### **INVESTMENT GUIDELINES**

### Investment Threshold:

Investments exceeding the amount of \$5 million will require prior approval from the Audit and Finance Committee in a public committee meeting before the funds can be committed. For all other investments falling below this threshold, approval shall be granted by ErieNet's Treasurer in consultation with a certified financial advisor.

### **Investment Reports:**

A monthly investment report will be prepared and submitted to the Audit and Finance Committee monthly for their review and oversight. To ensure transparency and informed decision-making, the Board of Directors will receive these investment reports on a quarterly basis.

### Investment Compliance:

Only investments compliant with the law and aligned with our investment policy will be considered permissible.

## **INVESTMENT POLICY**

This Investment Policy of the ErieNet Local Development Corporation (the "Corporation") shall apply to all operating funds, bond proceeds and other funds and all investment transactions involving operating funds, bond proceeds and other funds accounted for in the financial statements of the Corporation. Each investment made pursuant to this Investment Policy must be authorized by applicable law and this written Investment Policy. This Investment Policy is intended to comply with the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law of New York, the Public Authorities Law of New York, and any other applicable laws of New York State.

### **Delegation of Authority**

The responsibility for conducting investment transactions involving the Corporation resides with the Executive Director of the Corporation under the direction and oversight of the Treasurer of the Corporation. Only the Executive Director and those authorized by resolution or the Corporation's By-laws may invest Corporation funds.

All contracts or agreements with outside persons investing Corporation funds, advising on the investment of Corporation funds, directing the deposit of Corporation funds or acting in a fiduciary capacity for the Corporation, shall require the outside person to notify the Corporation in writing, within thirty (30) days of receipt of all communication from its auditor of the outside person or any regulatory authority, of the existence of material weakness in the internal control structure of the outside person or regulatory orders or sanctions regarding the type of services being provided to the Corporation by the outside person.

The records of investment transactions made by or on behalf of the Corporation are public records and are the property of the Corporation whether in the custody of the Corporation or in the custody of a fiduciary or other third party. The Executive Director of the Corporation under the direction and oversight of the Treasurer shall establish a written system of internal controls and investment practices. The controls shall be designed to prevent losses of Corporation funds, to document those officers and employees of the Corporation responsible for elements of the investment process and to address the capability of investment management. The controls shall provide for receipt and review of the audited financial statements and related reports on internal control structure of all outside persons performing any of the following for the Corporation:

- (i) investing funds of the Corporation;
- (ii) advising on the investment of funds of the Corporation;
- (iii) directing the deposit or investment of funds of the Corporation; or
- (iv) acting in a fiduciary capacity for the Corporation.

A bank, savings and loan association or credit union providing only depository services shall not be required to provide an audited financial statement and related report on its internal control structure.

## Objectives

The primary objectives, in order of priority, of all investment activities involving the financial assets of the Corporation shall be the following:

(i) <u>Safety</u>: Safety and preservation of principal in the overall portfolio is the foremost investment objective;

(ii) <u>Liquidity</u>: Maintaining the necessary liquidity to match expected liabilities and expenses is the second investment objective;

(iii) <u>Return</u>: Obtaining a reasonable return is a third investment objective

## **Operative Policy**

The Corporation shall conduct its investment activities involving all operating funds, bond proceeds and other funds and all investment transactions involving operating funds, bond proceeds and other funds accounted for in the financial statements of the Corporation in a manner that complies with the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law and the Public Authorities Law of New York State.

Prior to making an investment of any operating funds, bond proceeds and other funds of the Corporation, other than those associated with a bank, savings and loan association or credit union involving a depository relationship only, the Corporation shall obtain at least three (3) bids and award the contract to the most responsible bidder whose bid most closely meets the objectives of this Investment Policy.

The Executive Director, the Treasurer and all officers and employees of the Corporation involved in the investment process shall refrain from personal business activity that could conflict with the

proper execution of the investment program, or which could impair their ability to make impartial investment decisions.

The Executive Director/Treasurer shall submit to the Board an investment report that summarizes recent market conditions and investment strategies employed since the last investment report. The report shall set out the current portfolio in terms of maturity, rates of return and other features and summarize all investment transactions that have occurred during the reporting period and compare the investment results with budgetary expectations, if any.

## **Investments & Deposits**

- A. Investments
  - 1. Permitted Investments
  - Pursuant to the Not-For-Profit Corporation Law ("N-PCL"), the Corporation is authorized to invest moneys not required for immediate expenditure for terms not to exceed its projected cash flow needs in the following types of investments:
    - a. Special time deposit accounts;\*
    - b. Certificates of deposit;\*
    - c. Obligations of the United States of America;\*\*
    - d. Obligations guaranteed by agencies of the United States of America where payment of principal and interest are guaranteed by the United States of America;\*\*
    - e. Obligations of the State of New York;\*
  - \*Special time deposit accounts and certificates of deposit are permitted investments provided that (1) they shall be payable within such time as the proceeds shall be needed to meet expenditures for which the moneys were obtained and (2) they are collateralized in the same manner as set forth in paragraph (B) below for deposits of public funds.
  - \*\*All investment obligations shall be payable or redeemable at the option of the Corporation within such times as the proceeds will be needed to meet expenditures for purposes for which the moneys were provided and, in the case of obligations purchased with the proceeds of bonds or notes, shall be payable or redeemable at the option of the Corporation within two years of the date of purchase.
  - 2. Authorized Financial Institutions and Dealers
  - The Corporation shall maintain a list of financial institutions and dealers, approved for investment purposes and establish appropriate limits to the amount of investments which can be made with each financial institution or dealer. All financial institutions with which the local government conducts business must be credit worthy. Banks shall provide their most recent Consolidated Report of Condition (Call Report) at the request of the Corporation. Security dealers not affiliated with a bank shall be

required to be classified as reporting dealers affiliated with the New York Federal Reserve Bank, as primary dealers. The Chairman or Chairperson of the Board of Directors is responsible for evaluating the financial position and maintaining a listing of proposed depositaries, trading partners and custodians. Such listing shall be evaluated at least annually.

3. Purchase of Investments

The Corporation may contract for the purchase of investments:

- a. Directly, including through a repurchase agreement, from an authorized trading partner.
- b. By utilizing an ongoing investment program with an authorized trading partner pursuant to a contract authorized by the board of Directors.
- All purchased obligations, unless registered or inscribed in the name of the Corporation, shall be purchased through, delivered to and held in the custody of a bank or trust company. Such obligations shall be purchased, sold or presented for redemption or payment by such bank or trust company only in accordance with prior written authorization from the officer authorized to make the investment. All such transactions shall be confirmed in writing to the Corporation by the bank or trust company shall be held pursuant to a written custodial agreement as described in the N-PCL.
- The custodial agreement shall provide that securities held by the bank or trust company, as agent of and custodian for, the Corporation, will be kept separate and apart from the general assets of the custodial bank or trust company and will not, in any circumstances, be commingled with or become part of the backing for any other deposit or other liabilities. The agreement shall describe how the custodian shall confirm the receipt and release of the securities. Such agreement shall include all provisions necessary to provide the Corporation a perfected interest in the securities.
- 4. Repurchase Agreements

Repurchase agreements are authorized subject to the following restrictions:

- a. All repurchase agreements must be entered into subject to a Master Repurchase Agreement.
- b. Trading partners are limited to banks or trust companies authorized to do business in New York State and primary reporting dealers.
- c. Obligations shall be limited to obligations of the United States of America and obligations guaranteed by agencies of the United States of America.
- d. No substitution of securities will be allowed.
- e. The custodian shall be a party other than the trading partner.

### B. Deposits

- 1. Collateralization of Deposits
- All deposits of the Corporation, including certificates of deposit and special time deposits, in excess of the amount insured under the provisions of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act shall be secured:
  - a. By pledge of "eligible securities" with an aggregate "market value" as provided by the N-PCL, equal to the aggregate amount of deposits from the categories designated in Exhibit A attached hereto.
  - b. By an eligible "irrevocable letter of credit" issued by a qualified bank other than the bank with the deposits in favor of the Corporation for a term not to exceed ninety (90) days with an aggregate value equal to 140% of the aggregate amount of deposits and the agreed upon interest, if any. A qualified bank is one whose commercial paper and other unsecured short-term debt obligations are rated in one of the three highest rating categories by at least on nationally recognized statistical rating organization or by a bank that is in compliance with applicable federal minimum risk-based capital requirements.
  - c. By an eligible surety bond payable to the Corporation for an amount at least equal to 100% of the aggregate amount of deposits and the agreed upon interest, if any, executed by an insurance company authorized to do business in New York State, whose claims-paying ability is rated in the highest rating category by at least two nationally recognized statistical rating organizations. The terms and conditions of any eligible surety shall be approved by the Board of Directors.
- 2. Safekeeping and Collateralization
- Eligible securities used for collateralizing deposits shall be held by the depository bank or trust company subject to security and custodial agreements.
- The security agreement shall provide that eligible securities are being pledged to secure Corporation deposits together with agreed upon interest, if any and any costs or expenses arising out of the collection of such deposits upon default. It shall also provide the conditions under which the securities may be sold, presented for payment, substituted or released and the events, which will enable the Corporation to exercise its rights against the pledged securities. In the event that the securities are not registered or inscribed in the name of the Corporation, such securities shall

be delivered in a form suitable for transfer or with an assignment in blank to the Corporation or its custodial bank.

The custodial agreement shall provide that securities held by the bank or trust company, or agent of and custodian for, the Corporation, will be kept separate and apart from the general assets of the custodial bank or trust company and will not, in any circumstances, be commingled with or become part of backing for any other deposit or other liabilities. The agreement should also describe that the custodian shall confirm the receipt, substitution or release of the securities. The agreement shall provide for the frequency of revaluation of eligible securities and for the substitution of securities when a change in the rating of a security may cause ineligibility. Such agreement shall include all provisions necessary to provide the Corporation a perfected interest in the securities.

Approved and adopted this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

# EXHIBIT A

# SCHEDULE OF ELIGIBLE SECURITIES

(1) Obligations issued, or fully insured or guaranteed as to the payment of principal and interest by the United States of America, an Agency thereof or a United States government sponsored corporation.

(2) Obligations issued or fully guaranteed by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the African Development Bank.

(3) Obligations partially insured or guaranteed by any Corporation of the United States of America, at a proportion of the Market Value of the obligation that represents the amount of the insurance or guaranty.

(4) Obligations issued or fully insured or guaranteed by the State of New York, obligations issued by a municipal corporation, school district or district corporation or such State or obligations of any public benefit corporation which under a specific State statute may be accepted as security for deposit of public moneys.

(5) Obligations issued by states (other than the State of New York) of the United States rated in one of the three highest rating categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization.

(6) Obligations of Puerto Rico rated in one of the three highest rating categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization.

(7) Obligations of countries, cities and other governmental entities of a state other than the State of New York having the power to levy taxes that are backed by the full faith and credit of such governmental entity and rated in one of the three highest categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization.

(8) Obligations of domestic corporations rated one of the two highest rating categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization.

(9) Commercial paper and bankers' acceptances issued by a bank, other than the Bank, rated in the highest short term category by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization and having maturities of not longer than 60 days from the date they are pledged.

(10) Zero Coupon obligations of the United States government marketed as "Treasury strips".