the primary tasks, the new Disclosure Counsel performed a review of the current policy in order to incorporate the most recent best practices, streamline the current procedures to reflect the operational structure of the District, and modify or eliminate procedures that are overly complex or otherwise not a good fit for this organizational structure. The attached revised policy (in clean and redline versions) incorporates the changes suggested by the new Disclosure Counsel in consultation with the District's General Counsel and the Chief Financial Officer.

The revised policy also reflects the change in the District's organizational structure by adding the position of Chief Financial Officer to the Disclosure Working Group and Financing Group.

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# FISCAL IMPACT

No new fiscal impact. The revised policies will streamline existing procedures for compliance with obligations and practices under current debt issuances.

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Public notice was provided as required by the Brown Act.

# **CEQA COMPLIANCE**

This proposed action is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act and no environmental review is required.

# **NEXT STEPS**

Upon recommendation by the ABC, the revised Board Policy will be presented to the full Board on March 22, 2017

# Attachments:

1. Clean and Red-lined versions of new Board Policy 3.06

Responsible Department Manager: Stefan Jaskulak, Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by:

Andrew Taylor, Sr. Accountant and Disclosure Coordinator

# Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

# **Board Policy Manual**

Initial and Continuing Disclosures Relating to Bond Issuances	Policy 3.06 Chapter 3 – Fiscal Management
Effective Date:	Revised Date: N/A

Prior Versions: 04/01/2015

# Attachments:

A – List of Disclosure Documents, to be Amended as Necessary

B – Listed Events

C – Template of Information to be included in the Staff Report Transmitting Official Statement by General Manager to Board of Directors

## **Purpose**

Whenever the District makes statements or releases information relating to its finances to the public that are reasonably expected to reach investors and the trading markets (including, without limitation, all Listed Event Notices, statements in the audited Financial Statements, and other financial reports and statements of the District), the District is obligated to ensure that such statements and information are complete, true, and accurate in all material respects.

The disclosure policies and procedures contained herein (the "Disclosure Procedures") of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (the "District") are intended to ensure that the District's disclosure documents (the "Disclosure Documents"), as listed on Attachment A to these Disclosure Procedures, are complete, true, and accurate in all material respects, and in compliance with applicable federal and state securities laws.

#### **Policy**

Article I: Key Participants and Responsibilities

# Section 1.01. <u>Disclosure Working Group</u>.

- (A) Composition. By adoption of these Disclosure Procedures, the District hereby establishes a disclosure working group (the "Disclosure Working Group"). The members of the Disclosure Working Group shall be the following:
  - i. General Manager;
  - ii. Chief Financial Officer
  - iii. Controller; and
  - iv. General Counsel.
- (B) Responsibilities. The Disclosure Working Group shall consult with the Financing Group (as defined in Section 1.03) and other interested parties designated by the Disclosure Working Group determines is advisable related to disclosure issues and practices. The Disclosure Working Group shall

meet as often as necessary to fulfill its obligations, but not less than once per calendar year. Members of the Disclosure Working Group may participate in meetings by telephone.

The Disclosure Working Group is responsible for:

- i. Reviewing and approving all preliminary and final official statements, private placement memoranda and remarketing memoranda relating to the District's securities, together with any supplements, for which a continuing disclosure undertaking is required (each, an "Official Statement") as further described in Article II, before such documents are released to the public;
- ii. Reviewing and approving the District's Financial Statements (as defined and further described in Section 3.02 below);
- iii. Reviewing and approving any other Disclosure Documents before such documents are released;
- iv. Reviewing annually the District's status and compliance with continuing disclosure undertakings including filings of Disclosure Documents and compliance with these Disclosure Procedures and the annual financial report as described in Article III below;
- v. Reviewing any other items referred to the Disclosure Working Group; and
- vi. Evaluating the effectiveness of these Disclosure Procedures and approving changes to these Disclosure Procedures as further described in Section 5.04 of this Policy.
- (C) Determination of Disclosure Document Status. Whether or not a particular document or other communication is a Disclosure Document shall be determined by the Disclosure Working Group. At its initial meeting, the Disclosure Working Group shall establish a list of the District's recurring Disclosure Documents, which list shall be added to Attachment A to these Disclosure Procedures to the extent such documents are not already contained therein. The Disclosure Working Group shall update Attachment A to these Disclosure Procedures when appropriate.
- (D) Review and Approval. Following receipt of a Disclosure Document from the disclosure coordinator (the "**Disclosure Coordinator**"), the Disclosure Working Group shall review the Disclosure Document for accuracy and compliance with federal and state securities laws, direct questions tof the Disclosure Coordinator, and approve a substantially final form of the Disclosure Document, which approval may be evidenced by an email transmitted to the Disclosure Coordinator by the General Manager or his/her designee and a copy of which email shall be printed and maintained in the Deal File described in Section 5.01, or by such other written evidence.

The Disclosure Coordinator shall consult with the District's disclosure counsel to the extent the Disclosure Coordinator considers appropriate to perform his or her responsibilities.

# Section 1.02. Disclosure Coordinator.

(A) Appointment. The Finance Manager is appointed as the Disclosure Coordinator. If the position of Finance Manager is vacant, the Chief Financial Officer, in consultation with the other members of the Disclosure Working Group, shall select and appoint the Disclosure Coordinator.

- (B) Responsibilities. The Disclosure Coordinator shall be responsible for:
  - Serving as a "point person" for personnel to communicate issues or information that should be or may need to be included in any Disclosure Document, identifying District personnel that will assist in preparing and reviewing the Disclosure Documents (the "Contributors");
  - ii. Reviewing annually all continuing disclosure undertakings, preparing a checklist of updated information to be provided;
  - iii. Recommending changes to these Disclosure Procedures to the Disclosure Working Group as deemed necessary or appropriate;
  - iv. Communicating with third parties, including coordination with outside consultants assisting the District in preparing and disseminating Disclosure Documents to make sure that assigned tasks are completed timely, and that the filings are accurate and made timely;
  - v. Soliciting "material" information (as defined for purposes of federal securities law) from District departments to prepare Disclosure Documents;
  - vi. Monitoring compliance by the District with these Disclosure Procedures, including timely dissemination of the Annual Report and Listed Event filings, and maintaining records documenting the District's compliance with these Disclosure Procedures;
  - vii. Determining when Disclosure Documents are final and ready for review by the Disclosure Working Group to the extent required by these Disclosure Procedures; and
  - viii. Identifying District personnel that should receive disclosure training, and ensuring compliance with training procedures described in Section 1.02(C).

The Disclosure Coordinator is authorized to file or cause to be filed the following documents with the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (the "MSRB"), without prior review and approval of the Disclosure Working Group, but only after prior review and approval from the Chief Financial Officer: those Disclosure Documents that (i) the District is contractually obligated to file with the MSRB pursuant to written undertakings as a result of the occurrence of a Listed Event (as defined in Attachment B), or (ii) as a result of the failure to timely file the required annual financial report.

(C) *Training.* The Disclosure Coordinator shall arrange for annual disclosure training conducted by the District's disclosure counsel with the assistance of the General Counsel, for the Board of Directors members, the Disclosure Working Group, and Contributors. Such training sessions shall include education on these Disclosure Procedures, the District's disclosure obligations under applicable federal and state securities laws, and the disclosure responsibilities and potential liabilities of members of District staff and members of the Board of Directors. Such training sessions may be conducted using a recorded presentation.

Each member of the Board of Directors, and new members of the Finance Department shall be required to participate in disclosure training as part of his or her new member orientation.

## Section 1.03. Financing Group.

General. The General Manager or his/her designee shall identify a Financing Group (the "Financing Group") for each financing (the composition of which may differ for each financing), which shall include, at a minimum, the following individuals:

- i. Disclosure Working Group;
- ii. Disclosure Coordinator;
- iii. The District's bond counsel and disclosure counsel;
- iv. The District's financial advisor (if any);
- v. The District's underwriter, placement agent, remarketing agent (as applicable);
- vi. The District's dissemination agent (if any);
- vii. Such other such District staff as the General Manger or his/her designee determines to be appropriate; and
- viii. Such other consultants retained by the District as the General Manager or his/her designee determines to be appropriate.

It is the District's policy to establish continuing working relationships with professional advisors with expertise in the area of public finance and federal securities laws applicable to the issuance of securities by the District.

# Article II: Review and Approval of Official Statements

Section 2.01. Responsibilities of Financing Group. The Financing Group shall prepare the Official Statement and confirm that the Official Statement: (a) has been reviewed and accurately states all information relating to the District, (b) confirm that any information in the Official Statement other than the information described in the previous clause (a) will be addressed by a closing certificate or opinion by an appropriate person, (c) contains a description of any failures of the District during the last five yars to comply with its continuing disclosure undertakings; and (d) is in substantially final form and is in a form ready to be "substantially final" by the Board of Directors, as evidenced by a Certificate executed and delivered by a member of the Financing Group pursuant to Rule 15c2-12, promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Financing Group shall have at least one all-hands meeting or conference call to review the Official Statement.

- Section 2.03. <u>Responsibilities of General Counsel</u>. The General Counsel (or a designee) shall review the Official Statement and shall draft for the Official Statement descriptions of (i) any material current, pending or threatened litigation, (ii) any material settlements or court orders and (iii) any other legal issues that are material information for purposes of the Official Statement.
- Section 2.04. <u>Responsibilities of Controller and Chief Financial Officer</u>. The Controller and Chief Financial Officer shall review the Official Statement, identify any material difference in presentation of financial information from the Financial Statements and ensure there are no misstatements or

omissions of material information in any sections that contain descriptions of information prepared by the Controller and/or Chief Financial Officer or other Contributors or of relevance to the finances of the District.

In addition, the Controller and/or Chief Financial Officer shall determine whether the District's then-available Financial Statements are appropriate to be included in the Official Statement and whether to seek the consent of the District's auditor to include the Financial Statements in the Official Statement.

Section 2.05. Review by Disclosure Working Group. Following receipt of the Official Statement from the Financing Group, the Disclosure Working Group shall evaluate the Official Statement for accuracy and compliance with federal and state securities laws, and shall, have an opportunity to ask questions of the Financing Group and of any Contributor or other person who reviewed or drafted any section of the Official Statement. The Disclosure Working Group may direct or request revisions and/or may instruct the Financing Group to solicit contributions from additional Contributors, as they deem necessary or appropriate.

Section 2.06. <u>Approval by Disclosure Working Group</u>. Approval of the Official Statement by the Disclosure Working Group shall be evidenced by delivery of the Official Statement to the General Manager for docketing for a meeting of the Board of Directors as provided in Section 2.07.

Section 2.07. <u>Submission of Official Statements to Board of Directors for Approval</u>. As part of the docketing process, the General Manager shall submit all Preliminary Official Statements to the Board of Directors for approval using a staff report that includes the information in the template attached as Attachment C to these Disclosure Procedures. The approval of an Official Statement by the Board of Directors shall be docketed as a new business matter and shall not be approved as a consent item. The Board of Directors shall undertake such review as deemed necessary, following consultation with the Controller, to fulfill the responsibilities of the Board of Directors under applicable federal and state securities laws. In this regard, the Controller shall consult with the District's disclosure counsel to the extent necessary.

Article III: Continuing Disclosure Filings

Section 3.01. <u>Overview</u>. Under the continuing disclosure undertakings the District has entered into in connection with its debt offerings, the District is required each year to file Annual Reports with the Electronic Municipal Market Access ("**EMMA**") system maintained by the MSRB in accordance with such undertakings. Such Annual Reports are required to include certain updated financial and operating information, and the District's audited financial statements.

The District is also required under its continuing disclosure undertakings to file notices of certain events (as summarized in Attachment B to these Disclosure Prodcedures) with EMMA.

Section 3.02. <u>Financial Statements</u>. The Chief Financial Officer shall submit the District's audited financial statements ("**Financial Statements**"), as they are available, to the Disclosure Working Group. The Disclosure Working Group shall review the audited Financial Statements according to these Disclosure Procedures and, when reviewed and approved for disclosure, shall transmit the audited Financial Statements to the Board of Directors.

If the District does not have audited Financial Statements available in time to file the Annual Report, the Chief Financial Officer shall submit the District's unaudited financial statements as provided in each specific continuing disclosure undertaking.

Section 3.03. <u>Annual Reports</u>. The Disclosure Coordinator shall ensure that the preparation of the District's Annual Report shall commence in enough time so that they are filed no later than 210 days following the end of the fiscal year of the District, or as otherwise required under each specific continuing disclosure undertaking. Before any Annual Report is submitted to EMMA, the Disclosure Coordinator shall review outstanding continuing disclosure undertakings, prepare a checklist of information to be updated, supervise the preparation of the Annual Report, and confer with the Disclosure Working Group as needed regarding the content and accuracy of any such report.

Section 3.04. <u>Disclosure of Listed Events</u>. Pursuant to Rule 15c2-12(b)(5)(i)(C), the District is obligated to disclose to the MSRB notice of certain specified events with respect to the District's securities (a "Listed Event"). Each member of the Disclosure Working Group shall notify the other members of the Disclosure Working Group if he or she becomes aware of the occurrence of any of the Listed Events listed in the District's continuing disclosure undertakings. The Disclosure Working Group may meet to discuss the event and to determine, in consultation with disclosure counsel to the extent determined by the Disclosure Coordinator, whether a filing is required or is otherwise desirable. If such a filing is deemed necessary, the Disclosure Coordinator shall cause a notice of the Listed Event (a "Listed Event Notice") that complies with Rule 15c2-12 to be prepared, and the Disclosure Coordinator shall file or cause to be filed the Listed Event Notice as required by Rule 15c2-12.

## Article IV: Public Statements Regarding Financial Information

Section 4.01. <u>Financial Information</u>. Whenever the District makes statements or releases information relating to its finances to the public that are reasonably expected to reach investors and the trading markets (including, without limitation, all Listed Event Notices, statements in the audited Financial Statements, and other financial reports and statements of the District), the District is obligated to ensure that such statements and information are complete, true, and accurate in all material respects. The Chief Financial Officer shall have primary responsibility for ensuring that such financial statements and information are accurate and not misleading in any material respect.

# Article V: Miscellaneous

Section 5.01. <u>Documents to be Retained</u>. The Disclosure Coordinator, working with the District Clerk as needed, shall be responsible for retaining records demonstrating compliance with these Disclosure Procedures. The Disclosure Coordinator shall retain an electronic or paper file ("**Deal File**") for each Annual Report and notice of Listed Events filed or caused to be filed by the District. Each Deal File shall include final versions of Disclosure Documents, the transcript of proceedings prepared in connection with the issuance of financial instruments. The Deal File shall be maintained in a central depository for a period equal to the later of the date of maturity or defeasance of the securities referenced in the Disclosure Document.

Section 5.02. <u>Waivers</u>. In addition to the General Manager's authority to adopt an Administrative Procedure to make this Board Policy more specific, any provision of this Board Policy or any related administrative procedure may be waived at any time by the General Manager, with the written confirmation to the members of the Disclosure Working Group. This authority to waive a provision of this policy is triggered only if such waiver is necessary for timely and effective compliance with

disclosure laws. Any waivers made under this provision shall be reported to the Board of Directors, with conforming revisions recommended for the Board's consideration at the next update of this Board Policy and no later than within three months of implementation of such waiver.

#### **ATTACHMENT A**

# LIST OF DISCLOSURE DOCUMENTS, TO BE AMENDED AS NECESSARY

- 1. Preliminary and final official statements, private placement memoranda and remarketing memoranda relating to the District's securities, together with any supplements.
- 2. Financial Statements.
- 3. Filings made by the District with the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board, whether made pursuant to a continuing disclosure undertaking to which the District is a party or otherwise.
- 4. Press releases and other information distributed by or on behalf of the District for public dissemination to the extent that such releases are reasonably expected, in the determination of the Disclosure Working Group, to reach investors and the trading markets for municipal securities.
- 5. Rating agency presentations.
- 6. Postings on the investor information section of the District's website, if any.
- 7. Such portions of the District's published adopted annual budget as the Disclosure Working Group determines to be appropriate.
- 8. Any other communications that are reasonably expected, in the determination of the Disclosure Working Group, to reach investors and the trading markets for municipal securities.

Amendments: [Date]

#### ATTACHMENT B

#### **LISTED EVENTS**

Occurrence of any of the following events require the District to make a filing on EMMA within ten (10) business days of their occurrence:

- 1. principal and interest payment delinquencies
- 2. unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulty
- 3. unscheduled draws on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulty
- 4. substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform
- 5. adverse tax opinions, the issuance by the Internal Revenue Service of proposed or final determinations of taxability, Notices of Proposed Issue (IRS Form 5701-TEB) or other events affecting the tax-exempt status of the security
- 6. tender offers
- 7. defeasances
- 8. rating changes
- 9. bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the obligated person

The occurrence if any of the following events require the District to file a notice on EMMA within ten (10 days after their occurrence, if they are determined to be material by the Disclosure Working Group:

- 1. non-payment related defaults
- 2. modifications to the rights of security holders
- 3. bond calls
- 4. release, substitution or sale of property securing repayments of the securities
- 5. the consummation of a merger, consolidation, or acquisition involving an obligated person or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the obligated person, other than in the ordinary course of business, the entry into a definitive agreement to undertake such an action or the termination of a definitive agreement relating to any such actions, other than pursuant to its terms
- 6. appointment of a successor or additional trustee or the change of name of a trustee

#### ATTACHMENT C

# Information to be Included in the Staff Report Transmitting Official Statement by General Manager to Board of Directors

Transmittal staff report shall include, but is not limited to, the following information:

The attached Preliminary Official Statement has been reviewed and approved for transmittal to the Board by the District's Disclosure Working Group. The distribution of the Preliminary Official Statement by the District is subject to federal securities laws, including the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These laws require the Preliminary Official Statement to include all facts that would be material to an investor in the Obligations. Material information is information that there is a substantial likelihood would have actual significance in the deliberations of the reasonable investor when deciding whether to buy or sell the Obligations. If the Board of Directors concludes that the Preliminary Official Statement includes all facts that would be material to an investor in the Obligations, it must adopt a resolution that authorizes staff to execute a certificate to the effect that the Preliminary Official Statement has been "deemed final."

The Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), the agency with regulatory authority over the District's compliance with the federal securities laws, has issued guidance as to the duties of the elected body with respect to its approval of the Preliminary Official Statement. In its "Report of Investigation in the Matter of County of Orange, California as it Relates to the Conduct of the Members of the Board of Supervisors" (Release No. 36761 / January 24, 1996) (the "Release"), the SEC stated that, if a member of the elected body has knowledge of any facts or circumstances that an investor would want to know about prior to investing in the Obligations, whether relating to their repayment, tax-exempt status, undisclosed conflicts of interest with interested parties, or otherwise, he or she should endeavor to discover whether such facts are adequately disclosed in the Preliminary Official Statement. In the Release, the SEC stated that the steps that a member of the elected body take include becoming familiar with the Preliminary Official Statement and questioning staff and consultants about the disclosure of such facts.

Section 1. Purpose of Financing.

Section 2. Documents for Approval; Security for the Obligations.

Section 3. Risks Relating to Repayment and Tax-Exempt Status of the Obligations.

Section 4. Requested Approvals.

# Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

# **Board Policy Manual**

Initial and Continuing Disclosures Relating to Bond Issuances	Policy 3.06 Chapter 3 – Fiscal Management
Effective Date: 04/01/2015	Revised Date: N/A
Drien Versians, 04/01/2015N/A	

Prior Versions: <u>04/01/2015</u>N/A

#### Attachments:

- A List of Disclosure Documents, to be Amended as Necessary
- B Listed Events
- C Cover Sheet Documenting Approval of Disclosure Document By Disclosure Working Group
- D Form of Cover Letter for Transmittal of Official Statement by Financing Group to Disclosure Working Group
- E Form-Template of Information to be included in the of Staff Report Transmitting Official Statement by District General Manager to District Board of Directors
- F Form of Cover Letter for Transmittal of Financial Statements to Disclosure Working Group
- G Required Tables and Supplemental Financial Disclosures

# **Purpose**

Whenever the District makes statements or releases information relating to its finances to the public that are reasonably expected to reach investors and the trading markets (including, without limitation, all Listed Event Notices, statements in the audited Financial Statements, and other financial reports and statements of the District), the District is obligated to ensure that such statements and information are complete, true, and accurate in all material respects.

The disclosure policies and procedures contained herein (the "**Disclosure Procedures**") of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (the "**District**") are intended to ensure that the District's disclosure documents (the "**Disclosure Documents**"), as listed on Attachment A to these Disclosure Procedures, are <u>complete, true, and</u> accurate <u>in all material respects</u>, and in compliance with applicable federal and state securities laws.

# **Policy**

Article I: Key Participants and Responsibilities

Section 1.01. <u>Disclosure Working Group</u>.

(A) Composition. By adoption of these Disclosure Procedures, the District hereby establishes a disclosure working group (the "Disclosure Working Group"). The members of the Disclosure Working Group shall be the following:

<u>i.                                    </u>	General Manager;	
<del>i.</del> ii.	<b>Chief Financial Officer</b>	
- <u>iii.</u>	Controller; and	
_iv	General Counsel	

(B) Responsibilities. The Disclosure Working Group shall consult with the Financing Group (as defined in Section 1.03) orand other interested parties as the Controller or any other memberdesignated by of the Disclosure Working Group determines is advisable related to disclosure issues and practices. The Disclosure Working Group shall meet as often as necessary to fulfill its obligations, but not less than once per calendar year. Members of the Disclosure Working Group may participate in meetings by telephone.

The Disclosure Working Group is responsible for:

- Reviewing and approving all preliminary and final official statements, private
  placement memoranda and remarketing memoranda relating to the District's
  securities, together with any supplements, for which a continuing disclosure
  undertaking is required (each, an "Official Statement") as further described in
  Article II, before such documents are released to the public;
- ii. Reviewing and approving the District's Financial Statements (as defined and further described in Section 3.02 below);
- iii. Reviewing and approving any other Disclosure Documents before such documents are released;
- iv. Reviewing annually the District's status and compliance with continuing disclosure undertakings including filings of Disclosure Documents and compliance with these Disclosure Procedures and the annual financial report as described in Article III below;
- v. Reviewing any other items referred to the Disclosure Working Group; and
- vi. Evaluating the effectiveness of these Disclosure Procedures and approving changes to these Disclosure Procedures as further described in Section 5.04 of this Policy.
- (C) Determination of Disclosure Document Status. Whether or not a particular document or other communication is a Disclosure Document shall be determined by the Disclosure Working Group. At its initial meeting, the Disclosure Working Group shall establish a list of the District's recurring Disclosure Documents, which list shall be added to Attachment A to these Disclosure Procedures to the extent such documents are not already contained therein. The Disclosure Working Group shall continue to-update Attachment A to these Disclosure Procedures when appropriate.
- (D) Review and Approval. Following receipt of a Disclosure Document from a disclosure the disclosure coordinator selected by the Finance Manager (the "Disclosure Coordinator") or the Financing Group (as defined in Section 1.03 below), the Disclosure Working Group shall evaluate review the Disclosure Document for accuracy and compliance with federal and state securities laws, and shall, if appropriate, askdirect questions to of the Disclosure Coordinator, and approve a substantially final form of the Disclosure Document, which approval may be evidenced by an email transmitted to the Disclosure Coordinator by the General Manager or his/her designee and a copy of which email shall be printed and maintained in the Deal File described in Section 5.01, or by such other written evidence. The Disclosure Working Group may send the Disclosure Document back to the Financing Group for revisions.

The Disclosure Coordinator shall consult with the District's disclosure counsel to the extent the Disclosure Coordinator considers appropriate to perform his or her responsibilities.

# Section 1.02. Disclosure Coordinator.

- (A) Appointment. The Finance Manager is appointed as the Disclosure Coordinator. If the position of Finance Manager is vacant, the Controller Chief Financial Officer, in consultation with the other members of the Disclosure Working Group, shall select and appoint the Disclosure Coordinator.
  - (B) Responsibilities. The Disclosure Coordinator isshall be responsible for:
    - Serving as a "point person" for personnel to communicate issues or information that should be or may need to be included in any Disclosure Document, identifying <u>District personnel that will assist in preparing and reviewing the Disclosure</u> <u>Documents (the "Contributors");</u>
    - ii. Reviewing annually all continuing disclosure undertakings, preparing a checklist of updated information to be provided Monitoring compliance by the District with these Disclosure Procedures, including timely dissemination of the annual financial report and Listed Event filings;
    - iii. Recommending changes to these Disclosure Procedures to the Disclosure Working Group as <u>deemed</u> necessary or appropriate;
    - iv. Communicating with third parties, including coordination with outside consultants assisting the District, in the preparation and dissemination of preparing and disseminating Disclosure Documents to make sure that assigned tasks have been are completed on a timely, basis and making sure that the filings are accurate and made on a timely basis and are accurate;
    - v. In anticipation of preparing Disclosure Documents, sSoliciting "material" information (as defined for purposes of federal securities law) from District departments to prepare Disclosure Documents;
    - vi. Monitoring compliance by the District with these Disclosure Procedures, including timely dissemination of the Annual Report and Listed Event filings, and Mmaintaining records documenting the District's compliance with these Disclosure Procedures;
    - vii. Determining when Disclosure Documents are final and ready for review by the Disclosure Working Group to the extent required by these Disclosure Procedures; and
    - viii. <u>Identifying District personnel that should receive disclosure training, and €ensuring</u> compliance with training procedures as described belowin Section 1.02(C).

The Disclosure Coordinator mayis authorized to file or cause to be filed the following documents with the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (the "MSRB"), without prior review and approval of the Disclosure Working Group, but only after prior review and approval from the Controller Chief Financial Officer if the Controller selects someone other than himself or herself to fill the role of Disclosure

Coordinator: those Disclosure Documents that (i) the District is contractually obligated to file with the MSRB <u>pursuant to written undertakings</u> as a result of the occurrence of a Listed Event (as defined in <u>Attachment BSection 2.03</u>), or <u>(ii)</u> as a result of the failure to timely file the required annual financial report and <u>(ii)</u> contain no discretionary content.

(C) Training. Separate-The Disclosure Coordinator shall arrange for annual disclosure training conducted by the District's disclosure counsel sessions shall be conducted by the District's disclosure counsel, with the assistance of the District General Counsel, for the District Board of Directors members, the Disclosure Working Group, and Contributors. Such training sessions shall include education on these Disclosure Procedures, the District's disclosure obligations under applicable federal and state securities laws, and the disclosure responsibilities and potential liabilities of members of District staff and members of the Board of Directors. Such training sessions may be conducted using a recorded presentation.

At a minimum, eEach member of the District Board of Directors, and new members of the Finance Department member mustshall be required to participate in a disclosure training session as part of his or her new member orientation.

# Section 1.03. Financing Group.

General. The ControllerGeneral Manager or his/her designee shall identify a Financing Group (the "Financing Group") for each financing (the composition of which may differ for each financing), which shall include, at a minimum, the following individuals:

<del>i.</del>	General Manager
<del>ii.</del>	General Counsel;
<del>III.</del> i.	Disclosure Working GroupController;
<del>iv.</del> ii.	_Disclosure Coordinator;
<del>∨.</del> <u>iii.</u>	_The District's outside bond counsel and disclosure counsel;
<del>vi.</del> iv.	_The District's financial advisor (if any);
v.	_The District's underwriter <u>, placement agent, remarketing agent</u> (if any as applicable); and
<del>vii.</del> vi.	The District's dissemination agent (if any);
<del>viii.</del> vii.	_Such other such District staff as the Controller General Manger or his/her designee determines to be appropriate; and
<del>ix.</del> viii.	Such other consultants retained by the District as the General Manager or his/her designee determines to be appropriate.

It is the District's policy to establish continuing working relationships with professional advisors with expertise in the area of public finance and federal securities laws applicable to the issuance of securities by the District.

Article II: Review and Approval of Official Statements

- Section 2.01. <u>Responsibilities of Financing Group</u>. The Financing Group shall prepare the Official Statement and transmit the Official Statement to the Disclosure Working Group. More specifically:
- (A) The Financing Group shall be responsible for reviewing disclosure documents solicited from the Departments by the Disclosure Coordinator, as required by Section 1.04(B) above. The Financing Group shall identify persons assigned to assist with the review or preparation of an Official Statement ("Contributors") who (a) should prepare portions of the Official Statement, (b) may have information necessary to prepare portions of the Official Statement or (c) should review portions of the Official Statement.
- (B) The Controller shall contact the individuals and departments identified as Contributors as soon as possible in order to provide adequate time for them to perform their assigned tasks. At the time a Contributor is first contacted, he or she shall be informed by the Controller of the applicable requirements of federal and state securities law, including the standard established by Rule 10b 5, promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission.
- (C) The Financing Group shall transmit the Official Statement to the Disclosure Working Group, using the cover letter attached to these Disclosure Procedures as Attachment D to these Disclosure Procedures. In so doing, the Financing Group shall and confirm (a) confirm that the Official Statement: (a) has been reviewed and accurately states all material information relating to the District, and that all information relating to the District has been reviewed by an appropriate person, (b) confirm that allany information in the Official Statement other than the information described in the previous clause (a) will be addressed by a closing certificate or opinion by an appropriate person, (c) contains a description of any failures of the District during the last five yars to comply with its continuing disclosure undertakings; report any disclosure issues and concerns to the Disclosure Working Group and (d) confirm that the Official Statement is in substantially final form and is in a form ready to be "deemed substantially final" by the District Board of Directors, as evidenced by a Certificate executed and delivered by a member of the Financing Group pursuant to Rule 15c2-12, promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Financing Group shall have at least one all-hands meeting or conference call to review the Official Statement.
- (D) The Financing Group shall have at least one all-hands meeting or conference call to review the Official Statement before transmitting it to the Disclosure Working Group.
- Section 2.02. Responsibilities of Contributors. A Contributor shall assist in reviewing and preparing the Official Statement using his or her knowledge of the District and, if appropriate, by discussing the Official Statement with other members of the Contributor's department, all for the purpose of ensuring the accuracy of the relevant portions of the Official Statement. The Financing Group shall identify all Contributors that participated in preparing the Official Statement and their responsibilities in the cover letter it uses to transmit the Official Statement to the Disclosure Working Group (see Attachment D to these Disclosure Procedures).
- Section 2.03. <u>Responsibilities of District General Counsel</u>. The <u>District General Counsel</u> (or a designee) shall review the Official Statement and shall draft for the Official Statement descriptions of (i) any

material current, pending or threatened litigation, (ii) any material settlements or court orders and (iii) any other legal issues that are material information for purposes of the Official Statement.

Section 2.04. Responsibilities of Controller and Chief Financial Officer. The Controller and Chief Financial Officer shall review the Official Statement, identify any material difference in presentation of financial information from the Financial Statements and ensure there are no misstatements or omissions of material information in any sections that contain descriptions of information prepared by the Controller and/or Chief Financial Officer or other Contributors or of relevance to the finances of the District.

In addition, the Controller <u>and/or Chief Financial Officer</u> shall determine whether the District's then-available Financial Statements are appropriate to be included in the Official Statement and whether to seek the consent of the District's auditor to include the Financial Statements in the Official Statement.

Section 2.05. Review by Disclosure Working Group. Following receipt of the Official Statement from the Financing Group, the Disclosure Working Group shall evaluate the Official Statement for accuracy and compliance with federal and state securities laws, and shall, if appropriate, have an opportunity to ask questions of the Financing Group and of any Contributor or other person who reviewed or drafted any section of the Official Statement. The Disclosure Working Group may send Official Statements back to the Financing Group for may direct or request revisions and one of the Financing Group to solicit contributions from additional Contributors, as they deem necessary or appropriate.

Section 2.06. Approval by Disclosure Working Group. Upon aApproval of the Official Statement by the Disclosure Working Group shall be evidenced by delivery of the Official Statement to the General Manager for docketing for a meeting of the Board of Directors as provided in Section 2.07., the Disclosure Working Group shall attach to the Official Statement a cover sheet in the form of Attachment C to these Disclosure Procedures. Each Official Statement and the attached cover sheet shall be retained in the files of the District Clerk for 5 years (or such longer period of time as may be required by state law).

Section 2.07. Submission of Official Statements to District Board of Directors for Approval. As part of the docketing process, the District General Manager shall submit all Preliminary Official Statements to the District Board of Directors for approval using a staff report that is similar in form and substance to includes the information in the template attached as Attachment EC to these Disclosure Procedures. The approval of an Official Statement by the District Board of Directors shall be docketed as a new business matter and shall not be approved as a consent item. The District Board of Directors shall undertake such review as deemed necessary by the District Board of Directors, following consultation with the Controller, to fulfill the District Board of Directors's responsibilities of the Board of Directors under applicable federal and state securities laws. In this regard, the Controller shall consult with the District's disclosure counsel to the extent necessary.

# Article III: Continuing Disclosure Filings

Section 3.01. Overview. Under the continuing disclosure undertakings the District has entered into in connection with its debt offerings, the District is required each year to file aAnnual financial rReports with the MSRB's Electronic Municipal Market Access ("EMMA") system maintained by the MSRB in accordance with such undertakings. Such aAnnual financial rReports are required to include certain updated financial and operating information, and the District's audited financial statements.

The District is also required under its continuing disclosure undertakings to file notices of certain events (as summarized in Attachment B to these Disclosure Prodcedures) with EMMA.

Section 3.02. <u>Financial Statements</u>. The <u>ControllerChief Financial Officer</u> shall submit the District's audited financial statements ("**Financial Statements**"), as they are available, to the Disclosure Working Group-with a cover sheet in the form of Attachment F to these Disclosure Procedures. The Disclosure Working Group shall review the audited Financial Statements according to these Disclosure Procedures and, when reviewed and approved for disclosure, shall transmit the audited Financial Statements to the <u>District</u> Board of Directors with a cover sheet in the form of Attachment C to these Disclosure Procedures.

If the District does not have audited Financial Statements available in time to file the Annual Report, the Controller Chief Financial Officer shall instead submit the District's unaudited financial statements as provided in each specific continuing disclosure undertaking.

Section 3.03. Annual Financial Reports. The Disclosure Coordinator shall ensure that the preparation of the District's aAnnual financial rReports shall commence in enough time so that they are filed no later than 210 days following the end of the fiscal year of the District, or as otherwise as-required under each specific continuing disclosure undertaking. Before any aAnnual financial rReport is submitted to EMMA, the Disclosure Coordinator shall review outstanding continuing disclosure undertakings, prepare a checklist of information to be updated, supervise the preparation of the Annual Report, and confer with the Disclosure Working Group as needed regarding the content and accuracy of any such report, including all tables for all Official Statements for all outstanding District debt, including but not limited to those listed in Attachment G.

Section 3.04. <u>Disclosure of Listed Events</u>. Pursuant to Rule 15c2-12(b)(5)(i)(C), the District is obligated to disclose to the MSRB notice of certain specified events with respect to the District's securities (a "Listed Event"). Each member of the Disclosure Working Group shall notify the other members of the Disclosure Working Group if he or she becomes aware of the Occurrence of any of the Listed Events listed in the District's continuing disclosure undertakings. The Disclosure Working Group may meet to discuss the event and to determine, in consultation with disclosure counsel to the extent determined by the Disclosure Coordinator, whether a filing is required or is otherwise desirable. If such a filing is deemed necessary, the Disclosure Coordinator shall cause a notice of the Listed Event (a "Listed Event Notice") that complies with Rule 15c2-12 to be prepared, and the Disclosure Coordinator shall file or cause to be filed the Listed Event Notice as required by Rule 15c2-12. For securities issued after December 1, 2010, and variable rate demand obligations issued at any time but which convert from a mode exempted from Rule 15c2-12 to a mode not so exempted on or after December 1, 2010, such related continuing disclosure undertakings should contain Listed Events as listed in Attachment B to these Disclosure Procedures.

# Article IV: Public Statements Regarding Financial Information

Section 4.01. <u>Financial Information</u>. Whenever the District makes statements or releases information relating to its finances to the public that are reasonably expected to reach investors and the trading markets (including, without limitation, all Listed Event Notices, statements in the audited Financial Statements, and other financial reports and statements of the District), the District is obligated to ensure that such statements and information are complete, true, and accurate in all material respects. The <u>ControllerChief Financial Officer</u> shall have primary responsibility for ensuring that such <u>financial</u> statements and information are accurate and not misleading in any material respect.

#### Article V: Miscellaneous

Section 5.01. <u>Documents to be Retained</u>. The Disclosure Coordinator, working with the District Clerk as needed, shall be responsible for retaining records demonstrating compliance with these Disclosure Procedures. The Disclosure Coordinator shall retain an electronic or paper file ("**Deal File**") for each continuing disclosure aAnnual financial rReport and notice of Listed Events filed or caused to be filed by that the District completes. Each Deal File shall include final versions of Disclosure Documents, the transcript of proceedings prepared in connection with the issuance of financial instruments. accompanied by the cover sheet attached as Attachment C to these Disclosure Procedures; written confirmations, certifications, letters and legal opinions described herein; copies of these Disclosure Procedures and a list of individuals to whom they have been distributed and the dates of such distributions; and a written record of the dates of meetings of the Disclosure Working Group. The Deal File shall be maintained in a central depository for a period equal to of five years from the later of the date of maturity or defeasancedelivery of the securities referenced in the Disclosure Document, or the date the Disclosure Document is published, posted, or otherwise made publicly available, as applicable.

Section 5.02. <u>Education and Training</u>. The Disclosure Coordinator shall ensure that the Disclosure Working Group, all Contributors, and the District Board of Directors are properly trained to understand and perform their responsibilities.

The Disclosure Coordinator shall arrange for at least annual disclosure training sessions conducted by the District's disclosure counsel. Such training sessions shall include education on these Disclosure Procedures, the District's disclosure obligations under applicable federal and state securities laws and the disclosure responsibilities and potential liabilities of members of District staff and members of the District Board of Directors. Such training sessions may be conducted using a recorded presentation.

Section 5.03. <u>District's Website</u>. The District shall maintain an investor information section of the District's website. Disclosure Documents that are material to the District's securities, and no other information, shall be posted to the investor information section of the District's website following review and approval as set forth in this Section 5.03. The investor information of the District's website shall include the following statement:

"The only information on this Web site that is posted with the intention of reaching the investing public, including bondholders, rating analysts, investment advisors, or any other members of the investment community, is located on the investor information web pages. Other than the specific information presented in the investor information web pages, no other information on the District's website is intended to be the basis of or should be relied upon in making an investment decision. Because each security issued by the District or its related entities may involve different sources of payment and security, you should refer for additional information to the official statement and continuing disclosure filings for the particular security. The information posted in the investor information web pages speaks only as of its date."

Section 5.0402. WaiversAmendments. In addition to the General's Manager's authority to adopt an Administrative PolicyProcedure to make this Board Policy more specific, any provision of this Board Policyese or any related administrative procedure Disclosure Procedures may be waived or amended at any time by the General Manager, with the written confirmation of to the members of the Disclosure Working Group. This authority to waive a provision of this policy procedure is triggered only if such waiver or amendment is necessary for timely and effective compliance with disclosures laws. Any

waivers or amendments made under this provision shall be reported to the Board of Directors, with conforming revisions recommended for the Board's consideration at the next update of this Board Policy and no later than within three months of implementation of such waiver or amendment.

#### **ATTACHMENT A**

# LIST OF DISCLOSURE DOCUMENTS, TO BE AMENDED AS NECESSARY

- 1. Preliminary and final official statements, private placement memoranda and remarketing memoranda relating to the District's securities, together with any supplements.
- 2. Financial Statements.
- 3. Filings made by the District with the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board, whether made pursuant to a continuing disclosure undertaking to which the District is a party or otherwise.
- 4. Press releases and other information distributed by <u>or on behalf of</u> the District for public dissemination to the extent that such releases are reasonably expected, in the determination of the Disclosure Working Group, to reach investors and the trading markets for municipal securities.
- 5. Rating agency presentations.
- 6. Postings on the investor information section of the District's website, if any.
- 7. Such portions of the District's published adopted annual budget as the Disclosure Working Group determines to be appropriate, which shall, at a minimum, include the executive summary.
- 8. Any other communications that are reasonably expected, in the determination of the Disclosure Working Group, to reach investors and the trading markets for municipal securities.

Amendments: [Date]

#### ATTACHMENT B

#### **LISTED EVENTS**

The Disclosure Coordinator should review this list at least once each week to determine whether any event has occurred that may require a filing with EMMA.

For securities (subject to Rule 15c2-12) issued on or after December 1, 2010, or for variable rate demand bonds that are converted from a mode currently exempted from rule 15c2-12 to a mode not so exempted on or after December 1, 2010, Occurrence of any of the following events automatically trigger require the District a requirement to make a filingfile on EMMA within ten (10) business days of their occurrence, without regards to the materiality of the event:

- 1. principal and interest payment delinquencies
- 2. unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulty
- 3. unscheduled draws on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulty
- 4. substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform
- 5. adverse tax opinions, the issuance by the Internal Revenue Service of proposed or final determinations of taxability, Notices of Proposed Issue (IRS Form 5701-TEB) or other events affecting the tax-exempt status of the security
- 6. tender offers
- 7. defeasances
- 8. rating changes
- 9. bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the obligated person

10. failure to provide in a timely manner notice to provide required annual financial information by the date specified in any continuing disclosure undertaking

The <u>occurrence if any of the</u> following events <u>trigger a requirementrequire the District</u> to file <u>a</u> notice <u>of their occurrence</u> on EMMA within <u>a ten (10 daysreasonable period of time</u> after their occurrence, <u>onceif</u> they are determined to be material by the Disclosure Working Group:

- 1. non-payment related defaults
- 2. modifications to the rights of security holders
- 3. bond calls
- 4. release, substitution or sale of property securing repayments of the securities
- 5. the consummation of a merger, consolidation, or acquisition involving an obligated person or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the obligated person, other than in the ordinary course of business, the entry into a definitive agreement to undertake such an action or the termination of a definitive agreement relating to any such actions, other than pursuant to its terms

6. appointment of a successor or additional trustee or the change of name of a trustee

# **ATTACHMENT C**

# Cover Sheet Documenting Approval of Disclosure Document By Disclosure Working Group

	<del>Date:</del>		
Disclo	[Option #1] The attached Disclosure sure Working Group pursuant to the Distr	Procument has been reviewed and approveriet's Disclosure Policies and Procedures.	ed by the
	<del>General Manager</del>	=	
	Controller	=	
	General Counsel	=	
Event	District is contractually obligated to file w	ure Coordinator is required for Disclosure Docu with the MSRB as a result of the occurrence of a uired annual financial report on a timely basis o	a Listed
		ocument has been reviewed and approved by the state of th	: <del>he</del>
	<del>Disclosure Coordinator</del>	=	

# **ATTACHMENT D**

Form of Cover Letter for Transmittal of Official Statement by Financing Group to Disclosure Working Group

Disclosure Working Group:	
With respect to the attached Official Statement	<del>:</del>
(i) the Financing Group has performed its response of the Disclosure Policies and Procedures;	nsibilities set forth in subsection iii. of Section 3.01
(ii) the members of the Financing Group and the below;	Contributors to the Official Statement are listed
(iii) the Official Statement accurately reports all all information relating to the District has been critically	material information relating to the District, and reviewed by an appropriate person; and
(iv) all information in the Official Statement, oth clause (iii) will be addressed by an appropriate person i #1: in our judgment, the Official Statement is in substitutional Disclosure Working Group] [Option #2: the following identified by the Financing Group].	tantially final form and ready for review by the
	Controller
Members of Financing Group:	
<del>[to come]</del>	
Contributors:	

#### ATTACHMENT **EC**

Form<u>Template of Information to be Included in the of Staff Report Transmitting</u>
Official Statement by <u>DistrictGeneral</u> Manager to <u>District Board of Directors</u>

From: General Ma	<del>nager</del>
Date:	
	ates to the proposed issuance of (the "Obligations") by the District. The Board
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	is asked to approve issuance of the Obligations and all related documents. The near-
final versions of the	se documents are attached.
<u>Transmittal staff re</u>	port shall include, but is not limited to, the following information:
the Board by the Statement by the D Securities Exchange that would be mate a substantial likelih when deciding whe that the Preliminar Obligations, it must	d Preliminary Official Statement has been reviewed and approved for transmittal to District's Disclosure Working Group. The distribution of the Preliminary Official strict is subject to federal securities laws, including the Securities Act of 1933 and the Act of 1934. These laws require the Preliminary Official Statement to include all facts rial to an investor in the Obligations. Material information is information that there is not would have actual significance in the deliberations of the reasonable investor there to buy or sell the Obligations. If the Board of Directors District Council concludes a Official Statement includes all facts that would be material to an investor in the adopt a resolution that authorizes staff to execute a certificate to the effect that the Statement has been "deemed final."
the District's comp elected body with Investigation in the of the Board of Sup	es and Exchange Commission (the " <u>SEC</u> "), the agency with regulatory authority over iance with the federal securities laws, has issued guidance as to the duties of the respect to its approval of the Preliminary Official Statement. In its "Report of Matter of County of Orange, California as it Relates to the Conduct of the Members ervisors" (Release No. 36761 / January 24, 1996) (the "Release"), the SEC stated that, lected body has knowledge of any facts or circumstances that an investor would want

to know about prior to investing in the Obligations, whether relating to their repayment, tax-exempt status, undisclosed conflicts of interest with interested parties, or otherwise, he or she should endeavor to discover whether such facts are adequately disclosed in the Preliminary Official Statement. In the Release, the SEC stated that the steps that a member of the elected body take include becoming familiar with the Preliminary Official Statement and questioning staff and consultants about the disclosure of such

Section 1. Purpose of Financing.

facts.

To: Members of the Board of Directors

Section 2. Documents for Approval; Security for the Obligations.

Section 3. Risks Relating to Repayment and Tax-Exempt Status of the Obligations.

Section 4. Requested Approvals.

# **ATTACHMENT F**

# Form of Cover Letter for Transmittal of Financial Statements to Disclosure Working Group

**Disclosure Working Group:** 

I attach the District's financial statements as of	f March 31,, along with an opinion of ou
independent auditor. I believe the financial statements pr	resent fairly, in all material respects, the financia
position of the District as of March 31, in accordance	ce with accounting principles generally accepted
in the United States of America and applicable laws and r	regulations of the State of California. In addition
the financial statements include a Management Statem	ent and certain supplementary schedules that
conclude are true and accurate. These Financial State	ments are ready for review by the Disclosure
Working Group pursuant to Section 4.02 of the Disclosur	e Procedures.
	<del>Controller</del>

# **ATTACHMENT G**

# **Annual Financial Report**

# **Required Tables and Supplemental Financial Disclosures**

The Annual financial report is due 210 days after end of fiscal year and will update all tables for all Official Statements for all outstanding District debt and CUSIP number, including:

- 1. Updated Tables from Official Statement
  - a. District Secured and Unsecured Tax Receipts
  - b. Projected District Revenues
  - c. Projected Debt Coverage
  - d. Composite District Payment Obligations
  - e. District Debt Outstanding
  - f. District Assessed Valuation
  - g. Direct and Overlapping Debt
- 2. Supplemental Financial Disclosures
  - a. Bonds Redeemed Prior to Maturity
  - b. Amount of Bond Reserve Funds