

Interfund Loans

Scope: CITYWIDE

Policy Contact

Dennis Kauffman, Operations Manager, (916) 808-5843

dkauffman@cityofsacramento.org

Table of Contents

1. Purpose
2. Background
3. Policy
 - 3.1 Long-term Loans
 - 3.2 Short-term Loans
 - 3.3 Prohibited Uses

Regulatory References

Council Motion 2015-0141

I. PURPOSE

The City's Interfund Loan Policy documents the methods used by the City to demonstrate prudent financial management over interfund loans. The policy:

- Requires City Council approval of interfund loans, except for short-term working capital loans,
- Permits short-term interfund loans for working capital to cover Council-approved reimbursable grants and projects and other temporary timing differences in cash flows, and
- Prohibits interfund loans from being used to solve ongoing structural budget issues or hindering the accomplishment of any function or project for which the lending fund was established.

2. BACKGROUND

Interfund loans are the lending of cash from one City fund to another for a specific purpose and with a requirement for repayment. The practice of interfund loans is a recognized and necessary aspect of municipal finance. Such loans are typically short-term in nature, and constitute the allocation of resources between individual funds for working capital purposes.

3. POLICY

3.1 Long-term Loans

Interfund loans, other than short-term working capital loans, must be approved by the City Council. Council approval will include the following terms of the loan:

- Purpose of Interfund Loan
- Identification of the source fund
 - Availability of unrestricted funds in the source fund
 - Review of multi-year plans for use of source fund cash
 - Analysis of legal or contractual restrictions
- Repayment of Interfund Loan
 - Repayment must have a payment source and funding stream
 - Specific repayment schedule
 - Interest imposed at a rate equal to at least investment earnings if loan did not occur
- Other Considerations
 - Feasibility of repayment
 - Internal controls to monitor repayment

3.2 Short-term Loans

Short-term interfund loans for working capital to provide cash for Council-approved reimbursable grants and projects, are permitted. Short-term working capital loans are also permitted for temporary timing differences in cash flows when expenditures are incurred before revenue is collected. The source funds for working capital interfund loans are the Risk Fund and the General Fund.

3.3 Prohibited Uses

- Interfund loans will not be used to solve ongoing structural budget issues.
- Interfund loans will not hinder the accomplishment of any function or project for which the lending fund was established.