

FISCAL POLICY MANUAL

POLICY FA-1 Accounting for Capital Assets

APPROVED: Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector (ACTTC)

AUTHORITY: Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector

ISSUE/REVISED DATE: April 10, 2023

I. Introduction

A. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to present a uniform method of maintaining Sonoma County's capital asset records and to apply a consistent method of accounting for capital assets. This policy does not address existing budget procedures related to capital assets. This policy is intended to be in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement Nos. 34, 51, 83, 87, 89 and 96 and follow the best practices established for the maintenance of capital asset records.

In addition to providing a point of reference to Sonoma County officials and others relative to capital assets accounting, the objective of this policy is to provide guidance for proper and consistent capital asset accounting, which will enhance the ability of the County to:

- Prepare financial reports (Annual Comprehensive Financial Report)
- Safeguard sizable public investments
- Establish responsibility and accountability for custody of assets
- Ensure risk management has an accurate list of assets to ensure proper insurance coverage
- Formulate future acquisition and retirement policies
- Recover eligible costs from Federal and State programs or fee reimbursement programs

B. Overview

Capital assets are defined as tangible and intangible assets of significant value that are used in operations and have a useful life beyond one year. Capital assets include:

- Land and land improvements
- Buildings and building improvements
- Equipment, furniture & vehicles
- Infrastructure

- Intangibles
- Financed Purchases
- Leasehold improvements
- Construction in progress
- Other Capital Assets

This policy defines capital assets under each classification, identifies useful life ranges, sets minimum capitalization thresholds, provides examples of assets that would be properly includable within categories, and examples of costs to include in the value of the capital asset. Additionally, this policy discusses the treatment of unique items such as financed purchases, self-constructed assets, works of art, weapons, library books and equipment, donated assets, construction in progress, costs incurred subsequent to acquisition, and transfers of assets between funds.

C. Auditor-Controller Responsibilities

California Government Code §26881 states that the Auditor-Controller "...shall prescribe, and shall exercise a general supervision... over the accounting forms and the method of keeping the accounts of all offices, departments and institutions under the control of the board of supervisors...". Accordingly, the Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector (ACTTC) has produced this Policy for Accounting for Capital Assets. The ACTTC will make revisions to this policy as required by law, generally accepted accounting principles, or practical necessity. Final determination as to definitions, valuations, and proper accounting entries required to record capital asset transactions rests with the ACTTC. The ACTTC shall maintain a Capital Asset system to be used for tracking the County's capital assets. The ACTTC may verify the integrity of capital asset records by conducting periodic physical inventory counts of capital assets, and make any necessary adjustments to the capital asset system and financial records. The ACTTC is required to provide an inventory under oath, showing in detail all County property in his or her possession or charge at the close of business on the preceding June 30th.

D. Department Responsibilities

California Government Code §24051 states that "...each county officer or person in charge of any office, department, service, or institution of the county, ...shall file with the county clerk, or with the county auditor, according to the procedure prescribed by the board, an inventory under oath, showing in detail all county property in his possession or in his charge...". To facilitate the fulfillment of the requirements of this section and in order to prepare accurate financial reports, each department shall appoint a liaison to work with the ACTTC's office to maintain accurate and up-to-date capital asset accounting records. Responsibilities of the Liaison are stated in this policy. County departments are also responsible for safeguarding assets that are not defined as capital assets by this policy. Capital assets will be recorded and maintained in the capital asset system. County departments are required to complete a certification of their capital assets to be submitted to the ACTTC no less than every two years.

For additional information regarding asset responsibility please see Administrative Policy 5-2 Policy for Capital Project and Asset Responsibility at

https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/administrative-support-and-fiscal-services/human-resources/employee-resources/administrative-policy-manual/5-2-policy-for-capital-project-and-asset-responsibility

II. CAPITAL ASSET DEFINITIONS AND GUIDELINES

A. Characteristics of a Capital Asset

When purchasing certain items a decision must be made whether to record the item as a capital asset (item will be used in operations for the benefit of multiple periods) or as a current period expenditure. There are certain criteria which distinguish whether an item should be a capitalized asset and reported on the Statement of Net Position (Government-Wide financial statement, including both governmental and business type) or recorded as a current period expenditure on the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Net Position (Proprietary Funds financial statement). The criteria for capital assets are:

- Nature of the Asset By its nature, the asset is intended to be used in the ordinary course of business and falls within one of the categories of capital assets including: Tangible Assets (Land, Land Improvements, Buildings, Building Improvements, Equipment, Furniture, Vehicles, Infrastructure, Leasehold improvements, and certain Other Capital Assets), or; Intangible Assets (including Internally Created Software, Purchased Software, Right- to- Use Lease Assets, Right-to-Use Subscription Assets, Patents, Copyrights and Rights of Usage or Way, and Easements).
- <u>Useful Life</u> The benefit provided by the asset is reasonably expected to last beyond one year.
- <u>Cost Basis</u> The cost basis, including purchase price and other costs incurred in acquiring and placing the asset in service, must surpass a minimum level (Capitalization Threshold) for the asset class.
- Ownership The County is identified as the titled owner of the asset. In cases where the County is not the titled owner and has the contractual right to use another entity's nonfinancial asset in an exchange or exchange-like transaction (lease) the underlying asset is considered an intangible right-to-use lease asset and recorded on the County's books and records. If ownership cannot otherwise be established (e.g. jointly funded capital assets paid for by two governmental entities with no legal title) the entity responsible for managing and maintaining the asset should be considered the owner for financial reporting purposes. Please contact the ACTTC's office for further information.

B. Characteristics of an Expenditure (Repairs and Maintenance)

Repairs and maintenance are current period expenditures/expenses incurred in connection with existing capital assets that neither lengthen the originally estimated useful life nor increase the service capacity of the asset.

Examples of expenditures/expenses which are appropriately classified as repairs and maintenance include:

- Plumbing or electrical repair
- Cleaning, pest extermination or other periodic maintenance
- Interior decorations such as draperies, blinds, curtain rods, wallpaper, paint, etc.
- Exterior decorations such as detachable awnings, decorative fences, etc.
- Maintenance-type interior renovations such as repainting, touch-up plastering, replacement of existing flooring with similar material, fixture refinishing, etc.
- Maintenance type exterior renovations such as repainting, replacement of sections of deteriorated siding, roof, masonry, etc.
- Adding, removing and/or moving walls related to renovation projects that are not considered major rehabilitation projects and do not increase the value of the building
- Improvement projects of minimal or no added life expectancy and/or value to the building
- Any other maintenance-related expenditure/expense which does not increase the value of the asset
- General equipment repairs to bring asset to original condition (replacing a broken component)

C. Capitalization Chart

The below chart contains the capitalization thresholds effective July 1, 2022 for the following asset classes:

Class	Capitalization Threshold	
Land	\$ 0	
Land Improvements	\$ 100,000	
Buildings and Building Improvements		
Shell	\$ 100,000	
Service System	\$ 100,000	
Fixed Equipment	\$ 100,000	
Temporary buildings	\$ 100,000	
Equipment	\$ 5,000	
Furniture	\$ 25,000	
Vehicles	\$ 15,000	
Infrastructure and Infrastructure Improvements:		
Pavement	\$ 100,000	
Bridges	\$ 100,000	
Water & Wastewater Systems	\$ 100,000	
All Other	\$ 100,000	
Intangible Assets	*****	
Purchased Canned Software	\$100,000	
Internally Created Software	\$100,000	
Easements	\$0	
Right-to-Use Lease Asset	\$100,000	
Right-to-Use Software Asset (SBITAs)	\$100,000	
Leasehold Improvements	\$ 25,000	
Construction In Progress	Projects expected to exceed	
for Year End Reporting	capitalization threshold based on	
	applicable class at completion	
Other Capital Assets		
Works of Art or Historical Treasures	\$ 5,000	
Library Books and Equipment	\$ 5,000	

D. Examples and suggested useful lives

Asset Class	Asset Description	Examples	Depreciable Lives
Buildings & Improvements	Building Improvements	HVAC systems (Air-conditioners, heating, ventilation systems); Signage, roofing, electrical &	15 years
Buildings &	Building Safety	lighting systems Environmental, health and safety; Fire suppression	20 years
Improvements	Improvements	systems	20 years
Buildings &	Buildings	Airports, convention centers, healthcare facilities,	50 years
Improvements	Dunumgo	jails, libraries, offices, parking garages, recreation centers, Radio tower and housing of radio components	oo years
Equipment	Audio/Visual	Projectors, cameras (still or digital)	5 years
Equipment	Computer Hardware	CPU, printers, monitors, laptops	5 years
Equipment	Custodial Equipment	Floor scrubbers, vacuums, etc.	15 years
Equipment	Equipment	Forklifts, appliances, etc.	5 years
Equipment	Equipment	Pumps, lab equipment, trailers	10 years
Equipment	Equipment	Printing, bindery, inserting equipment	15 years
Equipment	Furniture, Office Equipment	Desks, tables, chairs, copiers	5 years
Equipment	Grounds Equipment	Mowers, tractors and attachments	15 years
Equipment	Heavy Construction Equipment	Backhoes, trucks, dozers, front-end loaders, large tractors, earth movers	15 years
Equipment	Outdoor Equipment	Playground, scoreboards, bleachers	15-20 years
Equipment	Marine and Fuel	Docks, finger floats, fuel tanks (above and below ground), pumps	20 years
Equipment	Radio, Communications	Mobile, portable radios	5 years
Equipment	Weapons	Firearms, tactical gear, etc.	7 years
Land Improvements	Land Improvements	Parking lots, sidewalks, bus ramps, fencing, running track, flagpole	15-25 years
Land Improvements	Land Improvements – Ground Work	Golf course, Ball fields, park landscaping	15 years
Land	Other structures and	Reservoirs	50 years
Improvements Land & Land	Improvements Non-Exhaustible Land &	Land excavation, fill, grading, drainage, demolition,	Indefinite Life
Improvements	Land Improvements	removal & relocation of property of others, certain initial cost of water wells	muemmte Life
Vehicles	Cars & Light Trucks		5 years
Vehicles	Fire Trucks & Boats	Fire trucks, fire boats, sheriff patrol boats	10 years
Vehicles	Heavy Duty Trucks	½ Ton, 350	7 years
Vehicles	Buses	Life based on funding source	5-15 years
Infrastructure	Roads	Pavement, etc	25 years
Infrastructure	Bridges		50 years
Infrastructure	Water, Light, Sewer Systems	Network of systems that perform operations	25 years
Infrastructure	Storm Drains		35 years
Infrastructure	Channels and Basins		75 years
Infrastructure	Small Water Systems		50 years
Intangibles	Purchased Software	Off-the-shelf purchased software (ready to use)	3 years
Intangibles	Internally Created Software	Software created internally or purchased software requiring significant modifications	10 years
Intangibles	Easement	Right to use land	varies
Intangibles	Right-to Use Lease Asset	The contractual right to use another entity's nonfinancial asset in an exchange or exchange-like transaction (lease)	Shorter of lease term or useful life of underlying asset

Intangibles	Right-to-Use Software Asset	Subscription-based information technology arrangements (SBITAs)	Shorter of subscription term or useful life of underlying IT assets
Leasehold Improvements	Leasehold Improvements		Shorter of asset class useful life or lease term
Library	Library Books & Equipment	Books, journals, periodicals, audio/visual media, digital information, manuscripts, maps, documents	10 years

E. Budget

Capital asset acquisitions are included in the County budget. For additional information regarding the capital asset budget process, please refer to the Instructions for Budget Request Submittals, <u>County Fiscal Policy Manual A-1 Policy for Budget Changes During Year Process</u> or contact the ACTTC for additional information.

F. Acquisition of Capital Assets

Acquisition of a capital asset is determined when an expenditure meets the capitalization criteria described in section <u>II.A.</u>, <u>Characteristics of a Capital Asset</u>. Once it has been determined that the expenditure meets the criteria and applicable capitalization threshold, the asset should be recorded in the general ledger as a capital asset.

If a capital asset is acquired using State or Federal funding, or another restrictive source, the funding source must be noted in the asset documentation.

G. Capital Asset Cost Basis

1. <u>Capital Asset Cost Basis</u>

Capital assets should be reported at historical cost and should include applicable additional costs. If something other than cash is used to pay for an asset, then the fair value of the non-cash payment or consideration determines the asset's cost basis. When the value of the consideration paid can't be determined, cost basis is the asset's acquisition value. **Acquisition value** is defined as the price the county would pay to acquire an asset with equivalent service capacity in market transaction at the acquisition date.

With few exceptions, an asset's cost basis should also include necessary costs incurred to place the asset into service. Costs include invoice price plus incidental costs (e.g. insurance during transit, freight, duties, title search, registration fees, site preparation, architect and engineering fees, sales tax, installation costs and legal fees). Exceptions to this rule include interest expense associated with deferred payments and current real estate taxes paid, if any, in the acquisition of property.

Certain assets require training for the end-user to properly operate and maintain the asset. Costs for end-user training are not eligible to be capitalized. If you have questions regarding capitalization of training please contact the ACTTC.

All capital asset acquisitions require a <u>Fixed Asset Additions Form</u> to support the capital asset cost.

2. <u>Contributed Capital Assets (Donated)</u>

Contributed assets are defined as voluntary contributions of resources to a governmental entity by an unrelated person or entity. All contributed assets are to be recorded at their acquisition value, as defined in section G.1., plus ancillary charges, if any. Donated assets are depreciated based on the asset class and useful life (or estimated remaining useful life based on age of contributed asset).

Recipients of contributed (donated) capital assets must recognize fixed asset contributions as revenues and not as contributed capital. The contributed asset and related revenue are to be recognized when the asset is received. To qualify as a capital asset, the acquisition value (defined in section G.1.) of the contributed asset must exceed the County's capitalization threshold for the applicable asset class.

3. <u>Capital Assets Acquired with Federal or State Grants</u>

An asset acquired with Federal or State Grants or other funding sources often have limitations or restrictions enforced by the granting agency. The major authoritative sources for federal rules and regulations include the Common Rule issued by a number of major federal agencies and numerous Office of Management and Budget (OMB) circulars that are organization and topic specific. Please refer to the grant for specific guidelines and rules regarding purchasing capital assets with these funds.

Since Federal and State Grants can often times have very specific guidelines which may not always coincide with this policy, please contact the ACTTC for evaluating the purchase of capital assets with grant funds.

4. <u>Construction Period Interest</u>

Effective July 1, 2020, under GASB Statement No. 89, interest cost incurred before the end of a construction period is recognized as an expense/expenditure in the period in which the cost is incurred.

H. Depreciating/Amortizing Capital Assets

Depreciation is the process of allocating the cost of a tangible capital asset over the period of time, referred to as the "useful life," during which the owner receives benefit from the use of the asset, rather than deducting the cost as an expenditure in the year of acquisition. Amortization applies to intangible assets and is calculated the same as depreciation. Generally, at the end of an asset's life, the sum of the amounts charged for depreciation in each accounting period (accumulated depreciation) will equal the original cost basis. The County uses the straight-line method (historical cost divided by useful life) for depreciation and amortization.

All assets placed into service on or after July 1, 2014 are depreciated/amortized using the following-month convention. All assets placed into service prior to July 1, 2014 will continue to be depreciated using the following-year method.

All proprietary funds (enterprise and internal service fund) will require available appropriations prior to recording depreciation and amortization expense on a monthly basis.

1. <u>Capital Assets with Non-Exhaustible Useful Lives</u>

Certain capital assets are considered to be "non-exhaustible assets," where their useful life is unlimited and therefore are not depreciated. Examples of non-exhaustible assets include land, certain works of art, and certain intangible assets.

I. Disposal of Capital Assets

Disposal of a capital asset occurs when the asset is abandoned, sold, traded-in, scrapped, or otherwise removed from service during any given reporting period. Disposals must be processed on a timely basis throughout the fiscal year to ensure the accurate calculation of depreciation and amortization expense. Dispositions are not budgeted; however, replacement of equipment or purchases of new equipment are included in the annual budget or are part of the ACO/Replacement Fund Program discussed in II.O., Accumulated Capital Outlay (ACO) or Replacement Fund. For proprietary funds, should a capital asset disposal result in a loss on fixed asset, it will be necessary to ensure there are adequate appropriations available to record the loss.

When an asset is *retired/abandoned*, it is possible that a loss may be recognized for any remaining net book value. Net book value is the difference between the historical cost of the asset and the accumulated depreciation. If the net book value of the asset being disposed is zero, no loss is recorded.

When an asset is *sold*, a gain or loss must be recognized when the proceeds do not equal the net book value of the asset. If proceeds exceed the net book value, then a gain is recorded and reported as Other Financing Sources for Governmental Funds or Gain on Sale of Capital Asset for Proprietary Funds. If proceeds do not exceed the net book value, then a loss is recorded and reported as Other Financing Uses for Governmental Funds or Loss on Sale of Capital Asset for Proprietary Funds.

The Board of Supervisors must be informed of any losses incurred on the disposal, sale, or retirement of a capital asset **greater than \$100,000**. This information may be included in a stand-alone or other appropriate agenda item submitted to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

When an asset is *exchanged or traded-in*, for example trading in an old truck for a new truck, the original assets net book value should be added to any consideration (additional cash outlay) resulting in the cost basis of the new asset.

For assets that are listed as *missing* (lost/stolen), the accounting personnel responsible for capital assets will prepare a report listing the missing items. The personnel will document all efforts made to locate the missing assets. This missing capital asset report listing will be reviewed by the department head annually. Items will remain on the listing for a period of two years, at which point the assets will be retired as missing.

All capital asset disposals require a <u>Fixed Asset Adjustments Form</u> to support the capital asset change in status.

1. <u>Disposal of Capital Assets Acquired with Federal or State Grants</u>

For all disposals involving an asset funded with federal or state funds, the finance personnel for the grant project must first ascertain if there are any grant requirements surrounding the disposal of capital assets. Typically, in the event that an asset to be sold/disposed of has a fair value in excess of \$5,000, the department must report the sale/disposal to the granting agency that provided the initial funding. In some instances, departments may be required to remit some or all cash proceeds received from the sale of the asset acquired with federal or state funding to the agency involved.

Please refer to the original funding documentation for specific criteria related to asset disposal.

2. <u>Asset Retirement Obligations (AROs)</u>

An ARO is a legally enforceable liability associated with the retirement of a tangible capital asset. Under the guidance of GASB Statement No. 83, the County is required to recognize a liability for AROs.

The ACTTC Annual Financial Reporting Survey includes a request for departments to identify AROs. If you believe that an ARO exists prior to receiving the survey, please contact the ACTTC.

J. Assets Held for Sale

Assets held for sale are items which are not used in the ordinary course of business. The economic benefit of the asset is obtained through the asset's sale rather than through its continued use in operations. The asset must be available for immediate sale in its present condition, subject only to terms that are usual and customary for sale of such assets, and its sale must be highly probable.

For the sale to be highly probable, the appropriate level of management must be committed to a plan to sell the asset, and an active program to locate a buyer and complete the plan must have been initiated. Further, the asset must be actively marketed for sale at a price that is reasonable in relation to its current fair value. In addition, the sale should be expected to qualify for recognition as a completed sale within one year from the date of classification, unless circumstances beyond the County's control extend the period to complete the sale beyond one year. An extension of the period required to complete a sale does not preclude an asset from being classified as held for sale.

If an existing asset's status is changed from a Capital Asset (active status) to Asset Held For Sale, the asset should no longer be depreciated as it is no longer used in the ordinary course of business. The value of the asset should be transferred from Capital Assets to Asset Held For Sale with a cost basis at the lower of: 1) The assets net carrying value or 2) asset's fair value less the selling costs. These Assets Held For Sale should be shown separately on the face of the balance sheet, above Capital Assets, as they are both non-current assets. These items are

recorded in Enterprise, Internal Service Funds, Fiduciary Funds and the Government-Wide Statement of Net Position (not recorded in governmental funds).

If you have a situation where a capital asset is removed from service and is intended to be sold, please contact the ACTTC.

K. Asset Grouping

Asset Grouping is defined as the grouping of several components which are used together to form an asset to be used in operations. Though asset grouping is to be used in limited circumstances, asset grouping can provide an accurate representation of the costs of an asset which under other circumstances would not be capitalized. When determining the composition of the asset, please keep in mind the following:

When should individually insignificant components be combined into one fixed asset or components of a system?

- If individually insignificant items are a part of placing a major asset into service, then those items should be included with the main asset. For example, a 10 gig network module to upgrade the speed of a switch should be included in the cost basis of the switch as a part of the whole fixed asset.
- Insignificant component parts of a system or network should be capitalized together. For example, if there were multiple switches that individually did not meet the capitalization threshold, however they work in conjunction with other switches as part of an overall network and have long useful lives, they should be capitalized.
- If it is expected that certain components will need to be replaced either together or are anticipated to be replaced at roughly the same time, consider grouping those assets together. By grouping assets with similar characteristics or life spans together, it will be easier to dispose of the old asset when the new one is placed into service.

L. Transfer of Asset Between Departments/Funds

Transfers are defined as the physical relocation of a capital asset either by department and/or fund. When an asset is being transferred with no other consideration involved, the asset will be transferred with the current net book value and will continue to be depreciated or amortized over the remaining useful life. It is necessary for the respective departments/funds to complete the necessary asset acquisition/sale documentation so that the asset can be properly transferred within the financial system.

If a department sells a capital asset to another department, the value of the asset will be the net book value. If the asset transferred was fully depreciated, please contact the ACTTC's Office for assistance.

M. Impairment

Impairment is a significant and unexpected permanent decline in the current service utility of a capital asset. The book value of the impaired asset is required to be adjusted to reflect the

loss. How the impairment is calculated depends on whether the impaired asset will remain in use.

Indicators of impairment are:

- Physical damage where action would be needed to restore lost service utility
- Changes in laws, regulations, or other environmental factors that negatively affect service utility (beyond the control of County management)
- Technological developments that negatively affect service utility or lead to obsolescence
- A change in the manner or duration of use of a capital asset that negatively affects service utility (under-employing the asset from its originally intended use)
- Stoppage of construction or development

The cost of the impaired asset must be adjusted to reflect the impairment using one of the following three methods (additional detail contained in GASB 42 ¶12):

- Restoration Cost Approach
- Service Units Approach
- Deflated Depreciation Replacement Cost Approach

For impairments resulting from stoppage of construction or development, the lower of carrying value or fair value would be utilized.

Annually, the ACTTC conducts a Financial Reporting Survey which includes a request for departments to identify capital asset impairments. If you believe that an asset is impaired or have identified an impaired asset prior to this survey, please contact the ACTTC.

The Board of Supervisors must be informed of any losses incurred related to the impairment of a capital asset including losses resulting from the stoppage of construction or development **greater than \$100,000**. This information may be included in a stand-alone or other appropriate agenda item submitted to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

N. Replacement of Capital Assets

For accounting purposes, replacement of equipment is the same procedure as retiring or disposing of the old asset and adding the new asset. When the new asset is added, new asset numbers/tags are to be assigned. There does not need to be a one to one replacement of equipment. If minor components of a fixed asset, such as power cable cords or incidental parts are replaced prior to the main asset being replaced, these costs should be recorded as an expenditure in the period incurred.

O. Accumulated Capital Outlay (ACO) or Replacement Fund

The Accumulated Capital Outlay (ACO) or Replacement Fund is designed to record the accumulation of funds to be spent on future capital projects. In an effort to avoid years with large spikes in funding costs for capital purchases or replacement of equipment, sponsoring departments (e.g., Fleet, ISD, etc.) identify assets, based on asset use and functionality, then anticipate the cost to replace the asset with a like model at a pre-determined replacement date. These funding transfers are periodically billed to participating departments and the funds are retained by the sponsoring department until the replacement is purchased. In some circumstances, if the cost of a new asset is greater than the amount contributed to the replacement fund, the department will be invoiced for the remainder of the cost upon acquisition.

III. CAPITAL ASSET CLASSIFICATIONS

A. Land

1. Land Definition

Land is the investment in the surface of the earth, which can be used to support structures, construct roads and highways, or may be used to grow crops, grass, shrubs, and trees.

2. <u>Land Capitalization Threshold</u>

All land, regardless of cost, is capitalized.

In the case of acquiring a parcel of land with an existing structure/improvement, the purchase price must be allocated between the land and structure/improvement. This is necessary as the structure/improvement may qualify as a depreciable asset(s).

3. <u>Land Depreciation Methodology</u>

Land is characterized as having a non-exhaustible (unlimited) life and therefore not depreciated over time.

4. Examples of Expenditures to be Capitalized as Part of Land Costs

- Purchase price, or acquisition value at time of donation/contribution
- Professional fees (e.g. title searches, consents, condemnation, legal, appraisal, surveying, environmental assessments, commissions, etc.)
- Land excavation, fill, clearing, and grading land for use
- Demolition costs of existing buildings and improvements (less salvage) on land purchased with the intent to demolish and rebuild will be included in the cost of the land. (Please note that demolition costs related to assets already placed in service should be expensed)

- Removal, relocation, or reconstruction of property of others (e.g., railroad, telephone, and power lines)
- Hazardous waste clean-up
- Interest on mortgages accrued at date of purchase
- Accrued and unpaid taxes at date of purchase
- Other costs incurred in acquiring the land

NOTE: Receipts from sales of salvage should be credited against the land cost (e.g. selling material from demolished structures, rock or dirt, etc.).

B. Land Improvements

1. <u>Land Improvements Definition</u>

Land improvements are non-building assets which enhance the quality or facilitate the use of land.

Land improvements include:

- Betterments
- Excavation
- Fencing and gates
- Parking lots, driveways, parking barriers, sidewalks not associated with infrastructure (roadways, bridges, etc.)
- Retaining walls, certain lighting, landscaping and irrigation systems
- Site preparation
- Landscaping, fountains, paths and trails
- Outside sprinkler systems
- Golf courses, recreation areas and athletic fields (including bleachers)
- Landscaping of a permanent nature
- Septic systems
- Water impoundment structures or attachments (dam, liner, other water control structure)

• Swimming pools, tennis courts, basketball courts, etc.

Land improvements do not include roads, bridges, pipelines, etc., as these are classified as infrastructure.

2. <u>Land Improvement Capitalization Threshold</u>

Land improvements with project costs which reach or surpass \$100,000 must be capitalized.

3. <u>Land Improvement Depreciation Methodology</u>

Land improvements must be classified as either non-exhaustible (not depreciable) or exhaustible (depreciable). For exhaustible land improvements, the asset will be depreciated using the straight-line method of depreciation (historical cost/useful life). In the event a land asset and the accompanying land improvements are disposed, all land improvements should reference the land asset it is affiliated with for easy identification.

4. <u>Examples of Expenditures to be Capitalized as Part of Land Improvement Costs</u>

- Professional fees (e.g. architect, legal, engineering, surveying, environmental assessments, inspections, permits, licenses, etc.)
- Land excavation, fill, clearing, and grading of existing land to ready for use
- Removal, relocation, or reconstruction of property of others (e.g. railroad, telephone, and power lines) on existing property to ready for use
- Water wells (initial cost for drilling, the pump and its casing)
- Accident or injury costs and payment of damages
- Insurance during construction

NOTE: Receipts from sales of salvage should be credited against the land improvement cost (e.g. selling material from demolished structures, rock or dirt, etc.).

C. Building and Building Improvements

1. <u>Building Definition</u>

A building is a structure that is permanently attached to the land, has a roof, is partially or completely enclosed by walls, and is not intended to be transportable or moveable.

Buildings should be recorded at either their acquisition cost or construction cost. The cost of new construction should be carefully evaluated. Usually projects consist of major components such as land, land improvements, building construction (including professional fees and permits), furniture, fixtures, and equipment. In addition, buildings include components (e.g., roof, air conditioner system, boilers, elevators, etc.) that should

be recorded as separate assets within the building classification. These building components typically have shorter useful lives than the building structure and are likely to be replaced during the useful life of the building. The value of each component group needs to be determined and given an appropriate useful life.

2. <u>Building Improvement Definition</u>

Building improvements are capital events that materially increase the buildings value either by 1) lengthening its estimated useful life or 2) increasing the asset's ability to provide service (by increasing its effectiveness or efficiency). An improvement must meet or exceeds the capitalization threshold to be capitalized and recorded as an addition. Building improvement asset addition forms must reference the existing building to which they relate.

For a replacement to be capitalized, it must be a part of a major repair or rehabilitation project, which increases the value, and/or useful life of the building, such as the renovation of a health center. A replacement may also be capitalized if the new item/part is of significantly improved quality and higher value compared to the old item/part, such as replacement of an old shingle roof with a new fireproof tile roof. Replacement or restoration to the original working condition would not qualify.

Determinations must be made on a case-by-case basis. Please contact the ACTTC for assistance.

3. <u>Building and Building Improvement Capitalization Threshold</u>

All buildings and building improvements with a cost which reaches or surpasses \$100,000 must be capitalized. Improvements must also extend the useful life by more than 1 year.

In the case of acquiring a parcel with land and buildings, a value should be assigned to both land and building, recorded and depreciated appropriately based on the asset class.

4. <u>Building and Building Improvements Depreciation Methodology</u>

Building and building improvements will be depreciated using the straight-line method of depreciation (historical cost/useful life).

Assets should be broken into components based on estimated useful lives including, but not limited to the following examples:

- Shell structure of building
- Service systems electrical & lighting systems, heating, ventilation, air conditioning, HVAC, plumbing, fire protection system, elevator
- Fixed equipment sterilizers, casework, fume hoods, cold rooms

5. Examples of Expenditures to be Capitalized as Part of Building and Building Improvement Costs

- All costs associated with the construction of a new building (including excavation, grading, filling land for specific building) or purchase of an existing building
- Costs associated with remodeling, reconditioning or altering a purchased building to make it ready to use for the purpose for which it was acquired, should be capitalized as building costs
- Professional fees (e.g., legal, architect, inspections, title searches, etc.)
- Payment of unpaid or accrued taxes on buildings to date of purchase
- Costs of temporary buildings used during construction
- New Roofing, roof replacement with different material to enhance useful life and service capacity (e.g., replace a shingle roof with a tile roof) or replacement of roof which has exceed its useful life
- Major energy conservation projects or environmental compliance (e.g., asbestos abatement)
- Remodeling or replacing major building components
- Conversion of attics, basements, etc., into usable office, clinic or research space
- Structures attached to the building such as covered garages, enclosed stairwells, etc.
- Installation or upgrade of heating and cooling systems, including ceiling fans and attic vents
- Original installation of wall or ceiling covering such as carpeting, tiles, paneling or parquet
- Structural changes such as reinforcement of floors or walls, installation or replacement of beams, rafters, joists, steel grids, or other interior framing
- Interior renovation associated with a large scale project (including casings, light fixtures, etc.)
- Exterior renovation such as installation or upgrade of siding, roofing, masonry, etc.
- Installation or upgrade of window or door frame, built-in closets or cabinets, plumbing, electrical wiring, phone or closed circuit television systems, networks, fiber optic cable, wiring required in the installation of equipment
- Stadiums, plazas, and pavilions

D. Equipment, Furniture, and Vehicles

1. <u>Equipment Definition</u>

Equipment is defined as fixed or movable tangible assets to be used for operations. Improvements or additions to existing equipment that add service capacity or increase the life of the asset should be capitalized and recorded as an addition, referencing the existing asset.

Examples of equipment include:

- Computers (e.g., desktops, laptops, servers, etc., including software required for operation), printers, copiers
- Shop tools, machinery, trailers, forklifts
- Office trailers/mobile homes
- Appliances, televisions
- Voting equipment, lab equipment
- Firearms, weapons, tactical gear
- Cameras, camera equipment, audio equipment, projectors
- Tape recorders and dictating equipment
- Mobile, portable and two-way radio equipment
- Playground equipment, scoreboards, bleachers, marine equipment, fuel tanks
- Backhoes, heavy duty trucks, dozers, front-end loaders, large tractors, earth movers
- Mowers, tractors and attachments, grounds maintenance equipment

NOTE: Equipment does not include major systems integrated into a building or structure such as elevators, boilers, roofs, or HVAC.

2. Furniture Definition

Furniture is defined as certain types of equipment to be used for operations.

Examples of furniture include:

- Filing equipment
- Office equipment

• Desks, modular units, tables, etc.

Examples of furniture projects to be capitalized include:

- Furnishing a new building or office space necessary to conduct business
- Large or significant in size improvements or additions

3. Vehicle Definition

A vehicle is defined as an asset that can move itself under its own power. Cars, trucks, fire trucks, boats and busses should be classified as vehicles. Travel trailers, horse trailers, equipment trailers, ATV's (All Terrain Vehicles), etc., should be classified as equipment. Careful consideration should be given as to whether an asset is a vehicle or equipment.

Buses can range in size and utility and their useful life is often dictated based on the funding source. Consult the funding source for any useful life requirements.

4. Equipment, Furniture and Vehicles Capitalization Threshold

All equipment with project costs which reach or surpass \$5,000 must be capitalized.

All furniture with project costs which reach or surpass \$25,000 must be capitalized.

Vehicles with project costs which reach or surpass \$15,000 must be capitalized.

In limited circumstances, the asset grouping method of capitalization may be used. Typically, these assets work in conjunction with one another and replacement of the assets is intended to be done at approximately the same time. Please see II.K., Asset Grouping for more details or consult the ACTTC when considering the asset grouping method.

5. Equipment, Furniture and Vehicle Depreciation Methodology

Equipment, furniture, and vehicles will be depreciated using the straight-line method of depreciation (historical cost/useful life). These asset types are to be depreciated over a 5-year useful life, unless otherwise noted in <u>II.D.</u>, <u>Examples and suggested useful lives</u>.

Vehicles are considered ready to be placed into service when all necessary add-on components are installed in/onto the vehicle.

6. Examples of Expenditures to be Capitalized as Part of Equipment, Furniture, and Vehicles

- Original contract or invoice price, less any discounts
- Freight, handling, storage, in-transit insurance charges and import duties
- Sales, use, or other taxes imposed on the acquisition

- Installation charges to place asset in service
- Charges for testing and preparation for use
- Costs of reconditioning when a used item is purchased
- Parts and labor associated with the construction of equipment or installation
- Parts and labor associated with additional components necessary to bring asset into service condition (light bars, radios, security, paint/branding, etc.)

NOTE: If incidental items, such as extended warranties or maintenance agreements, are included on the invoice as a separate line item, those charges should be expensed when purchased. If extended warranties or maintenance agreements are bundled with the cost of the asset, then the incidental charges are considered a part of the asset cost.

E. Infrastructure

1. Infrastructure Definition

Infrastructure is defined as long-lived capital assets that normally are: 1) stationary in nature and 2) can be preserved for a significantly greater number of years than most capital assets. Examples include:

- Pavements
- Curbs, gutters, tunnels, canals, dams, wharfs, sea walls, rest areas, fire hydrants
- Sidewalks associated with roadways, bridges, sewer systems, water distribution systems and water drainage systems
- Traffic light system
- Signage
- Airport runway, strip, taxiway, or apron
- Electric, water, and gas (e.g. main lines and distribution lines, tunnels, etc.)
- Fiber optic and telephone distribution systems (between buildings)

2. <u>Infrastructure Capitalization Threshold</u>

All infrastructure projects with total costs to reach or surpass \$100,000 must be capitalized.

3. <u>Infrastructure Depreciation Methodology</u>

Infrastructure will be depreciated using the straight-line method of depreciation (historical cost/useful life). The asset should be broken into components based on estimated useful lives, if applicable.

4. Examples of Expenditures to be Capitalized as Part of Infrastructure Costs

- Construction costs (e.g., contract amounts, payroll, fringe benefits, rental value of equipment, insurance, etc.)
- Directly related legal and engineering fees
- Materials
- Payment of damage claims connected with construction
- Conservation, environmental, or temporary right-of-way easements required as part of construction

F. Intangible Assets

1. <u>Intangible Asset Definition</u>

GASB Statement No. 51, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Intangible Assets," defines an intangible asset based on the following:

- <u>Lacks Physical Substance</u> Includes assets that may be contained in or on an item with physical substance, such as computer software on a compact disc or assets closely associated with another item that has physical substance (e.g., the underlying land in a right-of-way easement)
- <u>Nonfinancial In Nature</u> The asset is not similar to cash and investment securities, and it represents neither a claim nor right to assets in a monetary form such as receivables or prepayment for goods or services
- Initial Useful Life Extends beyond a single reporting period

2. Intangible Asset Capitalization Threshold

Intangible assets with a project cost which reaches or surpasses \$100,000 must be capitalized.

3. Intangible Asset Depreciation Methodology

Intangible assets are amortized using the straight-line method (historical cost/useful life). Intangible assets with an indefinite useful life should not be amortized (e.g. a permanent right-of-way easement).

4. Examples of Expenditures to be Capitalized as Intangible Assets

- Patents, copyrights, trademarks, franchises, goodwill
- Timber rights
- Land rights (including minerals, etc.)

G. Purchased Canned Software (Intangible Asset)

1. <u>Purchased canned software Definition</u>

Purchased software from a third party "as is"

2. <u>Purchased canned software capitalization threshold</u>

The capitalization threshold for external software with a project cost which reaches or surpasses \$100,000 must be capitalized.

3. Externally Canned Software Depreciation Methodology

Amortized using the straight-line method (historical cost/useful life).

- 4. <u>Example of Expenditure to be Capitalized as Part of Purchased canned software</u>
 - Costs for software that allows access or conversion of old data for new systems.
 - Installation, coding, and testing.

H. Internally Created Software (Intangible Asset)

1. Internally Created Software Definition

Internally Created Software is defined as either internally developed software, purchased software which is significantly modified to meet the County's internal needs, or developed by a third-party contractor on behalf of the County. See GASB Statement No. 51, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Intangible Assets*, for additional guidance.

2. <u>Internally Created Software Capitalization Threshold</u>

The capitalization threshold for software with a project cost which reaches or surpasses \$100,000 must be capitalized.

3. <u>Internally Created Software Amortization Methodology</u>

Software is amortized using the straight-line method (historical cost/useful life). Capitalization of outlays should cease no later than the time the software is substantially complete and operational.

4. Examples of Expenditures to be Capitalized as Part of Internally Created Software

- Application Development Stage costs include the design of the chosen path, direct costs of materials and services, software configuration and interfaces, coding, installation to hardware, testing, payroll-related costs, and parallel processing phase.
- Costs related to the significant modification of purchased software for use by the County.
- Costs for software that allows access or conversion of old data for new systems.

I. Easements (Intangible Asset)

1. Easement Definition

An easement is defined as an interest in land owned by another individual or entity that entitles the easement holder to a specific limited use or enjoyment (right to use land). Easements are often used for conservation purposes or to access another property.

2. <u>Easements Capitalization Threshold</u>

All easements, regardless of cost, are to be capitalized.

3. Easements Deprecation Methodology

Easements are amortized using the useful life determined by the easement contract in place. If the easement has a limited life beyond one year, then it will be amortized using the straight-line method (historical cost useful life). If the easement has a non-exhaustible (indefinite) life, then it will not be amortized.

4. <u>Temporary Easements as Part of Construction Projects</u>

Temporary easements acquired during the construction phase of a project will be capitalized as part of the overall capital asset project and not as a standalone easement.

As an example, when certain infrastructure projects are constructed, it is necessary to obtain easements for the use of neighboring land during the project. The costs of these temporary easements are included in the cost of the infrastructure project.

J. Right-to-Use Lease Asset (Intangible Asset)

1. The effective date for right-to use lease asset accounting is July 1, 2021.

2. <u>Right-to-Use lease Asset Definition</u>

The right-to-use lease asset is an intangible asset representing a lessee's right to use an asset over the life of a lease. A lease is defined as a contract that conveys control of the right to use another entity's nonfinancial asset (the underlying asset) as specified in the

contract for a period of time in an exchange or exchange-like transaction. Notify ACTTC when an existing lease is modified, or a new lease is executed.

3. Right-to-Use Lease Capitalization Threshold

The capitalization threshold for right-to use-lease assets is \$100,000.

4. <u>Right-to-Use Lease Asset Amortization Methodology</u>

A right-to use-lease asset is amortized over the shorter of the lease term or the useful life of the underlying asset. However, when the lease contains a purchase option which is reasonably certain of being exercised the right-to-use lease asset is amortized over the useful life of the underlying asset.

5. <u>Lessee Right-to-Use Lease Asset Accounting Methodology</u>

Lessees with leases meeting the requirements of GASB Statement No. 87 are required to recognize the lease as a liability and the underlying asset as an intangible right-to-use lease asset amortized over the shorter of the lease term or asset life. See GASB Statement No. 87 or contact ACTTC for additional information.

6. <u>Lessor Accounting Methodology</u>

A lessor agreement occurs when the County leases a nonfinancial asset to another entity. The County should recognize a lease receivable and a deferred inflow of resources at the commencement of the lease term, with certain exceptions for leases of assets held as investments, certain regulated leases, short-term leases, and leases that transfer ownership of the underlying asset. The County should not derecognize the asset underlying the lease.

K. Right-to-Use Subscription Asset (Intangible Asset)

1. The effective date for right-to use subscription asset accounting is July 1, 2022.

2. Right-to-Use Subscription Asset Definition

Subscription-based information technology arrangements (SBITAs) are contracts that convey control of the right to use another party's subscription-based information technology (IT) software, alone or in a combination with tangible capital assets (the underlying IT assets), as specified in the contract for a period of time in an exchange or exchange-like transaction.

3. <u>Right-to-Use Subscription Capitalization Threshold</u>

The capitalization threshold for right-to use subscription assets is \$100,000.

4. Right-to-Use Subscription Accounting Methodology

Participation on agreements qualifying as SBITAs under GASB Statement No. 96 are required to recognize the agreement as a subscription liability and the underlying asset

as a right-to-use subscription asset (intangible asset) amortized over the subscription term.

L. Financed Purchases

1. Financed Purchase Definition

A Financed Purchase is a lease contract that transfers ownership of the underlying asset to the lessee by the end of the contract, does not contain termination options, but may contain a fiscal funding or cancellation clause that is not reasonably certain of being exercised. The presence of a bargain purchase option in a lease contract is not equivalent to a provision that transfers ownership of the underlying asset.

2. <u>Financed purchase Capitalization Threshold</u>

Assets classified as financed purchases are deemed or estimated to meet or exceed the capitalization threshold based on their applicable asset class.

3. <u>Financed Purchase Depreciation Methodology</u>

The asset costs should be depreciated in accordance with the standard useful lives for the applicable asset class.

4. Financed Purchase Accounting Methodology

Reported as a financed purchase of the underlying asset by the lessee or sale of the asset by the lessor.

LI. Leasehold Improvements

1. <u>Leasehold Improvements Definition</u>

Leasehold improvements are defined as improvements to increase the service capacity of a leased property that will revert to the lessor at the expiration of the lease. Leasehold improvements include construction of new buildings or improvements made to existing structures by the lessee, who has the right to use the leasehold improvements over the term of the lease (e.g. improvements to a leased building that would normally be capitalized if those same improvements were made to a County owned building are capitalizable leasehold improvements).

2. Leasehold Improvement Capitalization Threshold

The threshold for leasehold improvements is \$25,000. Please refer to Buildings and Building Improvement sections III.C.5, Examples of Expenditures to be Capitalized as Part of Building and Building Improvement Costs for additional information of what costs to capitalize or expense.

3. <u>Leasehold Improvement Depreciation Methodology</u>

Leasehold Improvements will be depreciated using the straight-line method of depreciation (historical cost/useful life). The useful life is determined to be the shorter of the asset class useful life or lease term. Assets should be broken into components based on estimated useful lives including (same as buildings and building improvements):

- Shell structure of building
- Service systems electrical & lighting systems, heating, ventilation, air conditioning, HVAC, plumbing, fire protection system, elevator
- Fixed equipment sterilizers, casework, fume hoods, cold rooms

N. Construction-In-Progress (CIP) and Work-In-Progress (WIP)

1. <u>Construction-In-Progress and Work-In-Progress Definition</u>

Construction-in-progress is defined as the accumulation of all costs incurred on uncompleted land improvements, buildings, building improvements, or infrastructure. Work-in-progress is defined as the accumulation of all costs incurred on uncompleted machinery, equipment, or intangibles.

2. <u>Capitalization Threshold</u>

CIP or WIP projects that are estimated to meet or exceed the capitalization threshold for the applicable asset class at the earlier occurrence of filing of Notice of Completion documents, occupancy, or when the asset is placed into service. At the time of completion, the asset costs should be transferred to the applicable asset class and depreciated in accordance with the standard useful lives.

3. <u>Depreciation Methodology</u>

Costs classified as CIP or WIP are not to be depreciated until the finished asset is placed into service. The asset should be depreciated based on the depreciation methodology of the particular asset class. While it is considered CIP or WIP, the cost should be reported with land and other non-depreciable assets.

4. <u>Accumulating and Tracking Costs</u>

Project balances should be updated as costs are incurred. Once the project is completed for its intended purpose and placed into active service (e.g. filing of notice of completion, occupancy, etc.), all costs associated with the construction phase should be evaluated and capitalized. All costs incurred after the project is placed in service need to be addressed with ACTTC. Any costs associated with end-user training or maintenance should be recorded as an expenditure in the period incurred.

O. Other Capital Assets

1. Works of Art and Historical Treasures Definition

Works of art and historical treasures are defined as collections or significant individual items that are owned by a County agency and are not held for financial gain, but rather for public exhibition, education or research as part of a public service.

2. Works of Art and Historical Treasures Capitalization Threshold

The capitalization threshold of works of art and historical treasures is \$5,000 for either a collection or individual item.

Governments are encouraged, but not required, to capitalize a collection (and all additions to that collection) whether donated or purchased that meet the following conditions. The collection is:

- Held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, rather than financial gain; and
- Protected, kept unencumbered, cared for, and preserved; and
- Subject to an organizational policy that requires the proceeds from sales of collection items to be used to acquire other items for collections.

3. Works of Art and Historical Treasures Depreciation Methodology

If a collection or item is held for financial gain and is not capitalized, disclosures must be made in the notes to the financial statements that describe the collection or item and the reasons these assets are not capitalized.

Some collections or items are considered exhaustible (diminished by display, educational or research applications) and should be depreciated over their estimated useful life.

Collections or items which are non-exhaustible are items whose economic benefit or service is used up so slowly that the estimated useful lives are extraordinarily long. Because of their cultural, aesthetic, or historical value, holders protect and preserve these assets more than similar assets without such value. Depreciation is not required for collections which are non-exhaustible.

For further information please see GASB Statement No. 34.

4. <u>Examples of Expenditures to be Capitalized as Part of Works of Art and Historical Treasures</u>

All costs of acquiring works of art and historical treasures should be recorded.

Collections and items acquired by gift or donation should be recorded using acquisition value as defined in section G.1.

5. <u>Library Books and Equipment Definition</u>

Library books and equipment include information resources that are circulated to students or the general public such as books, journals, periodicals, audio/visual media, digital information, manuscripts, maps, documents, and similar items which provide information essential to the learning process or which enhance the quality of academic, professional or research libraries.

6. <u>Library Books and Equipment Capitalization Threshold</u>

The capitalization threshold of library books and equipment is \$5,000. Purchases of library books and certain equipment should be grouped by year to determine the amount capitalized rather than individual purchases.

7. <u>Library Books and Equipment Depreciation Methodology</u>

Library books and equipment are depreciated using the straight-line method of depreciation (historical cost/useful life).

8. Examples of Expenditures to be Capitalized as Part of Library Books and Equipment

- Invoice price
- Handling and freight/shipping charges
- In-transit insurance charges
- Electronic access charges
- Reproduction and like costs required to place assets in service, excluding for library salaries

IV. SPECIFIC SITUATIONS

A. Bus Shelter Capitalization

1. <u>Bus Shelter Definition</u>

A bus shelter is a structure with three panels and a roof.

2. Bus Shelter Capitalization Threshold

During the fiscal year, the Transit department will track all shelters and installation costs associated with shelters placed into service during the year. If those expenses reach or exceed \$25, 000, in aggregate, the shelters will be placed into service as either separate

assets, noting the stop number, or as one asset for all shelters, noting all stop numbers included in the asset.

3. <u>Bus Shelter Depreciation Methodology</u>

Bus shelters are depreciated using the straight-line method (historical cost/useful life) over a useful life of five years.

4. <u>Examples of Current Period Expenses Related to Bus Shelters</u>

- Repair/replacement of panels on existing shelters
- Garbage cans
- Poles and signage
- Stand-alone benches
- Other small bus stop amenities

5. <u>Bus Shelter Reporting</u>

Claims for shelters being placed into service are to include:

- All applicable costs associated with placing the shelter into service (including delivery charges, installation labor, concrete pads/footings, etc.)
- Bus Stop numbers to facilitate coordination of data between Transit asset and County fixed asset system

Before the end of a fiscal year, Transit management is to provide a listing of all bus stop locations, noting the following information, in order to certify shelters are in good working condition:

- Sites /stops with shelters only
- Year shelter was acquired and installed
- Type of shelter
- Manufacturer of shelter

B. Asset Retirement Obligations and Pollution Remediation

1. Asset Retirement Obligations

An asset retirement obligation is a legally enforceable liability associated with the retirement of a tangible capital asset.

Additional information about asset retirement obligations is available in GASB Statement No. 83. Please contact either the ACTTC or HR Risk Management if you may have a qualifying situation.

2. Pollution Remediation

Pollution remediation is an obligation to address current or potential detrimental effects of existing pollution by participating in pollution remediation activities such as site assessments and cleanups. Annually, the HR-Risk Management division prepares and distributes a County survey to identify pollution remediation obligations.

Additional information about pollution remediation obligations is available in GASB Statement No. 49. Please contact either the ACTTC or HR Risk Management if you may have a qualifying situation.

V. CAPITAL ASSET CONTROLS

Capital Asset Controls Overview

Departments, districts, and agencies are responsible for adhering to policy controls over their assets and minimizing the risk of loss or misuse of County property. These controls include:

- Capital asset tagging tag numbers are required. Fleet assigns numbers for vehicles, trailers, boats, etc. Non-Fleet tag numbers are assigned by ACTTC upon request. Physical tags/adhesive plates are available.
- Asset receiving assets must be received by creating and paying directly from a PO Receipt.
- Capital asset inventory controls (certification) asset certifications are performed annually, based on all assets in service as of March 31st of any given year. Completed certifications, including corrections as needed, are due to the ACTTC by May 31st.

Please contact the ACTTC General Accounting Division at acttc-generalaccounting@sonoma-county.org for details.

ACTTC Capital Asset Accounting Forms are located at:

https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/administrative-support-and-fiscal-services/auditor-controller-treasurer-tax-collector/divisions/general-accounting/accounting-forms