# City of Farmington Hills Employees' Retirement System – Basic Retirement Benefits Actuarial Valuation Report as of June 30, 2023



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November 2, 2023

Retirement Board
City of Farmington Hills
Employees' Retirement System
31555 W. Eleven Mile Road
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48336

Re: City of Farmington Hills Employees' Retirement System Actuarial Valuation as of June 30, 2023

Actuarial Disclosures

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The results of the June 30, 2023 Annual Actuarial Valuation of the City of Farmington Hills Employees' Retirement System (System) are presented in this report.

This report was prepared at the request of the Board and is intended for use by the Retirement System and those designated or approved by the Board. This report may be provided to parties other than the System only in its entirety and only with the permission of the Board. GRS is not responsible for unauthorized use of this report.

The purposes of the valuation are to measure the System's funding progress and to determine the employer contribution for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024. This report should not be relied on for any purpose other than the purposes described herein. Determinations of financial results, associated with the benefits described in this report, for purposes other than those identified above may be significantly different.

The employer contribution in this report is determined using the actuarial assumptions and methods disclosed in Section D of this report. This report includes risk metrics on pages Appendix-1 and Appendix-2 but does not include a more robust assessment of the risks of future experience not meeting the actuarial assumptions. This report also includes a discussion of the required Low-Default-Risk Obligation Measure (LDROM) on page Appendix-3. Additional assessment of risks was outside the scope of this assignment. We encourage a review and assessment of investment and other significant risks which may have a material effect on the System's financial condition.

This valuation assumed the continuing ability of the plan sponsor to make the contributions necessary to fund this plan. A determination regarding whether or not the plan sponsor is actually able to do so is outside our scope of expertise and was not performed. The employer contributions shown in Section B may be considered a minimum contribution that complies with the Board's funding policy and state law. Users of this report should be aware that contributions made at this level do not guarantee benefit security. Given the importance of benefit security to any retirement system, we suggest that contributions to the System in excess of those presented in this report be considered.

Retirement Board November 2, 2023 Page 2

The findings in this report are based on data and other information through June 30, 2023. The valuation was based upon information furnished by the System, concerning Retirement System benefits, financial transactions, plan provisions and active members, terminated members, retirees and beneficiaries. We checked for internal reasonability and year-to-year consistency, but did not audit the data. We are not responsible for the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by the System.

This report was prepared using assumptions adopted by the Board. All actuarial assumptions used in this report are reasonable for the purposes of this valuation. The combined effect of the assumptions, is expected to have no significant bias (i.e. not significantly optimistic or pessimistic). All actuarial assumptions and methods used in the valuation follow the guidance in the applicable Actuarial Standards of Practice. Additional information about the actuarial assumptions is included in Section D of this report.

This report was prepared using our proprietary valuation model and related software which, in our professional judgment, has the capability to provide results that are consistent with the purposes of the valuation and has no material limitations or known weaknesses. We performed tests to ensure that the model reasonably represents that which is intended to be modeled.

This report has been prepared by actuaries who have substantial experience valuing public employee retirement systems. To the best of our knowledge, this report is accurate, complete and fairly presents the actuarial position of the City of Farmington Hills Employees' Retirement System as of the valuation date. All calculations have been made in conformity with generally accepted actuarial principles and practices and with the Actuarial Standards of Practice issued by the Actuarial Standards Board and applicable State statutes. James D. Anderson and Stephanie Sullivan are Members of the American Academy of Actuaries (MAAA). These actuaries meet the Academy's Qualification Standards to render the actuarial opinions contained herein.

The signing actuaries are independent of the plan sponsor.

Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company will be pleased to review this valuation and report with the Board of Trustees and to answer any questions pertaining to the valuation.

Respectfully submitted, Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company

James D. Anderson, FSA, EA, FCA, MAAA

Slephanie Sullivan tephanie Sullivan, ASA, MAAA

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# **SECTION A**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** 

# **Executive Summary**

#### 1. Required Employer Contributions - Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2024

The required City contributions for each employment division are as follows:

	Required	Required Employer Contribution			
	% of	\$ Based on Projected			
Division	Payroll	Payroll			
General	24.43%	\$ 3,633,209			
Court	28.63	411,130			
Police	38.06	4,177,004			
Fire	26.45	1,568,862			

The General and Court groups have re-opened to new hires. As a result, we have calculated the employer contributions using a financing method that is appropriate for these circumstances.

#### 2. Contribution Comparison

The table below compares the results of this valuation with the results of the 2022 actuarial valuation of the System.

Required Contributions by Indicated Valuation Date				
Division	6/30/2022	6/30/2023		
General	\$ 2,254,673	\$ 3,633,209		
Court	343,226	411,130		
Police	3,554,741	4,177,004		
Fire	1,355,322	1,568,862		
Total	\$ 7,507,962	\$ 9,790,205		

#### 3. 2023 Funding Position

This year valuation assets represent 73% of accrued liabilities compared to last year's valuation where the funded percent was 75%. If the market value of assets was used in the development of the System's funded percent, the System would be 71% funded as of June 30, 2023.

#### 4. Reasons for Change

There are three general reasons why contribution rates change from one valuation to the next.

- 1) The first is a change in the benefits or eligibility conditions of the Plan. This is discussed on the following page.
- 2) The second is a change in the valuation assumptions or methods used to predict future occurrences. There were no assumption or method changes during 2023.
- 3) The third is the difference during the year between the System's actual experience and what the assumptions predicted. This is discussed on the following page.



# **Executive Summary**

#### 5. Changes in Benefit Provisions

The following changes in benefit provisions were reported to the actuary:

- The defined benefit (DB) pension plan was re-opened to General and Court employees (previously covered by a defined contribution plan) at the same DB pension multiplier, maximum pension, and pension benefit eligibility as existing General and Court employees covered by the defined benefit pension plan;
- General and Court employees newly covered by the defined benefit pension plan received credit for their vesting service back to date of employment and credit for benefit service earned prospectively from date of re-entry into the defined benefit pension plan;
- General and Court employees newly covered by the defined benefit pension plan were given a onetime opportunity to purchase prior benefit service in any amount up to service credit earned since date of employment;
- Tier 1 Police and Fire defined benefit pension multiplier, maximum pension, and pension eligibility was extended to Police and Fire active employees previously covered by Tier 2 Police and Fire defined benefit coverage; and
- The interest rate basis used to determine the reduction in retirement allowance for annuity withdrawal purposes was updated for most groups.

Section C of this report details the plan provisions valued. The data used in the preparation of the liabilities reflects actual service purchase elections for benefit service purposes for newly covered General and Court participants, provided by the City. The combined impact of the changes in benefit provisions increased the actuarial accrued liabilities \$7.7 million.

#### 6. 2023 Plan Experience

System experience for the year ending June 30, 2023 was unfavorable overall. During the 2022-2023 plan year, while the rate of investment return on System assets was higher than long-term expectations on a market value basis, the rate of investment return on valuation assets (i.e., a smoothed market value basis) was lower than the long-term expectations. The market smoothing techniques used in this valuation recognize both current and prior investment experience. The recognized rate of investment return for the year on valuation assets was 6.39%, lower than the assumed investment return of 7.00%. Additional information related to the investment experience is shown on pages C-4 and C-5 of this report. As a whole, demographic experience for the year was also unfavorable. Sources of negative demographic experience include: retiree mortality (General and Fire), larger than assumed pay increases (all groups), and more retirements at earlier ages than assumed (Police and Fire). The combination of the unfavorable investment and demographic experience contributed to the increase in computed City contributions to the System.



#### 7. Retiree Reserve Balance

In each valuation, we develop the value of anticipated future benefit payments to retired members and their beneficiaries. We then compare this liability to the reported assets in the Retirement Reserve Fund. The liability amounts and the reported reserves are shown below:

	General/Court	Police	Fire	Total
Retiree Liability	\$67,262,585	\$66,152,567	\$18,223,669	\$151,638,821
Retiree Reserve	64,724,108	56,273,828	14,542,829	135,540,765
Surplus	2,538,477	9,878,739	3,680,840	16,098,056

The differences shown above could be covered by a transfer from the Retirement System's employer reserves to the respective retirement reserve fund.

#### 8. Limitations of Funded Status Measurements

Unless otherwise indicated, a funded status measurement presented in this report is based on the actuarial accrued liability and the actuarial value of assets. Unless otherwise indicated, with respect to any funded status measurement presented in this report:

- The measurement is inappropriate for assessing the sufficiency of System assets to cover the estimated cost of settling the System's benefit obligations.
- The measurement is inappropriate for assessing the need for or the amount of future employer contributions.
- The measurement will produce a different result if the market value of System assets is used instead of the actuarial value of System assets.



# **S**ECTION **B**

**VALUATION RESULTS** 

# **Financial Objective**

The financial objective of the Retirement System is to establish and receive contributions, expressed as a percentage of active member payroll (for open groups), which will remain approximately level from year to year and will not have to be increased for future generations of citizens. The contributions, when combined with present assets and future investment income, will be sufficient to meet the financial obligations of the fund to present and future retirees and beneficiaries. Your annual actuarial valuations determine how well the objective is being met.

The contribution requirements for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 are presented on the following page.

# **General Implications of Contribution Allocation Procedure or Funding Policy on Future Expected Plan Contributions and Funded Status**

Given the plan's contribution allocation procedure, if all actuarial assumptions are met (including the assumption of the plan earning 7.00% on the actuarial value of assets), it is expected that:

- (1) The employer normal cost as a percentage of pay for each group is expected to remain approximately level;
- (2) The unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities will be fully amortized after 20 years; and
- (3) The funded status of the plan will increase gradually towards a 100% funded ratio.



# **Contributions to Provide Benefits** for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2024 **Member and Employer Portions**

	% of Active Payroll				
Contributions for	General	Court	Police	Fire	
Normal cost of benefits:					
Age and service	14.93%	17.14%	18.39%	18.48%	
Disability	0.08	0.08	0.17	0.18	
Death before retirement	0.33	0.30	0.49	0.46	
Stipend	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	
Total	15.35	17.53	19.07	19.14	
Member contributions					
Total	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	
Future refunds	0.85	0.50	0.37	0.38	
Available for pensions	3.65	4.00	4.13	4.12	
Administrative expenses	0.71	0.92	0.86	0.86	
Employer normal cost	12.41	14.45	15.80	15.88	
Unfunded accrued liability payment	12.02	14.18	22.26	10.57	
Computed employer contribution	24.43%	28.63%	38.06%	26.45%	

Unfunded accrued liabilities were amortized over 16 years for the General and Court groups and over 20 years for the Police and Fire groups. A closed, level percent of payroll amortization method was used due to the open nature of these groups.



# **Determination of Unfunded Accrued Liability** as of June 30, 2023

	_	General	Court	Police	Fire	Total
Α.	Accrued Liability					
	1. For retirees and beneficiaries	\$61,071,362	\$6,191,223	\$66,152,567	\$18,223,669	\$151,638,821
	2. For vested terminated members	957,344	267,873	1,016,999	0	2,242,216
	3. For present active members					
	a. Value of expected future benefit payments	49,971,332	6,371,428	58,507,215	29,773,033	144,623,008
	b. Value of future normal costs	18,673,864	1,818,473	21,988,581	12,013,405	54,494,323
	c. Active member liability: (a) - (b)	31,297,468	4,552,955	36,518,634	17,759,628	90,128,685
	4. Total	93,326,174	11,012,051	103,688,200	35,983,297	244,009,722
В.	Valuation Assets	71,888,522	8,551,603	70,014,306	27,378,396	177,832,827
C.	Unfunded Accrued Liability					
	(A.4) - (B)	21,437,652	2,460,448	33,673,894	8,604,901	66,176,895
D.	Funding Ratio: (B) / (A.4)	77%	78%	68%	76%	73%



# **Development of Experience Gain/(Loss)** Period Ended June 30, 2023

Actual experience will never (except by coincidence) exactly match assumed experience. It is hoped that gains and losses will cancel each other over a period of years, but sizable year-to-year fluctuations are common. Detail on the derivation of the experience gain (loss) is shown below:

	All Groups Combined
(1) UAAL* at start of period	\$ 57,775,876
(2) Normal cost for period	3,927,419
(3) Actual contributions	11,518,990
(4) Interest accrual on (1), (2) and (3)	3,778,606
(5) Expected UAAL before changes: (1) + (2) - (3) + (4)	53,962,911
(6) Change in plan provisions	7,733,670
(7) Change in actuarial assumptions/methods	0
(8) Expected UAAL after changes: (5) + (6) + (7)	61,696,581
(9) Actual UAAL at end of period	66,176,895
(10) Total gain/(loss): (8) - (9) As percent of AAL at the start of the period	(4,480,314) (1.95%)
(11) Investment gain/(loss) As percent of AAL at the start of the period	(1,027,154) (0.45%)
(12) Non-Investment gain/(loss): (10) - (11) As percent of AAL at the start of the period	(3,453,160) (1.50%)

<sup>\*</sup> Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liabilities.





**SUMMARY OF BENEFIT PROVISIONS** 

# **Brief Summary of Basic Benefit Provisions** (June 30, 2023)

Normal Retirement (No reduction for age)						
			FAC <sup>(1)</sup> Times Sum of			
Group	Eligibility	Age Change	Up To 25 Years	Over 25 Years	Maximum Benefit <sup>(2)</sup>	Member Contributions
TPOAM (f.k.a. AFSCME)	60 & 8 or Sum of Age & Service equals 80 (minimum age 55)	None	2.80 %	1.00 %	75 %	4.50%
Teamsters, Exempt, and Court <sup>(3)</sup>	60 & 8 or Sum of Age & Service equals 80 (minimum age 55)	None	2.80	1.00	80	4.50%
Dispatchers (Group D)	60 & 8 or Sum of Age & Service equals 80 (minimum age 55)	Until Age 67 At Age 67	2.80 2.375	1.00 1.00	75 70	4.50%
Executive	60 & 8 or Sum of Age & Service equals 80 (minimum age 55)	None	3.00	1.00	80	4.50%
Police Command	50 & 25 or 30 years of service with 25 years as Police Officer	None	3.00	1.00	80	4.50%
Fire and Police Patrol	25 & Out	None	2.80	1.00	75	4.50%

Early Retirement (Computed as regular retirement with an age reduction factor used.)					
Group	up Eligibility Reduction				
Teamsters and Dispatchers	57 & 8	1/2 of 1% for each month by which retirement precedes age 60			
TPOAM, Executive, Exempt, and Court	57 & 8	2/10 of 1% for each month by which retirement precedes age 60			
Police Command	50 & 15 <50 & 25	2/10 of 1% for each month by which retirement precedes age 55 6/10 of 1% for each month by which retirement precedes age 50			
Police Patrol	50 & 20	2.08/10 of 1% for each month by which retirement precedes age 55			
Fire	50 & 20	2/10 of 1% for each month by which retirement precedes age 55			

Type of Final Average Compensation (FAC): highest 3 consecutive years out of last 10. FAC includes longevity pay for civilian members and longevity and holiday pay for Police, Fire and Dispatch members.



Maximum benefit is computed as a percent of FAC.

Three Court employees are covered by the Executive group benefit structure as of the valuation date.

# **Brief Summary of Basic Benefit Provisions** (June 30, 2023)

Eligibility **Amount** 

#### **Deferred Retirement**

General: 8 or more years of service. Benefit

begins at age 60.

Computed as a regular or early retirement but based upon service and final average

compensation at termination date.

Police and Fire: 15 or more years of service.

Benefit generally begins at age 55.

#### **Non-Duty Death**

10 or more years of service, or age 57 with 8 years of service.

Computed as a regular retirement but actuarially reduced in accordance with a 100% joint and survivor option.

#### **Duty Death**

No age or service requirements.

Surviving spouse pension computed as a duty disability retirement.

#### **Duty Disability**

No age or service requirements.

General: 40% of compensation at time of disability, plus 10% of compensation (not to exceed 25% of total) for each unmarried child under age 18. Other disability payments offset. Police and Fire: 66-2/3% of final compensation.

#### **Defined Benefit Plan Eligibility**

The System is "open" to all employees. See Ordinance No. C-3-2023 for the excluded positions.

#### Other

Eligible Retiree Health Care (RHC) Plan members who also participate in this plan may elect to receive a monthly pension stipend benefit ranging from \$200-\$400 per month and paid from the pension trust. This stipend benefit is paid in lieu of traditional RHC plan benefits.



# **Brief Summary of Basic Benefit Provisions** (June 30, 2023)

# **Annuity Withdrawal Interest Rate**

The interest rate basis used to determine the reduction in retirement allowance for annuity withdrawal purposes is described below:

# **General and Court**

Effective Dates	Court	TPOAM	Non-TPOAM
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2023:	1.5%	2.5%	1.5%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2024:	2.1%	2.5%	2.1%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2025:	2.7%	2.7%	2.7%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2026:	3.3%	3.3%	3.3%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2027:	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2028:	4.5%	4.5%	4.5%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2029:	5.1%	5.1%	5.1%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2030:	5.7%	5.7%	5.7%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2031:	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%

# **Police**

		Command Promoted	
		Prior to	On or after
Effective Dates	Patrol	January 1, 2024 <sup>1</sup>	January 1, 2024
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2023:	Varies monthly	2.0%	6.0%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2024:	2.1%	2.0%	6.0%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2025:	2.7%	2.0%	6.0%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2026:	3.3%	2.0%	6.0%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2027:	3.9%	2.0%	6.0%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2028:	4.5%	2.0%	6.0%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2029:	5.1%	2.0%	6.0%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2030:	5.7%	2.0%	6.0%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2031:	6.0%	2.0%	6.0%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 2.0% or the interest rate established by the Pension Board of Trustees, whichever is lower.

#### Fire

Effective Dates	Tier 1 <sup>1</sup>	Tier 2 <sup>2</sup>
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2023:	2.0%	6.0%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2033:	6.0%	6.0%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 2.0% or the interest rate established by the Pension Board of Trustees, whichever is lower.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Hired on or after July 1, 2008.

# **Reported Financial Information (Market Value)** for Year Ending June 30, 2023

# **Revenues and Disbursements**

#### **Revenues:**

a. Member contributions	\$ 4,524,003
b. Employer contributions	6,994,987
c. Interest and dividends	4,372,026
d. Gain/(Loss) on sale of investments	10,599,987
e. Miscellaneous Investment Income	325
f. Total	

\$ 26,491,328

Disbursements:		
a. Refunds of member contributions	47,270	
b. Benefits paid	16,496,102	
c. Investment Expenses	1,829,074	
d. Administrative Expenses	164,702	
e. Other	0	
f. Total		18,537,148

#### **Reserve Increase**

Total revenues minus total disbursements net increase in plan assets

\$ 7,954,180

#### **Assets and Reserves**

	Investments		Reserve Accounts	
a.	Cash and Short Term	\$ 7,012,025	a. Member contributions	\$ 19,032,590
b.	Receivables	12,026	b. Reserve for benefits now	
c.	Fixed Income	25,473,235	being paid	135,540,765
d.	Equities	105,143,474	c. Reserve for future benefits	19,546,296
e.	Real Estate	18,699,425	d. Reserve for undistributed income	0
f.	Other Assets	18,396,274		
g.	Accounts Payable	(616,809)		
Tota	al Net Assets	\$174,119,650	Total	\$174,119,651



# **Development of Valuation Assets**

	Valuation Date June 30:	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
1. B€	ginning of Year Assets							
a)	Market Value	\$ 152,543,970	\$ 192,896,621	\$ 166,165,470				
b)	Valuation Assets	161,481,646	170,359,640	172,178,208				
c)	Audit Adjustment	0	0	0				
2. En	d of Year Market Value Net Assets	192,896,621	166,165,470	174,119,650				
3. Ne	et Additions to Market Value							
a)	Net Contributions and Other Income	7,602,653	8,079,968	11,518,990				
b)	Net Investment Income	48,374,094	(18,238,404)	13,143,264				
c)	Benefit Payments and Refunds *	(15,624,096)	(16,572,715)	(16,708,074)				
d)	Total Additions to Market Value	40,352,651	(26,731,151)	7,954,180				
4. Av	erage Valuation Assets	157,470,925	166,113,267	169,583,666				
5. Ex	pected Income at Valuation Rate	11,022,965	11,627,929	11,870,857				
6. Ga	nin (Loss) = (3b) - (5)	37,351,129	(29,866,333)	1,272,407				
7. Ph	ased-In Recognition of Investment Return							
a)	Current Year: 0.2 x (6)	7,470,226	(5,973,267)	254,481				
b)	First Prior Year	(1,751,755)	7,470,226	(5,973,267)	\$ 254,481			
c)	Second Prior Year	(1,026,835)	(1,751,755)	7,470,226	(5,973,267)	\$ 254,481		
d)	Third Prior Year	(34,983)	(1,026,835)	(1,751,755)	7,470,226	(5,973,267)	\$ 254,481	
e)	Fourth Prior Year	1,219,819	(34,983)	(1,026,839)	(1,751,755)	7,470,225	(5,973,265)	\$ 254,483
f)	Total Recognized Investment Gain/(Loss)	5,876,472	(1,316,614)	(1,027,154)	(315)	1,751,439	(5,718,784)	254,483
8. Ch	ange in Valuation Assets							
	(3a) + (3c) + (5) + (7f)	8,877,994	1,818,568	5,654,619				
9. En	d of Year Valuation Assets							
a)	Preliminary End of Year Valuation Assets	170,359,640	172,178,208	177,832,827				
b)	Corridor Percent	20%	20%	20%				
c)	Upper Corridor Limit	231,475,945	199,398,564	208,943,580				
d)	Lower Corridor Limit	154,317,297	132,932,376	139,295,720				
e)	End of Year Valuation Assets	170,359,640	172,178,208	177,832,827				
10. Re	cognized Rate of Return	10.73%	6.21%	6.39%				
11. M	arket Rate of Return	32.57%	(9.67%)	8.04%				

<sup>\*</sup> Includes administrative expenses.



# **Retired and Inactive Members**

# Data as of June 30, 2023

	Total Number	Annual Benefits*	Average Age
Benefit Recipients	387	\$13,659,953	69.0
Deferred Vested Members	13	\$ 304,430	48.8

<sup>\*</sup> Excludes pension stipend payments.



# **Active Members**

# **Comparative Schedule**

**Active Members** Valuation Valuation **Average** Age Service Pay % Inc. Date General **Court Police** Fire Payroll Totals 2009 225 117 386 \$24,904,782 46.0 yrs. \$64,520 5.2% 44 14.3 yrs. 2010 \*\* 181 105 41 327 21,749,242 45.0 13.8 66,511 3.1 27 21,236,510 14.9 2011 148 102 41 318 45.8 66,781 0.4 20,415,113 2012 133 26 102 40 301 45.7 15.1 67,824 1.6 2013 123 26 105 299 19,898,614 45.0 14.6 66,551 (1.9)45 25 67,881 2.0 2014 111 105 47 288 19,549,678 45.1 14.9 2015 108 24 103 48 283 20,047,647 45.7 15.3 70,840 4.4 2016 101 23 102 51 277 20,046,105 45.8 15.5 72,369 2.2 2017 94 23 101 51 269 20,089,578 46.2 15.8 74,682 3.2 84 23 19,941,526 76,994 3.1 2018 101 51 259 46.0 15.9

104

101

105

104

58

58

59

58

60

260

247

241

228

393

20,521,228

20,404,488

20,294,306

19,832,675

31,307,511

45.3

45.3

44.3

43.6

43.3

15.7

15.9

15.2

14.6

10.2

78,928

82,609

84,209

86,985

79,663

2.5

4.7

1.9

3.3

(8.4)

# **Active Members by Age and Years of Service**

	Years of Service on Valuation Date								Totals
									Valuation
Age	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30 Plus	No.	Payroll
20-24	14							14	\$ 906,626
25-29	46	6						52	3,634,077
30-34	35	11	2					48	3,603,592
35-39	12	14	16	4				46	3,644,710
33-39	12	14	10	-				40	3,044,710
40-44	9	13	13	23	8			66	5,628,167
45-49	8	1	5	6	11	3		34	3,262,540
50-54	10	8	3	8	7	13	2	51	4,542,136
55-59	12	5	5	4	2	4	3	35	2,838,399
60	1	1		1	1	1		5	361,770
61	2	1	1	2	1	1		8	598,679
62		2		2		2		6	519,388
63	1	2	2					5	257,852
64	2	1	1	2				6	316,026
<b>65</b>		•						_	200 240
65		2	1	2				5	309,218
66		2		2				4	296,533
67		1			1			2	126,031
68							1	1	50,296
69					1		1	2	199,601
71				1				1	69,087
73				_			1	1	96,578
,5							_	_	30,370
75			1					1	46,205
Totals	152	70	50	57	32	24	8	393	\$31,307,511



2019

2020

2021

2022

2023

77

68

59

52

201

21

20

18

14

21

<sup>111</sup> \*\* Included with General division prior to the June 30, 2011 valuation.



# **Valuation Methods**

**Actuarial Cost Method:** Normal cost and the allocation of benefit values between service rendered before and after the valuation date were determined using an individual entry-age actuarial cost method having the following characteristics:

- (i) The annual normal costs for each individual active member, payable from the hire date to the date of retirement, are sufficient to accumulate to the value of the member's benefit earned; and
- (ii) Each annual normal cost is a constant percentage of the member's year by year projected covered pay.

#### **Asset Valuation Method:** The actuarial value equals:

- (a) Actuarial value of assets from the previous valuation, plus
- (b) employer and member contributions since the last valuation, minus
- (c) benefit payments and refunds since the last valuation, plus
- (d) estimated investment income at the assumed investment return, plus
- (e) portion of gain (loss) recognized in the current valuation.

For this purpose, gain (loss) is defined as the excess during the period of the investment return on the market value of assets over the expected investment income. 20% of the difference is recognized over a five-year period in the actuarial value of assets. The actuarial value of assets is not permitted to deviate from the market value of assets by more than 20%.

The Funding Value of Assets is allocated between groups based on actual group experience and investment income such that each group's return equals the return for the System in total.

Amortization of Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liabilities: Unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities were amortized by level percent-of-payroll contributions over 20 years for the Police and Fire groups and 16 years for the General and Court groups. The period is reduced with each annual actuarial valuation. The amortization method was first used for the June 30, 2019 actuarial valuation for the Police and Fire groups and June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation for the General and Court groups. Active member payroll was assumed to increase 3.0% for the purpose of determining the level-percent contributions.



# **Actuarial Assumptions Used for the Valuation**

*Investment Return* (net of investment expenses): 7.00% per year compounded annually. This rate consists of a real rate of return of 4.00% a year plus a long-term assumed rate of wage inflation of 3.00% per year.

This assumption is used to equate the value of payments due at different points in time and was first used for the June 30, 2019 valuation. Approximate rates of investment return, for the purpose of comparisons with assumed rates, are shown below. Actual increases in average active member pay are also shown for comparative purposes.

<u>-</u>	Period Ended June 30,						
<u>-</u>	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019		
Rate of Investment Return							
(Recognized on Valuation Assets)	6.4%	6.2%	10.7%	4.3%	4.3%		

These rates of return should not be used for measurement of an investment advisor's performance or for comparisons with other systems.

**Pay Projections:** These assumptions are used to project current pays to those upon which benefits will be based. The assumptions were first used for the June 30, 2019 valuation.

# **Annual Rate of Pay Increase**

	General and Court Members					
Years of Service	Base (Economic)	Merit & Longevity	Total			
1 to 5	3.0%	4.0%	7.0%			
6 to 10	3.0%	2.0%	5.0%			
thereafter	3.0%	1.0%	4.0%			

	Police Members			Fire Members			
Years of	Base	Merit &	Total	Base	Merit &	Takal	
Service	(Economic)	Longevity	Total	(Economic)	Longevity	Total	
1	3.0%	20.0%	23.0%	3.0%	17.0%	20.0%	
2	3.0%	15.0%	18.0%	3.0%	12.0%	15.0%	
3	3.0%	7.0%	10.0%	3.0%	12.0%	15.0%	
thereafter	3.0%	1.0%	4.0%	3.0%	1.0%	4.0%	

If the number of active members remains constant, the total active member payroll is expected to increase 3.0% annually, the base portion of the individual pay increase assumptions. This increasing payroll was recognized in amortizing unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities for all of the groups.



Changes actually experienced in pay have been as follows:

	-	Period Ended June 30,					
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019		
Average Increase in Pay@	7.3%	6.2%	4.9%	4.6%	4.2%		

<sup>@</sup> Excludes new hires and terminations.

**The mortality tables (a risk assumption)** used in this valuation are described below:

#### **General and Court**

- Healthy Pre-Retirement: The Pub-2010 Amount-Weighted, General, Employee, Male and Female tables, with future mortality improvements projected generationally through 2025 using scale MP-2018.
- **Healthy Post-Retirement**: The Pub-2010 Amount-Weighted, General, Healthy Retiree, Male and Female tables, with future mortality improvements projected generationally through 2025 using scale MP-2018.
- **Disability Retirement**: The Pub-2010 Amount-Weighted, General, Disabled Retiree, Male and Female tables, with future mortality improvements projected generationally through 2025 using scale MP-2018.

#### **Police and Fire**

- **Healthy Pre-Retirement**: The Pub-2010 Headcount-Weighted, Safety, Employee, Male and Female tables, with future mortality improvements projected generationally through 2025 using scale MP-2018.
- **Healthy Post-Retirement**: The Pub-2010 Headcount-Weighted, Safety, Healthy Retiree, Male and Female tables, with future mortality improvements projected generationally through 2025 using scale MP-2018.
- **Disability Retirement**: The Pub-2010 Headcount-Weighted, Safety, Disabled Retiree, Male and Female tables, with future mortality improvements projected generationally through 2025 using scale MP-2018.



#### **General and Court**

	Healthy Pre	Healthy Pre-Retirement		t-Retirement	Disabled Retirement		
Sample	Future Life Exp	ectancy (Years)	Future Life Exp	ectancy (Years)	Future Life Exp	Future Life Expectancy (Years)	
Ages*	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	
50	37.72	39.84	33.79	36.65	24.62	27.11	
55	33.00	35.02	29.29	32.05	21.52	24.08	
60	28.37	30.26	24.93	27.54	18.72	21.22	
65	23.86	25.57	20.75	23.12	16.09	18.27	
70	19.43	20.95	16.75	18.85	13.50	15.17	
75	15.08	16.44	13.04	14.84	10.94	12.12	
80	10.82	12.06	9.73	11.20	8.52	9.37	

#### Police and Fire

	Healthy Pre	Healthy Pre-Retirement		t-Retirement	Disabled Retirement		
Sample	Future Life Exp	ectancy (Years)	Future Life Exp	ectancy (Years)	Future Life Expectancy (Years)		
Ages*	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	
50	36.28	39.00	32.74	35.20	31.04	32.59	
55	31.51	34.21	28.17	30.56	26.73	28.17	
60	26.83	29.47	23.73	26.12	22.61	24.07	
65	22.28	24.78	19.57	21.88	18.75	20.18	
70	17.87	20.15	15.63	17.85	15.13	16.41	
75	13.67	15.69	12.02	14.10	11.78	12.91	
80	9.72	11.51	8.85	10.74	8.81	9.93	

<sup>\*</sup> The Pub-2010 life expectancies shown above were based on a generational projection of mortality rates through the year 2025 using the MP-2018 projection scale and sample ages as of the valuation date.

75% of deaths are assumed to be non-duty for the General and Court groups, while 50% of deaths are assumed to be non-duty for the Police and Fire groups.

These tables were first used for the June 30, 2019 valuation of the System.



**Rates of Retirement:** These rates are used to measure the probability of eligible members retiring during the next year. Early retirement rates do not apply to members eligible for regular retirement.

	Percent of Eligible Active Members Retiring				
Retirement			Police	Years of	Police
Ages	General	Court	Command	Service	Command
F0			200/	25	
50			30%	25	
51			30	26	
52			30	27	
53			30	28	
54			30	29	
55	30%	20%	20	30	40%
56	25	15	15	31	40
57	25	15	15	32	40
58	25	15	15	33	40
59	25	15	15	34	40
60	25	20	100	35	100
61	25	25			
62	30	30			
63	20	20			
64	25	25			
65	25	25			
66	30	30			
67	30	30			
68	30	30			
69	30	30			
70	100	100			

The Court and Police Command retirement rates were first used in the June 30, 2019 valuation.

# Percent of Eligible Active Members

Retiring			
Years of	Police Patrol		
Service	and Fire		
25	30%		
26	30		
27	30		
28	30		
29	30		
30	100		

The incidence of retirement for the Fire members is assumed to be 100% at age 62.

The service-based retirement rates shown above for patrol officers were first used in the June 30, 2019 valuation.



# Percent of Eligible Active Members Retiring (Early Retirement)

	<u> </u>	
Retirement Ages	General & Court	Police & Fire
1.000		
50		1%
51		1
52		1
53		1
54		1
55		1
56		1
57	1%	1
58	1	1
59	1	1

**Rates of Separation from Active Membership:** The rates do not apply to members eligible for regular retirement and do not include separation on account of death or disability. This assumption measures the probabilities of members remaining in employment.

% of Active Members
Separating within Next Year

	_	Separating within Next real				
Sample	Years of					
Ages	Service	General	Court	Police	Fire	
ALL	0	11.00%	12.00%	8.00%	7.00%	
	1	10.00	12.00	6.00	5.00	
	2	8.00	10.00	5.00	3.50	
	3	8.00	9.00	4.00	3.50	
	4	7.00	9.00	3.00	3.00	
20	5 & Over	6.00	6.00	3.00	3.00	
25		5.50	5.50	3.00	3.00	
30		4.40	4.40	2.50	2.50	
35		3.90	3.90	1.00	1.50	
40		3.40	3.40	0.70	0.70	
45		3.00	3.00	0.50	0.50	
50		2.00	2.00	0.50	0.50	
55		1.40	1.40	0.50	0.50	
60		1.40	1.40	0.50	0.50	

The Police rates were first used for the June 30, 2019 valuation.



Rates of Disability: These rates represent the probabilities of active members becoming disabled.

Sample	<b>Number of Disabilities</b>
Ages	Per 100 Eligible Members
20	0.01
25	0.02
30	0.04
35	0.07
40	0.12
45	0.19
50	0.28
55	0.40
60	0.57

These rates were first used for the December 31, 1993 valuation.

Load for Administrative Expenses: Administrative expenses used in the contribution determination are based on the average dollar amount over the last six years (a rolling period), ending on the valuation date one year preceding the current valuation date. The flat dollar administrative expense load is allocated between the General group, the Court group, and the Public Safety groups based on the funding value of assets as of the administrative expense calculation date. The flat dollar portion of the administrative expense is then converted to a percent of pay based on the projected fiscal year payroll for the General group, the Court group, and the combined Public Safety group, respectively.

**Pension Stipend Benefit Election:** Ten percent of eligible active RHC plan members are assumed to elect cash payments (the pension stipend).



# **Miscellaneous and Technical Assumptions**

**Marriage Assumption:** 100% of males and 100% of females are assumed to be married for

purposes of death-in-service benefits. Male spouses are assumed to be

three years older than female spouses.

**Pay Increase Timing:** Beginning of (Fiscal) year.

**Decrement Timing:** Decrements of all types are assumed to occur mid-year.

**Eligibility Testing:** Eligibility for benefits is determined using the age nearest birthday and

the service nearest whole year on the date the decrement is assumed to

occur.

**Decrement Relativity:** Decrement rates are used directly from experience, without adjustment

for multiple decrement table effects.

**Decrement Operation:** Disability and mortality decrements do not operate during the first five

years of service. Disability also does not operate during retirement

eligibility.

**Service Credit Accruals:** It is assumed that members accrue one year of service credit per year.

**Option Factors:** Factors for optional forms of payment (option factors) are based upon

7.0% interest of the:

General and Court: Pub-2010 Amount-Weighted, General, Healthy Retiree, Male and Female tables, with future mortality improvements projected to 2025 using scale MP-2018 with an 50% Male and 50%

Female Unisex Blend.

Police and Fire: Pub-2010 Headcount-Weighted, Safety, Healthy Retiree, Male and Female tables, with future mortality improvements projected to 2025 using scale MP-2018 with an 90% Male and 10% Female Unisex

Blend.

**Incidence** Contributions are assumed to be received continuously throughout the

year based upon the computed percent of payroll shown in this report,

and the actual payroll payable at the time contributions are made.

**Normal Form of Benefit:** The normal form of benefit is a straight life annuity.

**Benefit Service:** Exact fractional service is used to determine the amount of benefit

payable.

**Forfeiture Assumption:** General members who terminate close to retirement were assumed to

elect a deferred retirement while those terminating with less service were assumed to elect a refund of their contributions in lieu of deferred retirement benefits. All non-General members were assumed to elect a

deferred retirement benefit.



of Contributions:

# **Miscellaneous and Technical Assumptions (Concluded)**

**Annuity Withdrawal Loads:** Active member liabilities were loaded to account for subsidized annuity withdrawal and promotions from the Police Patrol to Command units as follows:

# **General and Court**

Effective Dates	Court	TPOAM	Non-TPOAM
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2023:	8.0%	7.0%	8.0%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2024:	7.0%	7.0%	7.0%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2025:	7.0%	7.0%	7.0%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2026:	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2027:	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2028:	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2029:	3.0%	3.0%	2.0%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2030:	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%

#### **Police**

		Command Promoted	
		Prior to	On or after
Effective Dates	Patrol	January 1, 2024	January 1, 2024
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2023:	10.0%	10.0%	3.0%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2024:	10.0%	10.0%	3.0%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2025:	9.0%	10.0%	3.0%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2026:	8.0%	10.0%	3.0%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2027:	7.0%	10.0%	3.0%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2028:	6.0%	10.0%	3.0%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2029:	5.0%	10.0%	3.0%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2030:	4.0%	10.0%	3.0%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2031:	3.0%	10.0%	3.0%

#### <u>Fire</u>

Effective Dates	Tier 1	Tier 2 <sup>1</sup>
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2023:	13.0%	2.0%
For retirements that begin on or after July 1, 2033:	2.0%	2.0%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Hired on or after July 1, 2008.



# **Glossary**

Actuarial Accrued Liability — The difference between (i) the actuarial present value of future plan benefits, and (ii) the actuarial present value of future normal cost. Sometimes referred to as "accrued liability" or "past service liability." Under the actuarial cost method used the "AAL" differs somewhat from the value of future payments based on benefits earned as of the valuation date.

**Accrued Service** — The service credited under the plan that was rendered before the date of the actuarial valuation.

**Actuarial Assumptions** – Estimates of future plan experience with respect to rates of mortality, disability, retirement, investment income and salary increases. Decrement assumptions (rates of mortality, separation and retirement) are generally based on past experience, often modified for projected changes in conditions. Economic assumptions (salary increases and investment income) consist of an underlying rate appropriate in an inflation-free environment plus a provision for a long-term average rate of inflation.

**Actuarial Cost Method** – A mathematical budgeting procedure for allocating the dollar amount of the "actuarial present value of future plan benefits" between the normal costs to be paid in the future and the actuarial accrued liability. Sometimes referred to as the "actuarial funding method."

**Actuarial Equivalent** – Benefits whose actuarial present values are equal.

**Actuarial Present Value** — The amount of funds presently required to provide a payment or series of payments in the future. It is determined by discounting the future payments at a predetermined rate of interest, taking into account the probability of payment.

**Amortization** — Paying of an interest-bearing liability by means of periodic contributions of interest and principal, as opposed to a lump sum payment.

**Experience Gain (Loss)** —A measure of the difference between actual experience and experience anticipated by a set of actuarial assumptions during the period between two actuarial valuation dates, in accordance with the actuarial cost method being used.

**Normal Cost** — The annual cost assigned, under the actuarial funding method, to current and subsequent plan years. Sometimes referred to as "current service cost." An amortization payment toward the unfunded actuarial accrued liability is in addition to the normal cost.

**Reserve Account** — An account used to indicate that funds have been set aside for a specific purpose and are not generally available for other uses.

**Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability** — The difference between the actuarial accrued liability and valuation assets. Sometimes referred to as "unfunded accrued liability."

**Valuation Assets** – The value of current plan assets recognized for valuation purposes.





**FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE INFORMATION** 

# Retirement System Schedule of Pension Plan Funding Progress

		Pension				UAAL
	Actuarial	Actuarial				as a %
	Value of	Accrued	Unfunded			of
Actuarial	Pension	Liability	AAL	Funded	Covered	Covered
Valuation	Assets	(AAL)	(UAAL)	Ratio	Payroll	Payroll
Date	(a)	(b)	(b) – (a)	(a) / (b)	(c)	UAAL/(c)
06/30/14	\$ 142,635,461	\$ 168,555,933	\$ 25,920,472	84.6 %	\$19,549,678	132.6 %
06/30/15@#	148,299,323	171,958,385	23,659,062	86.2	20,047,647	118.0
06/30/16	150,257,018	177,254,145	26,997,127	84.8	20,046,105	134.7
06/30/17#	155,325,541	185,538,016	30,212,475	83.7	20,089,578	150.4
06/30/18@	159,892,090	192,830,969	32,938,879	82.9	19,941,526	165.2
06/20/4000	460.057.645	240 577 247	40 640 703	76.4	20 524 220	244.0
06/30/19@#	160,957,615	210,577,317	49,619,702	76.4	20,521,228	241.8
06/30/20	161,481,646	216,876,439	55,394,793	74.5	20,404,488	271.5
06/30/21	170,359,640	223,098,304	52,738,664	76.4	20,294,306	259.9
06/30/22	172,178,208	229,954,084	57,775,876	74.9	19,832,675	291.3
06/30/23@	177,832,827	244,009,722	66,176,895	72.9	31,307,511	211.4

<sup>@</sup> Plan provision change.

Actuarial Cost Method Individual Entry Age

Asset Valuation Method Market Value with 5-Year Smoothing of Gains and Losses

Principal Actuarial Assumptions (last revised for the 12/31/19 valuation):

- Net Investment Return 7.00%

- Projected Salary Increases
General and Court
Police
Fire
4.0% to 7.0%
4.0% to 23.0%
4.0% to 20.0%

- Post-Retirement Cost of Living Adjustments None



<sup>#</sup> Certain assumptions or methods revised.

# **APPENDIX**

**RISK MEASURES** 

# **Risk Commentary**

The determination of the actuarial liability and the actuarially determined contribution requires the use of assumptions regarding future economic and demographic experience. Risk measures, as illustrated in this report, are intended to aid in the understanding of the effects of future experience differing from the assumptions used in the course of the actuarial valuation. Risk measures may also help with illustrating the potential volatility in the actuarial liability and the actuarially determined contribution that result from the differences between actual experience and the actuarial assumptions.

Future actuarial measurements may differ significantly from the current measurements presented in this report due to such factors as the following: plan experience differing from that anticipated by the economic or demographic assumptions; changes in economic or demographic assumptions due to changing conditions; increases or decreases expected as part of the natural operation of the methodology used for these measurements (such as the end of an amortization period, or additional cost or contribution requirements based on the System's funded status); and changes in plan provisions or applicable law. The scope of an actuarial valuation does not include an analysis of the potential range of such future measurements.

Examples of risk that may reasonably be anticipated to significantly affect the plan's future financial condition include:

- 1. Investment Risk actual investment returns may differ from the expected returns;
- 2. **Asset/Liability Mismatch** changes in asset values may not match changes in liabilities, thereby altering the gap between the actuarial liability and assets and consequently altering the funded status and contribution requirements;
- 3. **Contribution Risk** actual contributions may differ from expected future contributions. For example, actual contributions may not be made in accordance with the plan's funding policy or material changes may occur in the anticipated number of covered employees, covered payroll, or other relevant contribution base;
- 4. **Salary and Payroll Risk** actual salaries and total payroll may differ from expected, resulting in actual future actuarial liability and contributions differing from expected;
- 5. **Longevity Risk** members may live longer or shorter than expected and receive pensions for a period of time other than assumed; and
- 6. **Other Demographic Risks** members may terminate, retire or become disabled at times or with benefits other than assumed resulting in actual future actuarial liability and contributions differing from expected.

The effects of certain trends in experience can generally be anticipated. For example, if the investment return since the most recent actuarial valuation is less (or more) than the assumed rate, the cost of the plan can be expected to increase (or decrease). Likewise, if longevity is improving (or worsening), increases (or decreases) in cost can be anticipated.



# **Risk Commentary (Concluded)**

# **Plan Maturity Measures**

Risks facing a pension plan evolve over time. A young plan with virtually no investments and paying few benefits may experience little investment risk. An older plan with a large number of members in pay status and a significant trust may be much more exposed to investment risk. Generally accepted plan maturity measures include the following:

	<u> 2023</u>	<u> 2022</u>	<u> 2021</u>
Ratio of the market value of assets to payroll	5.56	8.38	9.50
Ratio of actuarial accrued liability to payroll	7.79	11.59	10.99
Ratio of actives to retirees and beneficiaries	1.02	0.62	0.67
Ratio of net cash flow to market value of assets (BOY)	-3.1%	-4.4%	-5.3%

# **Ratio of Market Value of Assets to Payroll**

The relationship between assets and payroll is a useful indicator of the potential volatility of contributions. For example, if the market value of assets is 5.0 times the payroll, a return on assets 5% different than assumed would equal 25% of payroll. A higher (lower) or increasing (decreasing) level of this maturity measure generally indicates a higher (lower) or increasing (decreasing) volatility in plan sponsor contributions as a percentage of payroll.

# **Ratio of Actuarial Accrued Liability to Payroll**

The relationship between actuarial accrued liability and payroll is a useful indicator of the potential volatility of contributions for a fully funded plan. A funding policy that targets a funded ratio of 100% is expected to result in the ratio of assets to payroll and the ratio of liability to payroll converging over time. The ratio of liability to payroll may also be used as a measure of sensitivity of the liability itself. For example, if the actuarial accrued liability is 10 times the payroll, a change in liability 2% other than assumed would equal 20% of payroll. A higher (lower) or increasing (decreasing) level of this maturity measure generally indicates a higher (lower) or increasing (decreasing) volatility in liability (and also plan sponsor contributions) as a percentage of payroll.

#### **Ratio of Actives to Retirees and Beneficiaries**

A young plan with many active members and few retirees will have a high ratio of actives to retirees. A mature open plan may have close to the same number of actives to retirees resulting in a ratio near 1.0. A super-mature or closed plan may have significantly more retirees than actives resulting in a ratio below 1.0.

#### Ratio of Net Cash Flow to Market Value of Assets

A positive net cash flow means contributions exceed benefits and expenses. A negative cash flow means existing funds are being used to make payments. A certain amount of negative net cash flow is generally expected to occur when benefits are prefunded through a qualified trust. Large negative net cash flows as a percent of assets may indicate a super-mature plan or a need for additional contributions.

#### **Additional Risk Assessment**

Additional risk assessment is outside the scope of the annual actuarial valuation. Additional assessment may include scenario tests, sensitivity tests, stochastic modeling, stress tests, and a comparison of the present value of accrued benefits at low-risk discount rates with the actuarial accrued liability.



# **Low-Default-Risk Obligation Measure**

#### Introduction

In December 2021, the Actuarial Standards Board (ASB) adopted a revision to Actuarial Standard of Practice (ASOP) No. 4, *Measuring Pension Obligations and Determining Pension Plan Costs or Contributions*. The revised ASOP No. 4 requires the calculation and disclosure of a liability referred to by the ASOP as the "Low-Default-Risk Obligation Measure" (LDROM). The rationale that the ASB cited for the calculation and disclosure of the LDROM was included in the Transmittal Memorandum of ASOP No. 4 and is presented below (emphasis added):

"The ASB believes that the calculation and disclosure of this measure provides appropriate, useful information for the intended user regarding the funded status of a pension plan. The calculation and disclosure of this additional measure is not intended to suggest that this is the "right" liability measure for a pension plan. However, the ASB does believe that this additional disclosure provides a more complete assessment of a plan's funded status and provides additional information regarding the security of benefits that members have earned as of the measurement date."

# **Comparing the Accrued Liabilities and the LDROM**

One of the fundamental financial objectives of the City of Farmington Hills Employees' Retirement System (System) is to finance each member's retirement benefits over the period from the member's date of hire until the member's projected date of retirement (entry age actuarial cost method) as a level percentage of payroll. To fulfill this objective, the discount rate that is used to value the accrued liabilities of the System is set equal to the **expected return** on the System's diversified portfolio of assets (referred to sometimes as the investment return assumption). For the System, the investment return assumption is 7.00%.

The LDROM is meant to approximately represent the lump sum cost to a plan to purchase low-default-risk fixed income securities whose resulting cash flows essentially replicate in timing and amount the benefits earned (or the costs accrued) as of the measurement date. The LDROM is very dependent upon market interest rates at the time of the LDROM measurement. The lower the market interest rates, the higher the LDROM, and vice versa. The LDROM results presented in this report are based on the entry age actuarial cost method and discount rates based upon the June 2023 Treasury Yield Curve Spot Rates (end of month). The 1-, 5-, 10- and 30-year rates follow: 5.29%, 3.99%, 3.61% and 3.84%. This measure may not be appropriate for assessing the need for or amount of future contributions. This measure may not be appropriate for assessing the sufficiency of plan assets to cover the estimated cost of settling the plan's benefit obligation.

The difference between the two measures (Valuation and LDROM) is one illustration of the savings the sponsor anticipates by taking on risk in a diversified portfolio.

#### **Accrued Liabilities and LDROM**

Valuation Accrued Liabilities	LDROM
\$244,009,722	\$356,721,953





November 2, 2023

Retirement Board
City of Farmington Hills
Employees' Retirement System
31555 W. Eleven Mile Road
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48336

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Enclosed are 14 copies of the annual actuarial valuation of the City of Farmington Hills Employees' Retirement System.

We will be happy to meet with the Retirement Board to discuss the results of the valuation.

Sincerely,

Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company

James D. Anderson, FSA, EA, FCA, MAAA

James D. anderson

JDA:rmn Enclosures

cc: Michael L. Rolka, Yeo & Yeo (2 copies)