

RATING ACTION COMMENTARY

Fitch Affirms Marin County Investment Pool at 'AAAf'/'S1'

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Fitch Ratings - New York - 02 Sep 2021: Fitch Ratings has affirmed the International Fund Credit Quality Rating (FCQR) and Fund Market Risk Sensitivity Rating of the Marin County Investment Pool at 'AAAf'/'S1'.

The ratings reflect Fitch's review of the pool's investment and credit guidelines, and the portfolio's credit quality and diversification. The 'AAAf' FCQR indicates the highest underlying credit quality (or lowest vulnerability to default). The 'S1' rating indicates a very low sensitivity to market risk.

KEY RATING DRIVERS

Asset Credit Quality: The main driver of the fund credit quality rating is the high credit quality of the portfolio. As per the pool's investment policy, the objectives include the safety and preservation of principal, liquidity sufficient to meet operating cash flow requirements and reasonable rates of return or yield consistent with these objectives.

As of the review date, the pool primarily invested in direct agencies. Other investments included the Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF), commercial paper and government securities.

The pool's weighted average rating factor (WARF) is in line with Fitch's 'AAAf' rating criteria of 0.3 or less. WARF is a risk-weighted measure of a portfolio of assets that accounts for the portfolio's credit quality and maturity profile.

Portfolio Sensitivity to Market Risks: The pool's Market Risk Sensitivity Factor (MRSF) is in line with Fitch's 'S1' rating criteria of 2.0 or less. A portfolio's market risk factor is calculated by combining the portfolio interest rate duration and risk-adjusted spread duration of the securities in the portfolio, and adjusting the result for the effect of any leverage.

INVESTMENT MANAGER

The pool is managed by the Marin County Director of Finance. The investment policy is reviewed and approved annually by the Oversight Committee and then approved by the County Board of Supervisors.

RATING SENSITIVITIES

Factors that could, individually or collectively, lead to positive rating action/upgrade:

Positive rating actions are not applicable as the assigned ratings are the highest ratings outcomes under Fitch's Bond Fund Ratings criteria.

Factors that could, individually or collectively, lead to negative rating action/downgrade:

The ratings are sensitive to material changes in the credit quality or market risk profiles of the fund. A material decrease in portfolio credit quality could result in the FCQR being lowered. Meanwhile, a material increase in portfolio duration could result in the MRSR being lowered.

Fitch conducted stress tests as outlined in its rating criteria to test the sensitivity of the fund's ratings against potential changes in the portfolios' credit quality.

Fitch receives monthly fund portfolio holdings information including credit quality, market value and duration of the individual securities to conduct surveillance against the Bond Fund Rating criteria. For additional information about Fitch bond fund ratings criteria, please review the criteria referenced below, which can be found on Fitch's website.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

The sources of information used to assess this rating were the public domain and Marin County Director of Finance.

RATING ACTIONS

ENTITY/DEBT	RATING			PRIOR
Marin County Investment Pool	Fund Cr Qual Rtg	AAAf	Affirmed	AAAf
●	Sensitivity	S1	Affirmed	S1

[VIEW ADDITIONAL RATING DETAILS](#)

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APPLICABLE CRITERIA

[Bond Fund Rating Criteria \(pub. 22 Jul 2019\)](#)

ADDITIONAL DISCLOSURES

[Solicitation Status](#)

[Endorsement Policy](#)

ENDORSEMENT STATUS

Marin County Investment Pool

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