## MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 24, 2020
TO: George Tablack, CPA Chief Financial Officer

FROM: Lori Fortenberry, Investment \& Finance Coordinator Finance and Administrative Services Department

FROM: Darren Portner, Investment \& Finance Coordinator Finance and Administrative Services Department


RE: Portfolio and Economic Summary - March 31, 2020
As of March 31, 2020, the Broward County Investment Portfolio had a par value of $\$ 2.96$ billion and a Yield to Maturity of $1.85 \%$. The yield exceeded the benchmark Bank of America Merrill Lynch 1-3 Year U.S. Treasury \& Agency Index by 134 basis points ( $0.51 \%$ as of March 31, 2020).

In March, the Federal Reserve Bank's (Fed) Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) twice took emergency action to reduce interest rates in response to the global pandemic caused by the novel coronavirus which has caused havoc on the economy. The first move was on March 3 when the Fed delivered a $0.50 \%$ cut followed by an additional $1.00 \%$ reduction on March 15. The Fed Funds rate now stands at $0.25 \%$, a level not seen since 2015 . Both moves took place prior to the FOMC's regularly scheduled meeting on March 18. In its statement, the Fed noted that "The Federal Reserve is committed to use its full range of tools to support the U.S. economy in this challenging time and thereby promote its maximum employment and price stability goals".

Unemployment has soared as non-essential businesses have closed due to stay-at-home orders and with many having to furlough or layoff staff. Jobless claims for the five-weeks ending April 18 were over 26 million, or more than $15 \%$ of the labor force, which erased more than a decade worth of job creation. In response to the crisis, the U.S. government passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and, at $\$ 2$ trillion, is the largest fiscal stimulus package in modern history. Meanwhile, all sectors of the economy felt the pain in March as declines were recorded in retail sales (down 8.7\%), car sales (down $25.6 \%$ ), single family housing starts (down 17.5\%), and industrial production (down $5.4 \%$ ). Oil prices are down $67 \%$ since the start of the year, caused by a combination of a supply glut, a price war within OPEC, and reduced demand from consumers staying home to help break the spread of the virus. It is reasonable to expect, based on current trends, April will continue to decline even further. The Dow Jones Industrial Average shared in the turmoil as the index tumbled $31 \%$ over a 3 -week period in March to a low of 18,592 and then rebounded to 24,242 by mid-April. Not to be spared, short-term US Treasuries fell into negative territory in March and have mirrored the ups and downs of the stock market in the ensuing weeks.

Please see the attached pages showcasing portfolio detail and key economic data as of the end of the period.
Portfolio Summary
March 31, 2020
BROWARD COUNTY
115 S. ANDREWS AVE A430
FT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301

Exhibit 1
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Quarterly Portfolio Analysis - March 31, 2020


