

# **Tulare County Board of Supervisors** Review of April 1, 2019 Administration Report

# **Millennium** Fund Investment Program

Presented By: Kenneth Schiebel, CFA, Managing Director

August, 2019

PFM Asset Management LLC 50 California Street Suite 2300 San Francisco, CA 94111 415-982-5544 pfm.com



# Millennium Fund Background and Objectives

- In 1999, the County issued \$45 million of taxable, variable-rate demand bonds (VRDBs).
  - Endowment to fund public capital improvements.
  - Bonds secured by certain lease payments and County's share of the national tobacco settlement.
- In 2006, the County refunded the original issue with a private placement.
  - Private placement resulted in significant savings
  - Current borrowing rate: 1-month LIBOR + 0.25% (2.49% as of 8/1/2019)
- Program's long-term investment objectives:
  - Achieve and maintain parity;
  - Generate an investment return higher than the borrowing rate to grow the Program;
  - Carefully control risk to ensure ongoing success.



## Value of Millennium Fund Endowment – Annual Update

- April 1, 2019: value is \$55.7 million
- May 2, 2019: County received annual tobacco payment of \$4.54 million

Tulare County Millennium Fund Program Market Value as of April 1, 2019			
Fund Name	Market Value		
Bond Fund	\$681,476		
Millennium Fund	\$55,064,006		
Tobacco Settlement Fund	\$0		
Total	\$55,745,482		



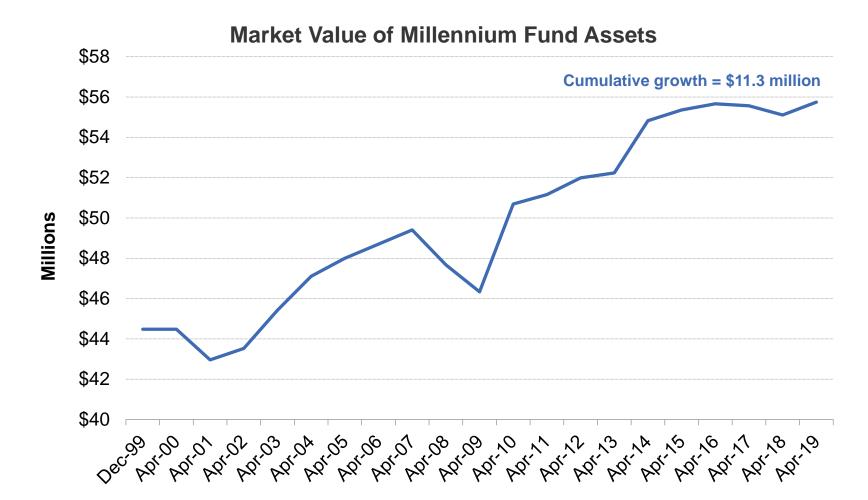
## **Program's Annual Appropriations**

Year	Allowable	Actual
Tedi	Appropriations*	Appropriations
2000	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000
2001	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000
2002	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000
2003	\$2,500,000	\$1,223,359
2004	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000
2005	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000
2006	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000
2007	\$4,500,000	\$4,500,000
2008	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000
2009	\$3,500,000	\$2,500,000
2010	\$3,500,000	\$3,000,000
2011	\$3,500,000	\$2,500,000
2012	\$3,500,000	\$3,000,000
2013	\$3,500,000	\$2,500,000
2014	\$3,500,000	\$2,500,000
2015	\$3,500,000	\$2,500,000
2016	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000
2017	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000
2018	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000
Total		\$53,223,359

\* The County has the option to withdraw an amount equal to the lesser of \$3.5 million or the amount by which the aggregate market value of assets exceeds the outstanding principal amount of the bonds



#### **Market Value Growth**

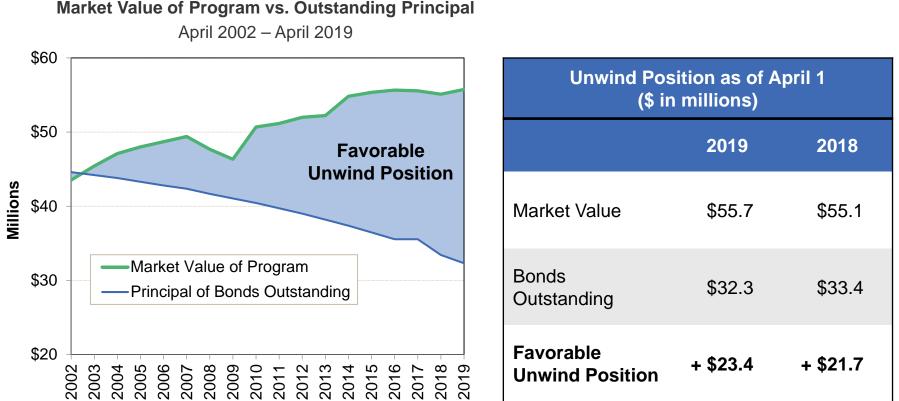


Millennium Fund Program market value of cash and investments as of April 1.



## **Program's Favorable Unwind Position Continues to Increase**

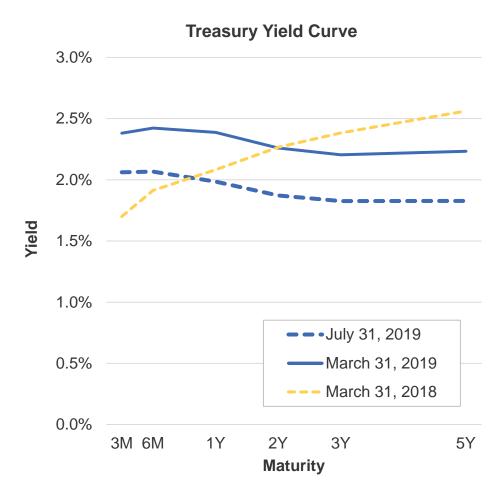
Unwind position\* improved \$1.7 million during fiscal year 2018-19 to \$23.4 million.



\*Unwind represents amount of proceeds remaining if the Program were collapsed and the Bonds completely paid off. Excludes costs associated with collapsing the Program.



#### **Yield Curve Flattened in Fiscal Year 2018-19**



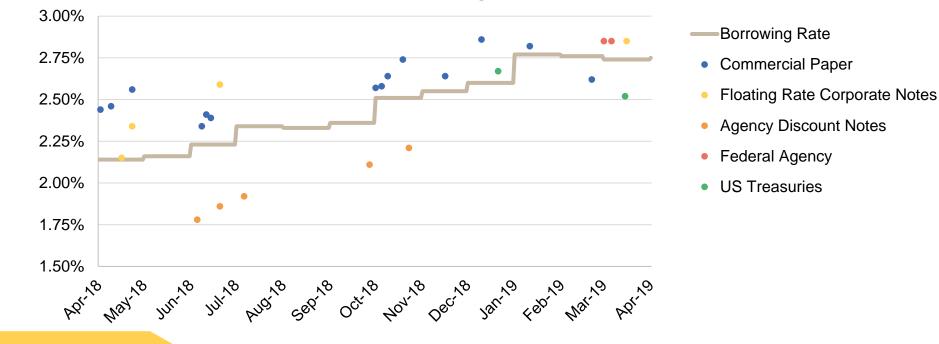
	3/31/19	3/31/18	Year-over- Year Change
3-month	2.38%	1.70%	+0.68%
6-month	2.42%	1.91%	+0.51%
1-year	2.39%	2.08%	+0.31%
2-year	2.26%	2.27%	-0.01%
3-year	2.20%	2.38%	-0.18%
5-year	2.23%	2.56%	-0.33%

© PFM



#### **Portfolio Strategy – Year in Review**

- PFM seeks to purchase high quality investments with yields at or above the borrowing rate, while simultaneously mitigating interest rate risk.
- In the current environment, the security types that have best helped to meet this goal are floating rate corporate notes, commercial paper, and some federal agency securities.

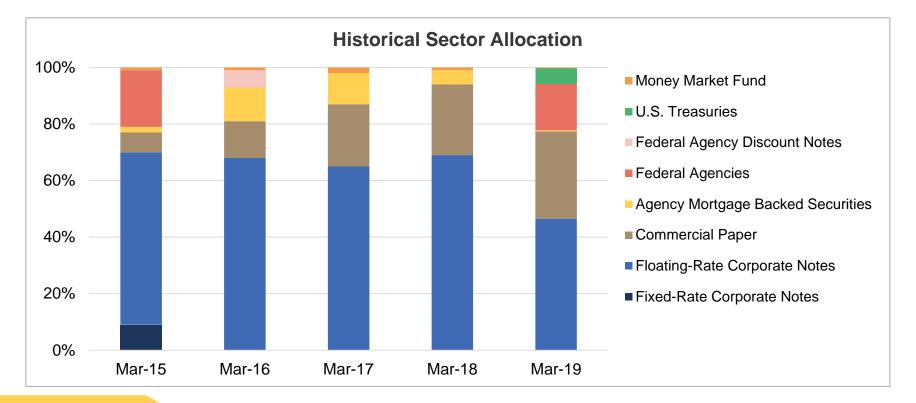


Securities Purchased During the Year Ended April 1, 2019, Relative to the Borrowing Rate of the Bonds



# Sector Allocation Reflects Careful Security Selection and Risk Management

- Since 2015, a period when rates were rising, PFM has emphasized the use of floating rate corporate notes and shorter-term commercial paper.
  - Floating-rate corporate securities lock in incremental yields over the borrowing rate
  - Shorter-term commercial paper offers high yields while limiting interest rate risk





# **Portfolio Return Exceeds Borrowing Cost**

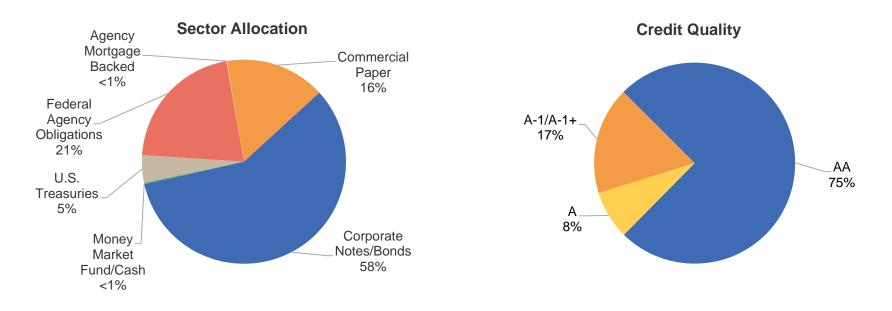
- The Fed raised short-term rates throughout 2018, which increased borrowing costs.
  - PFM's strategy was designed to keep pace with any rate increases.
  - The rate environment has changed dramatically in 2019, but the strategy goals remain the same.

Investment Results Since Inception December 17, 1999 – April 1, 2019			
Average Investment Return	2.46%		
Average Borrowing Rate	2.13%		
Positive Earnings Spread	+ 0.34%		



## **Millennium Fund Portfolio Characteristics**

Portfolio Statistics			
Market Value	\$58,073,595		
Average Duration	0.61 years		
Average Yield at Market	2.42%		





#### Maturity vs. Duration Distribution

#### 60% 52% Maturity 50% Duration 40% 34% 34% 30% 27% 18% 20% 14% 10% 7% 7% 7% 0% 0% 0% 0% 0-3 Months 3-12 Months 1 - 2 Years 2 - 3 Years 3 - 4 Years **Over 4 Years**

#### **Maturity and Duration Distribution**

Chart comprises Millennium Fund Portfolio securities as of July 31, 2019. Callable securities in portfolio are included in the maturity distribution analysis to their stated maturity date, although they may be called prior to maturity.



#### **Current Market Themes & Outlook**

#### • Current U.S. economic conditions

- Moderate GDP growth
- Strong labor market with low unemployment
- Slowdown in manufacturing and weakening business confidence due to ongoing trade disputes
- Historically low inflation, below the Fed's 2% target

#### Interest rates on the decline

- At its July meeting, the Federal Reserve cut rates for the first time since December 2008 to a new target range of 2.0%-2.25%; Fed Chair Powell characterized the action as a mid-cycle adjustment
- Developments with trade and global financial conditions will drive future Fed action; market expects at least two more rate cuts in 2019

#### Outlook

- · Falling rates and an inverted yield curve present investment challenges
- Credit instruments, like corporates and commercial paper, continue to offer value
- We will continue to balance the goals of growing Program assets and earning high yields with the need to carefully manage market risks in a period of heightened volatility



#### Disclosures

This material is based on information obtained from sources generally believed to be reliable and available to the public; however, PFM Asset Management LLC cannot guarantee its accuracy, completeness, or suitability. This material is for general information purposes only and is not intended to provide specific advice or a specific recommendation. All statements as to what will or may happen under certain circumstances are based on assumptions, some but not all of which are noted in the presentation. Assumptions may or may not be proven correct as actual events occur, and results may depend on events outside of your or our control. Changes in assumptions may have a material effect on results. Past performance does not necessarily reflect and is not a guaranty of future results. The information contained in this presentation is not an offer to purchase or sell any securities.