PSFSS COMMITTEE: 8/20/2020 ITEM: (d) 1FILE:



# Memorandum

**TO:** PUBLIC SAFETY, FINANCE, AND FROM: Julia H. Cooper STRATEGIC SUPPORT COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: FOURTH QUARTER FINANCIAL **REPORTS FOR FISCAL YEAR** 2019-2020

**DATE:** August 5, 2020

Approved Date 8-10-20

# RECOMMENDATION

- (1) Accept the Fourth Quarter (period ending June 30, 2020) Financial Reports for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 for the following programs:
  - (a) Debt Management
  - (b) Investment Management
  - (c) Revenue Management; and
- (2) Refer the Fourth Quarter Financial Reports for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 to the September 15, 2020, City Council Meeting for full adoption.

## **OUTCOME**

Provide the quarterly update on debt management, investment management, and revenue management work efforts.

## BACKGROUND

The attached Fourth Quarter Financial Reports for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 presents the Finance Department's quarterly activity for the City's Debt Management, Investment Management, and Revenue Management programs (Attachment A). Additionally, the Fourth Quarter Investment Report has been distributed to the City Council via email and is available on the Finance Department web page<sup>1</sup>. As part of the ongoing effort to streamline work efforts within the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments/finance/reports/-folder-450

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Finance Department, these three reports are combined in one single report for submission to the Public Safety, Finance, and Strategic Support Committee ("PSFSS Committee") for its review and acceptance. A brief narrative discussion is provided below for all three components of this quarterly report.

# ANALYSIS

This section of the report is divided into the following sections: Debt Management Program, Investment Management Program, and Revenue Management Program.

## **Debt Management Program**

This Fourth Quarter Debt Report focuses on the City's debt activities for the period ended June 30, 2020, and relates to the following elements of the City's Debt Management Program:

- Completed financings and current debt portfolio
- Debt issuance and management activities completed and anticipated to fiscal year end
- Current interest rate environments and credit ratings

The City's current general obligation bonds are rated Aa1/AA+/AA+ and lease revenue bonds are rated Aa2-Aa3<sup>2</sup>/AA/AA by Moody's Investors Services Inc., Standard & Poor's Ratings Services, and Fitch Ratings, respectively. During this reporting period, Fitch affirmed the City's GO rating of AA+, Stable Outlook in June. These ratings are based on the rating reviews through June 30, 2020. All three rating agencies have changed their respective Sector Outlooks on various credit sectors from Stable to Negative, including the City's tax-supported obligations and airport obligations, as a result of the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Outlooks indicate rating agencies' view regarding the potential for a rating change and the direction of the change, so a negative outlook indicates a rating may be lowered. The timeframe for an outlook is generally around two years.

#### Investment Management Program

A quarterly investment report for the period ended June 30, 2020 is posted on the Finance Department website. Pursuant to the City's Investment Policy, verbal presentations in addition to the written reports are provided to the PSFSS Committee for the Second and Fourth Quarter Reports. The materials presented in this consolidated report provide a "snapshot" of the investment portfolio. The report will be agendized for acceptance by the City Council pursuant to the Investment Policy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Moody's determines its lease revenue bond ratings in part based on "essentiality" of leased asset; bonds tied to an essential asset, like City Hall carries higher rating (Aa2) than bonds tied to a less essential asset such as Convention Center (Aa3).

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#### **Revenue Management Program**

The Revenue Management report highlights the key aspects of the City's ongoing collection efforts. These efforts focus on reducing delinquent accounts receivable and enhancing revenue compliance through four primary collection programs: Accounts Receivable, Business Tax, Revenue Compliance and Monitoring, and Utility Billing. This report provides the highlights of the Revenue Management Division's collection efforts and summarizes the progress towards maintaining a return on investment ratio of 5.5 to 1. Actual return on investment through the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2019-20 is 6.6 to 1. This report also includes a status summary of the Business Tax Amnesty Program ("Amnesty Program").

# **Business Tax Amnesty Program**

The Amnesty Program commenced on October 1, 2019 and has been extended twice to assist businesses impacted by COVID-19. The first extension to June 30, 2020 approved by Council in March and the second extension to September 30, 2020 was approved by Council in June. This limited-time program forgives penalties and interest on past-due business taxes when the business pays the principal amount owed. To date, outreach efforts have included direct mailing of nearly 56,000 notices, distributing program flyers to business organizations and associations, running paid advertisements in newspapers, radio stations, VTA buses, and a series of press releases and social media posts. The outreach efforts have focused on providing across the City's diverse communities and organizations. The Finance Department achieved outreach effort goals by placing advertisements regarding the Amnesty Program in the El Observador and Thang Mo newspapers, translated into Spanish and Vietnamese, respectively. Additionally, we provided informational flyers to many business organizations and associations represented on the Small Business Advisory Task Force for distribution through their network.

Between October 1 and June 30, 2020, over 4,750 businesses have registered, updated tax parameters and 1,080 delinquent accounts are now current on their Business Tax. The program has yielded over \$2.6 million in revenue through June 30, 2020, with nearly \$1.2 million representing new and on-going new business revenue.

#### CONCLUSION

The Financial Reports provide information and transparency of the Finance Department's debt management, investment management, and revenue management activities for the quarter.

#### **EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP**

The Finance Department prepares this report on a quarterly basis for review and approval by the PSFSS Committee. The Finance Department staff will be available to answer questions on the Fourth Quarter Financial Reports for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 at the PSFSS Committee meeting on August 20, 2020.

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# **CLIMATE SMART SAN JOSE**

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The recommendation in this memo has no effect on Climate Smart San José energy, water, or mobility goals.

## PUBLIC OUTREACH/INTEREST

This memorandum will be posted on the City's website for the August 20, 2020 PSFSS Committee meeting and the September 15, 2020, City Council meeting.

## COORDINATION

This memorandum has been coordinated with the City Attorney's Office and City Manager's Budget Office.

# COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION/INPUT

No commission recommendation or input is associated with this action.

/s/ JULIA H. COOPER Director of Finance

For questions, please contact Luz Cofresí-Howe, Assistant Director, at (408) 535-7041.

Attachment A: Fourth Quarter Financial Reports for Fiscal Year 2019-2020