

## MEMORANDUM

TO:	Kevin Leonard, NEPC
CC:	MPERS' Investment Committee
FROM:	Larry Krummen
DATE:	January 12, 2021
RE:	MPERS' Internal Fixed Income Review

#### **Background:**

For compliance and auditing purposes, MPERS' investment policy requires a periodic review of the internal fixed income portfolios to ensure compliance with the guidelines established by the Board of Trustees. Any action items or exceptions to the policy are presented to the Investment Committee for approval. MPERS' staff recently conducted a review for all holdings effective 12/31/2020, and the following results are presented for your consideration. Any exceptions or findings previously disclosed have either been sold or remain in the portfolio and continue to perform to expectations.

MPERS' Core Fixed Income portfolio: No findings

- Key Portfolio Statistics (as of January 8, 2021)
  - Market Value: \$111.9 million
  - Average Yield (YTW): 1.18%
  - Average Rating: AA+
  - Average Duration (OAD): 3.65 years
  - Number of Holdings: 78
  - Largest exposure (not backed or guaranteed by a Government Agency): 3.6% of portfolio
    Description: PINREV 2.162 08/01/29
    - Par amount: \$4,000,000
      - Taxable municipal offering by Pinal County, AZ (Phoenix/Scottsdale area).

MPERS' Long Duration portfolio: No findings

- Key Portfolio Statistics (as of January 8, 2021)
  - Market Value: \$148.2 million
  - Average Yield (YTW): 2.07%
  - Average Rating: AA+
  - Average Duration (OAD): 13.7 years
  - Number of Holdings: 66
  - Largest exposure (not backed or guaranteed by a Government Agency): 3.1% of portfolio
    - Description: MOSMED 3.086 09/15/51
      - Par amount: \$5,000,000

Taxable municipal backed by Washington University in St. Louis, MO. Bond is issued through the Missouri State Health & Educational Facilities Authority (MoHEFA).

# MPERS' Cash Collateral portfolio: No findings.

### • Key Portfolio Statistics (as of January 8, 2021)

- Market Value: \$240.6 million
- Average Yield (YTW): 1.68%
- Average Rating: AA+
- Average Duration (OAD): 0.25 years
- Number of Holdings: 124
- o Largest exposure (not backed or guaranteed by a Government Agency): 2.12% of portfolio
  - Description: COMM 2019-521F A
    - Par amount: \$5,161,000

AAA-rated commercial mortgage backed security (CMBS) backed by a senior loan on the multi-tenant office building at 521 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY.

### MPERS' Inflation Protection portfolio: No findings

- Key Portfolio Statistics (as of January 8, 2021)
  - Market Value: \$40.15 million
  - Average Yield: 0.10% (real yield)

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- Average Rating: AAA
- Average Duration (OAD): 8.8 years
- Number of Holdings:
- All three bonds in the portfolio are issued by the U.S. Treasury. A \$14 million position will mature January 15, 2021.

### **Prior Downgrades in the Portfolio:**

The following exceptions have been reported to the board in prior fixed income reviews, and approval was granted to continue holding the securities within their respective portfolio. An update on the status of these securities is provided below:

Issuer		Account	Date Reported	
FFELP Loans		Cash Collateral	February, 2017	
0	Update: These are student loan pools guaranteed by the Fede	uaranteed by the Federal Family Education Loan Program		
	(FFELP). In 2016, rating agencies started to downgrade various FFELP pools due to the			
	expectations that the final maturity payments could extend beyond the original stated maturity			
	date. These are government insured bonds, so these are technical downgrades versus a credit			
	downgrade. MPERS' internal fixed income policy specifically states there are no restrictions on			
	holding securities that are guaranteed by a U.S. Government agency, but we brought the rating			
	issue to the Investment Committee in order to avoid any confusion. These bonds continue to			
	perform a valuable role in the cash collateral portfolio, and w	e plan to continue	holding the bonds	
	until maturity.			
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Bank of America Funding Corp 2005-D A1
 Cash Collateral February, 2013
 Update: This was downgraded in 2012 when rating agencies essentially downgraded all structured mortgage products across the board. This particular bond remains a very high credit quality, currently carries a coupon of 3.8%, and has paid down to only \$6,731 of remaining principal (from \$1.8 million at time of downgrade). We plan to continue holding the bonds until final maturity payment is received.

All of the other previously downgraded bonds have either been sold, matured, or called by the issuer.