



California State Treasurer Fiona Ma, CPA

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Treasurer Fiona Ma Reminds Counties, Cities, And Special Districts That PG&E Settlement Revenues Can Be Deposited With Treasurer's Office For Investment And It Is Willing To Assist In The Investment Of Other Wildfire Settlements

SACRAMENTO – State Treasurer Fiona reminds those local governments receiving PG&E settlement funds that they can invest these monies through a special program run by the State Treasurer's Office special program – the Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF).

LAIF invests local government revenues for them. This fund is professionally managed and requires no extra money from taxpayers.

"We want to do our part to assist local governments devastated by the various fires caused by PG&E's actions to recover," said Treasurer Ma. "These special LAIF accounts gives them the chance to invest critical dollars in a fund that earns competitive yields, but also is safe and liquid."

LAIF is a voluntary program created by statute. It began in 1977 as an investment alternative for California's local governments and special districts and it continues today under Treasurer Ma, who directed the creation of special LAIF accounts to receive wildfire settlement funds several months ago in anticipation that wildfire funds would accrue to local governments from the PG&E Bankruptcy.

Last month the federal Bankruptcy Court confirmed PG&E's reorganization plan. Part of that plan was a \$1 billion allocation to local governments for costs that they incurred in addressing wildfires from 2015, 2017, and 2018. PGE has paid monies into the settlement funds and local governments are receiving them. These accounts are not subject to the ordinary rules that apply to deposits and withdrawals into LAIF. See: <https://www.treasurer.ca.gov/pmia-laif/laif/accounts.asp>.

To date LAIF has received more than \$400 million for investment from the PG&E bankruptcy. In addition, the Treasurer's office is in the process of examining the expansion of this program for those localities that receive settlement funds on other fires from other utilities.

Fiona Ma is California's 34th State Treasurer. She was elected on November 6, 2018 with more votes (7,825,587) than any other candidate for treasurer in the state's history. She is the first woman of color and the first woman Certified Public Accountant (CPA) elected to the position. The State Treasurer's Office was created in the California Constitution in 1849. It provides financing for schools, roads, housing, recycling and waste management, hospitals, public facilities, and other crucial infrastructure projects that better the lives of residents. California is the world's fifth-largest economy and Treasurer Ma is the state's primary banker. Her office processes more than \$2 trillion in transactions within a typical year. She provides transparency and oversight for the government's investment portfolio and accounts, as well as for the state's surplus funds. Treasurer Ma oversees an investment portfolio of about \$101 billion, about \$32.1 billion of which are local government funds. She serves as agent of sale for all State bonds, and is trustee on outstanding debt of \$94 billion.