

Alliance of the Ports of Canada, the Caribbean, Latin America and the United States

# Challenges and Solutions for Today's Investment Markets

Presented by:

**Nelson Bush** 

Managing Director PFM Asset Management LLC 4350 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 580

Arlington, VA 22203

(703) 741-0175 bushn@pfm.com



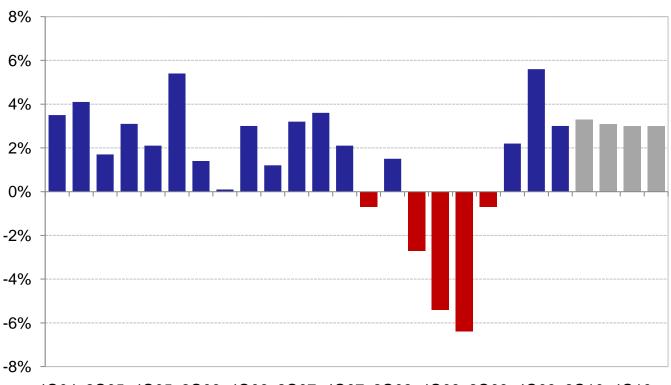
### **Summary of Economic Conditions**

- Economic activity in the U.S. appears to be "leveling out." Signs of improvement in the economy include:
  - GDP is growing
  - Manufacturing sector is expanding
  - Home sales are stronger; prices stabilizing
  - Economy is slowly adding jobs
  - Stock markets have led the way, sort of
- Significant challenges remain, meaning recovery will be relatively slow compared to past business cycles. These "headwinds" include:
  - High unemployment
  - Weak consumer spending
  - Rising mortgage delinquencies
  - Reduced availability of credit



### **Gross Domestic Product**

### Fourth Quarter 2004 – First Quarter 2011 (projected)

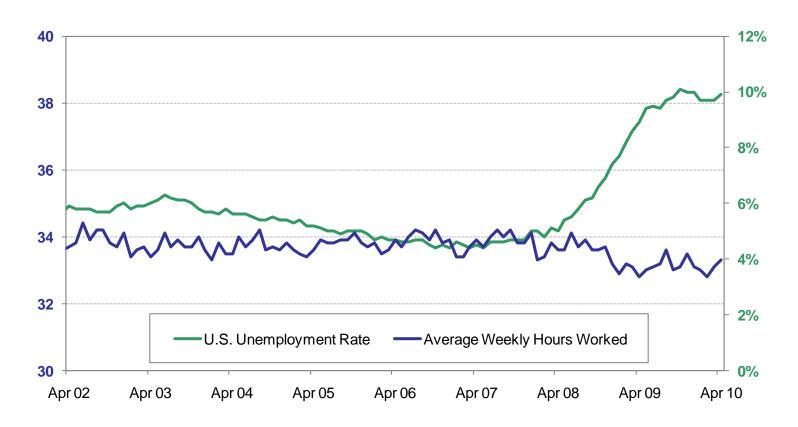


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### **Recovery Hindered by Unemployment**

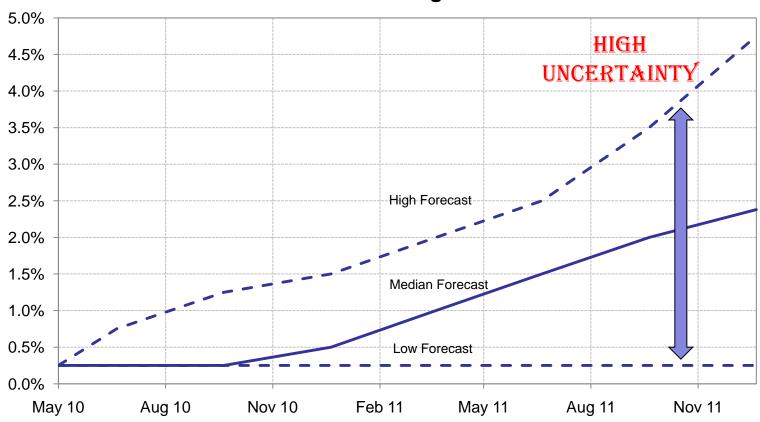
### **Unemployment Rate vs. Average Weekly Hours Worked** April 2002 – April 2010





### Fed Funds Are Expected To Stay Low...

#### **Federal Funds Target Rate**

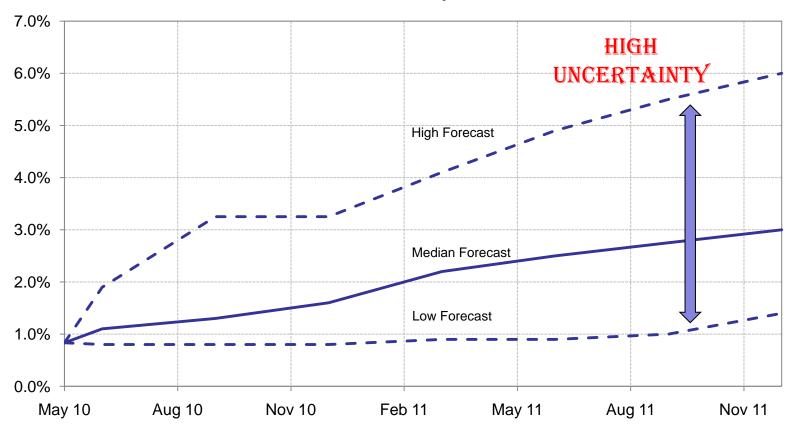


Source: Bloomberg



### ... As Are Treasury Yields

2-Year U.S. Treasury Note Yield



Source: Bloomberg



# **Strategies for Enhancing Returns**



# **Strategies Should Be Prudent &** Comprehensive

#### **Short-term Funds**

- Utilize high-quality money fund for liquidity and flexibility
- Safely maximize earnings for short-term cash needs
- Consider likelihood of future interest rate risk

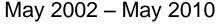
#### "Core" Funds

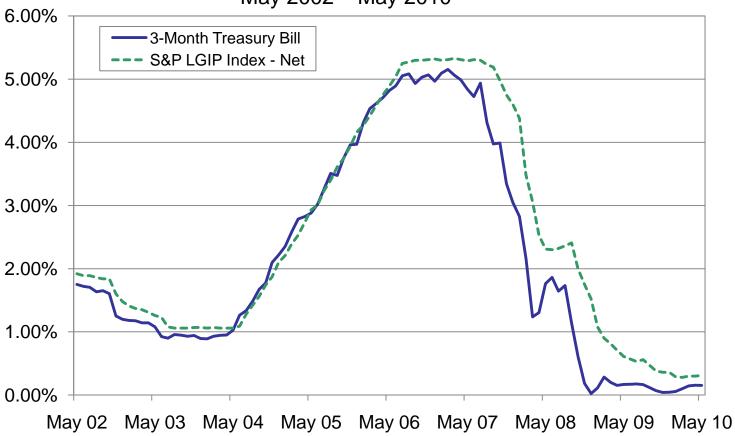
- Take advantage of steepness in yield curve
- Employ active management strategies
- Manage credit exposure carefully



# **Short-Term Funds:** Money Market Fund Yields Lag the Market

### **Average Monthly Yields**





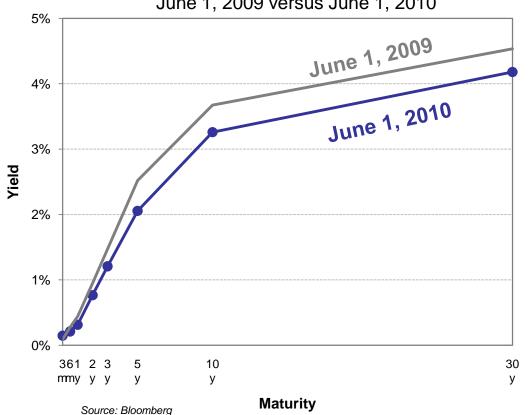
Source: Bloomberg



# **Core Funds: Yield Curve Is Exceptionally Steep**

**U.S. Treasury Yield Curve** 





	June 1, 2010	Pick up Over 3 Month
3 month	0.15%	-
6 month	0.21%	+0.07%
1 year	0.31%	+0.17%
2 year	0.77%	+0.62%
3 year	1.21%	+1.06%
5 year	2.06%	+1.91%
10 year	3.26%	+3.11%
30 year	4.18%	+4.03%



# **Depository Opportunities**

- Above-market ECR (Earnings Credit Rate)
- TAGP (Transaction Account Guarantee Program)
  - Unlimited FDIC insurance on certain bank accounts
  - Many banks have dropped out due to changing participation requirements:
    - Non-Interest Bearing Transactions accounts (rate of less than 0.50% through June 30, 2010)
    - Non-Interest Bearing Transactions accounts (rate of less than 0.25% through December 31, 2010)
- Aggressive CD Rates
  - Collateralization/insurance important
  - Understand the basis for rates



### **Broker / Dealers as a Resource**

- Ready source of market information
- Many specialize in a market sector
- Buys for and sells from "house" inventory
- Extremely beneficial to maintain multiple broker/dealer relationships

### Sample Trade on May 15, 2008

Buy: FHLMC, coupon 4.75%, November 3, 2009, par \$10,000,000

Broker	Offered Yield	Offered Price	Principal	Difference Over Low Price
Broker A	2.68%	102.951	\$ 10,295,117	\$ 17,277
Broker B	2.72%	102.892	\$ 10,289,298	\$ 11,459
Broker C	2.76%	102.834	\$ 10,283,485	\$ 5,645
Broker D	2.80%	102.778	\$ 10,277,840	\$ 0

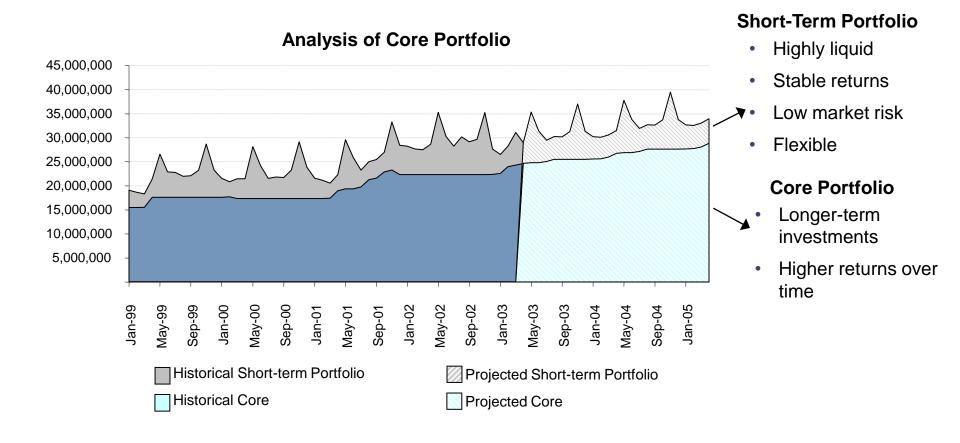


### **Investment Advisor**

- Discretionary and non-discretionary services
- No "house" inventory must competitively shop for every security
- Ready source of market information
- Assist clients with the development of cash flow forecasts, investment strategies and investment policy
- Fiduciary responsibility to clients



### Cash Flow Forecast





# **Benchmarking**

 Longer investment strategies can achieve higher returns but expose the portfolio to more volatility

Risk/Return of Various Benchmarks  10 Years Ended 3/31/2010						
Merrill Lynch Index	Duration	Overall Return	Cumulative Value of \$20,000,000	Quarters With Negative Returns		
Money Market Mutual Fund	0.00 Years	3.08%	\$27,092,325	0 out of 20		
3-Month Treasury Bill	0.23 Years	2.84%	\$26,477,942	0 out of 40		
6-Month Treasury Bill	0.48 Years	3.25%	\$27,543,328	0 out of 40		
1 Year Treasury Index	0.99 Years	3.69%	\$28,752,958	3 out of 40		
1-3 Year Treasury Index	1.92 Years	4.42%	\$30,832,276	4 out of 40		
1-5 Year Treasury Index	2.65 Years	4.93%	\$32,382,776	10 out of 40		
1-10 Year Treasury Index	3.94 Years	5.39%	\$33,813,574	11 out of 40		
3-5 Year Treasury Index	3.88 Years	5.96%	\$35,696,762	14 out of 40		

Source: Bloomberg - Merrill Lynch Indices



# **Create Customized, Comprehensive Investment Program for AAPA**

### **Branded Investment Program**



High quality securities Open to operating funds and bond proceeds Sponsorship fee back to association

#### **Money Market Fund**

- Liquidity
- Checking account sweep
- Cash management services
- Online transactions

#### **Managed Portfolios**

- · Individual investments
- Structured to investment policy and liquidity needs
- Earnings/maturities to pool account

#### **CD Purchase Program**

- FDIC-insured CDs
- Opportunity for enhanced yield
- Fixed terms from 60 days to one year

#### **Purchasing Card**

- Streamlined purchases
- Rebates on spending
- Enhanced reporting



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