



STATE OF VERMONT
OFFICE OF THE STATE TREASURER

NEWS RELEASE

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Proposals Sought for New Economically Targeted Investment Program

MONTPELIER, Vt.—Investment proposals are now being accepted by the Office of the Vermont State Treasurer for a new pension fund program intended to support economic and community development in the state. The first request proposal window opened May 7 and remains open through June 25, 2007.

Economically targeted investments are intended to generate market rate returns while providing collateral benefits that enhance quality of life and promote economic activity in a targeted area--in this case Vermont. State Treasurer Jeb Spaulding stated that the kinds of investment opportunities that may be appropriate for the pension funds include affordable housing, energy efficiency, venture capital, or timber.

“We don’t want to limit the field of investment possibilities and are hoping that creative minds will look over our policy and come up with some innovative proposals that meet our criteria for investment,” Spaulding explained.

Parties interested in viewing the formal request for proposals may go to the State Treasurer’s web site at www.vermonttreasurer.gov. The single point of contact number is (802) 828-3708.

In April, Spaulding announced the new initiative that stems from a policy on economically targeted investments adopted by the Vermont Pension Investment Committee. The committee oversees more than \$3 billion in retirement funds for Vermont teachers, state employees, and municipal employees.

The program was developed to clearly articulate the criteria by which proposals will be judged and to solicit investment proposals from qualified managers once a year. In order to be considered, proposals must, at a minimum:

- Target risk-adjusted, market-rate returns equivalent to or higher than other available investments in a similar asset class, and
- Provide a substantial, direct, and measurable benefit to economic or community development within the State of Vermont.

Any investments will be placed with an experienced and capable manager in an applicable asset class; no direct investments will be considered.

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