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Statement of Investment Policies and Objectives

for

Austin Firefighters Retirement Fund

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I. STATEMENT OF POLICY

A. Purpose

This document is the official policy governing the investment practices of the Austin Firefighters Retirement Fund (the "Fund") and is intended to satisfy the requirements of Section 802.202(d)(1) of the Texas Government Code. These policies and objectives (the "Policy") have been adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Fund (the "Board"), which has the fiduciary duty of overseeing Fund investments. The Policy is not to be deviated from by any responsible party without the prior authorization of the Board. All previous Fund investment policies and objectives are superseded by this document. Any revisions to this document will be promptly supplied to the appropriate parties in written format.

B. Investment Goals

The purpose of the Fund is to accumulate the financial reserves necessary to provide for the retirement pension benefits and other benefits set forth in the Fund's governing statute (e.g., COLAs) for eligible members of the Fund and their beneficiaries. A primary investment goal of the Fund is to emphasize consistency of growth in a manner that protects the Fund from excessive volatility in market value from year to year, while achieving its performance objective over a long-term horizon.

The Board, with consultation, advice, and assistance from the Fund's investment consultant (the "Investment Consultant"), will use the Fund's asset allocation as the primary tool to achieve this goal. As this is a long-term projection and investments are subject to short-term volatility, the main investment review focus of the Board will be to emphasize total return of the Fund over a long-term time horizon. Each strategy selected by the Board is expected to maintain a consistent philosophy and style, perform well versus others utilizing the same style, add incremental value after costs, and provide investment management in compliance with this document and the manager's contract with the Fund or other operating documents.

II. INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES

The primary investment objective of the Fund is to provide sufficient return and liquidity to pay the benefit obligations of the Fund on a timely and regular basis. The Fund is permanent in nature and there is currently no expectation of need for significant liquidity from the Fund's portfolio. The Fund shall be considered a total return fund, with appropriate recognition given to both current income and capital appreciation. The Board accepts the risks associated with investing in public and private capital markets (market risks), but will minimize wherever possible those risks for which the Fund is unlikely to be compensated (non-market or diversifiable risks). The risk and return investment objectives of the Fund are set forth below and should strive to be achieved in a manner consistent with the goals stated in Section I above.

A. Risk Objectives

- To accept the minimum level of risk required to achieve the Fund's return objective as stated immediately below.
- To use diversification to minimize exposure to company and industry-specific risks in the aggregate investment portfolio.

B. Return Objective

- To manage the Fund's assets so as to achieve a high likelihood of attaining a 7.3% nominal return over a long-term time horizon.

C. Performance Objectives

As stated above, the Board's primary investment objective is to provide sufficient returns and liquidity over a long-term investment horizon to ensure the Fund is able to pay its benefit obligations to current and future members and beneficiaries on a timely and regular basis. The Board believes it is important to evaluate the Fund's performance over the long-term investment horizon separately – and using different performance metrics – than over a short-term period. The objectives and benchmarks that the Board will use to evaluate the Fund's investment performance for each purpose are set forth below.

1. *Total Fund Performance (Long-Term Horizon)*

- *Long-Term Investment Objective*: The Fund's primary investment objective is to invest the Fund's assets so as to achieve a high likelihood of earning total Fund returns that meet or exceed the Total Fund Benchmark over a long-term investment horizon. The Board believes that evaluating the total Fund performance against a fully investable and transparent benchmark (which is representative of a portfolio that is feasible to invest in) is the best measure of overall Fund performance.

- *Total Fund Benchmark*: The "Total Fund Benchmark" will be a combination of low-cost, investable index returns that matches the subject return series as well or better than others in terms of (1) measures of statistical fit and (2) market exposures. The Total Fund Benchmark should be representative of the Fund's overall risk and return preferences. The subcomponents and weights of the Total Fund Benchmark will be developed in consultation with the Investment Consultant using statistical regression analysis relative to historical exposure and historical returns of the Fund. The current Total Fund Benchmark is outlined below. The Total Fund Benchmark is intended to be revised only if there is a fundamental change in the Board's risk/return preferences.

Weight	**Passive Index Components**
42%	Russell 3000 Index
28%	ACWI (ex US) Index
30%	Bloomberg Barclays Aggregate Index
100%	**Total Fund Benchmark**

2. *Investment Selection Performance (Short-Term Horizon)*

- *Short-Term Investment Objective*: In addition to evaluating the long-term Fund investment performance against the Total Fund Benchmark, the Board recognizes the need to evaluate its investment selections and managers against a dynamic benchmark to measure net performance against a custom composite benchmark developed based on how the Fund's assets are actually allocated and invested.

- *Dynamic Benchmark*: The custom composite benchmark, or the "Dynamic Benchmark", will be composed of a mix of the individual asset class benchmarks, weighted based on the actual asset class composition for the Fund. The individual asset class benchmarks are set forth in Appendix B. The benchmarks used for each asset class will be determined by the Board in consultation with the Investment Consultant. The weight is determined by the preceding month end percentage of each asset class.

III. INVESTMENT CONSTRAINTS

A. Legal and Regulatory

The Board intends that the assets of the Fund at all times are invested in accordance with applicable federal and Texas law and regulations, including its governing statute, its governing instruments, and applicable fiduciary standards. The Board will retain legal counsel when appropriate to review investment contracts and provide advice with respect to applicable statutes and regulations.

B. Time Horizon

The Fund will be managed on a going-concern basis. The assets of the Fund will be invested with a long-term horizon (twenty years or more), consistent with the participant demographics and the purpose of the Fund.

C. Liquidity

The Board intends to maintain sufficient liquidity to meet at least three years of anticipated member and beneficiary payments. To this end, the Board intends to invest no more than 40% of the Fund's assets in illiquid vehicles. Illiquid vehicles are defined as those vehicles that do not allow withdrawals to occur on at least a quarterly basis.

D. Over-Concentration

The securities representing equity of any one company shall not exceed 6% of the market value of the Fund. Fixed income securities of any one corporation shall be limited to 6%, at market, of the Fund.

IV. ALLOCATION OF INVESTMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Board of Trustees

The Board has the fiduciary responsibility for managing the investment process. In fulfilling this responsibility, the Board will establish and maintain investment policies and objectives. Trustees are tasked primarily with setting the overall risk/return preferences and weighing total portfolio return against properly constructed benchmarks.

Within this framework, the Board will select, contract with, monitor, and evaluate the Investment Consultant, investment managers, bank custodian, and other parties to ensure that actual results meet objectives.

B. Fund Staff

The Staff of the Fund is responsible for oversight and management of the day-to-day operations of the Fund. This includes, but is not limited to, oversight of Fund policies and procedures, working closely with the Investment Consultant and investment managers, executing and reconciling all private market cash flows for the Fund, oversight of budget, oversight of manager fee payment and reconciliation, and Board meeting preparation and coordination.

C. Investment Consultant

The Investment Consultant's duty is to render competent, professional advice and assistance and to work with the Board with respect to the investment process. This includes meeting at least quarterly with the Board to provide perspective as to the Fund's goals and analysis of the Fund's investments. The Investment Consultant will advise, consult, and work with the Board to develop and maintain a properly diversified portfolio.

The Investment Consultant will perform its duties and obligations to the Board in conformance with generally accepted industry standards and its contract with the Fund.

Fund allocation and performance will be regularly reviewed, and recommendations will be made as appropriate. The Investment Consultant will assist the Board in investment manager selection, when needed, and will promptly inform the Board and discuss the impact of material changes taking place within any current manager's organization and/or investment process. Within this process, the Investment Consultant assumes fiduciary responsibility for advice given regarding the management of the investment process.

D. Investment Managers

The investment managers for separately managed accounts will construct and manage investment portfolios consistent with the investment philosophy and disciplines they were hired to implement and which are specified in this document and in their respective investment management agreement (IMA) they execute with the Fund. Investment managers will select specific securities, buy and sell such securities, and manage the investment portfolio within their guidelines. The Board also believes that investment decisions are best made when not restricted by excessive procedure. Therefore, full discretion is delegated to the investment managers to carry out the investment of the respective portfolios within stated guidelines.

The Board may also invest in pooled investment vehicles or private market investment vehicles. The governing instruments of these vehicles should specify the applicable investment philosophy and disciplines and provide the investment guidelines for the investment.

E. Custodian Bank

The custodian bank will hold all cash and securities and will regularly value, list and summarize these holdings for the Board's review. In addition, a bank or trust depository arrangement may be utilized to accept and hold cash prior to allocating it to the investment manager and to invest such cash in liquid, interest-bearing instruments.

V. FIDUCIARY CONDUCT

An investment fiduciary includes, but is not limited to, a person who exercises discretionary authority or control in the investment of the assets of the Fund or who renders, for a fee, advice for the Fund. The term investment fiduciary includes, but is not limited to the members of the Board, the Executive Director, the Investment Consultant, and investment managers. An investment fiduciary shall discharge his or her duties in accordance with the fiduciary standards set forth in Section 802.203 of the Texas Government Code and other applicable law.

VI. AVAILABLE ASSET CLASSES AND INVESTMENT GUIDELINES

In consultation with the Investment Consultant and after proper consideration of the Board's investment objectives and asset allocation plan as discussed herein, the Board will determine the asset classes available for investment of Fund assets. The list of asset classes available for investment will be set forth in Appendix A.

Within each broader asset class, the Board believes it is prudent to diversify based on recommendations from the Investment Consultant. The specific degrees of diversification within each asset class will be addressed in the Fund's Operating Procedures or each manager's investment guidelines, as applicable.

The investment guidelines for available asset classes, if applicable, are reflected in the Fund's Operating Procedures. In addition, specific investment guidelines for investment managers of separately managed accounts will be incorporated in the agreement with the Fund. Within their investment guidelines, each investment manager will also be furnished with a list of asset types and investment strategies that are forbidden. Investment guidelines for pooled investment vehicles or private market investment vehicles will be set forth in the governing instruments of such vehicles.

VII. INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

Equity exposure within an asset allocation strategy is a key determinant of portfolio risk. The use of the term "effective equity exposure" addresses the fact that reported equity allocations often resemble an incomplete picture of the true equity-like exposure in a portfolio. Asset classes such as private equity, venture capital, real estate, and high yield bonds have high positive correlations to public equity and exhibit equity-like beta, especially in times of market stress. As such, these asset classes offer limited ability to reduce portfolio risk. It is necessary to control effective equity exposure so as to be in compliance with the spirit of this Policy.

In addition, when considering the inclusion of active management, the Board recognizes that while actively managed funds offer the potential to outperform a benchmark, the likelihood that they can, over long time periods for certain asset classes, can be low, especially considering the higher fee structure in active management. Due to the structural advantages index funds offer, the inclusion of active managers in public markets should be judged through appropriate caution and healthy skepticism. Only in compelling circumstances should active managers for a public market asset class be considered. Their inclusion should be re-evaluated periodically, and their fees should be reasonable.

VIII. ASSET ALLOCATION

The Fund's achievement of its risk and return objectives is a function, in large part, of the Fund's asset allocation. The Board recognizes that the allocation of monies to various asset classes will be the major determinant of the Fund's return and risk experience over time. Therefore, the Board will allocate investments across available asset classes that, based on historical and expected returns and risks, provide the highest likelihood of meeting the Fund's investment objectives. The Fund's asset allocation policy and ranges are detailed in Appendix B.

In determining the appropriate asset allocation, the expected return and risk behavior of each asset class and the likely interaction of various asset classes in a portfolio are to be considered. These "market assumptions" are to be determined and considered by the Board when establishing the asset allocation of the Fund. The Board, with the assistance of the Investment Consultant, will approve the applicable market assumptions, including the expected return, volatility, and correlations for each asset class, which will be set forth in Appendix B to this Policy or the Fund's Operating Procedures, as applicable.

The most efficient way to meet public market exposures, identified by a desired asset allocation, is by utilizing broad based, low fee, passive index funds. Due to the highly efficient and competitive nature of public markets, passive index investments, developed from and consistent with financial theory, is the natural starting point for investment in public asset classes. Active management will be considered for public markets when the Board believes that a given strategy is capable of achieving excess returns. While some public proxies exist for private assets, private asset investment is active by nature and will present better opportunities for utilizing active strategies.

A. Long-Term Allocation Targets

Based on the investment objectives and constraints of the Fund, and on the expected behavior of the available asset classes, the Board will specify a long-term target allocation and acceptable ranges for allocation for each available asset class. These targets will be expressed as a percentage of the Fund's overall market value. These targets will be selected in conjunction with appropriate ranges to accommodate permissible variation resulting from market forces. The Fund's target allocations are listed Appendix B. The Board will review its asset allocation targets and ranges at least annually or sooner if warranted by a material event in either the liability structure of the Fund or the capital markets.

The long-term target allocations are intended as strategic goals, not short-term imperatives. Thus, it is permissible for the overall Fund's asset allocation to deviate from the long-term target, as would likely occur during manager transitions, asset class restructurings, and other temporary changes in the Fund. Deviations from targets that occur due to capital market changes are discussed below.

B. Rebalancing

In general, cash flows to and from the Fund will be allocated in such a manner as to move each asset class toward its target allocation.

The Board recognizes that, periodically, market forces may move the Fund's allocations outside the target ranges. The Board also recognizes that failing to rebalance the allocations would unintentionally change the Fund's structure and risk posture. Consequently, the Board has established a process to rebalance the allocations periodically.

On at least an annual basis, if any strategic allocation is outside the specified target range, assets will be shifted to return the strategy to the target range. The specific plan for rebalancing will identify those assets that can be shifted at the lowest possible risk and cost, if the rebalancing cannot be accomplished solely by allocating contributions and withdrawals.

IX. EVALUATION AND REVIEW

As a function of its fiduciary responsibilities to monitor the investment decisions it makes on behalf of the Fund, the Board will regularly review the investments of the Fund. This review and evaluation of investments will be conducted in accordance with the following:

- On a quarterly basis, the Board, through the report of the Investment Consultant, will review the overall investment performance of the Fund and individual investment managers. This report will include a review of performance generally and in relation to the composite and asset class benchmarks established by the Board.
- The Investment Consultant will continually monitor the investment managers and other investments of the Fund to ensure that managers or such investments are performing in accordance with applicable investment guidelines and the expected philosophy, methodology and style. The Investment Consultant will report to the Board on a quarterly basis any material deviation from the applicable guidelines or any other structural, organizational, philosophical, or other material change that warrants the Board’s attention.
- At least annually, the Board will review the asset allocation of the Fund to determine if it remains appropriate in order to achieve the investment objectives of the Fund. This review will include an evaluation of market assumptions utilized in establishing the asset allocation to determine if any changes to these assumptions are warranted, as well as if any other asset classes should be made available for investment.
- At least annually, the Board will review the Fund’s long-term performance in relation to the Total Fund Benchmark.
- At least annually, the Board will formally review this Policy to determine whether it continues to be appropriate in light of the Board’s investment goals and objectives and changes in the capital markets and/or the Fund’s condition or circumstances.

X. SECURITIES LENDING

The Board may select an agent to lend the financial securities of the Fund, but has no obligation to do so. The securities lending program shall in no way inhibit the trading activities of the investment managers of the Fund.

XI. TRADING

In accordance with the legal and fiduciary obligations imposed on investment managers by either their agreements with the Fund or applicable federal or Texas law, all trades executed by managers must be for the exclusive benefit of the Fund's participants and beneficiaries. Managers are expected to seek best execution on all trades.

XII. VOTING OF PROXIES

The Board has delegated the responsibility of voting all proxies to the investment managers. The Board expects that managers will execute all proxies in a timely fashion and in a manner that is in the best interest of the Fund and its members and beneficiaries. Also, the Board expects the managers to provide a full accounting of all proxy votes, and upon request, a written explanation of individual voting decisions.

XIII. INVESTMENT COSTS

The Board intends to monitor and control investment costs at every level of the Fund through the following:

- Professional fees will be negotiated whenever possible.
- Where appropriate, passive portfolios will be used to minimize management fees and portfolio turnover.
- The Fund may enter into performance-based fees with specific managers.
- If possible, assets will be transferred in-kind during manager transitions and Fund restructurings to eliminate unnecessary turnover expenses.
- Managers are instructed to seek best execution.

Appendix A

Asset Class
Public Domestic Equity
Public Foreign Equity
Emerging Market Equity
Frontier Market Equity
Private Equity
Private Debt
Real Estate
Investment Grade Bonds
TIPS
High Yield Bonds
Bank Loans
Developed Market Bonds
Emerging Market Bonds
Natural Resources
Infrastructure
Commodities
Hedge Funds
Cash

Appendix B

Asset Class	Target (%)	Range (%)	Asset Class Benchmarks
Public Domestic Equity	20	13-27	Russell 3000
Public Foreign Equity	22	15-29	MSCI ACWI (ex. U.S.)
Private Equity	15	5-25	MSCI ACWI +2% on a 3 Month Lag
Investment Grade Bonds	13	10-20	Bloomberg Barclays Aggregate
TIPS	5	0-10	Bloomberg Barclays U.S. TIPS
High Yield/Bank Loans	5	0-10	50% Merrill Lynch High Yield 50% Credit Suisse Leverage Loan Index
Emerging Market Debt	7	0-10	Custom EMD Benchmark[1]
Core Real Estate	5	0-10	NCREIF ODCE Equal Weighted (net)
Value Add Real Estate	5	0-10	NCREIF Property NPI
Private Natural Resources	3	0-5	S&P North American NR
Cash	0	0-5	

[1] Custom EMD Benchmark is 50% JPMorgan EMBI Global Diversified, 25% JPMorgan GBI-EM Global Diversified (unhedged), and 25% JPMorgan CEMBI Broad.