

Oregon Local Government Intermediate Fund

Performance Review

The portfolio slightly outperformed its benchmark, the Bloomberg 1-5 Year US Government/Credit Bond Index, by 19 basis points (bps) on a gross basis.

Market news in the second quarter of 2026 was dominated by the Middle East conflict, with financial markets driven by evolving expectations around a potential resolution. Energy prices and forecasts for central bank policy rates continued to shift throughout the period. Toward the end of the quarter, frequent flare-ups in hostilities gave way to repeated ceasefire efforts and the signing of a high-level memorandum of understanding between the US and Iran. Investors grew increasingly optimistic that an agreement between the conflicting parties would facilitate the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz, allowing for the normalization of energy flows and the easing of stagflationary fears. As a result, risk assets outperformed during the quarter, with the S&P 500 Index reaching record highs multiple times and credit spreads tightening. The US Treasury (UST) yield curve bear-flattened during the period, with short- and intermediate-term yields moving higher as the market priced in additional rate hikes for the remainder of the year.

Total nonfarm payrolls increased by 172,000 in May, slightly below the upwardly revised gain of 179,000 jobs in April (from 115,000 previously). The unemployment rate remained unchanged at 4.3% from March 2026. Inflationary pressures continued to build throughout the quarter, with headline Consumer Price Index (CPI) rising to 4.20% year-over-year (YoY) from 3.30% YoY in March, while core Personal Consumption Expenditures (PCE), the Federal Reserve's (Fed) preferred inflation measure excluding food and energy, rose to 3.40% YoY from 3.20% YoY in March.

The Fed left the target range for its policy rate unchanged at 3.50% to 3.75% at its April and June meetings. At Kevin Warsh's first Committee meeting as Fed Chair in June, while the decision itself was widely expected, the accompanying Summary of Economic Projections hawkishly surprised markets and signaled that nearly half of the Committee now believes rate hikes may be necessary in 2026 to address still-above-target inflation. During the press conference, Warsh was asked for his view on the current stance of policy and whether it remained restrictive. His candid response was that policy is currently "mixed"—restrictive for housing, but less so for financial markets. He went on to suggest that this uneven transmission of monetary policy may be the result of balance sheet policy, something that will eventually be addressed by a newly formed task force.

The European Central Bank (ECB) raised interest rates by 25 basis points (bps) in June, taking the deposit rate to 2.25%, as expected. ECB President Christine Lagarde provided little forward guidance, instead emphasizing data dependence. Growth projections were downgraded, while short-term inflation projections were upgraded. Indeed, eurozone headline inflation rose to 3.2% YoY, with some ECB officials commenting hawkishly on the prospect of future rate hikes. A large downward revision to Irish growth in Q1 led to a notable softening in the area-wide reading. In Japan, elevated wage growth and a strong Producer Price Index

(PPI) led to a hawkish assessment of underlying inflation by Bank of Japan (BoJ) Deputy Governor Shinichi Uchida. Headline CPI came in as expected at 1.5% YoY, but the BoJ proceeded to raise its policy rate by 25 bps to 1.0% in June. The current Japanese government bond (JGB) purchase plan and forward guidance regarding continued interest rate normalization were maintained. Toward the end of June, Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi laid out Japan's largest-ever spending plan (JPY370 trillion by 2040), igniting further concern surrounding the fiscal outlook.

As of 30 Jun 26	Portfolio (gross)	Portfolio (net)	Index*
2Q26 Performance	0.57%	0.55%	0.38%

*Bloomberg 1-5 Year US Government/Credit Bond Index

Past investment results are not indicative of future investment results. Gross-of-fees returns are presented before management fees, but after all trading expenses. Net-of-fees performance returns are an estimate of time-weighted rate of return. The effective fee, based on a fee schedule, is deducted from the monthly gross return.

Investment Outlook

Growth remains supported while inflation risks may abate: Growth supported by AI capex, resilient consumers, strong earnings, and pro-business policies. Inflation moderates if a fragile ME peace holds while tariff and housing pressures also abate. The labor market stabilizes in a low-hire, low-fire state. With the FOMC focused on inflation and low unemployment, monetary policy stays on hold. We hold a modest overweight to duration, curve steepeners, and look for opportunities to add to credit exposure.

Global fixed-income markets are navigating heightened uncertainty driven by geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, rapid technological change and increased scrutiny of private credit markets. Energy-related supply disruptions have lifted near-term inflation and triggered a sharp reset in market expectations for central bank policy, with investors pricing rate hikes rather than the cuts anticipated earlier in the year.

While near-term inflation pressures are evident, longer-term inflation expectations remain well anchored, and we believe the magnitude of the recent rate repricing may be somewhat overdone. Global growth is expected to moderate, with the US remaining relatively more resilient than other regions due to energy independence, fiscal support and strong underlying fundamentals.

Despite tight valuations across spread sectors, credit fundamentals remain supportive. We favor selectively adding short-end duration and taking advantage of high-quality opportunities in corporate new issuance, AI-related financing activity and select areas of securitized credit, including CMBS and CLOs.

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