



**Alameda County Employees' Retirement Association  
BOARD OF RETIREMENT**

**AUDIT COMMITTEE/BOARD MEETING  
NOTICE and AGENDA**

**THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED VIA TELECONFERENCE [SEE EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20 ATTACHED AT THE END OF THIS AGENDA.]**

**ACERA MISSION:**

**To provide ACERA members and employers with flexible, cost-effective, participant-oriented benefits through prudent investment management and superior member services.**

**Thursday, May 20, 2021  
12:30 p.m.**

ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS	
The public can view the Teleconference and comment via audio during the meeting. To join this Teleconference, please click on the link below. <a href="https://zoom.us/join">https://zoom.us/join</a> <b>Meeting ID: 848 1155 4030</b> <b>Password: 191081</b> For help joining a Zoom meeting, see: <a href="https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193">https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193</a>	<b>HENRY LEVY, CHAIR</b>	<b>EX-OFFICIO</b>
	<b>TARRELL GAMBLE, VICE-CHAIR</b>	<b>APPOINTED</b>
	<b>OPHELIA BASGAL</b>	<b>APPOINTED</b>
	<b>KEITH CARSON</b>	<b>APPOINTED</b>
	<b>DARRYL WALKER</b>	<b>ELECTED</b>

This is a meeting of the Audit Committee if a quorum of the Audit Committee attends, and it is a meeting of the Board if a quorum of the Board attends. This is a joint meeting of the Audit Committee and the Board if a quorum of each attends.

The order of agenda items is subject to change without notice. Board and Committee agendas and minutes, and all documents distributed to the Board or a Committee in connection with a public meeting (unless exempt from disclosure), are available online at [www.acera.org](http://www.acera.org).

*Note regarding public comments:* Public comments are limited to four (4) minutes per person in total.

*Note regarding accommodations:* The Board of Retirement will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with special needs of accessibility who plan to attend Board meetings. Please contact ACERA at (510) 628-3000 to arrange for accommodation.

# **AUDIT COMMITTEE/BOARD MEETING**

NOTICE and AGENDA, Page 2 of 3 - Thursday, May 20, 2021

**Call to Order:** 12:30 p.m.

**Roll Call:**

**Public Comment (Time Limit: 4 minutes per speaker):**

**Action Items: Matters for Discussion and Possible Motion by the Committee**

*External Audit:*

- 1. Discussion and possible motion to recommend approval of the December 31, 2020 Audited Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report**

- Margo Allen  
- Audrey Elbert

*Recommendation:*

*Staff recommends the Audit Committee recommend that the Board of Retirement approve the December 31, 2020 Audited Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report.*

- 2. Discussion and possible motion to recommend adoption of the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 67 Actuarial Valuation and addendum as of December 31, 2020**

- Margo Allen

*Recommendation:*

*Staff recommends the Audit Committee recommend that the Board of Retirement adopt the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 67 Actuarial Valuation and addendum as of December 31, 2020.*

- 3. Discussion and possible motion to recommend adoption of the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 74 Actuarial Valuation and addendum as of December 31, 2020**

- Margo Allen

*Recommendation:*

*Staff recommends the Audit Committee recommend that the Board of Retirement adopt the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 74 Actuarial Valuation and addendum as of December 31, 2020.*

**Information Items: These items are not presented for Committee action but consist of status updates and cyclical reports**

*External Audit*

*Internal Audit*

- 1. Progress report on the Internal Audit Plan**

- Harsh Jadhav

# **AUDIT COMMITTEE/BOARD MEETING**

NOTICE and AGENDA, Page 3 of 3 - Thursday, May 20, 2021

## **Trustee Comment:**

## **Future Discussion Items:**

### *External Audit*

1. Discussion and possible motion to adopt the audited Schedules of Employer Allocations and Schedules of Pension Amounts by Employer with Related Notes, based on the Addendum to GASB Statement No. 67 Valuation as of December 31, 2020.
2. Discussion and possible motion to adopt the audited Schedules of Employer Allocations and Schedules of OPEB Amounts by Employer with Related Notes, based on the Addendum to GASB Statement No. 74 Valuation as of December 31, 2020.

## **Establishment of Next Meeting Date:**

June 17, 2021, at 12:30 pm

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20**

**WHEREAS** on March 4, 2020, I proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS** despite sustained efforts, the virus continues to spread and is impacting nearly all sectors of California; and

**WHEREAS** the threat of COVID-19 has resulted in serious and ongoing economic harms, in particular to some of the most vulnerable Californians; and

**WHEREAS** time bound eligibility redeterminations are required for Medi-Cal, CalFresh, CalWORKs, Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants, California Food Assistance Program, and In Home Supportive Services beneficiaries to continue their benefits, in accordance with processes established by the Department of Social Services, the Department of Health Care Services, and the Federal Government; and

**WHEREAS** social distancing recommendations or Orders as well as a statewide imperative for critical employees to focus on health needs may prevent Medi-Cal, CalFresh, CalWORKs, Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants, California Food Assistance Program, and In Home Supportive Services beneficiaries from obtaining in-person eligibility redeterminations; and

**WHEREAS** under the provisions of Government Code section 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations specified in this order would prevent, hinder, or delay appropriate actions to prevent and mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM**, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes of the State of California, and in particular, Government Code sections 8567 and 8571, do hereby issue the following order to become effective immediately:

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:**

1. As to individuals currently eligible for benefits under Medi-Cal, CalFresh, CalWORKs, the Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants, the California Food Assistance Program, or In Home Supportive Services benefits, and to the extent necessary to allow such individuals to maintain eligibility for such benefits, any state law, including but not limited to California Code of Regulations, Title 22, section 50189(a) and Welfare and Institutions Code sections 18940 and 11265, that would require redetermination of such benefits is suspended for a period of 90 days from the date of this Order. This Order shall be construed to be consistent with applicable federal laws, including but not limited to Code of Federal Regulations, Title 42, section 435.912, subdivision (e), as interpreted by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (in guidance issued on January 30, 2018) to permit the extension of



otherwise-applicable Medicaid time limits in emergency situations.

2. Through June 17, 2020, any month or partial month in which California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) aid or services are received pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code Section 11200 et seq. shall not be counted for purposes of the 48-month time limit set forth in Welfare and Institutions Code Section 11454. Any waiver of this time limit shall not be applied if it will exceed the federal time limits set forth in Code of Federal Regulations, Title 45, section 264.1.
3. Paragraph 11 of Executive Order N-25-20 (March 12, 2020) is withdrawn and superseded by the following text:

Notwithstanding any other provision of state or local law (including, but not limited to, the Bagley-Keene Act or the Brown Act), and subject to the notice and accessibility requirements set forth below, a local legislative body or state body is authorized to hold public meetings via teleconferencing and to make public meetings accessible telephonically or otherwise electronically to all members of the public seeking to observe and to address the local legislative body or state body. All requirements in both the Bagley-Keene Act and the Brown Act expressly or impliedly requiring the physical presence of members, the clerk or other personnel of the body, or of the public as a condition of participation in or quorum for a public meeting are hereby waived.

In particular, any otherwise-applicable requirements that

- (i) state and local bodies notice each teleconference location from which a member will be participating in a public meeting;
- (ii) each teleconference location be accessible to the public;
- (iii) members of the public may address the body at each teleconference conference location;
- (iv) state and local bodies post agendas at all teleconference locations;
- (v) at least one member of the state body be physically present at the location specified in the notice of the meeting; and
- (vi) during teleconference meetings, a least a quorum of the members of the local body participate from locations within the boundaries of the territory over which the local body exercises jurisdiction

are hereby suspended.

A local legislative body or state body that holds a meeting via teleconferencing and allows members of the public to observe and address the meeting telephonically or otherwise electronically, consistent with the notice and accessibility requirements set forth below, shall have satisfied any requirement that the body allow



members of the public to attend the meeting and offer public comment. Such a body need not make available any physical location from which members of the public may observe the meeting and offer public comment.

Accessibility Requirements: If a local legislative body or state body holds a meeting via teleconferencing and allows members of the public to observe and address the meeting telephonically or otherwise electronically, the body shall also:

- (i) Implement a procedure for receiving and swiftly resolving requests for reasonable modification or accommodation from individuals with disabilities, consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act and resolving any doubt whatsoever in favor of accessibility; and
- (ii) Advertise that procedure each time notice is given of the means by which members of the public may observe the meeting and offer public comment, pursuant to subparagraph (ii) of the Notice Requirements below.

Notice Requirements: Except to the extent this Order expressly provides otherwise, each local legislative body and state body shall:

- (i) Give advance notice of the time of, and post the agenda for, each public meeting according to the timeframes otherwise prescribed by the Bagley-Keene Act or the Brown Act, and using the means otherwise prescribed by the Bagley-Keene Act or the Brown Act, as applicable; and
- (ii) In each instance in which notice of the time of the meeting is otherwise given or the agenda for the meeting is otherwise posted, also give notice of the means by which members of the public may observe the meeting and offer public comment. As to any instance in which there is a change in such means of public observation and comment, or any instance prior to the issuance of this Order in which the time of the meeting has been noticed or the agenda for the meeting has been posted without also including notice of such means, a body may satisfy this requirement by advertising such means using "the most rapid means of communication available at the time" within the meaning of Government Code, section 54954, subdivision (e); this shall include, but need not be limited to, posting such means on the body's Internet website.

All of the foregoing provisions concerning the conduct of public meetings shall apply only during the period in which state or local public health officials have imposed or recommended social distancing measures.

All state and local bodies are urged to use sound discretion and to make reasonable efforts to adhere as closely as reasonably possible to the provisions of the Bagley-Keene Act and the Brown Act, and other applicable local laws regulating the conduct of public meetings, in order to maximize transparency and provide the public access to their meetings.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that as soon as hereafter possible, this Order be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Order.

This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 17th day of March 2020.



\_\_\_\_\_  
GAVIN NEWSOM  
Governor of California

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
ALEX PADILLA  
Secretary of State



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MEMORANDUM TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

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DATE: May 20, 2021

TO: Members of the Audit Committee

FROM: Margo Allen, Fiscal Services Officer 

SUBJECT: December 31, 2020, Audited Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report

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**Executive Summary**

Williams, Adley & Co., has completed its independent audit of ACERA's 2020 financial statements. The December 31, 2020, end-of-year financial audit encompassed ACERA's basic financial statements, that is:

- Statement of Fiduciary Net Position;
- Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position;
- Notes to the Basic Financial Statements and Supplementary Information; and,
- Supplemental Schedules.

The auditor's responsibility is to express an opinion of ACERA's financial statements in accordance with the *Government Auditing Standards*. To that end, Williams Adley & Co. is here to present its findings for reasonable assurance about whether ACERA's financial statements are free from material misstatement.

**Recommendation**

Staff recommends that the Audit Committee recommend to the Board of Retirement that the Board accept and file the December 31, 2020, audited financial statements and independent auditor's report.

Attachment: Audited Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report





# ALAMEDA COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

Audit Results for the Year Ended  
December 31, 2020



*Confidence Earned*

# AUDIT RESULTS

- ▶ Audit is substantially complete.
- ▶ Basic Financial Statements
  - Unqualified opinion
- ▶ Internal Control and Compliance (Yellow Book)
  - No significant deficiencies or material weaknesses.
    - 37 Act Requirements - No Exceptions.
    - Administrative Limitation- Within the limitation.
    - ACERA Policies and Procedures- No exceptions.
  - No compliance findings.
- ▶ Final report to be submitted to the full Board upon acceptance by the Audit Committee.

# AUDIT RESULTS

## Risk Area

- Investments
- Additions (Revenue)
- Management Override of Controls

## Procedures Performed

- Reconciliations were reviewed.
- Confirmed valuation of investments with investment managers and contributions with employers.
- Performed analytical procedures.
- Updated understanding of internal controls, performed rotational testing, and reviewed journal entries.



# REQUIRED COMMUNICATIONS

- ❑ There were no:
  - Sensitive accounting estimates;
  - Significant difficulties in dealing with management; or
  - Disagreements related to financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matters with management.
- ❑ There were no audit adjustments and no passed audit adjustments.
- ❑ We are not aware of any consultations by management with other accountants.
- ❑ We will request management to complete a management representation letter.
- ❑ As part of our audit, we considered ACERA'S internal control solely for the purpose of determining our auditing procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal control.

# REQUIRED COMMUNICATIONS

- ❑ Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by ACERA are described in Note 1 of the financial statements.
- ❑ ACERA implemented GASB Statement No. 87, *Leases*, for FY 2020.
- ❑ We noted no transactions entered into by ACERA during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.
- ❑ There are no significant transactions recognized in the financial statements in a different period than when the transaction occurred.

# Alameda County Employees' Retirement Association

*Financial Statements for the Year Ended:*

**DECEMBER 31, 2020**

*Draft version,*

**MAY 20, 2020**



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475 14TH STREET, SUITE 1000, OAKLAND, CA 94612

A Pension Trust Fund of the County of Alameda  
(State of California)



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## Independent Auditor's Report

Board of Retirement  
Alameda County Employees' Retirement Association  
Oakland, California

### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Alameda County Employees' Retirement Association (ACERA), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise ACERA's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

### ***Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### ***Auditor's Responsibility***

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### ***Opinion***

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the fiduciary net position of ACERA as of December 31, 2020, and the change in its fiduciary net position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### ***Emphasis of Matters***

#### ***Net Pension Liability of Employers***

As described in note 5, based on the most recent actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2020, ACERA's independent actuaries determined that, at December 31, 2020, the total pension liability exceeded the pension plan's fiduciary net position by \$2.2 billion.

#### ***Net OPEB Liability of Employers***

As described in note 7, based on the most recent actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2020, ACERA's independent actuaries determined that, at December 31, 2020, the total OPEB liability exceeded the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position by \$6.7 million.

#### ***Implementation of New Accounting Pronouncement***

As described in note 1 of the financial statements, effective January 1, 2020, ACERA adopted the provisions of Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 87, *Leases*, and restated beginning fiduciary net position for the retroactive application of this new accounting standard. Our opinion is not modified with respect to these matters.

## ***Other Matters***

### ***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, schedule of changes in the net pension liability and related ratios, schedule of employer contributions for the pension plan and non-OPEB, schedule of investment returns, schedule of changes in the net OPEB liability and related ratios, and the schedule of employer contributions for OPEB, as listed in the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the *Governmental Accounting Standards Board*, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

### ***Other Information***

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise ACERA's basic financial statements. The schedules of administration expense, investment expenses, and payments to other consultants, and the introduction, investment, actuarial, and statistical sections, as listed in the table of contents, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The schedules of administration expense, investment expenses, and payments to other consultants are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statement themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

The introduction, investment, actuarial, and statistical sections have not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on them.

### ***Report on Summarized Comparative Information***

We have previously audited ACERA's 2019 financial statements, and our report dated June 17, 2020, expressed an unmodified opinion on those audited financial statements. In our opinion, the summarized comparative information presented herein as of and for the year ended December 31, 2019, is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements from which it has been derived.

### ***Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June \_\_, 2021, on our consideration of ACERA's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering ACERA's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Oakland, California

June \_\_, 2021



# Management's Discussion and Analysis

Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) presents the financial activities of the Alameda County Employees' Retirement Association (ACERA) for the year ended December 31, 2020. It provides an overview of the financial position and the combined results of operations for the pension plan and non-OPEB and Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB). The narrative, in conjunction with the financial statements starting on [page 20](#) and the notes to the financial statements beginning on [page 23](#), presents ACERA's overall financial position, and the results of its operations. ACERA's funding is a combination of participating employer and member contributions and earnings on invested assets. The Chief Executive Officer's Letter of Transmittal starting on [page 2](#) of this Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (Annual Report) should be read along with the MD&A narrative.

*(Note: Amounts in this section are rounded and may not add or agree to other sections of this Annual Report.)*

## Financial Highlights

As of December 31, 2020, ACERA's net position, which represents funds restricted for paying current and long-term pension benefit obligations and non-vested OPEB for plan members and their beneficiaries, was \$9.6 billion, a \$840.5 million increase compared to December 31, 2019. This 10% increase was primarily attributable to the increase in fair value of ACERA's investment portfolio during 2020.

As of December 31, 2020, the Net Pension Liability (NPL) was \$2,194.4 million, compared to \$2,140.7 million as of December 31, 2019. The \$53.7 million increase was

primarily due to increases of unfavorable differences in the actuarial experience and changes in assumptions that were partially offset by the favorable investment return during calendar year 2020. The unfavorable increases in the actuarial experience and changes in assumptions were \$33.0 million and 236.5 million, respectively; while the net investment gain was \$755.5 million in 2020.

As of December 31, 2020, the Net OPEB Liability (NOL) was \$6.7 million, compared to \$112.9 million as of December 31, 2019. The \$106.2 million decrease was primarily the result of the favorable investment return during calendar year 2020 of about \$262.1 million, which

was partially offset by an unfavorable increase of \$57.7 that resulted from changes of assumptions. The favorable investment results allocated to the Supplemental Retiree Benefits Reserve (SRBR), are credited by semiannual transfers to the reserve as defined by Article 5.5 of the County Employees' Retirement Law of 1937 (1937 Act).

As of December 31, 2019, the date of the pension plan actuarial funding and the SRBR sufficiency actuarial valuations used for the 2020 annual report, the actuarial investment rate of return assumption used was 7.25%. The inflation rate assumption was 3.00% with assumed payroll growth increase of 3.50%.

As of December 31, 2019, ACERA had \$260.7 million in net deferred investment gains based on the actuarial value of assets. These deferred gains represent 3.0% of the fair value<sup>1</sup> of assets, as of the December 31, 2019, actuarial valuation date. Unless offset by future investment losses or other unfavorable experience, the recognition of the \$260.7 million market gains is expected to have a favorable impact on the Association's future funded percentage and contribution rate requirements.

## Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis serves as an introduction to ACERA's Basic Financial Statements, which comprise the following five components:

- Statement of Fiduciary Net Position
- Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position
- Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
- Required Supplementary Information (RSI) and Notes to RSI
- Supplemental Schedules

The basic financial statements report the components of the fiduciary net position held in trust for benefits, the components of the changes in the fiduciary net position (additions and deductions), along with explanatory notes to the basic financial statements.

ACERA's basic financial statements have two reporting

columns. The first column reports the pension plan and non-OPEB, and the second column reports the postemployment medical benefits. ACERA's pension benefits and the non-OPEB are valued together for the purpose of determining and reporting the NPL. In addition to the basic financial statements, this report contains required supplementary information and supplemental schedules intended to assess the historical context of ACERA's progress in meeting benefit obligations through funding of contributions and investment income.

*The Statement of Fiduciary Net Position on [page 20](#)* provides a snapshot of account balances at year's end. It includes the assets available for future benefit payments as well as liabilities outstanding at year's end.

ACERA did not have any transactions that met the criteria for deferred outflows of resources or deferred inflows of resources as defined in GASB Statement No. 63 and GASB Statement No. 65. As a result, those line items are not displayed on the 2020 Statement of Fiduciary Net Position.

ACERA implemented GASB Statement No. 87, *Leases*, for financial reporting year 2020. This statement provides guidance for lease contracts for nonfinancial assets (for example vehicles and buildings) but excludes nonexchange transactions, including donated assets and leases of intangible assets (such as patents and software licenses).

*The Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position* starting on [page 21](#) provides a summary view of the additions to and deductions from the fiduciary net position that occurred over the course of the 2020 financial year.

The *Basic Financial Statements* include all assets and liabilities, using the accrual basis of accounting, in compliance with generally accepted accounting principles, similar to the accounting method used by most private-sector companies. All of the year's asset additions and deductions are taken into account regardless of when the corresponding cash is received or paid. All investment purchases and sales are reported as of the trade date. Investments are

<sup>1</sup> Fair value replaced "market value" as originally written by actuary.

reported at current fair value and in accordance with GASB Statement No. 31. Both realized and unrealized investment gains and losses are recognized. Each depreciable component of capital assets is depreciated over its useful life.

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements* starting on [page 23](#) provide additional information essential for a complete understanding of the basic financial statements.

*Required Supplementary Information and Notes to Required Supplementary Information* starting on [page 58](#) illustrate the GASB Statement No. 67 financial reporting requirements in the Schedule of Changes in Net Pension Liability and Related Ratios, Schedule

of Employer Contributions, Schedule of Investment Returns, and Notes to Required Supplementary Information for the Pension Plan and Non-OPEB. Also reported are the requirements of GASB Statement No. 74 in the Schedules of Changes in Net OPEB Liability and Related Ratios and Schedule of Employer Contributions, along with the Notes to the Required Supplementary Information for Postemployment Medical Benefits.

*Supplemental Schedules* of administrative expenses, investment expenses and payments to other consultants are presented on [page 65](#).

Tables 1 and 2 starting below, present condensed information about ACERA's financial position and results of operations for the current year in comparison to the preceding year, and form the basis for this financial discussion.

**Table 1: Fiduciary Net Position (Condensed)**

As of December 31, 2020 and 2019 (Dollars in Millions)

	2020	2019	Increase (Decrease) Amount	Percent Change
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Current Assets	\$ 262.8	\$ 171.1	\$ 91.7	54%
Investments at Fair Value	9,601.8	8,765.3	836.5	10%
Capital Assets, net	4.3	2.5	1.8	72%
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>9,868.9</b>	<b>8,938.9</b>	<b>930.0</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
Current Liabilities	239.0	149.6	89.4	60%
Long-term Lease Liabilities	0.1	-	0.1	N/A
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>239.1</b>	<b>149.6</b>	<b>89.5</b>	<b>60%</b>
<b>NET POSITION</b>				
Restricted - Held in Trust for Benefits	\$ 9,629.8	\$ 8,789.3	\$ 840.5	10%

**Table 2: Changes In Fiduciary Net Position (Condensed)**

For the Years Ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 (Dollars in Millions)

	2020	2019	Increase (Decrease) Amount	Percent Change
<b>ADDITIONS</b>				
Member Contributions	\$ 106.1	\$ 103.1	\$ 3.0	3%
Employer Contributions	309.8	298.5	11.3	4%
Net Investment Income (Loss)	1,017.3	1,358.2	(340.9)	-25%
Miscellaneous Income	0.3	1.2	(0.9)	-75%
Transfer to Employers' Advance Reserve from SRBR for Employer Contributions to 401(h) Account	45.5	44.9	0.6	1%
Transfer to Employers' Advance Reserve from SRBR for Implicit Subsidy	6.4	6.9	(0.5)	-7%
Transfer from Employers' Advance Reserve to SRBR for OPEB Related Administrative Expenses	1.4	1.4	-	0%
<b>Total Additions</b>	<b>1,486.8</b>	<b>1,814.2</b>	<b>(327.4)</b>	<b>-18%</b>
<b>DEDUCTIONS</b>				
Retirement Benefit Payments	521.6	493.4	28.2	6%
Postemployment Medical Benefits	46.0	43.6	2.4	6%
Member Refunds	9.2	10.7	(1.5)	-14%
Administration	16.2	16.6	(0.4)	-2%
Transfer from SRBR to Employers' Advance Reserve for Employer Contributions to 401(h) Account	45.5	44.9	0.6	1%
Transfer from SRBR to Employers' Advance Reserve for Implicit Subsidy	6.4	6.9	(0.5)	-7%
Transfer to SRBR from Employers' Advance Reserve for OPEB Related Administrative Expenses	1.4	1.4	-	0%
<b>Total Deductions</b>	<b>646.3</b>	<b>617.5</b>	<b>28.8</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>CHANGE IN NET POSITION</b>	<b>840.5</b>	<b>1,196.7</b>	<b>(356.2)</b>	<b>-30%</b>
<b>NET POSITION - JANUARY 1</b>	<b>8,789.3</b>	<b>7,592.6</b>	<b>1,196.7</b>	<b>16%</b>
<b>CUMULATIVE EFFECT OF ACCOUNTING CHANGE</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>NET POSITION - DECEMBER 31</b>	<b>\$ 9,629.8</b>	<b>\$ 8,789.3</b>	<b>\$ 840.5</b>	<b>10%</b>

## Analysis of Financial Position

Fiduciary net position held in trust for benefits equals assets less liabilities. Table 1, on [page 14](#), displays the condensed information of the fiduciary net position, which as of December 31, 2020, totaled approximately \$9.6 billion. This is a \$840.5 million or a 10% increase from the prior year, primarily a result of an increase in the fair value of ACERA's invested assets. The Investment Section, starting on [page 67](#), provides further details about ACERA's investment performance.

### Current Assets

The components of current assets are detailed on the Statement of Fiduciary Net Position on [page 20](#). Total current assets increased by \$91.7 million from \$171.1 million in 2019 to \$262.8 million in 2020. This 54% increase was primarily due to the increase in Unsettled Trades-Investments Sold totaling \$93.0 million partially offset by decrease in cash.

### Investments at Fair Value

ACERA's investments at fair value increased 10% from \$8.8 billion in 2019 to \$9.6 billion in 2020. The \$0.8 billion increase was net of ACERA's \$183.2 million cash draw in 2020 on the portfolio to pay retirement benefits and administrative costs.

### Capital Assets, Net

Capital assets include equipment, furniture, information systems, leasehold improvements, and right-to-use assets. The value of capital assets increased from \$2.5 million in 2019 to \$4.3 million in 2020. The net increase of \$1.8 million or 72% was due to the increase in capital expenditures for the Pension Administration System upgrade and the recognition of right-to-use assets as a result of adopting GASB Statement No. 87, *Leases*. As of December 31, 2020, the value of right-to-use assets, net of accumulated depreciation was \$0.1 million.

### Total Assets

In all, total assets experienced a net increase of \$930.0 million, from \$8.9 billion in 2019 to \$9.9 billion in 2020. The increase in total investments at fair value accounted

for most of the increase in total assets.

### Liabilities

The components of ACERA's current liabilities are detailed in the Statement of Fiduciary Net Position on [page 20](#). Current liabilities increased by \$89.4 million or 60% from \$149.6 million in 2019 to \$239.0 million in 2020. The net increase is mainly attributed to the \$93.6 million increase in Unsettled Trades-Investments Purchased partially offset by the decrease in securities lending liability.

ACERA recognized long-term lease liability as a result of adopting GASB Statement No. 87, *Leases*. As of December 31, 2020, the long-term lease liability totaled \$0.1 million.

## Analysis of Results of Operations

The change in fiduciary net position equals total additions less total deductions. Table 2, on [page 15](#), displays the condensed information about ACERA's 2020 financial activity. From January 1 to December 31, 2020, ACERA's fiduciary net position increased by \$840.5 million. The increase was almost exclusively due to appreciation of the fair value of ACERA's invested assets.

### Additions to Fiduciary Net Position

The primary funding sources for ACERA's member benefits are member contributions, employer contributions, and net investment income. Additions to and deductions from fiduciary net position include transfers to and from the employers' advance reserve and the supplemental retiree benefits reserve.

Total additions to ACERA's fiduciary net position for the years ended December 31, 2020, and 2019, were \$1.5 billion and \$1.8 billion, respectively. ACERA's net investment income for 2020 was \$1.0 billion, compared to \$1.4 billion in investment income in 2019. See the Net Investment Income (Loss) section on [page 17](#) for a more comprehensive discussion of this increase.

The December 31, 2019, actuarial valuation report recommended a contribution rate increase for employers. The Board of Retirement approved the increase to be in

effect by September 2020. The aggregate member contribution rate remained 9.34% of payroll.

The aggregate employer contribution rate increased from 27.85% to 28.56% of payroll. This change was primarily due to (a) lower than expected return on investments (after smoothing), (b) the effect of amortizing the prior year's UAAL over a smaller than expected total projected payroll, (c) higher than expected individual salary increases for active members, (d) actual contributions lower than expected, and (e) other actuarial losses.

### ***Member Contributions***

Total member contributions for 2020 were \$106.1 million, up \$3.0 million or 3% over 2019 total member contributions of \$103.1 million. As previously stated, 2019 actuarial valuation contribution rates went into effect September 1, 2020.

### ***Employer Contributions***

Total employer contributions collected for 2020 were \$309.8 million, an increase of 4% or \$11.3 million over the \$298.5 million in total contributions collected in 2019.

### ***Net Investment Income (Loss)***

Net investment income for 2020 was \$1.0 billion. The \$340.9 million decrease in net investment income was primarily due to lower appreciation in the fair value of invested assets. The 2020 net appreciation of investments was \$1.0 billion compared to a 2019 net appreciation of \$1.4 billion.

### ***Miscellaneous Income***

Miscellaneous income for 2020 totaled \$0.3 million, down \$0.9 million or 75% from 2019. This decrease is mainly due to a decrease of class action securities litigation settlements.

### ***Transfers between Employers' Advance Reserve and SRBR***

Postemployment medical benefits are paid from employers' 401(h) accounts. Participating employers identify a portion of their contributions as 401(h) contributions. Employers funded \$45.5 million and \$44.9 million to their 401(h) accounts for years 2020 and 2019, respectively. See 401(h) Postemployment Medical Benefits

Account on [page 33](#).

In July 2011, ACERA applied the provisions of the 1937 Act (Section 31596.1) and allocated a portion of the 401(h) contributions towards administrative costs. As a result, \$1.4 million was transferred from the employers' advance reserve to SRBR for both 2020 and 2019.

There was a \$6.4 million transfer from the SRBR to the employers' advance reserve in 2020 to compensate Alameda County for the 2019 blended rate health care implicit subsidy. The implicit subsidy transfer decreased by \$0.5 million or 7% from the \$6.9 million implicit subsidy transfer in 2019. This decrease was primarily due to lower difference between the County's blended and unblended medical insurance rates for 2019 versus 2018.

## **Deductions from Fiduciary Net Position**

Total deductions are composed of four main categories, i.e., retirement benefits (including service retirement and disability payments, death benefits, non-OPEB burial benefits and supplemental COLA), postemployment medical benefits, member refunds, and administration expenses of the retirement system.

Total deductions from the fiduciary net position for 2020 were \$646.3 million. This is \$28.8 million or a 5% increase over the \$617.5 million in total deductions for 2019. Service retirement and disability benefit payments alone increased 6.0% or \$28.2 million over 2019. The 401(h) transfer increased \$0.6 million or 1% for 2020, and as already stated the implicit subsidy transfer decreased \$0.5 million or 7% for 2020.

### ***Retirement Benefit Payments***

Retirement benefit payments in 2020 totaled \$521.6 million, a \$28.2 million or 6% increase over \$493.4 million in 2019. The increase in benefit payments is primarily due to higher average benefits of retirees added to the retirement payroll compared to the lower average retirement allowance of those retirees removed from the retirement payroll.

### ***Postemployment Medical Benefits***

Postemployment medical benefits paid from the 401(h)



account in 2020 were \$46.0 million, an increase of \$2.4 million or 6% over the \$43.6 million paid from the 401(h) account in 2019. This increase was due in part to higher health premiums and in part to an increase in new retirees. ACERA's maximum monthly medical benefit for 2020 was \$578.65 per member. For retirees 65 years and older, enrolled in the Medicare Exchange individual plans, ACERA utilized Health Reimbursement Accounts (HRAs). Retirees 65 years and older, who were on the Medicare Exchange, received a maximum of \$443.28 Monthly Medical Allowance (MMA).

### *Member Refunds*

Member refunds originate from either a member separation from service (termination) or an active member death. Member refunds decreased by \$1.5 million or 14% from \$10.7 million in 2019 to \$9.2 million in 2020. The decrease was primarily due to decreases in termination refunds.

### *Administration Expense*

Total administration expense for 2020 decreased to \$16.2 million, from \$16.6 million in 2019. Administration expenses cover the basic cost of operating the retirement system. Some expenses are subject to the statutory limit, as defined in the following paragraph, and others are excluded from the statutory limit.

In accordance with legal spending restrictions outlined in the County Employee Retirement Law of 1937 (1937 Act), ACERA's Board of Retirement adopts an operating expense and administrative budget, effective for the following year. The annual amount of administrative budget is subject to legal and budgetary restrictions. Note 11 to the Basic Financial Statements, [page 56](#), further describes the legal limitations. Consequently, the administrative budget for 2020 was kept in compliance with the "1937 Act" legal spending restrictions of 0.21% of the accrued actuarial liability of the retirement system.

Administrative expenses subject to the statutory limit increased by 2% or \$0.2 million, from \$13.2 million in 2019 to \$13.4 million in 2020. The major categories of operating expenses subject to the statutory limit include personnel services, professional services,

communications, and utilities, and other (i.e., depreciation, board of retirement operating expenses, insurance, miscellaneous, training, maintenance-equipment, and supplies).

Administrative expenses excluded from the statutory limit decreased slightly from \$3.4 million in 2019 to \$2.8 million in 2020. The categories of operating expenses not subject to the statutory limit include legal, technology, actuarial, investment and business continuity expenses.

## Currently Known Facts and Events

**Litigation:** In the DSA v. ACERA lawsuit, the Deputy Sheriffs' Association and others alleged that AB 197 (effective January 1, 2013) violated the rights of legacy members to have certain elements of compensation included in their final compensation for purposes of calculating their retirement allowances. The trial court prevented ACERA from implementing AB 197 until July 2014, at which time the trial court issued a writ that required ACERA to implement AB 197. After years of litigation, in *Alameda County Deputy Sheriff's Association v. Alameda County Employees' Retirement Association* (2020) 9 Cal.5th 1032, the California Supreme Court held that AB 197 did not violate members' rights. At this time, the Supreme Court's decision does not require ACERA to make any changes to its practices, but in 2021 there will be remand proceedings in the trial court in which the parties will resolve several issues that were left unresolved by the Supreme Court's opinion. The issues may include (a) how ACERA administers "standby" and "on call" pay (and similar types of pays), which may or may not be paid for work outside of normal working hours, (b) how ACERA administers the inclusion of leave cash outs in final compensation, (c) whether ACERA must make adjustments for members who retired during the stay period from January 2013 to July 2014, and (d) whether some members may be due refunds for member contributions that they made to ACERA on pay items that are no longer included in members' final compensation in light of AB 197.

**Litigation:** In the AHS v. ACERA lawsuit (filed February 7, 2019), the Alameda Health System, a participating employer in ACERA, filed suit against ACERA and the County of Alameda objecting to ACERA's use of the percent of payroll method for calculating unfunded liability. The case, which seeks to require ACERA to collect less contributions from AHS and more contributions from the County (and possibly other participating employers), is pending in the San Francisco Superior Court and is being defended vigorously by ACERA.

**Business Continuity:** Since early March 2020, ACERA has been responding to a pandemic spreading from person to person caused by a novel (new) coronavirus. The disease was named "coronavirus disease 2019" (abbreviated "COVID-19"). Throughout 2020, the virus posed a serious public health risk; consequently, ACERA was required to comply with alternative work guidelines associated with state and county health and safety mandates. As health and safety restrictions eased in the latter half of 2020, ACERA sustained a work-from-home posture for a majority of its staff. In the early months of 2021, vaccines for the virus have become available. It is anticipated that by the end of the third quarter of 2021, enough people will be vaccinated for health and safety restrictions to ease to a level that businesses will reopen. To that end, ACERA management is actively formulating a new hybrid work arrangement for implementation in the latter half of 2021.

## Fiduciary Responsibilities

ACERA's Board of Retirement and management are fiduciaries of the retirement plan. Under the California Constitution and the 1937 Act, assets of the retirement plan can be used only for the exclusive benefit of the plan participants and their beneficiaries.

## Requests for information

This report is designed to provide the Board of Retirement, the membership, participating employers, taxpayers, investment managers, vendors, and other stakeholders or interested parties with a general overview of ACERA's financial condition, financial activities, and funding status. Questions regarding any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional information should be addressed to:

ACERA  
Fiscal Services Department  
475 14th Street, Suite 1000  
Oakland, California 94612-1900

You can also contact us by e-mail at [info@acera.org](mailto:info@acera.org) or by phone at (510) 628-3000 during normal business hours. Our website [www.acera.org](http://www.acera.org) contains a wealth of information and is always accessible.

Respectfully submitted,



Margo Allen  
Fiscal Services Officer  
May 3, 2021

## Basic Financial Statements

### Statement of Fiduciary Net Position

As of December 31, 2020, with Comparative Totals as of December 31, 2019 (Dollars in Thousands)

	Pension Plan & Non-OPEB	Postemployment Medical Benefits	Total 2020	Total 2019
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Cash	\$ 3,236	\$ -	\$ 3,236	\$ 4,151
Securities Lending Cash Collateral	117,171	-	117,171	121,705
<b>Receivables</b>				
Contributions	21,756	-	21,756	18,311
Investment Receivables	17,179	-	17,179	17,044
Unsettled Trades - Investments Sold	96,400	-	96,400	3,361
Futures Contracts	236	-	236	307
Foreign Exchange Contracts	5,853	-	5,853	5,129
Other Receivables	197	-	197	291
<b>Total Receivables</b>	<b>141,621</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>141,621</b>	<b>44,443</b>
Prepaid Expenses	755	-	755	763
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>262,783</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>262,783</b>	<b>171,062</b>
<b>Investments at Fair Value</b>				
Short-Term Investments	182,037	-	182,037	231,759
Domestic Equity	562,387	-	562,387	500,700
Domestic Equity Commingled Funds	2,159,591	-	2,159,591	1,976,776
International Equity	1,296,336	-	1,296,336	1,185,022
International Equity Commingled Funds	1,460,569	-	1,460,569	1,189,559
Domestic Fixed Income	1,093,183	-	1,093,183	981,101
International Fixed Income	190,474	-	190,474	111,729
International Fixed Income Commingled Funds	159,176	-	159,176	148,935
Real Estate - Separate Properties	72,474	-	72,474	73,871
Real Estate - Commingled Funds	528,671	-	528,671	511,498
Real Assets	467,886	-	467,886	436,816
Absolute Return	645,134	-	645,134	801,739
Private Equity	726,180	-	726,180	583,085
Private Credit	57,747	-	57,747	32,707
<b>Total Investments</b>	<b>9,601,845</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,601,845</b>	<b>8,765,297</b>
Non-OPEB Assets	41,677	-	41,677	40,430
Due from Pension Plan	(940,806)	899,129	(41,677)	(40,430)
Capital Assets at Cost (Net of Accumulated Depreciation and Amortization)	4,319	-	4,319	2,532
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>8,969,818</b>	<b>899,129</b>	<b>9,868,947</b>	<b>8,938,891</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
Securities Lending Liability	117,171	-	117,171	121,705
Unsettled Trades - Investments Purchased	100,393	-	100,393	6,750
Futures Contracts	-	-	-	131
Swap Contracts	-	-	-	2,501
Foreign Exchange Contracts	-	-	-	2
Investment-Related Payables	12,191	-	12,191	11,867
Accrued Administration Expenses	2,858	-	2,858	2,358
Members Benefits & Refunds Payable	6,155	-	6,155	4,042
Retirement Payroll Deductions Payable	267	-	267	256
Current Lease Liability	42	-	42	-
Long-term Lease Liability	103	-	103	-
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>239,180</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>239,180</b>	<b>149,612</b>
<b>NET POSITION - Held in Trust for Benefits</b>	<b>\$ 8,730,638</b>	<b>\$ 899,129</b>	<b>\$ 9,629,767</b>	<b>\$ 8,789,279</b>

The accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements are an integral part of these Basic Financial Statements.

## Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position

For the Year Ended December 31, 2020, with Comparative Totals for the Year Ended December 31, 2019 (Dollars in Thousands)

	Pension Plan & Non-OPEB	Postemployment Medical Benefits	Total 2020	Total 2019
<b>ADDITIONS</b>				
<b>Contributions</b>				
Member	\$ 106,104	\$ -	\$ 106,104	\$ 103,117
Employer	264,297	45,456	309,753	298,527
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>370,401</b>	<b>45,456</b>	<b>415,857</b>	<b>401,644</b>
<b>Investment Income</b>				
<b>From Investment Activities:</b>				
Net Appreciation (Depreciation) in Fair Value of Investments	989,949	-	989,949	1,307,647
Dividends, Interest, & Other Investment Income	77,034	-	77,034	99,209
<b>Total Income (Loss) from Investment Activities</b>	<b>1,066,983</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,066,983</b>	<b>1,406,856</b>
Total Investment Expenses	(50,246)	-	(50,246)	(49,756)
<b>Net Income (Loss) from Investment Activities</b>	<b>1,016,737</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,016,737</b>	<b>1,357,100</b>
<b>From Securities Lending Activities:</b>				
<b>Securities Lending Income</b>	<b>1,182</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,182</b>	<b>5,756</b>
<b>Securities Lending Expenses</b>				
Borrower Rebates	(434)	-	(434)	(4,391)
Management Fees	(150)	-	(150)	(273)
<b>Total Securities Lending Activity Expenses</b>	<b>(584)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(584)</b>	<b>(4,664)</b>
<b>Net Income from Securities Lending Activities</b>	<b>598</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>598</b>	<b>1,092</b>
Earnings Allocated to Non-OPEB	2,594	-	2,594	2,462
Earnings Allocated	(59,495)	56,901	(2,594)	(2,462)
<b>Total Net Investment Income (Loss)</b>	<b>960,434</b>	<b>56,901</b>	<b>1,017,335</b>	<b>1,358,192</b>
<b>Miscellaneous Income</b>				
Transfer to Employers' Advance Reserve from SRBR for Employer Contributions to 401(h) Account	45,456	-	45,456	44,858
Transfer to Employers' Advance Reserve from SRBR for Implicit Subsidy	6,447	-	6,447	6,899
Transfer from Employers' Advance Reserve to SRBR for OPEB Related Administrative Expense	-	1,416	1,416	1,354
<b>Total Additions</b>	<b>\$ 1,383,056</b>	<b>\$ 103,773</b>	<b>\$ 1,486,829</b>	<b>\$ 1,814,178</b>

The accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements are an integral part of these Basic Financial Statements.

**Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position (Continued)**

For the Year Ended December 31, 2020, with Comparative Totals for the Year Ended December 31, 2019  
(Dollars in Thousands)

	Pension Plan & Non-OPEB	Postemployment Medical Benefits	Total 2020	Total 2019
<b>DEDUCTIONS</b>				
<b>Benefits</b>				
Service Retirement and Disability Benefits	\$ 517,162	\$ -	\$ 517,162	\$ 489,453
Death Benefits	3,070	-	3,070	2,609
Burial Benefits - Non-OPEB	231	-	231	217
Supplemental Cost of Living Allowance - Non-OPEB	1,116	-	1,116	1,181
Post Employment Medical Benefits	-	46,021	46,021	43,562
<b>Total Benefit Payments</b>	<b>521,579</b>	<b>46,021</b>	<b>567,600</b>	<b>537,022</b>
<b>Member Refunds</b>	<b>9,184</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,184</b>	<b>10,725</b>
<b>Administration</b>				
Administrative Expenses	12,006	1,416	13,422	13,227
Legal Expenses	944	-	944	1,610
Technology Expenses	903	-	903	921
Actuarial Expenses	335	-	335	308
Business Continuity Expenses	622	-	622	562
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>14,810</b>	<b>1,416</b>	<b>16,226</b>	<b>16,628</b>
Transfer from SRBR to Employers' Advance Reserve for Employer Contributions to 401(h) Account	-	45,456	45,456	44,858
Transfer from SRBR to Employers' Advance Reserve for Implicit Subsidy	-	6,447	6,447	6,899
Transfer to SRBR from Employers' Advance Reserve for OPEB Related Administrative Expense	1,416	-	1,416	1,354
<b>Total Deductions</b>	<b>546,989</b>	<b>99,340</b>	<b>646,329</b>	<b>617,486</b>
<b>CHANGE IN NET POSITION</b>	<b>836,067</b>	<b>4,433</b>	<b>840,500</b>	<b>1,196,692</b>
<b>NET POSITION - JANUARY 1</b>	<b>7,894,583</b>	<b>894,696</b>	<b>8,789,279</b>	<b>7,592,587</b>
<b>Cumulative Effect of Accounting Change</b>	<b>(12)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(12)</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Beginning Net Position as Restated</b>	<b>7,894,571</b>	<b>894,696</b>	<b>8,789,267</b>	<b>7,592,587</b>
<b>NET POSITION - DECEMBER 31</b>	<b>\$ 8,730,638</b>	<b>\$ 899,129</b>	<b>\$ 9,629,767</b>	<b>\$ 8,789,279</b>

The accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements are an integral part of these Basic Financial Statements.

# Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

*(an integral part of the Basic Financial Statements)*

## 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

### Reporting Entity

ACERA is an independent, public employees' retirement system with its own governing board. ACERA's financial statements are included in the County of Alameda's financial statements as a pension and other employee benefit fiduciary trust fund.

### Basis of Accounting

ACERA follows generally accepted accounting principles in the United States and reporting guidelines set forth by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). ACERA's (fiduciary trust fund) financial statements are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting. Employer and employee contributions are recognized when due, pursuant to formal commitments, as well as statutory or contractual requirements. Security purchases and sales are recognized in the financial statements as of the trade date. Retirement benefits and member refunds are recognized as liabilities when due and payable in accordance with the terms of the plan. Other expenses are recognized when the corresponding liabilities are incurred.

### Investments

Investments are reported at fair value. Fair value for investments of publicly traded stocks and bonds and

issues of the U.S. Government and its agencies is based on the last reported sale price as of the fiscal year-end. Fair value of securities denominated in a foreign currency reflects exchange rates in effect at fiscal year-end. The fair value of ACERA's short-term investments held in external investment pools managed by the master custodian and securities lending agent is provided by the pool manager and is reported at net asset per share value for the pool. Fair value of investments in commingled funds of debt securities, equity securities, and real estate is based on the fund share price provided by the fund manager, which is based on net asset value. Fair value of investments in real estate separate properties is based on prices in a competitive market as determined by the investment manager relying on periodic appraisals and is reported net of the outstanding balance of associated mortgages. The fair value of private equity, private credit, absolute return, and real assets is based on ACERA's pro rata share and determined by the fund's general partner based on a variety of valuation methods including current market multiples for comparable companies, recent sales of comparable companies, net present value of expected cash flows, appraisals and adjustments to prevailing public market prices based on control and/or liquidity, as appropriate. All funds are audited annually by the funds' independent auditors.

### Investment Income

Interest income is recognized as it accrues. Dividend income is recognized when the dividends are declared.



Realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments are combined and reported together as the net appreciation (depreciation) in the fair value of investments.

### Securities Lending Activity

Securities lending transactions are short-term collateralized loans of ACERA's securities for the purpose of generating additional investment income. For each lending transaction, ACERA receives either cash collateral or non-cash collateral.

The underlying securities out on loan are reported on the Statement of Fiduciary Net Position as if the lending transaction had not occurred.

Cash collateral held (or any security that can be sold or pledged without a default by the borrower) is separately reported on the Statement of Fiduciary Net Position in current assets. A corresponding liability of an equal amount (the obligation to return the cash collateral) is reported as a liability.

Non-cash collateral held is not reported on the Statement of Fiduciary Net Position nor is there a corresponding liability reported on this statement.

### Derivative Instruments

ACERA's investments include the following types of investment derivative instruments: futures, forwards, spot contracts, swaps and warrants. ACERA enters into derivative instrument contracts for investment purposes and to manage risks associated with its investment portfolio.

The fair value of exchange traded derivative instruments such as futures, swaps, spot contracts, and warrants are based on quoted market prices. The fair value of non-exchange traded derivative instruments such as forward contracts and certain futures contracts is determined by an external pricing service using various proprietary methods.

The fair value of derivative instrument contracts is reported in investments as assets or liabilities on the

Statement of Fiduciary Net Position.

### Collateral and Margin Account

For the equity index futures, there is an initial margin requirement to open a contract position as well as a collateral maintenance requirement that must be kept until the position is closed out.

ACERA reports the collateral for the equity index futures in short-term investments.

### Capital Assets

Capital assets are carried at cost, net of accumulated depreciation or amortization. ACERA's capitalization threshold is an initial cost of \$5,000 and two years of useful life. Depreciation and amortization are calculated using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the depreciable assets or over the term of the lease.

For each asset, ACERA recognizes one-half year of expense in the year the asset is placed in service and one-half year of expense in the year of retirement.

The estimated useful lives for the assets in each category are as follows:

	Years
Leasehold Improvements	27.5
Information System - Retirement	7.0
Office Furniture	7.0
Business Continuity Assets	5.0
Computer Hardware	5.0
Offsite Office Equipment	5.0
Electronic Document Management System	5.0
Information System - Accounting	3.0
Computer Software	3.0

### Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts

and disclosures. Naturally, actual results may differ from estimates.

### Income Taxes

ACERA operates as a Defined Benefit Pension Plan, qualified under section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code and is not subject to tax under current income tax laws. All assets accumulated for the payment of benefits may legally be used to pay benefits, including refunds of member contributions to any of the plan members or beneficiaries, as defined by the terms of the plan.

### New Accounting Pronouncements

ACERA's early implementation of the provisions of GASB Statement No. 87, *Leases*, was completed for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020. The implementation of this Statement has changed ACERA's financial statements as follows: added new right-to-use asset category under capital assets and lease liability line item to the Statement of Fiduciary Net Position, additional note disclosures in Note 9, and a breakdown of lease expense in the Administration Expense table of the Supplemental Schedules section. These additions to the financial statements and related disclosures are expected to better meet the information needs of the financial statement users.

GASB Statement No. 92, *Omnibus 2020*, was issued in January 2020. This Statement addresses issues that were identified during implementation and application of certain GASB Statements and a variety of topics related to specific provisions. The implementation and applicability issues addressed in the Statement include those related to Statement Nos. 73, 74, 84, and 87. Items addressed under the specific provisions include correction to the terminology used to refer to derivative instruments. The provisions of this Statement were originally effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2020. GASB Statement No. 95, *Postponement of the Effective Dates of Certain Authoritative Guidance*, issued in May 2020, postponed the effective date of Statement No. 92, by one year to

reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2021. ACERA implemented the only applicable section of this Statement, which is terminology used to refer to derivative instruments for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020.

GASB Statement No. 93, *Replacement of Interbank Offered Rates*, was issued in March 2020. The objective of this Statement is to address the accounting and financial reporting implications that result from replacement of the IBOR (Inter Bank Offered Rate). The global reference to LIBOR (the London Inter Bank Offered Rate) will cease at the end of 2021. Statement No. 93, removes LIBOR as an appropriate benchmark interest rate and identifies a Secured Overnight Financing Rate and the Effective Federal Funds Rate as appropriate benchmark interest rates. The Statement also provides exceptions for hedge accounting termination provisions of Statement No. 53 and lease modification guidance in Statement No. 87, which will result from replacement of the reference rate. The provisions of Statement No. 93, were originally effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2020, except for paragraphs 11b, 13, and 14, which are effective for the reporting periods ending after December 31, 2021. GASB Statement No. 95, *Postponement of the Effective Dates of Certain Authoritative Guidance*, issued in May 2020, postponed the effective date of Statement No. 93, by 1 year for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2021. ACERA will implement the applicable provision of this Statement for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2022.

GASB Statement No. 94, *Public-Private and Public-Public Partnership and Availability Payment Agreements*, was issued in March 2020. The provisions of this Statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2022. This Statement will not impact ACERA.

GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*, was issued in May 2020. This Statement provides guidance on accounting and financial reporting for subscription-based information technology arrangements (SBITAs). The guidance requires the recognition of a right-to-use subscription asset and a

corresponding subscription liability for contracts that convey control of the right-to-use another party's information technology software alone or in conjunction with tangible capital assets for a specified time period in an exchange or exchange-like transaction. The requirements of this statement are similar to those of Statement No. 87, *Leases*. The provisions of this Statement are effective with fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2022. ACERA will implement the provisions of this Statement for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023.

GASB Statement No. 97, *Certain Component Unit Criteria, and Accounting and Financial Reporting for Internal Revenue Code Section 457 Deferred Compensation Plans – an Amendment of GASB Statement No. 14 and No. 84, and Supersession of GASB Statement No. 32*, was issued in June 2020. The requirements of this Statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2021, except for paragraphs 4 & 5, which are effective immediately. This Statement will not impact ACERA.

### Prior Period Adjustment

ACERA implemented GASB Statement No. 87, *Leases*, effective January 1, 2020. As a result of the retroactive implementation requirement, the beginning balance of the fiduciary net position was adjusted by \$12,000 for the cumulative effect of this accounting change. For additional information on leases, refer to Note 9 starting on [page 57](#).

## 2. Plan Description

ACERA is an independent public employees' retirement system which operates a cost-sharing, multiple-employer, defined benefit pension plan serving participating employers. In addition, ACERA administers Other Postemployment Medical Benefits (OPEB) and Non-OPEB. ACERA began operations in its present form on January 1, 1948.

ACERA is governed by the California constitution, and state and federal laws, including but not limited to the 1937 Act, beginning at California Government Code

Section 31450 et. seq., PEPRA and the bylaws and policies adopted by the Board of Retirement.

These laws and policies govern ACERA's plan structure and operation. The provisions of state and federal laws govern requirements concerning membership, governance, contributions, benefits, service, retirement eligibility, disability, cost-of-living adjustment, financial provisions, optional allowances, reciprocal benefits, administration expenses, etc.

ACERA is not affiliated with the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS).

ACERA meets member and beneficiary obligations through member contributions, participating employer contributions, and investment income. Contributions are prudently invested in accordance with the 1937 Act.

ACERA provides basic lifetime retirement, disability, and death benefits to members who meet the minimum age and length-of-service requirements. In addition, ACERA administers supplemental retiree postemployment medical, dental care, vision care, and cost-of-living adjustments programs. In this report, "basic" benefits refers to vested benefits provided for in accordance with the 1937 Act, whereas "supplemental" benefits refers to additional non-vested benefits paid at the discretion of the Board of Retirement and subject to available funds.

### Board of Retirement

The Board of Retirement has sole and exclusive responsibility over plan assets and the administration of the retirement system to ensure prompt delivery of benefits and related services as provided in Article XVI of the California Constitution.

The Board of Retirement has nine members and two alternates. The Alameda County Board of Supervisors appoints four members, and four are elected by ACERA's membership. The County Treasurer serves as an ex-officio board member. One alternate member is elected by safety members and one alternate member is elected by retired members. The Board of Retirement is currently composed of the following members:

## Board of Retirement

Type of Member	Elected / Appointed By	# Of Members
County Treasurer	Ex-Officio Member	1
County Resident	Appointed by Board of Supervisors	4
General Member	Elected by General Members	2
Safety Member	Elected by Safety Members	1
Retired Member	Elected by Retired Members	1
Alternate Retired Member	Elected by Retired Members	1
Alternate Safety Member	Elected by Safety Members	1

Board members, with the exception of the County Treasurer, serve a three-year term in office, with no term limits.

The Board of Retirement oversees the Chief Executive Officer in the performance of his duties in accordance with the law and ACERA's board policies.

### Authority for Establishing and Amending Benefit Provisions

State and federal laws, as well as the California constitution, provide the authority for establishing ACERA's benefit provisions. In most cases, where the 1937 Act provides options concerning the allowance of credit for service, the offering of benefits, or the modification of benefit levels, the law generally requires approval of the employers' governing boards for the option to take effect.

Separately, in 1984, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors and the Board of Retirement approved the adoption of Article 5.5 of the 1937 Act. This adoption permitted the establishment of a Supplemental Retiree Benefits Reserve (SRBR) for ACERA.

Article 5.5 provides for the systematic funding of the SRBR and stipulates that its assets be used only for the benefit of retired members and their beneficiaries. The 1937 Act grants exclusive authority over the use of SRBR funds to the Board of Retirement. The SRBR provides

funding for non-vested and non-pension benefits including supplemental COLA and retired member death benefit. Other non-vested retiree health benefits are provided in agreement with ACERA's participating employers through the use of Internal Revenue Code 401(h) accounts. These retiree health benefits include dental and vision care, Medicare Part B reimbursement, and the Monthly Medical Allowance (MMA). Employer contributions fund the 401(h) benefits. ACERA treats an equal amount of SRBR assets as employer contributions for pensions. The provision of all supplemental benefits is subject to annual review and authorization by the Board of Retirement.

### Participating Employers

ACERA operates as a cost-sharing, multiple-employer, defined benefit plan for Alameda County (the "County"), and five other participating employers (which are special districts) located in the County, but not under the control of the County Board of Supervisors. In this report, the County and special districts are referred to as "participating employers". All risks and costs, including benefit costs, are shared by the participating employers.

The five other participating employers are:

- Superior Court of California for the County of Alameda
- Alameda Health System
- First 5 Alameda County
- Housing Authority of the County of Alameda
- Livermore Area Recreation and Park District

Alameda County Office of Education is no longer an active participating employer as the last active member under this employer retired on December 30, 2016. However, this employer still owes an unfunded actuarial accrued liability to ACERA as ACERA still pays retirement benefits to several of its retired members.

### Plan Membership

With the exception of Alameda Health System, all full-time employees of participating employers who are

appointed to permanent positions are statutorily required to become members of ACERA. With the passage of AB1008 in 2013, employees of newly acquired hospitals by Alameda Health System are not eligible for membership unless they are subject to an existing memorandum of understanding. Effective October 31, 2013, all newly hired unrepresented employees of any Alameda Health System facility are prohibited from membership.

### Safety and General Members

ACERA has two membership types, Safety and General, which are based on job classifications:

- Safety members are employees working in active law enforcement, deferred firefighters, or positions that have been designated Safety positions by the Board of Retirement (e.g., Juvenile Hall Group Counselors and Probation Officers).
- General members are all other members.

### Defined Benefit Pension Plan

#### ACERA's Membership

As of December 31, 2020

<b>Members, Survivors, and Beneficiaries Now Receiving Benefits</b>	
Service Retirement	8,071
Disability Retirement	971
Beneficiaries and Survivors	1,237
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>10,279</b>
<b>Active Members</b>	
Active Vested Members	7,698
Active Non-vested Members	3,593
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>11,291</b>
<b>Deferred Members</b>	<b>2,910</b>
<b>Total Membership</b>	<b>24,480</b>

#### Membership Status and Vesting

Members are considered to be active, as long as they remain employed full-time by a participating employer (or subsequently change to part-time employment).

Members become vested in retirement benefits upon completion of five years of credited service.

### Service Retirement

ACERA's regular (service) retirement benefits are based on service credit, final average salary, and age at retirement, according to the applicable statutory formula. Members who qualify for service retirement are entitled to receive monthly service retirement benefits for life.

Non-Tier 4 vested General members may retire at age 50, with 5 years of service credit and a total of 10 years of qualifying membership, or at any age with 30 years of service, or at age 70, regardless of service credit.

Non-Tier 4 vested Safety members may retire at age 50, with 5 years of service credit and a total of 10 years of qualifying membership, or at any age, with 20 years of service, or at age 70, regardless of service credit.

Tier 4 General members may retire at age 52, with 5 years of service credit or at age 70, regardless of service credit.

Tier 4 Safety members may retire at age 50, with 5 years of service credit or at age 70, regardless of service credit.

### Active Member Death Benefits

ACERA provides specified active member death benefits to beneficiaries and members' survivors.

The basic active member death benefit consists of a member's retirement contributions plus interest plus one month's pay for each full year of service (up to the maximum of six-month's pay). Other death benefits may be available based on years of service, marital status, and whether the member has minor children.

### Tier 1, Tier 2, Tier 3, and Tier 4 Benefit Levels

The structure of the plan provides for four benefit levels or tiers within General membership and three tiers within Safety membership. The tiers differ mainly in the magnitude of contributions required and benefits received.

Generally, members with an entry date prior to July 1, 1983, belong to Tier 1, while those with an entry date on or after July 1, 1983, and before January 1, 2013, belong to Tier 2, and members with an entry date on or after January 1, 2013, belong to Tier 4.

Most active ACERA members belong to Tier 2. Alameda



County Housing Authority members are mostly in Tier 1, but those hired between September 30, 2011, and January 1, 2013, belong to Tier 2. Relative to the Tier 1 members, active members in Tier 2 contribute somewhat less to the pension plan as a percent of compensation and will receive somewhat lower retirement benefits.

Effective October 1, 2008, Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) implemented a General Tier 3 plan for current and new employees. Those LARPD members hired before October 1, 2008, who elect General Tier 3 membership, and those hired after October 1, 2008, but before January 1, 2013, will receive an enhanced benefit of 2.5% at 55, which is higher than the Tier 1 benefit (at most retirement ages) as a result of higher employer and employee contribution rates.

Effective October 17, 2010, and before January 1, 2013, there are three benefit formula options for Safety membership within Tier 2. Two benefit formulas of 2% at 50 and 3% at 55 were implemented for new Safety members with different contribution rates. The Safety members hired before October 17, 2010, are still under the benefit formula of 3% at 50.

In accordance with PEPRA, General and Safety members hired on or after January 1, 2013, belong to Tier 4. Tier 4 members are required to contribute at least 50% of the Normal Cost rate. Under the Tier 4 formulas, General members will receive a benefit of 2.5% at age 67 and Safety members will receive a benefit of 2.7% at age 57. Note 3, Contributions, starting on [page 30](#) explains retirement plan contribution rates.

### ***Integration with Social Security***

The contributions and benefits associated with the federal Social Security program are completely separate from ACERA members' contributions and benefits. Most General members of ACERA are covered by Social Security, and most Safety members are not.

ACERA contributions and benefits are integrated with Social Security for non-Tier 4 members who are covered by Social Security. The purpose of integration is to reduce the degree in which ACERA's plan coverage

overlaps Social Security coverage.

### ***Basic Cost of Living Adjustment***

Retirement allowances are indexed for inflation. Retirees receive automatic basic Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLAs) based upon the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the San Francisco Bay Area. The adjustments go into effect on April 1 each year. Under the 1937 Act, annual COLA increases are capped at 3% for Tier 1 and Tier 3, and 2% for Tier 2 and Tier 4 members. The expected impact of future basic COLA is a factor in setting the contribution rates for members and employers. In any year that the basic COLA adjustment for a retiree falls short of the CPI increase for that year due to the statutory cap, the shortfall is carried over and applied in a future year to the extent that the CPI falls short of the statutory cap in the future year.

The CPI calculation for 2020 was 2.45% and was rounded to 2.50%, the nearest one-half percent, in accordance with California Government Code Section 31870 and 31870.1. There was a maximum of 3.0% COLA increase granted for all Tier 1 and Tier 3 members. A maximum COLA increase of 2.0% was granted to all Tier 2 and Tier 4 members. Tier 1 and Tier 3 members will bank 0.0% as the 2020 COLA does not exceed the 3.0% statutory cap. Tier 2 and Tier 4 members will bank 0.5% as the 2020 COLA exceeds the 2% statutory cap.

### ***Postemployment Medical Benefits***

ACERA administers a medical benefits program for eligible retired members. Benefits include monthly medical allowances and Medicare Part B premium reimbursements. Dental and vision coverages are also available for eligible retired members. These benefits are paid through a 401(h) account, in accordance with federal tax laws. The maximum levels of the monthly medical allowances are reviewed annually by the Board of Retirement.

### ***Program Membership***

Retired members with a minimum of ten years of service credit or those who retired due to a service connected disability are eligible to receive a monthly medical allowance



benefit if they enroll in one of the ACERA-sponsored medical plans or Medicare exchange. Retired members eligible for the monthly medical allowance benefit may also be reimbursed for the lowest standard Medicare Part B premium with proof of enrollment in Medicare Part B. Members receiving a service retirement or a non-service connected disability, with ten or more years of ACERA service credit will be eligible to receive dental and vision allowances. The following are exemptions of the years-of-service eligibility requirements: (a) non-service connected disability recipients with less than ten years of ACERA service credit and with a retirement date effective prior to February 1, 2014; and, (b) all service connected disability recipients, regardless of years of service.

### Non-OPEB

ACERA also provides non-health, postemployment benefits, such as supplemental COLA and a lump sum retired member death benefit.

Separate from the basic COLA, the Board of Retirement implemented an ad-hoc supplemental Cost-of-Living Adjustment (supplemental COLA) program effective January 1, 1998. The supplemental COLA is structured to maintain each retiree's purchasing power at no less than 85% of the purchasing power of the original benefit. Under this program, each retiree's current allowance is adjusted, as necessary, so that the adjusted allowance becomes at least 85% of the original benefit amount indexed with the CPI.

A lump sum retired member death benefit of \$1,000 is provided to beneficiaries.

### Program Membership

All retired members are eligible to receive supplemental COLA and a retired member death benefit.

### Actuarial Valuation

An annual actuarial funding valuation is performed for the pension plan. In addition, there is a separate annual actuarial valuation performed for Postemployment Medical Benefits and Non-OPEB. Note 6, Actuarial Valuation, starting on [page 36](#) provides additional information about this topic.

## 3. Contributions

### Pension Plan

#### *Authority for Establishing and Amending Obligations to Make Contributions*

The California constitution, as well as state and federal laws, establishes the basic obligations for participating employers and active members to make contribution payments to the pension plan. Member and employer contribution rates are based on recommendations made by an independent actuary and adopted by the Board of Retirement. These rates are based on membership type (General and Safety) and tier (Tiers 1, 2, 3, and 4).

#### *Funding Objective*

One of the funding objectives of the pension plan is to establish member and participating employer contribution rates that will remain as level as possible over time as a percentage of payroll, unless plan benefit provisions are changed. The funding for retirement benefits arises from three sources: member contributions, employer contributions, and the earnings on invested assets.

#### *Member Contributions and Refunds*

Active members are required by statute to contribute toward pension plan benefits. The non-Tier 4 member contribution rates are formulated on the basis of age at the date of entry and actuarially calculated benefits. The 1937 Act authorizes participating employers to pay all or a portion of an employee's retirement contribution obligation on the employee's behalf. These employer payments are called contribution offsets. Member contributions and credited interest are refundable upon termination of membership. Note 4, Reserves, starting on [page 32](#) explains semi-annual interest crediting. The employer-paid contribution offsets may or may not be refundable.

Pursuant to PEPRA Section 7522.30, Tier 4 members are required to contribute 50% of the normal cost rate. The code also prohibits participating employers from paying any portion of the 50% share of member contributions on the employee's behalf.

### Employer Contributions

The pension plan provides lifetime retirement and disability benefits to its members. Participating employers are required by statute to contribute the necessary amounts to fund these estimated benefits not otherwise funded by member contributions or expected investment earnings.

Employer contribution rates vary from year to year and depend on the established level of benefits, the rate of return on investments, and the cost of administering benefits.

### Member Rates Based on Age-at-Date-of-Entry

The ranges of current non-Tier 4 member contribution rates based on age-at-date-of-entry are shown as follows (effective September 2020). Generally, each pair of percentages ranges from youngest to oldest within each category. In November 2012, the Board of Retirement approved the use of a single, flat contribution rate, regardless of the age at entry for Tier 4 members.

#### Current Member Contribution Rates

Effective September 2020

<b>Tier 1: (entry date prior to July 1, 1983)</b>	
General	7.83% - 16.20%
Safety 3% @ 50	15.65% - 23.73%
<b>Tier 2: (entry date July 1, 1983, and before January 1, 2013)</b>	
General	5.41% - 11.42%
Safety 3% @ 50	13.47% - 19.81%
<b>Tier 2: (entry date October 17, 2010, and before January 1, 2013)</b>	
Safety 2% @ 50	9.98% - 16.02%
Safety 3% @ 55 (with less than 5 years of vesting service)	15.34% - 21.61%
Safety 3% @ 55 (with 5 or more years of vesting service)	13.34% - 19.61%
<b>Tier 3: (LARP only - entry date prior to January 1, 2013)</b>	
General	9.43% - 17.71%
<b>Tier 4: (entry date January 1, 2013 or later)</b>	
General	8.85%
Safety	15.42%

For non-Tier 4 members covered by Social Security, the contribution rates shown apply to biweekly salary over

\$161 (a one-third reduction in the rates applies to the first \$161 of biweekly salary). The one-third reduction in the rates for the first \$161 of biweekly salary does not apply to Tier 4 member contributions.

### Postemployment Medical Benefits and Contributions

In accordance with federal tax law, postemployment medical benefits and related administrative expenses are paid through a 401(h) account with contributions from the participating employers. There is no requirement and no guarantee that the employers will continue to contribute to the 401(h) account. If authorized by the Board of Retirement, ACERA treats an equal amount of SRBR assets as employer contributions available for paying pension benefits. ACERA's Board of Retirement has no authority to demand future payments from participating employers to fund the 401(h) account. Consequently, these benefits can only be paid as long as assets are available. When assets are fully depleted, no postemployment medical benefits will be paid by ACERA. In compliance with 1937 Act Section 31618.5, employers allocate a portion of their contribution to the 401(h) account for administrative costs related to providing benefits in addition to contributions for the postemployment medical benefits.

### Pension Obligation Bonds

In 1995 and 1996, Alameda County issued pension obligation bonds and contributed the net bond proceeds to the ACERA pension plan. ACERA received aggregate net proceeds of \$591 million from these bonds. Alameda Health System, First 5 Alameda County, and the Superior Court of California for the County of Alameda were part of the County of Alameda when the pension obligation bonds were issued. They subsequently separated and became discretely presented component units or special districts of the County of Alameda. The net bond proceeds contributions allow ACERA to provide "pension obligation bond credits" to these employers (thus reducing contributions otherwise payable) over the period of time used by ACERA to amortize its Unfunded Actuarial

Accrued Liability (UAAL). These employers received pension obligation bond credits of approximately \$58.2 million in the year ended December 31, 2020.

#### 4. Reserves

Reserves represent components of the fiduciary net position. The annual change in ACERA's reserves equals the annual change in the fiduciary net position.

While a member is active, member and employer contributions associated with that member are accumulated in two separate components of reserves—the member reserve and employers' advance reserve. When a member retires, ACERA makes a one-time transfer of the associated contributions plus credited interest from these two reserve components into the retired member reserve, of an amount equal to the estimated lifetime benefits.

##### Actuarial Asset Smoothing

Net investment income reported on the Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position affects the reserves indirectly through an actuarial asset "smoothing" process approved by the Board of Retirement. This process is intended to minimize the impact of short-term investment gains or losses. Smoothing of asset gains or losses is conducted semi-annually in conjunction with interest crediting, with calculation periods ending June 30 and December 31. It involves spreading the difference between actual and expected market returns over ten successive semi-annual periods to determine the actuarial value of assets.

##### Semi-annual Interest Crediting

ACERA updates reserve balances on a semi-annual basis as of June 30 and December 31 each year. At these times, ACERA carries out a multi-step process to calculate new reserve balances as specified in Article 5.5 of the 1937 Act. The amount of "net earnings" to be credited for the semi-annual period is calculated based on the actuarial smoothing process described earlier. To the extent that net earnings are available, interest is credited to all components of the reserves, with the exception of the market stabilization reserve and the contingency reserve. Interest credited is based upon the actuarial assumed interest rate (or the actual rate if lower). This is defined as "Regular Earnings."

In June 2014, the Board of Retirement approved the use of the contingency reserve to fund the interest shortfall, whenever the Regular Earnings during the 6-month interest crediting period are less than the assumed rate of return, but not negative.

If there are investment earnings above the target investment return rate, 50% is credited to the SRBR and the remaining 50% is credited proportionally to all other reserves (except for the contingency reserve and the market stabilization reserve).

##### Components of Reserves

**The Member Reserve** represents the total accumulated member contributions of current active and inactive (deferred) members. Additions include member contributions and credited interest; and deductions include refunds of member contributions along with credited interest and transfers to the retired member reserve made when a member retires.

**The Employers' Advance Reserve** represents the total net accumulated employer contributions for future retirement payments to active and deferred members. Additions include contributions from the employers and credited interest; and deductions include transfers to the retired member reserve made when each member retires or payment of benefits upon the death of an active member. Employer contribution rates are actuarially determined taking into account other events such as a member electing a refund of contributions. Therefore, a refund of member contributions should not have an adverse impact on the accumulation of funds in the employers' advance reserve.

According to Section 31618.5 of the 1937 Act, to the extent that an employer contributes to the 401(h) account to pay the cost of administering postemployment medical benefits, there is an annual transfer from the employers' advance reserve to the supplemental retiree benefits reserve for an amount equal to the postemployment medical benefit related administrative expenses. For the year ended December 31, 2020, the transferred amount was \$1.4 million.

**The Retired Member Reserve** represents funds accumulated to pay retirement benefits to retired members. This reserve represents the total net accumulated transfers

from the member reserve and the employers' advance reserve (both made at the time a member retires), and credited interest, reduced by payments to retired members, beneficiaries, and survivors.

**The Supplemental Retiree Benefits Reserve (SRBR)** was established on January 1, 1985, under Article 5.5 of the 1937 Act. The SRBR represents funds required by statute to be set aside from regular earnings and investment earnings above the assumed rate of return to provide supplemental benefits to retirees. The reserves table on [page 34](#) shows the amounts of the SRBR currently available to pay for non-vested benefits. The Board of Retirement decides on an annual basis what member benefits to pay from the SRBR.

When there are funds available in the SRBR, the Board of Retirement can approve a transfer of an amount equal to the participating employers' 401(h) contributions and 401(h) administrative cost contributions from the SRBR to the employers' advance reserve. The Board of Retirement may also approve a transfer from the SRBR to the employers' advance reserve to reimburse the employers' payment of implicit subsidy to pay the full cost of postemployment medical benefits. Non-vested benefits currently funded by the SRBR are described in the following two paragraphs.

**The 401(h) Postemployment Medical Benefits Account** is used to pay the medical allowances, Medicare Part B reimbursement, dental and vision, and the associated administrative cost. The account is set up under the provisions of Internal Revenue Code section 401(h), which provides for payment of benefits on a tax-free basis. Each year participating employers decide whether to contribute the needed funds and to identify them as 401(h) account contributions. For the year ended December 31, 2020, the employers funded \$45.5 million of 401(h) contributions, including \$44.1 million for estimated cost of postemployment medical benefits and \$1.4 million for administrative cost of the 401(h) account.

**The Non-OPEB Reserve** is used to pay for the Supplemental COLA and the retired member death benefit. For the year ended December 31, 2020, \$1.1 million of Supplemental COLA and \$0.2 million of retired member death benefits were paid. The reserve is

increased through interest crediting of regular earnings and investment earnings above the assumed rate of return.

**The Contingency Reserve** represents reserves accumulated to satisfy the statutory requirement of establishing a reserve against deficiencies in future interest crediting. The size of the reserve is determined semi-annually by the Board of Retirement. The 1937 Act stipulates that the contingency reserve cannot exceed 3.0% of total assets and that, if the reserve falls below 1.0% of total assets, earnings from subsequent periods shall fund the reserve until the reserve level is at least 1.0% of total assets. Effective with the June 30, 2014, interest crediting cycle, the Board of Retirement set the contingency reserve to be a minimum of 1.0% of total assets, and authorized the use of funds in the contingency reserve to cover interest shortfalls whenever earnings during the 6-month interest crediting period are less than the assumed rate of return, but not negative.

**The Market Stabilization Reserve Account** represents the deferred balance of investment gains or losses not yet realized in the interest crediting process. This balance arises from the five-year actuarial smoothing process for investment earnings. The market stabilization reserve account balance thus represents the difference between (1) the aggregate amounts initially deferred (smoothed) from the ten most recent semi-annual periods, and (2) the amounts subsequently recognized for semi-annual interest crediting from these same ten periods.

### Allocation of Earnings to Reserves for 2020

ACERA had \$1.0 billion gains from investment activities net of administrative expenses for the year ended December 31, 2020. The contingency was adjusted to 1% of total assets and subsequently reduced to \$0.0 at June 30, 2020 and \$69.0 million at December 31, 2020 to fund the interest crediting shortfalls for both six-month interest crediting periods. The reduction left the Contingency Reserve at 0.7% of total assets at the end of 2020.

The market stabilization reserve account increased by \$382.6 million during 2020 as a result of applying the actuarial five-year smoothing process and the actuarial value corridor limits. All other reserve accounts (excluding the contingency and market stabilization reserves) received interest crediting of approximately \$549.8 million.

## Reserves

As of December 31, 2020 (Dollars in Thousands)

	Pension and Non-OPEB	Postemployment Medical Benefits	Total
Member Reserve	\$ 1,640,497	\$ -	\$ 1,640,497
Employers' Advance Reserve	1,290,880	-	1,290,880
Retired Member Reserve	5,045,314	-	5,045,314
SRBR	41,677	890,077	931,754
401(h) Account	-	9,052	9,052
Contingency Reserve	68,984	-	68,984
Market Stabilization Reserve Account	643,286	-	643,286
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>\$ 8,730,638</b>	<b>\$ 899,129</b>	<b>\$ 9,629,767</b>

## 5. Net Pension Liability

The components of the Net Pension Liability were as follows:

### Net Pension Liability

(Dollars in Thousands)

	December 31, 2020	December 31, 2019
Total Pension Liability	\$ 10,639,300	\$ 9,959,792
Plan's Fiduciary Net Position <sup>1</sup>	8,444,884	7,819,099
<b>Net Pension Liability</b>	<b>\$ 2,194,416</b>	<b>\$ 2,140,693</b>
Plan's Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	79.37%	78.51%

<sup>1</sup> For 2020, the Plan's Fiduciary Net Position amount shown (\$8,444,884) includes the net fair value of assets (\$9,629,767) less OPEB-related SRBR assets (\$1,184,883). The OPEB-related SRBR assets include \$882,528 in the SRBR-OPEB reserve (after reducing the reserve by the \$7,549 SRBR implicit subsidy transfer), and \$9,052 in the 401(h) reserve, plus a proportionate share of one half of the deferred market gains (after adjustment to replenish the balance in the Contingency Reserve) commensurate with the size of the OPEB to total SRBR and 401(h) reserve to valuation and 401(h) reserves (\$293,303). For 2019, the Plan's Fiduciary Net Position amount shown (\$7,819,099) includes the net fair value of assets (\$8,789,279), less OPEB-related SRBR assets (\$970,180). The OPEB-related SRBR assets include \$877,769 in the SRBR-OPEB reserve (after reducing the reserve by the \$6,511 SRBR implicit subsidy transfer), and \$10,416 in the 401(h) reserve, plus a proportionate share of one half of the deferred market gains (after adjustment to replenish the balance in the Contingency Reserve) commensurate with the size of the OPEB to total SRBR and 401(h) reserve to valuation and 401(h) reserve (\$81,995).

The Net Pension Liability (NPL) for the plan was measured as of December 31, 2020 and 2019. The Plan's Fiduciary Net Position was valued as of the measurement dates and the Total Pension Liability was determined based upon rolling forward the Total Pension Liability (TPL) from actuarial valuations as of December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

The Total Pension Liability and the Plan's Fiduciary Net Position include liabilities and assets for non-OPEB. The assets for non-OPEB are held in the SRBR to pay non-vested Supplemental COLA and the retired member death benefit.

### Actuarial Assumptions

The Total Pension Liabilities (TPL) as of December 31, 2020, and December 31, 2019, were determined using actuarial valuations as of December 31, 2019, and December 31, 2018, respectively.

The actuarial assumptions used to develop the December 31, 2020, are based on the results of an experience study for the period December 1, 2016 through November 30, 2019, applied to all periods included in the measurement.

They are the same assumptions used in the December 31, 2020 funding valuation for ACERA. The December 31, 2019, TPL was based on the results of an experience study for the period December 1, 2013 through November 30, 2016, applied to all periods in the measurement. They are the same assumptions used in the December 31, 2019, funding valuations for ACERA.



## Key Assumptions Used in the Measurement

Valuation Date	December 31, 2020	December 31, 2019
Inflation	2.75%	3.00%
Salary Increases	General: 8.35% to 3.65% and Safety: 11.25% to 4.05%, vary by service, including inflation	General: 8.30% to 3.90% and Safety: 11.30% to 4.30%, vary by service, including inflation
Investment Rate of Return	7.00% , net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation	7.25% , net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation
Other Assumptions Based on Actuarial Experience Study of	December 1, 2016 through November 30, 2019	December 1, 2013 through November 30, 2016

### Long-Term Expected Rate of Return

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments<sup>1</sup> was determined in 2020 using a building-block method in which expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These returns are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage, adding expected

inflation and subtracting expected investment expenses and a risk margin. The target allocation (approved by the Board) and projected arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class, after deducting inflation, but before investment expenses are shown in the following table. This information was used in the derivation of the long-term expected investment rate of return assumption for the December 31, 2020 actuarial valuation. This information will be subject to change every three years based on the results of an actuarial experience study.

### Target Asset Allocation and Projected Arithmetic Real Rate of Return

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Arithmetic Rate of Return
Domestic Large Cap Equity	22.40%	5.43%
Domestic Small Cap Equity	2.50%	6.21%
International Developed Equity	17.00%	6.67%
International Small Cap Equity	3.00%	7.36%
Emerging Markets Equity	5.00%	8.58%
Core Plus Fixed Income	11.50%	1.10%
High Yield Bonds	1.60%	2.91%
Global Fixed Income	3.00%	-0.63%
Private Equity	10.50%	10.00%
Core Real Estate	8.00%	4.58%
Commodities	0.75%	3.46%
Infrastructure	1.75%	7.80%
Private Credit	4.00%	8.50%
Absolute Return	9.00%	3.70%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>5.56%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Note that the investment return assumption for funding purposes was developed net of both investment and administrative expenses; however, the same investment return assumption was used for financial reporting purposes, and it was considered gross of administrative expenses for financial reporting purposes. (This resulted in an increase in the margin for adverse deviation when using that investment return assumption for financial reporting.)



### Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the Total Pension Liability (TPL) was 7.00% as of December 31, 2020, and 7.25% as of December 31, 2019. Article 5.5 of the Statute, which authorizes the allocation of 50% of excess earnings to the SRBR, does not allow for the use of a different investment return assumption for funding than is used for interest crediting. In order to reflect the provisions of Article 5.5, future allocations to the SRBR have been treated as an additional outflow against the Plan’s Fiduciary Net Position in the GASB crossover test<sup>1</sup>. It is estimated that the additional outflow would average approximately 0.65% of assets over time, based on the results of the actuarial stochastic modeling of the 50% allocation of future excess earnings to the SRBR.

The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes plan member contributions will be made at the current contribution rates and that employer contributions will be made at rates equal to the actuarially determined contribution rates<sup>2</sup> plus additional future contributions that would follow from the future allocation

of excess earnings to the SRBR. Projected employer contributions that are intended to fund the service costs for the future plan members and their beneficiaries, as well as projected contributions from future plan members, are not included. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan’s Fiduciary Net Position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments for current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the Total Pension Liability as of both December 31, 2020, and December 31, 2019.

### Sensitivity of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the Net Pension Liability as of December 31, 2020, calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%, as well as what the Net Pension Liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (6.00%) or 1-percentage-point higher (8.00%) than the current rate:

As of December 31, 2020 (Dollars in Thousands)

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
<b>Net Pension Liability</b>	\$ 3,575,601	\$ 2,194,416	\$ 1,056,556

### Money-Weighted Rate of Return

The annual money-weighted rate of return expresses investment performance, net of investment expenses, adjusted for the changing amounts actually invested. For the year ended December 31, 2020, the annual money-weighted rate of return on the total investments (pension plan and OPEB) was 11.70%. For trend information, refer to the Schedule of Investment Returns under the RSI section on [page 59](#).

## 6. Actuarial Valuation

ACERA retains an independent actuarial firm to conduct actuarial valuations of the pension plan, postemployment medical benefits, and non-OPEB to monitor ACERA’s funding status and to establish the contribution rate requirements for the pension plan.

Actuarial valuations of an ongoing plan involve estimates of the value of reported amounts and

1 The purpose of the GASB crossover test is to determine if the full expected return (or 700% in this case) can be used as the discount rate to determine the TPL and the NPL. That is, if there is no crossover point where the projected benefit payments would exceed the Plan’s Fiduciary Net Position, then the full expected return assumption can be used. ACERA does pass the crossover test, which means that the full 700% investment rate of return assumption can be used as the discount rate to determine the TPL and the resulting NPL.

2 For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included.

assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future. Examples include assumptions about future employment, mortality, and health care cost trends. Actuarially determined amounts are subject to continual revision as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

### Pension Plan

The purpose of the valuation is to reassess the magnitude of ACERA's benefit commitments in comparison with the assets currently available to support those commitments. As a result, employer and member contribution rates are adjusted accordingly. For the pension plan, the actuarial assumptions have been selected to estimate, as closely as possible, what the actual cost of the plan will

be so as to permit an orderly method for setting aside contributions in the present to provide benefits in the future, and to maintain equity among generations of participants and taxpayers.

Contribution requirements are determined under the entry age cost method. This method is designed to collect contributions as a level percentage of pay. Any actuarial gains or losses that occur under this method are amortized as a level percentage of pay. To minimize the impact of short-term investment gains or losses, the Board of Retirement adopted an asset smoothing process described starting on [page 32](#) under Actuarial Asset Smoothing.

There are no legal or contractual maximum contribution rates under the 1937 Act that would affect the projection of benefits for financial reporting purposes.

### ACTUARIAL METHODS AND ASSUMPTIONS - Pension Plan

The status and funding progress for the pension plan is calculated based on the following actuarial methods and assumptions.

Valuation Date	12/31/2019
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age
Amortization Method	Level percent of compensation
Amortization of UAAL (Prior to January 1, 2012)	Closed 30 years decreasing period
Remaining Amortization Period (Prior to January 1, 2012)	13 years
	Plan amendments are amortized over separate decreasing 15-year periods.
	Early retirement incentive programs (ERIPs) are amortized over separate decreasing 5-year periods.
Amortization of New UAAL (On or after January 1, 2012)	Assumption and method changes are amortized over separate decreasing 20-year periods.
	Experience gains/losses are amortized over separate decreasing 20-year periods.
Asset Valuation Method	Actuarial Value of Assets is determined by phasing in any difference between actual and expected market return semi-annually over a five-year period.
Valuation Value of Assets	The Actuarial Value of Assets reduced by the value of the non-valuation reserves.
	Interest Rate: 7.25%
	Inflation Rate: 3.00%
Actuarial Assumptions	Across-the-Board Salary Increases: 0.50%
	Salary Increases: General 8.30% - 3.90% and Safety 11.30% - 4.30%
	Demographic: refer to <a href="#">page 108</a>
Postemployment Benefit Increases	3.00% of Tier 1 and Tier 3 retirement income
	2.00% of Tier 2 and Tier 4 retirement income

### Postemployment Medical Benefits

If participating employers continue to make contributions to the 401(h) account, and the Board of Retirement continues to treat equal amounts of SRBR assets as contributions for pensions, then the postemployment medical benefits are 82.7% funded assuming that the current benefit continues in perpetuity.

Actuarial calculations reflect a long-term perspective and employ methods and assumptions that are designed to reduce short-term volatility.

Under the actuarial assumed rate of 7.25% per year for future investment earnings, it is anticipated that available assets will be sufficient to fund postemployment medical benefits through year 2040.

### ACTUARIAL METHODS AND ASSUMPTIONS - Postemployment Medical Benefits

The status and funding progress for the postemployment medical benefits is calculated based on the following actuarial methods and assumptions.

Valuation Date	12/31/2019
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age
Asset Valuation Method	Same as Pension Plan
Actuarial Assumptions	Same as Pension Plan
Health Care Cost Trend Rates:	
<b>Non-Medicare Plan</b>	Graded down from 6.75% <sup>1</sup> by 0.25% each year until it reaches 4.50%
<b>Medicare Advantage Plan</b>	Graded down from 6.25% <sup>1</sup> by 0.25% each year until it reaches 4.50%
<b>Dental and Vision</b>	4.00%
<b>Medicare Part B</b>	4.50%
Postemployment Benefit Increases:	
<b>Dental, Vision, and Medicare Part B</b>	Subsidies are assumed to increase at 100% of the health care cost trend rates for these benefits.
<b>Monthly Medical Allowance (MMA)</b>	Subsidies are assumed to increase at 50% of the health care cost trend rates for MMA benefits or 3.00%, graded down to the ultimate rate of 2.25% over 6 years.

<sup>1</sup> Before adjusting the first-year rate by 1.20% for non-Medicare trend and 0.90% for Medicare trend to reflect the reinstatement of the Health Insurance Tax (HIT). The adjusted starting rates are 5.55% for non-Medicare trend and 5.35% for Medicare trend.

### Non-OPEB

Actuarial calculations reflect a long-term perspective and employ methods and assumptions that are designed to reduce short-term volatility.

Under the actuarial assumed rate of 7.25% per year for future investment earnings, it is anticipated that available assets will be sufficient to fund the Supplemental COLA and retired member death benefit program through year 2037.

### ACTUARIAL METHODS AND ASSUMPTIONS - Non-OPEB

The status and funding progress for the Non-OPEB is calculated based on the following actuarial methods and assumptions.

Valuation Date	12/31/2019
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age
Asset Valuation Method	Same as Pension Plan
Actuarial Assumptions	Same as Pension Plan
Postemployment Benefit Increases:	
<b>Supplemental COLA Benefits</b>	Payable when the current allowance from the pension plan drops below 85% of the original pension plan benefit indexed with CPI. Benefits are assumed to increase by the difference between inflation and the cost-of-living benefit guaranteed in the pension plan (3.00% for Tier 1 and Tier 3; and 2.00% for Tier 2, Tier 2C, Tier 2D, and Tier 4), subject to other limitations.

## 7. Postemployment Medical Benefits and Net OPEB Liability

### Plan Description

ACERA administers a non-vested medical benefits program for eligible retired members. Retirees can also purchase medical benefits for eligible dependents on an out-of-pocket basis. The postemployment medical, dental and vision benefits and the related administrative costs are paid through a 401(h) account funded by the participating employers' 401(h) account contributions.

The plan provides the following postemployment benefits:

- Health care subsidy in the form of monthly medical allowance,
- Medicare Part B reimbursement, and
- Dental and vision subsidies.

These benefits are paid in the form of a monthly medical allowance. The allowance is subject to annual reauthorization by the Board of Retirement.

### Plan Membership

The OPEB plan membership data as of December 31, 2019, was used in the measurement of the Total OPEB Liability as of December 31, 2020.

#### Demographic Data as of December 31, 2019

Retired members receiving medical benefits
Retired members receiving dental and vision benefits
Vested terminated members entitled to, but not receiving benefits
Active members

### Benefits Provided

The County negotiates the medical contracts with the providers covering both active and retired members. This arrangement results in "blended" medical premium rates that allow early retirees under 65 years of age, not yet Medicare-eligible, to purchase medical insurance from one of these providers at rates lower than otherwise available (an "implicit subsidy"). ACERA and the County collectively determined that the total amount of

implicit subsidy for the blended medical premium rate for the year 2019 was \$6.4 million. SRBR assets in this amount were treated as a pension contribution in 2020 upon the Board of Retirement's approval to compensate the County for the implicit subsidy. The estimated implicit subsidy amount for 2020 is \$7.5 million.

Outside of the County negotiated group plans, retirees over the age of 65 have the option to purchase individual Medicare insurance through a Medicare exchange. ACERA utilizes Health Reimbursement Accounts (HRAs) to facilitate the monthly medical allowance for these members.

### Benefit Eligibility

Only ACERA's retirees are eligible to receive the medical, dental and vision subsidies; dependents are ineligible to receive these benefits. Retirees eligible for monthly medical allowance are also eligible for reimbursement of Medicare Part B premiums. The 2020 maximum monthly allowance for group plans was \$578.65 and \$443.28 for members enrolled in the individual plans through the Medicare exchange. The maximum monthly combined dental and vision subsidy was \$46.28 in 2020.

The actual amount of the monthly medical allowance for each retiree depends on the retiree's number of years of service. A minimum of 10 years of service is required for service retirement and non-duty disability retirement. There is no minimum service requirement for duty disability retirees. The subsidies are 50% for retirees with 10-14 years of service, 75% for retirees with 15-19 years of service, and 100% for retirees with 20+ years of service.

### Covered Retirees

Retirees currently enrolled in the medical, dental, and vision plans through the program are as follows:

As of December 31, 2020	
Number of Subsidized Retirees	
Medical	5,170
Medicare Exchange	1,623
Medicare Part B	5,654
Dental and Vision	8,020

## Contributions and Reserves

There are no legal or contractual contribution requirements for the OPEB plan. Please refer to Note 3 starting on [page 30](#) for details.

Reserve requirements of the SRBR are disclosed under Note 4 starting on [page 32](#).

## Investments

ACERA's OPEB plan is unique in that there are no direct contributions to invest for this plan. Funding for the OPEB plan relies entirely on semi-annual earnings

allocations from the total fund to the Supplemental Retiree Benefits Reserve (SRBR) as mandated by Article 5.5 of the 1937 Act. ACERA's total fund includes assets of the pension plan and SRBR. The OPEB assets are accumulated in the 401(h) account and the SRBR OPEB reserve account. Therefore, references to investment target allocations, long-term expected rate of return, and discount rate all apply to the total fund.

The total fund's annual money-weighted rate of return on investments, net of investment expenses is reported on [page 59](#) of the RSI.

## Net OPEB Liability

The components of the Net OPEB Liability were as follows:

(Dollars in Thousands)

	December 31, 2020	December 31, 2019
Total OPEB Liability	\$ 1,191,571	\$ 1,083,114
Plan's Fiduciary Net Position <sup>1</sup>	1,184,883	970,180
<b>Net OPEB Liability</b>	<b>\$ 6,688</b>	<b>\$ 112,934</b>
Plan's Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability	99.44%	89.57%

<sup>1</sup> For 2020, the Plan's Fiduciary Net Position shown (\$1,184,883) includes the OPEB-related SRBR reserve of \$882,528 (after reducing the reserve by the SRBR implicit subsidy transfer of \$7,549) and 401(h) reserve (\$9,052), plus the proportionate share of one-half of the net deferred investment gain that is commensurate with the size of the OPEB SRBR reserve to total SRBR and 401(h) reserve to valuation and 401(h) reserve (\$293,303), after adjusting the Contingency Reserve from \$69.0 to \$98.7 million (1% of total assets). For 2019, the Plan's Fiduciary Net Position shown (\$970,180) includes the OPEB-related SRBR reserve of \$877,769 (after reducing the reserve by the SRBR implicit subsidy transfer of \$6,511) and 401(h) reserve (\$10,416), plus the proportionate share of one-half of the net deferred investment gain that is commensurate with the size of the OPEB SRBR reserve to total SRBR and 401(h) reserve to valuation and 401(h) reserve (\$81,995), after first replenishing the Contingency Reserve from \$0 to \$89.4 million (1% of total assets). Note that amounts may not total properly due to rounding.

The Net OPEB Liability was measured as of December 31, 2020 and 2019. The Plan's Fiduciary Net Position was valued as of the measurement date, while the Total OPEB Liability was determined by rolling forward the Total OPEB Liability as of December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

## Plan Provisions

The plan provisions used in the measurement of the Net OPEB Liability as of December 31, 2020 and 2019 are the same as those used for the SRBR sufficiency valuation as of December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

## Actuarial Assumptions

The actuarial assumptions used for the December 31, 2020 valuation were based on the results of the experience study for the period from December 1, 2016 through November 30, 2019 that were approved by the Board effective with the December 31, 2020 valuation and the health care trend assumptions recommended for the sufficiency study for the SRBR as of December 31, 2020. The assumptions used in the December 31, 2020 SRBR OPEB actuarial valuation for ACERA were applied to all periods included in the measurement. The actuarial assumptions used for the December 31, 2019

valuation were based on the results of the experience study for the period from December 1, 2013 through November 30, 2016 that were approved by the Board effective with the December 31, 2017, valuation and the health care trend assumptions recommended for the

sufficiency study for the SRBR as of December 31, 2019. The assumptions used in the December 31, 2019, SRBR OPEB actuarial valuation for ACERA were applied to all periods included in the measurement.

### Key Assumptions Used in the Measurement

Valuation Date	December 31, 2020	December 31, 2019
Investment Rate of Return	7.00% , net of OPEB investment expense, including inflation	7.25%, net of OPEB investment expense, including inflation
Inflation	2.75%	3.00%
Health Care Premium Trend Rates <sup>1</sup>		
<b>Non-Medicare medical plan</b>	Graded from 6.75% to ultimate 4.50% over 9 years	Graded from 6.75% to ultimate 4.50% over 9 years
<b>Medicare medical plan</b>	Graded from 6.25% to ultimate 4.50% over 7 years	Graded from 6.25% to ultimate 4.50% over 7 years
<b>Dental</b>	0.00% for the first two years to reflect a three-year rate guarantee (premiums fixed at 2021 level for 2022 and 2023) and 4.00% thereafter.	4.00%
<b>Vision</b>	0.00% for the first four years to reflect a five-year rate guarantee (premiums fixed at 2021 level for 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025) and 4.00% thereafter.	4.00%
<b>Medicare Part-B<sup>2</sup></b>	4.50%	4.50%
Other Assumption Based on Actuarial Experience Study	December 1, 2016 through November 30, 2019	December 1, 2013 through November 30, 2016

1 The trend rates shown above for 2020 as of the December 31, 2019 measurement do not include a one-time reduction of 1.20% to the first year non-Medicare trend of 6.75% and 0.90% to the first year Medicare trend of 6.25% to reflect the recent repeal of the Health Insurance Tax (HIT) taking effect in 2021.

2 The actual calendar year 2020 trend of 2.70% reflecting the standard 2021 calendar year premium of \$148.50 per month, consistent with actuary's Medicare Part B memo dated November 12, 2020 was reflected in the current year GASB 74 valuation with December 31, 2020 measurement date.

### Long-Term Expected Rate of Return

The long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan investments<sup>1</sup> was determined in 2020 using a build-ing-block method in which expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These returns are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage, adding expected inflation and subtracting expected investment expenses

and a risk margin. The target allocation (approved by the Board) and projected arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class, after deducting inflation, but before investment expenses are shown in the following table. This information was used in the derivation of the long-term expected investment rate of return assumption for the December 31, 2020 actuarial valuation. This information will be subject to change every three years based on the results of an actuarial experience study.

1 Note that the investment return assumption for SRBR sufficiency (and pension funding) purposes was developed net of both investment and administrative expenses; however, the same investment return assumption was used for financial reporting purposes, and it was considered gross of administrative expenses for financial reporting purposes. (This resulted in an increase in the margin for adverse deviation when using that investment return assumption for financial reporting.)



### Target Asset Allocation and Projected Arithmetic Real Rate of Return

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Arithmetic Rate of Return
Domestic Large Cap Equity	22.40%	5.43%
Domestic Small Cap Equity	2.50%	6.21%
International Developed Equity	17.00%	6.67%
International Small Cap Equity	3.00%	7.36%
Emerging Markets Equity	5.00%	8.58%
Core Plus Fixed Income	11.50%	1.10%
High Yield Bonds	1.60%	2.91%
Global Fixed Income	3.00%	-0.63%
Private Equity	10.50%	10.00%
Core Real Estate	8.00%	4.58%
Commodities	0.75%	3.46%
Infrastructure	1.75%	7.80%
Private Credit	4.00%	8.50%
Absolute Return	9.00%	3.70%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>5.56%</b>

### Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the Total OPEB Liability was 7.00% and 7.25% as of December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019, respectively. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed benefits are paid out of the current OPEB SRBR assets. Based on those assumptions, the SRBR OPEB Plan's Fiduciary Net Position was projected to be available to

make all projected future benefit payments for current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on the OPEB plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the Total OPEB Liability as of December 31, 2020, and December 31, 2019.

### Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the Net OPEB Liability as of December 31, 2020, calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%, as well as what the Net OPEB Liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (6.00%) or 1-percentage-point higher (8.00%) than the current rate.

As of December 31, 2020 (Dollars in Thousands)

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
<b>Net OPEB Liability</b>	\$ 161,735	\$ 6,688	\$ (121,796)

### Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Health Care Cost Trend Rate

The following presents the Net OPEB liability as of December 31, 2020, calculated using the trend rate as well as what the Net OPEB Liability would be if it were calculated using a trend rate that is 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current rate.

As of December 31, 2020 (Dollars in Thousands)

	1% Decrease <sup>1</sup>	Current Trend Rates <sup>1</sup>	1% Increase <sup>1</sup>
	(6.00%)	(7.00%)	(8.00%)
<b>Net OPEB Liability</b>	\$ (146,614)	\$ 6,688	\$ 196,585

<sup>1</sup> Current trend rates: 6.75% graded down to 4.50% over 9 years for Non-Medicare medical plan costs; 6.25% graded down to 4.50% over 7 years for Medicare medical plan costs, 4.00% for all years after the first two years and four years for Dental and Vision costs, respectively; and 4.50% for all years for Medicare Part B costs. The first two years of trend for dental were 0.00% to reflect three-year rate guarantee (premiums fixed at 2021 levels for 2022 and 2023). The first four years of trend for vision were 0.00% to reflect five-year rate guarantee (premiums fixed at 2021 levels for 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025).

## 8. Deposits and Investments

The 1937 Act gives the Board of Retirement exclusive control over ACERA's investment portfolio. Except as otherwise restricted by the California constitution or other laws, the 1937 Act allows the Board of Retirement to prudently invest, or delegate the authority to invest the investment portfolio through the purchase, holding, or sale of any form or type of investment, financial instrument, or financial transaction.

The Board of Retirement investment authority granted under the 1937 Act was also incorporated into the state constitution as the California Pension Protection Act of 1992 (Article 16, Section 17 of the California Constitution), which requires the Board, its officers, and employees to discharge their duties with respect to ACERA and the investment portfolio under the following rules:

- “The members of the retirement board shall discharge their duties with respect to the system solely in the interest of, and for the exclusive purposes of providing benefits to participants and their beneficiaries, minimizing employer contributions thereto, and defraying reasonable expenses of administering the system.
- The members of the retirement board shall discharge their duties with the care, skill, prudence, and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing that a prudent person acting in a like capacity and familiar with these matters would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims.

- The members of the retirement board shall diversify the investments of the system so as to minimize the risk of loss and to maximize the rate of return, unless under the circumstances it is clearly not prudent to do so.”

### Deposits

Operational cash accounts held with a financial institution are swept daily into a pooled money market fund, which invests in repurchase agreements and U.S. treasury bills and notes.

### Investments

ACERA's asset classes include domestic equity, international equity, domestic fixed income, international fixed income, real estate, private equity, absolute return, private credit and real assets. Investments in any asset class may be held in direct form, commingled/pooled form, or both.

As of December 31, 2020, thirteen investment managers managed the stock and fixed income securities portfolios, twelve investment managers were used for real estate investments, twenty-eight investment managers were used for private equity, seven investment managers were used for absolute return, three investment managers were used for private credit and eight investment managers were used for real assets investments.

Available cash held by investment managers is swept daily into a pooled short-term investment fund managed by the custodial bank. This short-term investment fund holds short-term obligations and deposits, including U.S. treasury and agency obligations, corporate bonds, commercial paper, repurchase agreements, certificates of deposit, bankers' acceptances, time deposits, and floating-rate notes.

Likewise, cash collateral received in connection with the securities lending program in which ACERA participates is held in a separate short-term investment pool.

These two investment pools are each held in a trust fund sponsored by State Street Bank and Trust Company, the investment custodian, and the securities lending agent. They are regulated by the Federal Reserve, Comptroller of the Currency, the Massachusetts Commissioner of Banks, and the U.S. Department of Labor.

The value of the underlying instruments in these investments pools is adjusted to fair value. The fair value of ACERA's position in these investment pools is not materially different from the value of the pool shares.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board, Statement No. 72 (GASB 72), *Fair Value Measurement and Application*, generally requires investments to be measured at fair value, using the appropriate valuation techniques under the circumstances and for which sufficient data are available to measure the fair value. The three approaches to measuring fair value are:

1. Market Approach (actual market transactions for identical or similar items);
2. Cost Approach (the current cost to replace the service capacity of an asset); and
3. Income Approach (discounting the current value of the future cash flows).

The quality of the data (inputs) used to determine fair value can vary. Some inputs are directly or indirectly observable (independently verifiable). Other inputs are unobservable. GASB 72 establishes a three-tier hierarchy of inputs used to measure fair value consisting of:

1. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that a government can access at the measurement date. Level 1 investments include public equity securities and other publicly traded securities such as widely held domestic and international stocks, certain derivative instruments and U.S. Treasury securities.

2. Level 2 inputs are inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for an asset or liability, either directly or indirectly. These inputs can include quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active or inactive markets, or market-corroborated inputs. Fair values may be based on market multiples techniques and/or matrix pricing techniques. Level 2 investments include fixed or variable-income securities, commingled funds, certain derivative instruments and other assets that are valued using market information.
3. Level 3 inputs are unobservable inputs for an asset or liability. Included in this level are corporate bonds that are restricted and do not trade readily. The fair value of investments in real estate separate properties which is based on prices in a competitive market as determined by the investment manager relying on periodic appraisals is also included in Level 3 investments.

GASB 72 allows a government entity to use Net Asset Value (NAV) per share (or its equivalent) for an investment in a nongovernmental entity that does not have a readily determined fair value. Investments measured at NAV without determinable fair value are excluded from the level of fair value hierarchy. Selected additional disclosures are required for investments measured at NAV such as fair value measurement, government's unfunded commitments related to the investment type, general description of the terms and conditions upon which a government may redeem investments, and an estimate of when the redemption restriction might lapse for investments restricted from redemption. For private equity type investments, ACERA relies on the audited financial statements of its partnerships. The inputs used by the general partner include some or all of the following: the original transaction price, recent private transactions in the same or similar instruments, completed or pending third-party transactions in comparable businesses, recapitalizations and other transactions across the capital structure, public market valuation multiples for similar offerings in the equity or debt capital markets, as well as changes in the investment's earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, cash flows, implied yields and leverage ratios.

**Investments and Derivative Instruments Measured at Fair Value - Pension Plan**

As of December 31, 2020 (Dollars in Thousands)

Investments by Fair Value Level	Total	Fair Value Measurements Using		
		Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets	Significant Other Observable Inputs	Significant Unobservable Inputs
		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
<b>Cash Equivalents</b>				
Government Issues	\$ 26,661	\$ 26,661	\$ -	\$ -
STIF-Type Instruments	141,974	-	141,974	-
<b>Total Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>168,635</b>	<b>26,661</b>	<b>141,974</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Fixed Income Securities</b>				
Asset-Backed Securities	32,719	-	32,719	-
Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities	86,973	-	86,973	-
Convertible Bonds	16,552	-	16,552	-
Corporate Bonds	699,888	-	699,888	-
FHLMC	42,097	-	42,097	-
FNMA	75,661	-	75,661	-
GNMA I	1,268	-	1,268	-
GNMA II	12,429	-	12,429	-
Government Issues	315,485	152,298	163,187	-
Municipals	3,326	-	3,326	-
Mutual Funds	28,584	-	28,584	-
Non-Security Assets	127,851	-	127,851	-
<b>Total Fixed Income Securities</b>	<b>1,442,833</b>	<b>152,298</b>	<b>1,290,535</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Equity Securities</b>				
Non-U.S. Equity	1,296,336	1,294,128	2,208	-
Pooled Investments	3,620,160	3,413,352	206,808	-
U.S. Equity	562,387	562,387	-	-
<b>Total Equity Securities</b>	<b>5,478,883</b>	<b>5,269,867</b>	<b>209,016</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Real Assets</b>				
Mutual Funds	360,931	-	360,931	-
<b>Total Real Assets</b>	<b>360,931</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>360,931</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Real Estate</b>				
Properties	72,474	-	-	72,474
<b>Total Real Estate</b>	<b>72,474</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>72,474</b>
<b>Collateral from Securities Lending</b>	<b>117,171</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>117,171</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total Investments by Fair Value Level</b>	<b>7,640,927</b>	<b>\$ 5,448,826</b>	<b>\$ 2,119,627</b>	<b>\$ 72,474</b>
<b>Investments Measured at Net Asset Value (NAV)</b>				
Real Assets	106,955			
Private Equity	726,180			
Absolute Return	645,134			
Real Estate	528,671			
Private Credit	57,747			
<b>Total Investments Measured at NAV</b>	<b>2,064,687</b>			
<b>Total Investments</b>	<b>\$ 9,705,614</b>			
<b>Derivative Instruments</b>				
Futures	\$ 236	\$ 236	\$ -	\$ -
Forwards and Spot Contracts	5,853	5,853	-	-
<b>Total Derivative Instruments</b>	<b>\$ 6,089</b>	<b>\$ 6,089</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

## Investments Measured at the NAV

As of December 31, 2020 (Dollars in Thousands)

	Fair Value	Unfunded Commitments	Redemption Frequency (If Currently Eligible)	Redemption Notice Period
Real Assets <sup>1</sup>	\$ 106,955	\$ 158,673	Not Eligible	N/A
Private Equity <sup>2</sup>	726,180	505,214	Not Eligible	N/A
Absolute Return <sup>3</sup>	645,134	8,314	Not Eligible, or Between Daily and Quarterly	N/A or Between 1 Day and 90 Days
Real Estate <sup>4</sup>	528,671	113,205	Not Eligible or Quarterly	N/A or up to 90 Days
Private Credit <sup>5</sup>	57,747	97,623	Not Eligible	N/A
<b>Total Investments Measured at NAV</b>	<b>\$ 2,064,687</b>	<b>\$ 883,029</b>		

<sup>1</sup> The Real Assets portfolio consists of 9 funds which include 8 limited partnerships and 1 separately managed account. The eight limited partnerships are commingled vehicles that invest in private infrastructure and natural resources. Two of the eight limited partnerships were committed to in 2020, but had yet to call capital by 12/31/20. These limited partnerships are valued at net asset value on a quarterly basis and, due to contractual limitations, none of these vehicles are eligible for redemption but rather distribute capital proceeds over the funds' lifespans, which are up to 12 years. The one separately managed account holds shares in three commingled vehicles. These commingled vehicles invest in publically traded infrastructure and natural resources equities, commodity futures, and total return swaps. This separately managed account is not measured at net asset value and classified as level 2 in fair value hierarchy.

<sup>2</sup> Private Equity – The Private Equity portfolio consists of 54 funds, which invest primarily in buyout, debt-related, special situations, and venture capital opportunities. The fair value of these funds is determined using net asset value represented in the audited financial statements plus/minus the latest quarterly cash flows. These funds are not eligible for redemption but rather distribute capital proceeds over the funds' lifespans in either cash or "in-kind" shares of the funds' portfolio companies. Distributions to the funds' investors occur over the span of approximately 8 to 15 years.

<sup>3</sup> Absolute Return – The Absolute Return portfolio consists of 8 funds that include a variety of commingled, liquid and illiquid idiosyncratic strategies and one fund of hedge funds account. There are three illiquid limited partnerships. These vehicles are valued at net asset value on a quarterly basis. Due to contractual limitations, two of these vehicles are not eligible for redemption for up to 6 years, while the third vehicle can be terminated by majority limited partners vote or by the general partner. There are five hedge fund model limited partnerships and limited liability companies, including the fund of hedge funds account. Valuations occur monthly. Redemptions can occur between daily and quarterly with a range of one day to 90 days' notice.

<sup>4</sup> Real Estate – The Real Estate portfolio consists of 14 funds and a separate building (1), which also serves as ACERA's headquarters. The Real Estate funds in the portfolio invest primarily in U.S. commercial real estate (office, industrial, retail, multi-family, and other). These funds are designed as commingled funds or as limited partnerships (private equity structure). The investments that are structured as private equity or limited partnerships are not eligible for redemption but rather distribute proceeds over the funds' lifespan as distributions or return of capital. The primary objectives of the real estate portfolio are income and appreciation; distribution income is typically made on a quarterly basis throughout the lives of the funds. The fair value of these funds is determined using third-party appraisals every three years or an internal appraisal. Net asset values are typically reported one quarter in arrears, plus/minus the latest quarter's cash flows (capital calls and distributions). The commingled accounts are eligible for redemption, typically, with up to 90 days' notice. These commingled funds are also subject to a withdrawal queue.

<sup>5</sup> Private Credit – The Private Credit Portfolio is comprised of 3 Funds. The funds are illiquid limited partnerships and are valued at net asset value on a quarterly basis. Due to contractual limitations, the funds are not eligible for redemption but rather distribute capital proceeds over the funds' lifespans, which are up to nine years. Private Credit investments are typically performing senior secured, first or second lien loans secured against the assets of a company. Two funds were committed in 2020 but had yet to call capital by 12/31/2020 which are included in total funds.

## Derivative Instruments

ACERA has the following types of derivative instruments: futures contracts, currency forward contracts, spot contracts, swap contracts, and warrants. A futures contract represents an agreement to purchase or sell a particular asset for a given price at a specified future date. Currency forward contracts generally serve to hedge or offset, the impact of foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations on the reported U.S. dollar fair value of investments denominated in foreign currencies. A swap is a derivative contract through which two parties exchange the cash flows or liabilities from two different financial instruments. Warrants allow the holder

the right, but not the obligation, to buy or sell a security for a given price within a specified time period.

The following Investment Derivative Instruments schedule reports the fair value balances, changes in fair value, and notional amounts of derivative instruments outstanding as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020, classified by type. For financial reporting purposes, all ACERA derivative instruments are classified as investment derivative instruments.

## Investment Derivative Instruments

For Year Ended December 31, 2020 (Dollars in Thousands)

Derivative Type	Classification	Notional Value/Shares	Fair Value	Changes in Fair Value <sup>2</sup>
Currency Forward Contracts	Receivable/Liability <sup>1</sup>	\$ 288,478	\$ 5,852	\$ (5,942)
Futures Contracts - Long	Futures	-	-	6,033
Futures Contracts - Short	Futures	(16,400)	-	1,532
Index Futures Long	Futures	-	-	(3,846)
Index Futures Short	Futures	-	-	(853)
Total Return Swaps Bond	Swaps	-	-	6,517
Total Return Swaps Equity	Swaps	-	-	(77)
Warrants	Equity	15	4	4
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 5,856</b>	<b>\$ 3,368</b>

<sup>1</sup> Currency forward contracts are reported in Foreign Exchange Contracts, which includes spot contracts which are not derivative instruments.

<sup>2</sup> Change in fair value includes realized and unrealized gains and losses on derivative instruments and is reported as Net Appreciation (Depreciation) in Fair Value of Investments on the Statements of Changes in ACERA's Fiduciary Net Position.

## Securities Lending Activity

The Board of Retirement policies authorize ACERA to participate in a securities lending program. Securities lending transactions are short-term collateralized loans of ACERA's securities for the purpose of generating additional investment income. ACERA has a securities lending agreement in place that authorizes the securities lending agent to lend ACERA's securities to broker-dealers and banks pursuant to a loan agreement. For securities on loan, ACERA receives either cash or non-cash collateral. ACERA invests the cash collateral in a pooled short-term investment fund maintained by the securities lending agent and receives earnings on it in exchange for paying a loan rebate fee to the borrower. In the case of non-cash collateral, the borrower pays ACERA a loan premium.

For the year ended December 31, 2020, on behalf of ACERA, the securities lending agent lent ACERA's securities (government bonds, corporate stocks, corporate bonds, international equities, and international fixed income) to borrowers under the securities lending agreement and ACERA received cash (U.S. and foreign currency), securities issued or guaranteed by the United States government, and sovereign debt or irrevocable

bank letters-of-credit as collateral.

ACERA did not have the ability to pledge or sell collateral securities delivered absent a borrower default (therefore, such non-cash collateral is not reported on the Statement of Fiduciary Net Position).

Borrowers were required to deliver collateral for each loan equal to:

- Loaned securities denominated in U.S. dollars or sovereign debt issued by foreign governments, with a margin of at least 102% of the fair value of the loaned securities; or
- Loaned securities not denominated in U.S. dollars, or whose primary trading market was not located in the United States, with a margin of at least 105% of the fair value of the loaned securities.

Moreover, borrowers were required to maintain the designated margin percentage of collateral on a daily basis.

ACERA did not impose any restrictions for the year ended December 31, 2020, on the amount of the loans that the securities lending agent made on its behalf. In the event the borrower failed to return the loaned securities, the securities lending agent indemnified ACERA by agreeing to purchase replacement securities. If the



collateral was inadequate to replace the securities lent, the securities lending agent supplemented the amount of cash collateral. If the borrower failed to pay ACERA for any income distributions on loaned securities, the securities lending agent will also supplement the income amount due to ACERA. There were no losses during the year ended December 31, 2020, resulting from a default of the borrowers or the securities lending agent.

For the year ended December 31, 2020, ACERA and the borrowers maintained the right to terminate securities lending transactions upon notice. The cash collateral received on each loan was invested, together with the cash collateral of other qualified tax-exempt plan lenders in a short-term investment pool managed by the securities lending agent. For the 2020 fiscal year, the short-term investment fund is separated into two investment pools: (a) a liquidity pool and (b) a duration pool. As of December 31, 2020, the Quality D Short-Term investment fund liquidity pool had an average duration of 16 days and an average weighted final maturity of 76 days for U.S. dollars collateral. The Quality D Short-Term investment fund duration pool had an average duration of 17 days and an average weighted final maturity of 1,539 days for U.S. dollars collateral. For the year ended December 31, 2020, ACERA had no credit risk exposure to borrowers because, for each borrower, the value of borrower collateral held exceeded the value of the securities on loan to the borrower.

As of December 31, 2020, ACERA had securities on loan with a total fair value of \$173.53 million; however, the cash collateral held against the loaned securities was \$178.29 million which is more than the total fair value of loaned securities by \$4.76 million.

### Deposit, Investment, and Derivative Instrument Risks

GASB Statements No. 40 (GASB 40) and No. 53 (GASB 53) require the disclosure of specific risks that apply to ACERA's deposits, investments, and derivative instruments. They identify the following risks:

- Custodial Credit Risk—Deposits and Investments;
- Concentration of Credit Risk;
- Credit Risk—Investments and Derivative Instruments;
- Interest Rate Risk;
- Fair Value Highly Sensitive to Changes in Interest Rates; and,
- Foreign Currency Risk

### Investment Policies

GASB 40 requires the disclosure of deposit or investment policies (or the lack thereof) that relate to investment and custodial risks.

ACERA has chosen to manage the investment risks described by GASB 40 and GASB 53 by contractually requiring each portfolio investment manager to abide by restrictive investment guidelines specifically tailored to that individual manager rather than adopting across-the-board investment policies with respect to these investment risks. The guidelines stipulate the investment style, performance objective, performance benchmarks, and portfolio characteristics.

For example, in the case of foreign currency risk, the policy guidelines for the U.S. dollars equity portfolios differ from those for the non-U.S. dollars equity portfolios. Likewise, in the case of credit risk, the guidelines for one fixed income manager stipulate a minimum acceptable credit rating for each debt instrument while the guidelines for a different fixed income portfolio merely require that the average credit ratings for a certain fair value percentage of the portfolio meet a minimum requirement.

Each separate account manager is likewise subject to a “manager standard of care” that establishes a fiduciary relationship requiring the manager to act prudently and solely in the best interest of ACERA.

Separately, ACERA's guidelines also require each manager's investment return performance to compare favorably with the performance of the relevant passive

market index such as the Barclays Capital Aggregate Bond Index.

ACERA's investment staff continually monitors all investment managers for compliance with the respective guidelines.

### Custodial Credit Risk—Deposits

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, ACERA will not be able to recover deposits nor be able to recover collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. ACERA has no general policy on custodial credit risk for deposits.

By necessity, ACERA maintains operational cash deposits to support day-to-day cash management requirements. As of December 31, 2020, cash held with a financial institution in a pooled money market fund amounted to \$2.58 million, of which \$0.25 million was insured and \$2.33 million was uninsured and uncollateralized subject to custodial credit risk.

### Custodial Credit Risk—Investments

The custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a counterparty to a transaction, ACERA will not be able to recover the value of investment securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The individual investment guidelines for each investment manager require that managed investments be held and maintained with the master custodian in the name of ACERA. The master custodian may rely on sub-custodians. The custodial requirement does not apply to real estate investments, investments in commingled pools, private equity, absolute return, private credit and real assets. As of December 31, 2020, ACERA had no investments that were exposed to custodial credit risk.

### Custodial Credit Risk—Derivative Instruments

ACERA's investments include collateral associated with derivative instruments. As of December 31, 2020, net collateral for derivative instruments was (\$1.4) million. Each account was uninsured and uncollateralized, and subject to custodial credit risk.

### Concentration of Credit Risk

Concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss attributed to the magnitude of ACERA's investment in a single issuer of securities. The individual investment guidelines for each fixed income manager restrict concentrations greater than 5% in the securities of any one issuer (excluding direct obligations of the U.S. and/or eligible foreign governments, and those explicitly guaranteed by the U.S. and/or eligible foreign governments). As of December 31, 2020, ACERA had no investments in a single issuer that equaled or exceeded 5% of the fiduciary net position.

### Credit Risk—Investments

Credit risk is the risk that the issuer of a debt security or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations. The individual investment guidelines for each fixed income investment manager describe applicable restrictions on credit risk. The credit risk restrictions by investment portfolio are as follows:

The credit quality ratings of a security, (e.g., from Moody's or S&P) give an indication of the degree of credit risk for that security.

The Credit Risk Analysis schedule on [page 50](#) discloses credit ratings of ACERA's debt investments by type and for each external investment pool as of December 31, 2020.

## Credit Risk Analysis

As of December 31, 2020 (Dollars in Thousands)

	Adjusted Moody's Credit Rating <sup>1</sup>									
	Total	Aaa	Aa	A	Baa	Ba	B	Caa	Ca and Below	Not Rated
<b>Debt Investments By Type</b>										
Collateralized										
Mortgage Obligations	\$ 86,974	\$ 47,507	\$ 965	\$ 737	\$ 799	\$ 83	\$ 592	\$ 1,642	\$ 193	\$ 34,456
Convertible Bonds	16,551	-	-	-	690	-	-	4,691	-	11,170
Corporate Bonds	699,888	5,878	8,664	87,500	441,473	117,890	24,439	13,306	-	738
Federal Home Loan										
Mortgage Corp. <sup>2</sup>	42,097	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42,097
Federal National										
Mortgage Assn. <sup>2</sup>	75,661	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	75,661
Government National										
Mortgage Assn. I, II <sup>2</sup>	13,696	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,696
Government Issues <sup>3</sup>	315,485	268,324	9,192	7,381	23,281	368	-	-	-	6,939
Municipal Bonds	3,326	113	627	2,586	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Asset Backed										
Securities	32,719	20,003	695	1,039	1,930	1,172	-	1,607	3,394	2,879
<b>Subtotal Debt Investments</b>	<b>1,286,397</b>	<b>341,825</b>	<b>20,143</b>	<b>99,243</b>	<b>468,173</b>	<b>119,513</b>	<b>25,031</b>	<b>21,246</b>	<b>3,587</b>	<b>187,636</b>
<b>External Investment Pools of Debt Securities</b>										
Securities Lending Cash Collateral Fund										
Liquidation Pool <sup>4</sup>	116,321	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	116,321
Duration Pool <sup>4</sup>	808	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	808
Master Custodian										
Short-Term										
Investment Fund <sup>4</sup>	141,973	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	141,973
<b>Subtotal External Investment Pools</b>	<b>259,102</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>259,102</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,545,499</b>	<b>\$341,825</b>	<b>\$ 20,143</b>	<b>\$ 99,243</b>	<b>\$ 468,173</b>	<b>\$ 119,513</b>	<b>\$ 25,031</b>	<b>\$ 21,246</b>	<b>\$ 3,587</b>	<b>\$ 446,738</b>

<sup>1</sup> Adjusted Moody's Credit Rating: This schedule displays the fair value of investments by credit rating in increasing magnitude of risk. Investments are classified by Moody's credit rating, or by the Moody's rating that corresponds to the Standard & Poor's (S&P) credit rating if the investment has a S&P rating but not a Moody's rating. Also whenever both ratings for an investment exist and the S&P rating for the investment indicates a greater degree of risk than the Moody's rating, then the investment's Moody's credit rating is adjusted, solely for the purpose of this disclosure, to the Moody's rating corresponding to the greater degree of risk.

<sup>2</sup> The investments in the following debt instruments --i.e., Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp., Federal National Mortgage Assn., and Government National Mortgage Assn., that are Not Rated are implicitly guaranteed by the U.S. Government.

<sup>3</sup> In Government issues, the investments that are Not Rated are composed of foreign investments that are guaranteed by the foreign governments issuing the debt.

<sup>4</sup> The external investment pools are not rated.

## Credit Risk—Derivative Instruments

ACERA is exposed to credit risk on investment derivative instruments that are traded over the counter and are reported in asset positions. Derivative instruments exposed to credit risk include currency forward contracts, and synthetic futures (which are included in futures contracts). To minimize credit risk exposure, ACERA's investment managers continually monitor credit ratings of counterparties. Should there be a counterparty failure, ACERA would be exposed to the loss of the fair value of derivative instruments that are in asset positions and any collateral provided to the counterparty, net of the effect of applicable netting arrangements. ACERA has no general investment policy with respect to netting arrangements or collateral requirements. Netting arrangements legally provide ACERA with a right of set-off in the events of bankruptcy or default by the counterparty. ACERA's investment managers may have collateral posting provisions associated with currency forward contracts. In the event of counterparty failure, ACERA would be exposed to loss of collateral provided to the counterparty. Collateral provided by the counterparty to ACERA reduces its credit risk exposure. The collateral associated with investment derivative instruments is disclosed on [page <?>](#) under Custodial Credit Risk—Derivative Instruments.

The following Credit Risk—Derivative Instruments schedule discloses the counterparty credit ratings of ACERA's investment derivative instruments in asset positions by type, as of December 31, 2020. These amounts represent the maximum loss that would be recognized if all counterparties fail to perform as contracted, without respect to any collateral or other security, or netting arrangement.

## Credit Risk Analysis – Investment Derivative Instruments Subject to Credit Risk

As of December 31, 2020 (Dollars in Thousands)

Adjusted Moody's Credit Rating <sup>1</sup>	Fair Value	%
Aa	\$ 7,153	99%
BBB	51	1%
<b>Subtotal Derivative Instruments in Asset Position</b>		<b>7,204 100%</b>
Derivative Instruments in Liability Position		(1,352)
<b>Total Derivative Instruments in Asset/(Liability) Position</b>		<b>\$ 5,852</b>

See footnote 1 on [page 50](#).

As of December 31, 2020, the \$7.2 million maximum exposure of derivative instruments credit risk was reduced by (\$1.4) million of liabilities included in netting arrangements, resulting in a net exposure to credit risk of \$5.8 million (rounded).

## Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment.

ACERA has investments in three fixed income portfolios containing individual debt securities as well as investments in external investment pools containing debt securities. All of these investments are subject to interest rate risk. ACERA has no general policy on interest rate risk for the fixed income portfolios or for the investments in external pools. ACERA manages interest rate risk for the three fixed-income portfolios by setting limits on portfolio duration for each portfolio. The duration restrictions by investment portfolio (with portfolio style) are as follows:

The following Interest Rate Risk Analysis—Duration schedule discloses the duration of ACERA's debt

investments by type and the duration of each of the external investment pools of debt securities. Duration is a measure of a debt investment's exposure to fair value changes arising from changing interest rates. It uses the present values of cash flows, weighted for those cash

flows as a percentage of the investment's full price. The Master Custodian Short-Term Investment Fund had an average weighted maturity of 46 days as of December 31, 2020.

### Interest Rate Risk Analysis - Duration

As of December 31, 2020 (Dollars in Thousands)

Debt Investments by Type	Fair Value	Duration in Years
Collateralized Mortgage Obligations	\$ 86,974	3.4
Convertible Bonds	16,551	1.1
Corporate Bonds	699,888	7.6
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.	42,097	-0.7
Federal National Mortgage Assn.	75,661	0.9
Government National Mortgage Assn. I, II	13,696	-1.0
Government Issues	315,485	9.5
Municipal Bonds	3,326	7.3
Other Asset Backed Securities	32,719	2.5
<b>Total of Debt Investments</b>	<b>\$ 1,286,397</b>	
External Investment Pools of Debt Securities	Fair Value	Duration
Securities Lending Cash Collateral Fund		
Liquidity Pool	\$ 116,321	16 days
Duration Pool	808	17 days
Master Custodian Short-Term Investment Fund	141,973	-
<b>Total External Investment Pools</b>	<b>\$ 259,102</b>	

## Fair Value Highly Sensitive to Changes in Interest Rates

The Interest Rate Risk Analysis table below discloses the degree to which ACERA's investments are sensitive to interest rate changes due simply to the remaining term to maturity. In contrast, ACERA's investments with

fair values that are highly sensitive to interest rates due to other factors are disclosed on the Interest Rate Risk Analysis - Highly Sensitive schedule below. ACERA has no general investment policy with respect to investments with fair values that are highly sensitive to changes in interest rates.

### Interest Rate Risk Analysis - Highly Sensitive

As of December 31, 2020 (Dollars in Thousands)

Investment Type	Investment Description	Interest Rates	Fair Value
Collateralized Mortgage Obligations	Freddie Mac STACR	1.00%	\$ 689
Corporate Bonds	Various debt related Securities	1.00% to 7.69%	76,226
Government Issues	Various debt related Securities	1.75% to 8.50%	22,006

Investment with Fair Values Highly Sensitive to Changes in Interest Rates

## Foreign Currency Risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that changes in foreign exchange rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment or deposit. ACERA has no general investment policy with respect to foreign currency risk.

### Foreign Currency Risk—Investments

The Foreign Currency Risk Analysis schedule on [page 54](#) shows the fair value of investments that are exposed to this risk by currency denomination and investment type. This provides an indication of the magnitude of foreign currency risk for each currency.

### Foreign Currency Risk—Swap and Futures Contracts

Swap and futures contracts are derivative instruments. A swap is a derivative contract through which two parties exchange the cash flows or liabilities from two different financial instruments. A futures contract represents an agreement to purchase or sell a particular asset for a given price at a specified future date.

For those swap and futures contracts which are dollar-denominated securities issued by foreign countries, there is an exposure to a foreign currency risk.

### Foreign Currency Risk—Foreign Exchange Contracts

Foreign exchange contracts are subject to foreign currency risk. Foreign exchange contracts include currency forward contracts and spot contracts. Currency forward contracts are derivative instruments and are described in the derivative instruments section of this note. Spot contracts are generally used when ACERA is required to make or receive payments in a foreign currency. Spot contracts are agreements to buy or sell a certain amount of foreign currency at the current market rate, for settlement in two business days.

The dollar impact that foreign exchange contracts have on foreign currency risk is equal to the foreign currency settlement amounts translated in the same manner as the investments (i.e. spot exchange rate at the end of the year). The impact appears in the column labeled Foreign Currency on the schedule on [page 54](#). The Net Exposure column of the schedule indicates the net foreign currency risk, i.e., the gross risk associated with the investments less the risk hedged by the outstanding foreign exchange contracts.



## Foreign Currency Risk Analysis

Fair Value of Investments Exposed to Foreign Currency Risk by Currency

As of December 31, 2020 (Dollars in Thousands)

Trade Currency Name	Investment Type												Net Exposure
	Common Stock	Corporate Bonds	Foreign Currency	Government Issues	Collateralized Mortgage Obligations	Depository Receipts	Currency Swap	Limited Partnership	Preferred Stock	Real Estate Investment Trust	Warrants / Rights		
Argentine Peso	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12	\$ 315	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 327
Australian Dollar	7,842	-	120	24,105	-	-	(656)	-	-	-	-	-	31,411
Brazilian Real	8,132	-	-	-	-	-	302	-	3,985	-	-	-	12,419
Canadian Dollar	14,087	-	453	-	-	-	51	-	-	5,650	-	-	20,241
Chilean Peso	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,514	-	-	-	-	-	1,514
Czech Koruna	-	-	-	-	-	-	482	-	-	-	-	-	482
Danish Krone	36,814	-	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36,840
Euro Currency	344,502	-	366	-	571	290	(14)	33,725	691	376	-	-	380,507
Hong Kong Dollar	121,780	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	801	-	-	122,595
Hungarian Forint	-	-	-	-	-	-	258	-	-	-	-	-	258
Iceland Krona	3,377	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,377
Indian Rupee	-	-	-	-	-	-	199	-	-	-	-	-	199
Indonesian Rupiah	7,446	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,446
Japanese Yen	240,200	-	1,641	-	-	-	185	-	-	129	-	-	242,155
Malaysian Ringgit	-	-	-	6,479	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,479
Mexican Peso	820	371	-	19,559	-	-	880	-	-	-	-	-	21,630
New Israeli Sheqel	472	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	479
New Taiwan Dollar	14,546	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,546
New Zealand Dollar	2,306	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,309
Norwegian Krone	8,068	-	4	-	-	-	340	-	-	-	-	-	8,412
Philippine Peso	171	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	171
Polish Zloty	2,315	-	-	902	-	-	(30)	-	-	-	-	-	3,187
Pound Sterling	184,923	-	398	-	-	-	1,479	-	-	66	-	-	186,866
Russian Ruble	-	-	-	-	-	-	235	-	-	-	-	-	235
Singapore Dollar	21,956	-	58	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22,014
South African Rand	6,310	-	-	368	-	-	57	-	-	-	-	-	6,735
South Korean Won	7,465	-	-	-	-	-	571	-	-	-	-	-	8,036
Swedish Krona	29,012	-	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29,034
Swiss Franc	56,381	-	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	56,485
Thailand Baht	2,408	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,408
UAE Dirham	141	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	141
Yuan Renminbi	8,945	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,945
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$1,130,419</b>	<b>\$ 371</b>	<b>\$ 3,224</b>	<b>\$ 51,728</b>	<b>\$ 571</b>	<b>\$ 290</b>	<b>\$ 5,853</b>	<b>\$ 33,725</b>	<b>\$ 4,676</b>	<b>\$ 7,022</b>	<b>\$ 4</b>	<b>\$ 1,237,883</b>	

## Real Estate

### Real Estate Investment Income – Separate Properties

For the Year Ended December 31, 2020  
(Dollars in Thousands)

<b>Real Estate Investment Income</b>	
Real Estate Income	\$ 5,839
Less Operating Expenses	(2,962)
<b>Real Estate Net Income</b>	<b>\$ 2,877</b>

There is no outstanding real estate related debt associated with the separate properties as of December 31, 2020.

## 9. Capital Assets

ACERA's capital assets include equipment and furniture, electronic document management system, information systems, leasehold improvements, and construction in progress. See the following table for details.

### Capital Assets and Accumulated Depreciation

For the Year Ended December 31, 2020 (Dollars in Thousands)

	January 1, 2020	Additions	Deletions / Transfers	December 31, 2020
<b>CAPITAL ASSETS - DEPRECIABLE</b>				
Equipment and Furniture	\$ 3,084	\$ 10	\$ -	\$ 3,094
Right-to-Use Leased Office Equipment	205	8	-	213
Electronic Document Management System	4,163	9	-	4,172
Information Systems	10,457	-	-	10,457
Leasehold Improvements	2,585	-	-	2,585
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>20,494</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,521</b>
<b>CAPITAL ASSETS - NON DEPRECIABLE</b>				
Construction-in-Progress	1,113	1,779	(19)	2,873
<b>Total Capital Assets (Cost)</b>	<b>21,607</b>	<b>1,806</b>	<b>(19)</b>	<b>23,394</b>
<b>ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION AND AMORTIZATION</b>				
Equipment and Furniture	(3,020)	(23)	-	(3,043)
Right-to-Use Leased Office Equipment	(44)	(42)	-	(86)
Electronic Document Management System	(4,163)	(1)	-	(4,164)
Information Systems	(10,457)	-	-	(10,457)
Leasehold Improvements	(1,230)	(95)	-	(1,325)
<b>Total Accumulated Depreciation and Amortization</b>	<b>(18,914)</b>	<b>(161)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(19,075)</b>
<b>CAPITAL ASSETS - NET OF ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION AND AMORTIZATION</b>	<b>\$ 2,693</b>	<b>\$ 1,645</b>	<b>\$ (19)</b>	<b>\$ 4,319</b>

ACERA implemented GASB Statement No. 87, *Leases* as of January 1, 2020. Separate disclosures have been provided for leases that meet the requirements of GASB 87 and those that do not fall under the provisions of GASB 87.

ACERA has two leases that fall under GASB 87 and

the details of these leases are as follows:

ACERA entered into a five-year lease for photocopiers and printers on December 1, 2018. The payments are due monthly in arrears. The monthly payment of \$6,254 included a lease portion of \$4,405 and non-lease/service portion of \$1,849 at the beginning of lease. The lessor

increased the rental amount by 2.14% after year one of the lease term. ACERA estimated the same percentage increase over the lease term in the lease liability calculation. However, per the terms of the contract, the lessor can increase the rental payment by up to 10% annually over the term of the lease. ACERA estimated an annual interest rate of 12.05% was charged on this lease based on the total market value of leased assets provided by the lessor. Currently, ACERA does not plan to extend this lease after the completion of the lease term on November 30, 2023.

ACERA entered into a five-year lease for postage machine on August 1, 2020. The payments are due quarterly in advance. The quarterly payment of \$944 includes a lease portion of \$473 and non-lease/service portion of \$471. There is no increase in the quarterly payments as per the lease agreement. ACERA estimated an annual interest rate of 10.76% was charged on this lease based on the total market value of leased assets provided by the lessor. Currently, ACERA does not plan to extend this lease after the completion of the lease term on July 31, 2025.

**Future Lease Payment Maturity Schedule under GASB-87**

As of December 31, 2020 (Dollars in Thousands)

Year	Principal	Interest	Total Payment
2021	\$ 42	\$ 15	\$ 57
2022	49	10	59
2023	51	3	54
2024*	2	-	2
2025*	1	-	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 145</b>	<b>\$ 28</b>	<b>\$ 173</b>

\* Interest amounts for 2024 and 2025 are not reported in the table as the rounded amounts are less than \$1,000.

Since we implemented GASB 87 this year, no variable and other payments were recognized

during the year which were not previously included in lease liability. There are no outstanding lease commitments and no impairment losses were recognized.

**10. Leases**

ACERA leases office space from Oakland 14th St. Office, a title holding corporation formed by ACERA. The original lease term was extended for seven years and shall expire on December 31, 2021, with an option to renew for five additional years. Under the terms of the lease agreement, ACERA’s base rent is abated. However, ACERA is required to pay its proportionate share of building operating expenses as defined in the lease. ACERA’s share of these operating expenses was approximately \$53,000 for the year ended December 31, 2020.

**11. Administration Expense**

ACERA’s Board of Retirement annually adopts an operating expense budget covering expenses to be incurred in the following fiscal year. The operating budget includes the administration expense budget which is subject to the statutory limit based on exclusions specified in the 1937 Act.

ACERA has adopted the provisions of the 1937 Act which allows ACERA to exclude actuarial, investment, legal, business continuity and technology direct costs from administration expenses. Since investment related expenses were offset against investment income, the remaining exclusions totaled \$2.8 million for 2020. ACERA also conforms to the provision of the 1937 Act that limits the administration cap to 0.21 percent of the Accrued Actuarial Liability (AAL). ACERA uses the AAL as of December 31 of the year in which the budget is adopted for this purpose.

A schedule of Administration Expense is included in the Supplemental Schedules on [page 65](#).

## Application of Statutory Limit on Administration Expense

For the Year Ended December 31, 2020 (Dollars in Thousands)

Total Accrued Actuarial Liability as of December 31, 2019	\$	11,064,760
Limit: Maximum Allowable fraction of Total Accrued Actuarial Liability (0.21%) times Total Accrued Actuarial Liability	\$	23,236
Portion of Administrative Expenses for the Fiscal Year subject to the Statutory Limit		13,422
Excess of Limit over Portion of Administration Expense Subject to Limit	\$	9,814
Portion of Administration Expense Subject to Limit as a Percentage of Accrued Actuarial Liability		0.12%

## 12. Related Party Transactions

By necessity, ACERA is involved in various business transactions with the County, the primary plan sponsor. These include reimbursement to the County for the salary and benefits of ACERA staff members paid through the County and reimbursement to the Alameda County Human Resources Department for personnel consulting services and for administering ACERA's retired members' health benefits. Also, under the Board of Retirement policy, ACERA reimburses the County for a portion of the salary and benefits of each County employee elected to the Board of Retirement. Lastly, ACERA reimburses the County for the cost of services provided in the following areas: insurance/risk management, information technology, and telecommunications. Also, ACERA leases office space from Oakland 14th St. Office, a title holding company controlled by ACERA. Note 10—Leases describes this arrangement.

## Related Party Transactions

For the Year Ended December 31, 2020  
(Dollars in Thousands)

Reimbursed Cost of ACERA	
Staff Members	\$ 13,960
Reimbursed Costs of County Services	890
State Mandated Benefit Replacement Program IRC 415(m)	798
County Personnel Services	77
Partial Salary/Benefits Reimbursement for Elected Board Members	354
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 16,079</b>

## 13. Subsequent Events

Management has evaluated subsequent events through May 13, 2021, the date ACERA's financial statements are available to be issued, and has determined that no adjustments are necessary to the amounts reported in the accompanying financial statements.

# Required Supplementary Information (RSI)

## Pension Plan and Non-OPEB

### Schedule of Changes in Net Pension Liability and Related Ratios

For the Years Ended December 31 (Dollars in Thousands)

	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
<b>Total Pension Liability (TPL)<sup>1</sup></b>								
Service Cost <sup>2</sup>	\$ 221,824	\$ 215,625	\$ 209,890	\$ 187,409	\$ 175,642	\$ 172,585	\$ 167,120	\$ 166,639
Interest	718,927	688,655	659,592	636,556	603,168	579,500	542,377	522,203
Changes of benefit terms	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Differences between expected and actual experience	33,007	24,548	13,710	17,516	(68,176)	(31,965)	(85,379)	(61,362)
Changes of assumptions	236,513	-	-	316,728	150,677	-	431,863	-
Benefit payments, including refunds of member contributions	(530,763)	(504,185)	(471,943)	(445,288)	(422,223)	(401,298)	(378,689)	(359,938)
<b>Net Change in Total Pension Liability</b>	<b>679,508</b>	<b>424,643</b>	<b>411,249</b>	<b>712,921</b>	<b>439,088</b>	<b>318,822</b>	<b>677,292</b>	<b>267,542</b>
<b>Total Pension Liability - Beginning</b>	<b>9,959,792</b>	<b>9,535,149</b>	<b>9,123,900</b>	<b>8,410,979</b>	<b>7,971,891</b>	<b>7,653,069</b>	<b>6,975,777</b>	<b>6,708,235</b>
<b>Total Pension Liability - Ending (a)</b>	<b>\$10,639,300</b>	<b>\$ 9,959,792</b>	<b>\$ 9,535,149</b>	<b>\$ 9,123,900</b>	<b>\$ 8,410,979</b>	<b>\$ 7,971,891</b>	<b>\$ 7,653,069</b>	<b>\$ 6,975,777</b>
<b>Plan's Fiduciary Net Position (FNP)</b>								
Contributions - employer <sup>3</sup>	\$ 309,753	\$ 298,527	\$ 269,684	\$ 247,064	\$ 241,729	\$ 224,607	\$ 213,255	\$ 191,180
Contributions - member	106,104	103,117	94,736	89,326	85,736	82,949	79,714	76,230
Net investment income	755,501	1,165,767	(216,308)	1,065,908	423,718	49,021	318,245	736,914
Benefit payments, including refunds of member contributions	(530,763)	(504,185)	(471,943)	(445,288)	(422,223)	(401,298)	(378,689)	(359,938)
Administrative expense	(14,810)	(15,274)	(15,246)	(14,571)	(14,618)	(14,262)	(13,855)	(13,634)
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net Change in Plan's Fiduciary Net Position</b>	<b>625,785</b>	<b>1,047,952</b>	<b>(339,077)</b>	<b>942,439</b>	<b>314,342</b>	<b>(58,983)</b>	<b>218,670</b>	<b>630,752</b>
<b>Plan's Fiduciary Net Position<sup>4</sup> - Beginning</b>	<b>7,819,099</b>	<b>6,771,147</b>	<b>7,110,224</b>	<b>6,167,785</b>	<b>5,853,443</b>	<b>5,912,426</b>	<b>5,693,756</b>	<b>5,063,004</b>
<b>Plan's Fiduciary Net Position<sup>4</sup> - Ending (b)</b>	<b>\$ 8,444,884</b>	<b>\$ 7,819,099</b>	<b>\$ 6,771,147</b>	<b>\$ 7,110,224</b>	<b>\$ 6,167,785</b>	<b>\$ 5,853,443</b>	<b>\$ 5,912,426</b>	<b>\$ 5,693,756</b>
<b>Net Pension Liability (NPL) - Ending (a) - (b)</b>	<b>\$ 2,194,416</b>	<b>\$ 2,140,693</b>	<b>\$ 2,764,002</b>	<b>\$ 2,013,676</b>	<b>\$ 2,243,194</b>	<b>\$ 2,118,448</b>	<b>\$ 1,740,643</b>	<b>\$ 1,282,021</b>
<b>FNP as a Percentage of the TPL</b>	<b>79.37%</b>	<b>78.51%</b>	<b>71.01%</b>	<b>77.93%</b>	<b>73.33%</b>	<b>73.43%</b>	<b>77.26%</b>	<b>81.62%</b>
<b>Covered Payroll<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>\$ 1,111,849</b>	<b>\$ 1,081,587</b>	<b>\$ 1,046,034</b>	<b>\$ 995,178</b>	<b>\$ 947,568</b>	<b>\$ 945,858<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>\$ 886,925</b>	<b>\$ 853,350</b>
<b>NPL as a Percentage of Covered Payroll</b>	<b>197.37%</b>	<b>197.92%</b>	<b>264.24%</b>	<b>202.34%</b>	<b>236.73%</b>	<b>223.97%</b>	<b>196.26%</b>	<b>150.23%</b>

1 Total pension liability is not available for years prior to December 31, 2013. Information will be presented in future years as it becomes available.

2 The service cost is based on the previous year's valuation, meaning the December 31, 2020 measurement date values are based on the valuation as of December 31, 2019.

3 Employer contributions are on a net basis after (i) considering the total cash contributions made by the employers, (ii) reducing by the employer contributions made to the 401(h) account, and (iii) increasing by the amount of transfer from the SRBR to the Employer Advance Reserve for employer contribution made to the 401(h) account in (ii).

4 For 2020, the Plan's Fiduciary Net Position amount shown (\$8,444,884) includes the net fair value of assets (\$9,629,767) less OPEB-related SRBR assets (\$1,184,883). The OPEB-related SRBR assets include \$882,528 in the SRBR-OPEB reserve (after reducing the reserve by the \$7549 SRBR implicit subsidy transfer), and \$9,052 in the 401(h) reserve, plus a proportionate share of one half of the deferred market gains (after adjustment to replenish the balance in the Contingency Reserve) commensurate with the size of the OPEB to total SRBR and 401(h) reserve to valuation and 401(h) reserves (\$293,303). For 2019, the Plan's Fiduciary Net Position amount shown (\$7,819,099) includes the net fair value of assets (\$8,789,279), less OPEB-related SRBR assets (\$970,180). The OPEB-related SRBR assets include \$877,769 in the SRBR-OPEB reserve (after reducing the reserve by the \$6,511 SRBR implicit subsidy transfer), and \$10,416 in the 401(h) reserve, plus a proportionate share of one half of the deferred market gains (after adjustment to replenish the balance in the Contingency Reserve) commensurate with the size of the OPEB to total SRBR and 401(h) reserve to valuation and 401(h) reserve (\$81,995).

5 For years ended December 31, 2017 and later, covered payroll represents Compensation Earnable and Pensionable Compensation and is defined as the payroll on which contributions to the pension plan are based. For the years ended before December 31, 2017, covered payroll was referred to as covered-employee payroll and only Compensation Earnable and Pensionable Compensation that would possibly go into the determination of retirement benefits are included.

6 The covered payroll for the year 2015 includes 1 additional pay period.

## Schedule of Employer Contributions

Last Ten Fiscal Years (Dollars in Thousands)

Year Ended December 31	Actuarially Determined Contributions (ADC)	Contributions in Relation to ADC	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Covered Payroll <sup>1</sup>	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2011	\$ 162,879	\$ 162,879	\$ -	\$ 837,482	19.45%
2012	179,649	179,649	-	845,933	21.24%
2013	191,180	191,180	-	853,350	22.40%
2014	213,255	213,255	-	886,925	24.04%
2015	224,607	224,607	-	945,858 <sup>2</sup>	23.75%
2016	241,729	241,729	-	947,568	25.51%
2017	247,064	247,064	-	995,178	24.83%
2018	269,684	269,684	-	1,046,034	25.78%
2019	298,527	298,527	-	1,081,587	27.60%
2020	309,759	309,753	6 <sup>3</sup>	1,111,849	27.86%

1 For years ended December 31, 2017 and later, covered employee payroll represents Compensation Earnable and Pensionable Compensation and is defined as the payroll on which contributions to the pension plan are based. For the years ended before December 31, 2017, covered payroll was referred to as covered-employee payroll and only Compensation Earnable and Pensionable Compensation that would possibly go into the determination of retirement benefits are included.

2 The covered payroll for the year 2015 includes 1 additional pay period.

3 Actuarially Determined Contribution for the Alameda County Office of Education of \$78 less actual contribution paid of \$72 (in thousands).

## Schedule of Investment Returns

Last Ten Fiscal Years<sup>1</sup> (As of December 31)

	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
Annual Money-Weighted Rate of Return, net of Investment Expense	11.70%	18.10%	-4.44%	19.02%	7.16%	-0.10%	4.27%	19.87	N/A	N/A

1 Information prior to 2013 is not available. Ten years of information will be presented when it becomes available.



## Postemployment Medical Benefits

### Schedule of Changes in Net OPEB Liability and Related Ratios

For the Years Ended December 31 (Dollars in Thousands)

	2020	2019	2018	2017
<b>Total OPEB Liability<sup>1</sup></b>				
Service Cost <sup>2</sup>	\$ 31,511	\$ 27,678	\$ 31,577	\$ 26,991
Interest	79,142	73,843	73,427	69,879
Changes of benefit terms	-	-	-	-
Differences between expected and actual experience	(13,871)	(41,706)	(27,712)	(21,627)
Changes of assumptions	57,696	12,524	(11,430)	58,973
Benefit payments	(46,021)	(43,562)	(40,879)	(37,904)
<b>Net Change in Total OPEB Liability</b>	<b>108,457</b>	<b>28,777</b>	<b>24,983</b>	<b>96,312</b>
<b>Total OPEB Liability - Beginning</b>	<b>1,083,114</b>	<b>1,054,337</b>	<b>1,029,354</b>	<b>933,042</b>
<b>Total OPEB Liability - Ending (a)</b>	<b>\$ 1,191,571</b>	<b>\$ 1,083,114</b>	<b>\$ 1,054,337</b>	<b>\$ 1,029,354</b>
<b>Plan's Fiduciary Net Position (FNP)</b>				
Contributions - employer <sup>3</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Contributions - member	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Net investment income	\$ 262,140	\$ 193,656	\$ (138,333)	\$ 243,189
Benefit payments	(46,021)	(43,562)	(40,879)	(37,904)
Administrative expense	(1,416)	(1,354)	(1,224)	(1,204)
Other	-	-	-	-
<b>Net Change in Plan's Fiduciary Net Position</b>	<b>214,703</b>	<b>148,740</b>	<b>(180,436)</b>	<b>204,081</b>
<b>Plan's Fiduciary Net Position - Beginning<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>970,180</b>	<b>821,440</b>	<b>1,001,876</b>	<b>797,795</b>
<b>Plan's Fiduciary Net Position - Ending (b)<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>\$ 1,184,883</b>	<b>\$ 970,180</b>	<b>\$ 821,440</b>	<b>\$ 1,001,876</b>
<b>Net OPEB Liability - Ending (a) - (b)</b>	<b>\$ 6,688</b>	<b>\$ 112,934</b>	<b>\$ 232,897</b>	<b>\$ 27,478</b>
<b>FNP as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability</b>	<b>99.44%</b>	<b>89.57%</b>	<b>77.91%</b>	<b>97.33%</b>
<b>Covered-Employee Payroll<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>

<sup>1</sup> Total OPEB liability is not available for years prior to December 31, 2017. Information will be presented in future years as it becomes available.

<sup>2</sup> The service cost is based on the previous year's valuation, meaning the December 31, 2020 measurement date values are based on the valuation as of December 31, 2019.

<sup>3</sup> Employer contributions are on a net basis. Benefits are funded by employer contributions to the 401(h) account and similar amounts are transferred from the SRBR to the Employer Advance Reserve to backfill the employer contributions that would have otherwise been made to the Retirement Plan.

<sup>4</sup> For 2020, the Plan's Fiduciary Net Position shown (\$1,184,883) includes the OPEB-related SRBR reserve of \$882,528 (after reducing the reserve by the SRBR implicit subsidy transfer of \$75,499 and 401(h) reserve (\$9,052), plus the proportionate share of one-half of the net deferred investment gain that is commensurate with the size of the OPEB SRBR reserve to total SRBR and 401(h) reserve to valuation and 401(h) reserve (\$293,303), after adjusting the Contingency Reserve from \$69.0 to \$98.7 million (1% of total assets). For 2019, the Plan's Fiduciary Net Position shown (\$970,180) includes the OPEB-related SRBR reserve of \$877,769 (after reducing the reserve by the SRBR implicit subsidy transfer of \$6,511) and 401(h) reserve (\$10,416), plus the proportionate share of one-half of the net deferred investment gain that is commensurate with the size of the OPEB SRBR reserve to total SRBR and 401(h) reserve to valuation and 401(h) reserve (\$81,995), after first replenishing the Contingency Reserve from \$0 to \$89.4 million (1% of total assets). Note that amounts may not total properly due to rounding.

<sup>5</sup> Covered-employee payroll is not shown as contributions to the OPEB plan are not based on a measure of pay. Covered-employee payroll represents Compensation Earnable and Pensionable Compensation. Only Compensation Earnable and Pensionable Compensation that would go into the determination of retirement benefits would otherwise be included.

**Schedule of Employer Contributions - OPEB**

Last Ten Fiscal Years (Dollars in Thousands)

Year Ended December 31	Actuarially Determined Contributions (ADC) <sup>1</sup>	Contributions in Relation to ADC <sup>1</sup>	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Covered-Employee Payroll <sup>2</sup>	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll
2011	N/A	N/A	\$ -	N/A	N/A
2012	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	N/A
2013	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	N/A
2014	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	N/A
2015	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	N/A
2016	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	N/A
2017	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	N/A
2018	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	N/A
2019	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	N/A
2020	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	N/A

<sup>1</sup> Benefits are funded by employer contributions to the 401(h) account and similar amounts are transferred from the SRBR to the Employer Advance Reserve to backfill the employer contributions that would have otherwise been made to the Retirement Plan.

<sup>2</sup> Covered-employee payroll is not shown as contributions to the OPEB plan are not based on a measure of pay. Covered-employee payroll represents Compensation Earnable and Pensionable Compensation. Only Compensation Earnable and Pensionable Compensation that would go into the determination of retirement benefits would otherwise be included.

The Schedule of Investment Returns for the total fund is reported on [page 59](#) of the RSI

# Notes to Required Supplementary Information

## PENSION PLAN AND NON-OPEB

### Actuarial Assumptions

The Total Pension Liabilities (TPLs) as of the measurement dates were calculated by rolling forward the liabilities from prior years' actuarial valuations. The actuarial assumptions used to develop the TPLs are the same assumptions used for the respective funding valuations. The key assumptions used for rolling forward the TPL to December 31, 2020, are as follows:

Inflation	2.75%
Salary Increases	General: 8.35% to 3.65% and Safety: 11.25% to 4.05%, vary by service, including inflation
Investment Rate of Return	7.00%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation

### Methods and Assumptions Used to Establish Actuarially Determined Contribution (ADC) Rates

Actuarially determined contribution rates for the first six months of calendar year 2020 (or the second half of fiscal year 2019-2020) are calculated based on the December 31, 2018, valuation. Actuarially determined contribution rates for the last six months of calendar year 2020 (or the first half of fiscal year 2020-2021) are calculated based on the December 31, 2019, valuation.

Valuation Date	December 31, 2019	December 31, 2018
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Actuarial Cost Method
Amortization Method	Level percentage of payroll (3.50% payroll growth assumed)	Level percentage of payroll (3.50% payroll growth assumed)
Remaining Amortization Period	<p>Prior to January 1, 2012, the total UAAL was amortized on a 30-year decreasing period, with 21 years remaining as of December 31, 2011 (and 13 years remaining as of December 31, 2019).</p> <p>On or after January 1, 2012, any new UAAL resulting from plan amendments are amortized over separate decreasing 15-year periods.</p> <p>Early retirement incentive programs (ERIPs) are amortized over separate decreasing 5-year periods.</p> <p>Assumption and method changes are amortized over separate decreasing 20-year periods.</p> <p>Experience gains/losses are also amortized over separate decreasing 20-year periods.</p>	<p>Prior to January 1, 2012, the total UAAL was amortized on a 30-year decreasing period, with 21 years remaining as of December 31, 2011 (and 14 years remaining as of December 31, 2018).</p> <p>On or after January 1, 2012, any new UAAL resulting from plan amendments are amortized over separate decreasing 15-year periods.</p> <p>Early retirement incentive programs (ERIPs) are amortized over separate decreasing 5-year periods.</p> <p>Assumption and method changes are amortized over separate decreasing 20-year periods.</p> <p>Experience gains/losses are also amortized over separate decreasing 20-year periods.</p>
Asset Valuation Method	The actuarial value of assets is determined by recognizing any difference between the actual and the expected market return over 10 six-month interest crediting periods. The actuarial value of assets is further adjusted, if necessary, to be within 40% of the market value of assets. The valuation value of asset is the actuarial value of assets reduced by the value of the non-valuation reserves.	

Actuarial Assumptions:	December 31, 2019	December 31, 2018
Investment rate of return	7.25%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation	7.25%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation
Inflation rate	3.00%	3.00%
Real across-the-board salary increases	0.50%	0.50%
Projected salary increases	General: 8.30% to 3.90% and Safety: 11.30% to 4.30%, vary by service, including inflation	General: 8.30% to 3.90% and Safety: 11.30% to 4.30%, vary by service, including inflation
Cost of living adjustments	<p>3.00% of retirement income for General Tiers 1 and 3, and Safety Tier 1.</p> <p>2.00% of retirement income for General Tiers 2 and 4, and Safety Tiers 2, 2C, 2D, and 4.</p>	<p>3.00% of retirement income for General Tiers 1 and 3, and Safety Tier 1.</p> <p>2.00% of retirement income for General Tiers 2 and 4, and Safety Tiers 2, 2C, 2D, and 4.</p>
Other assumptions	Same as those used in the December 31, 2019 funding actuarial valuation	Same as those used in the December 31, 2018 funding actuarial valuation

## Postemployment Medical Benefits

The actuarial assumptions used for the postemployment medical benefits valuation were consistent with those applied to the pension plan with the exception of Health Care Cost Trend Rate assumptions which are specific to the postemployment medical benefits.

The Total OPEB Liabilities as of the measurement dates were calculated by rolling forward the liabilities from prior years' sufficiency valuation. The key assumptions used for rolling forward the total OPEB liability to December 31, 2020, are as follows:

Investment Rate of Return	7.00% net of OPEB plan investment expense, including inflation
Inflation	2.75%
Health Care Premium Trend Rates	
<b>Non-Medicare medical plan</b>	Graded from 6.75% to ultimate 4.50 over 9 years
<b>Medicare medical plan</b>	Graded from 6.25% to ultimate 4.50 over 7 years
<b>Dental</b>	0.00% for the first two years to reflect a three-year rate guarantee and 4.00% thereafter.
<b>Vision</b>	0.00% for the first four years to reflect a five-year rate guarantee and 4.00% thereafter.
<b>Medicare Part B reimbursement</b>	4.50%
Other Assumptions	Based on the experience study for the period December 1, 2016 through November 30, 2019.

# Supplemental Schedules

## Administration Expense

For the Year Ended December 31, 2020  
(Dollars in Thousands)

<b>Personnel Services</b>	
Staff Wages	\$ 7,417
Fringe Benefits	3,368
Temporary Services	424
<b>Total Personnel Services</b>	<b>11,209</b>
<b>Professional Services</b>	
Consultant Fees	390
Audit	112
<b>Total Professional Services</b>	<b>502</b>
<b>Communications</b>	
Printing	45
Postage	49
Communication	66
<b>Total Communications</b>	<b>160</b>
<b>Office Space and Utilities</b>	
Office Space and Utilities	41
<b>Total Office Space and Utilities</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Lease Expenses</b>	
Interest on Lease Liabilities	15
Amortization of Right-to-use Assets	32
<b>Total Lease Expenses</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>Other</b>	
Depreciation and Amortization	89
Board Operating Expenses	244
Insurance	663
Miscellaneous	346
Training	61
Equipment Leases <sup>2</sup>	4
Equipment Maintenance	50
Supplies	6
<b>Total Other</b>	<b>1,463</b>
<b>Subtotal: Administrative Expense Subject to Statutory Limit</b>	<b>13,422</b>
Actuarial Expenses	335
Business Continuity	622
Legal Expenses	944
Technology Expenses	903
<b>Subtotal: Administration Expense Excluded from Statutory Limit<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>2,804</b>
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 16,226</b>

<sup>1</sup> Legal expenses, business continuity, and technology include an allocation of administration overhead expenses.

<sup>2</sup> Lease expenses that do not fall under GASB 87.

## Investment Expenses

For the Year Ended December 31, 2020  
(Dollars in Thousands)

Investment Manager Fees <sup>1</sup>	\$ 43,681
Brokerage Commissions	1,039
Investment Allocated Costs	2,602
Investment Consultants	1,282
Other Investment Expenses	1,086
Investment Custodians	556
<b>Total Investment Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 50,246</b>

<sup>1</sup> The Investment Section of this report provides details of Investment Manager Fees by type of investment manager.

## Payments to Other Consultants<sup>1</sup>

For the Year Ended December 31, 2020  
(Dollars in Thousands)

Actuarial & Audit Services	\$ 525
Human Resources Consulting	77
Legal Services	298
Other Specialized Services	494
<b>Total Payments to Consultants</b>	<b>\$ 1,394</b>

<sup>1</sup> These are payments to outside consultants other than investment advisors. See the table above for fees paid to investment professionals.





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MEMORANDUM TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

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DATE: May 20, 2021

TO: Members of the Audit Committee

FROM: Margo Allen, Fiscal Services Officer 

SUBJECT: Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 67 and Statement No. 74 Actuarial Valuations and Addendums as of December 31, 2020

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**Executive Summary**

Staff has completed its review and evaluation of the GASB Statement No. 67 and Statement No. 74 Actuarial Valuations and Addendums<sup>1</sup> as of December 31, 2020. Staff and ACERA's actuary, Segal Consulting, conducted presentations of this information at the following meetings:

- April 15, 2021, Audit Committee meeting; and
- April 28, 2021, Participating Employers' Meeting.

Having no need for further review, staff recommends the Board of Retirement consider a motion to adopt the GASB Statement No. 67 and Statement No. 74 Actuarial Valuations and Addendums as of December 31, 2020.

**Recommendation**

Staff recommends that the Audit Committee recommend that the Board of Retirement adopt the GASB Statement No. 67 and Statement No. 74 Actuarial Valuations and Addendums as of December 31, 2020

Attachments: Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 67 and Statement No. 74 Actuarial Valuations and Addendums as of December 31, 2020

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<sup>1</sup>The addendums contain additional schedules recommended by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) for use in allocating the Net Pension Liability (NPL) and the Net OPEB Liability (NOL) by employer, before issuing the full companion reports for the employers' financial reporting under GASB Statement No. 68 and Statement No. 75.

Alameda County Employees'  
Retirement Association (ACERA)

**Governmental Accounting  
Standards Board Statement 67  
(GASB 67) Actuarial Valuation**

As of December 31, 2020

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This report has been prepared at the request of the Board of Retirement to assist in administering the Fund. This valuation report may not otherwise be copied or reproduced in any form without the consent of the Board of Retirement and may only be provided to other parties in its entirety, unless expressly authorized by Segal. The measurements shown in this actuarial valuation may not be applicable for other purposes.

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**Segal**



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April 6, 2021

Board of Retirement  
Alameda County Employees' Retirement Association  
475 14th Street, Suite 1000  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Board Members:

We are pleased to submit this Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 67 (GASB 67) Actuarial Valuation as of December 31, 2020. It contains various information that will need to be disclosed in order to comply with GASB 67.

This report was prepared in accordance with generally accepted actuarial principles and practices at the request of the Board to assist ACERA in preparing items related to the pension plan in their financial report. The census and financial information on which our calculations were based were provided by ACERA. That assistance is gratefully acknowledged.

The measurements shown in this actuarial valuation may not be applicable for other purposes. 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; and changes in plan provisions or applicable law.

The actuarial calculations were completed under the supervision of Eva Yum, FSA, MAAA, Enrolled Actuary. We are members of the American Academy of Actuaries and we meet the Qualification Standards of the American Academy of Actuaries to render the actuarial opinion herein. To the best of our knowledge, the information supplied in the actuarial valuation is complete and accurate. Further, in our opinion, the assumptions as approved by the Board are reasonably related to the experience of and expectations for ACERA.

We look forward to reviewing this report with you and to answering any questions.

Sincerely,

Segal

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Andy Yeung, ASA, MAAA, FCA, EA  
Vice President and Actuary

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Eva Yum, FSA, MAAA, EA  
Senior Actuary

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# Section 1: Actuarial Valuation Summary

## Purpose and basis

This report has been prepared by Segal to present certain disclosure information required by Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 67 (GASB 67) as of December 31, 2020. This valuation is based on:

- The benefit provisions of ACERA, as administered by the Board;
- The characteristics of covered active members, inactive vested members, and retired members and beneficiaries as of November 30, 2019, provided by ACERA<sup>1</sup>;
- The assets of the Plan as of December 31, 2020, provided by ACERA;
- Economic assumptions regarding future salary increases and investment earnings adopted by the Board for the December 31, 2020 valuation; and
- Other actuarial assumptions, regarding employee terminations, retirement, death, etc. adopted by the Board for the December 31, 2020 valuation.

## General observations on GASB 67 actuarial valuation

1. It is important to note that Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) rules only define pension liability and expense for financial reporting purposes, and do not apply to contribution amounts for pension funding purposes. Employers and plans develop and adopt funding policies under current practices.
2. When measuring pension liability, GASB uses the same actuarial cost method (Entry Age method) and the same type of discount rate (expected return on assets) as ACERA uses for funding. This means that the Total Pension Liability (TPL) measure for financial reporting shown in this report is generally determined on the same basis as ACERA's Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) measure for funding. We note that the same is generally true for the Normal Cost component of the annual plan cost for funding and financial reporting.
3. The Net Pension Liability (NPL) is equal to the difference between the TPL and the Plan's Fiduciary Net Position. The Plan's Fiduciary Net Position is equal to the fair value of assets and therefore, the NPL measure is very similar to an Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL) on a market value basis.

<sup>1</sup> It should be noted that starting with this year's valuation, we have also reflected the actual COLA granted by the Board on the April 1 immediately after the December 31, 2019 actuarial valuation that is used to roll forward the liabilities to determine the December 31, 2020 Net Pension Liability. In the past, we had used the expected COLA in the calculation.

# Section 1: Actuarial Valuation Summary

## Highlights of the valuation

1. As we disclosed in our December 31, 2020 funding valuation report, the 7.00% investment return assumption that the Board approved on October 15, 2020 for determining the liabilities for funding purposes and used for establishing the employer and employee contribution rates has continued to be developed without considering the impact of any future 50/50 excess earnings allocation. This is based on our understanding that Article 5.5 of the Statute, which authorizes the allocation of 50% of excess earnings to the SRBR, does not allow for the use of a different investment return for funding than is used for interest crediting. This would appear in effect to preclude the prefunding of the SRBR through the use of an assumption lower than the market earnings assumption of 7.00%.

As required by the Actuarial Standard of Practice (ASOP) No. 4 (“Measuring Pension Obligations and Determining Pension Plan Costs or Contributions”), we performed a stochastic model to estimate the impact of the 50% allocation of future excess earnings to the SRBR. The results of our model indicated that the 50/50 allocation of future excess earnings would have about the same impact as an “outflow” (i.e., assets not available to fund the benefits included in the determination of the TPL) that would average approximately 0.65% of assets over time. This approximated outflow was incorporated into our GASB crossover test<sup>2</sup> (Appendix A), along with the additional future employer contributions that would result from those future allocations of excess earnings to the SRBR under ACERA’s funding policy.

2. The NPL measured as of December 31, 2020 was determined by rolling forward the TPL for the funded benefits as of December 31, 2019. Similar to last year, we have included in the TPL as of December 31, 2020 the non-OPEB unlimited Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) of \$116.4 million, which was calculated by rolling forward the total unlimited non-OPEB AAL as of December 31, 2019.
3. The results of this valuation reflect an experience study of the actuarial assumptions based on the experience during the period December 1, 2016 through November 30, 2019. Based on that study and the recommendations provided in our report dated September 9, 2020, the Board adopted updated actuarial assumptions for use in this valuation.
4. We have also continued the practice of adjusting the Plan’s Fiduciary Net Position as of December 31, 2020 to include the \$41.7 million set aside by the Retirement Board in the SRBR reserve to pay non-vested Supplemental COLA and retired member death benefits<sup>3</sup> as of December 31, 2020. It should be noted that as of December 31, 2020, the deferred investment gain for the entire Plan was \$643.3 million. Consequently, after first replenishing the Contingency Reserve from \$69.0 million to \$98.7 million (1% of total assets), we have added to the Plan’s Fiduciary Net Position the proportionate share of one-half of the net deferred

<sup>2</sup> The purpose of the GASB crossover test is to determine if the full expected return (or 7.00% in this case) can be used as the discount rate to determine the TPL and the NPL. That is, if there is no crossover point where the projected benefit payments would exceed the Plan’s Fiduciary Net Position, then the full expected return assumption can be used. As detailed later in this report, ACERA does pass the crossover test, which means that the full 7.00% investment rate of return assumption can be used as the discount rate to determine the TPL and the resulting NPL.

<sup>3</sup> We have excluded the liability and the assets associated with the OPEB component of the SRBR reserve account because it is our understanding that those amounts are reportable under GASB 74/75.



## Section 1: Actuarial Valuation Summary

investment gain that is commensurate with the size of the non-OPEB SRBR reserve, or \$13.8 million. The net effect of the adjustments to the Plan's Fiduciary Net Position as of December 31, 2020 for non-OPEB SRBR benefits was an addition of \$55.5 million.

Note that the proportionate share of one-half of the net deferred market gain as of December 31, 2020 for the Pension Plan was equal to \$306.4 million, and in calculating the Plan's Fiduciary Net Position we have adjusted the Pension Plan's valuation value of assets in the funding valuation to reflect that amount.

5. The \$60.9 million difference between the \$116.4 million added to the TPL and the net \$55.5 million added to the Plan's Fiduciary Net Position as of December 31, 2020 represents the NPL attributable to non-OPEB SRBR benefits.
6. The NPL increased from \$2,141 million as of December 31, 2019 to \$2,194 million as of December 31, 2020 primarily as a result of the changes in the actuarial assumptions (which increased the NPL by about \$237 million), offset somewhat by the favorable investment return during calendar year 2020 of about \$193 million<sup>4</sup> more than assumed. Changes in these values during the last two fiscal years ending December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2020 can be found in *Section 2, Schedule of Changes in Net Pension Liability* on page 20.
7. The discount rates used to measure the TPL and NPL as of December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019 were 7.00% and 7.25%, respectively, following the same assumptions used by ACERA in the pension funding valuations as of December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019, respectively. The detailed calculations used in the derivation of the 7.00% discount rate as of December 31, 2020 can be found in *Section 3, Appendix A*. Various other information that is required to be disclosed can be found throughout *Section 2*.
8. It is important to note that this actuarial valuation is based on plan assets as of December 31, 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, market conditions have changed significantly since the onset of the Public Health Emergency. The plan's funded status does not reflect short-term fluctuations of the market, but rather is based on the market values on the last day of the plan year. Moreover, this actuarial valuation does not include any possible short-term or long-term impacts on mortality of the covered population that may emerge after December 31, 2020. While it is impossible to determine how the pandemic will affect market conditions and other demographic experience of the plan in future valuations, Segal is available to prepare projections of potential outcomes upon request.
9. On July 30, 2020, the California Supreme Court issued a decision in the case of Alameda County Deputy Sheriffs' Association et al. v. Alameda County Employees' Retirement Association and Board of Retirement of ACERA. We were informed that the decision will not affect the Additional Cashout pay elements for Legacy members. Also, ACERA further indicated that they "will await the Trial Court ruling to determine any future changes which should be minor and only impact a few pay items." In early March 2021, ACERA informed us that there were no new updates on the Trial Court ruling. It should be noted that neither the

<sup>4</sup> This amount represents the investment income on the Plan's Fiduciary Net Position for the Pension Plan and non-OPEB SRBR that is above the assumed earnings (at 7.25%) for the year ending December 31, 2020.

## Section 1: Actuarial Valuation Summary

December 31, 2020 assets provided by ACERA nor the liabilities we calculated using the membership data provided by ACERA reflect the financial impact of the Supreme Court decision, if any.

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## Section 1: Actuarial Valuation Summary

### Summary of key valuation results

Measurement Date		December 31, 2020	December 31, 2019
<b>Disclosure elements for fiscal year ending December 31:</b>	• Service cost <sup>(1)</sup>	\$221,824,117	\$215,625,191
	• Total Pension Liability	10,639,300,371	9,959,791,606
	• Plan's Fiduciary Net Position <sup>(2)</sup>	8,444,884,496	7,819,098,646
	• Net Pension Liability	2,194,415,875	2,140,692,960
<b>Schedule of contributions for fiscal year ending December 31:</b>	• Actuarially determined contributions	\$309,758,947	\$298,526,950
	• Actual contributions <sup>(3)</sup>	309,752,998	298,526,950
	• Contribution deficiency / (excess)	5,949	0
<b>Demographic data for plan year ending December 31:</b> <sup>(4)</sup>	• Number of retired members and beneficiaries	10,292	10,078
	• Number of inactive vested members <sup>(5)</sup>	3,028	2,821
	• Number of active members	11,322	11,336
<b>Key assumptions as of December 31:</b>	• Investment rate of return	7.00%	7.25%
	• Inflation rate	2.75%	3.00%
	• Projected salary increases <sup>(6)</sup>	General: 8.35% to 3.65% and Safety: 11.25% to 4.05%	General: 8.30% to 3.90% and Safety: 11.30% to 4.30%

(1) The Service Cost is based on the previous year's valuation, meaning the December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019 measurement date values are based on the valuations as of December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2018, respectively. Both service costs have been calculated using the assumptions shown in the December 31, 2019 measurement date column, as there had been no changes in the actuarial assumptions between the December 31, 2018 and December 31, 2019 valuations.

(2) For 2020, the Plan's Fiduciary Net Position amount shown (\$8,444,884,496) includes the net fair value of assets (\$9,629,767,350) less OPEB-related SRBR assets (\$1,184,882,854). The OPEB-related SRBR assets include \$882,528,291 in the SRBR-OPEB reserve (after reducing the reserve by the \$7,548,683 SRBR implicit subsidy transfer), and \$9,051,620 in the 401(h) reserve, plus a proportionate share of one half of the deferred market gains (after adjustment to replenish the balance in the Contingency Reserve) commensurate with the size of the OPEB to total SRBR and 401(h) reserves (\$293,302,943). For 2019, the Plan's Fiduciary Net Position amount shown (\$7,819,098,646) includes the net fair value of assets (\$8,789,279,051) less OPEB-related SRBR assets (\$970,180,405). The OPEB-related SRBR assets include \$877,769,175 in the SRBR-OPEB reserve (after reducing the reserve by the \$6,510,876 SRBR implicit subsidy transfer), and \$10,415,538 in the 401(h) reserve, plus a proportionate share of one half of the deferred market gains (after adjustment to replenish the balance in the Contingency Reserve) commensurate with the size of the OPEB to total SRBR and 401(h) reserve to valuation and 401(h) reserves (\$81,995,692).

(3) Employer contributions are on a net basis after (i) considering the total cash contributions made by the employers, (ii) reducing by the employer contributions made to the 401(h) account, and (iii) increasing by the amount of transfer from the SRBR to the Employers Advance Reserve for employer contributions made to the 401(h) account in (ii). For the year ending December 31, 2020, the actual employer contributions are less than the actuarially determined contributions by \$5,949 due to an underpayment by the Alameda County Office of Education in 2020.

(4) Data as of December 31, 2019 is used in the measurement of the TPL as of December 31, 2020.

(5) Includes members who left their contributions on deposit even though they have less than five years of service.

(6) Includes inflation at 2.75% (3.00% for the December 31, 2019 measurement date) plus real across-the-board salary increase of 0.50% plus merit and promotional increases.

## Section 1: Actuarial Valuation Summary

### Important information about actuarial valuations

An actuarial valuation is a budgeting tool with respect to the financing of future projected obligations of a pension plan. It is an estimated forecast – the actual long-term cost of the plan will be determined by the actual benefits and expenses paid and the actual investment experience of the plan.

In order to prepare a valuation, Segal relies on a number of input items. These include:

<b>Plan of benefits</b>	Plan provisions define the rules that will be used to determine benefit payments, and those rules, or the interpretation of them, may change over time. It is important to keep Segal informed with respect to plan provisions and administrative procedures, and to review the plan description in this report (as well as the plan summary included in our funding valuation report) to confirm that Segal has correctly interpreted the plan of benefits.
<b>Participant data</b>	An actuarial valuation for a plan is based on data provided to the actuary by ACERA. Segal does not audit such data for completeness or accuracy, other than reviewing it for obvious inconsistencies compared to prior data and other information that appears unreasonable. It is important for Segal to receive the best possible data and to be informed about any known incomplete or inaccurate data.
<b>Assets</b>	The valuation is based on the fair value of assets as of the valuation date, as provided by ACERA. The Association uses an “actuarial value of assets” that differs from fair value to gradually reflect six-month changes in the fair value of assets in determining contribution requirements.
<b>Actuarial assumptions</b>	In preparing an actuarial valuation, Segal projects the benefits to be paid to existing plan participants for the rest of their lives and the lives of their beneficiaries. This projection requires actuarial assumptions as to the probability of death, disability, withdrawal, and retirement of each participant for each year. In addition, the benefits projected to be paid for each of those events in each future year reflect actuarial assumptions as to salary increases and cost-of-living adjustments. The forecasted benefits are then discounted to a present value, typically based on an estimate of the rate of return that will be achieved on the plan’s assets or, if there are no assets, a rate of return based on a yield or index rate for 20-year, tax-exempt general obligation municipal bonds with an average rating of AA/Aa or higher (or equivalent quality on another rating scale). There is a reasonable range for each assumption used in the projection and the results may vary materially based on which assumptions are selected. It is important for any user of an actuarial valuation to understand this concept. Actuarial assumptions are periodically reviewed to ensure that future valuations reflect emerging plan experience. While future changes in actuarial assumptions may have a significant impact on the reported results, that does not mean that the previous assumptions were unreasonable.
<b>Models</b>	Segal valuation results are based on proprietary actuarial modeling software. The actuarial valuation models generate a comprehensive set of liability and cost calculations that are presented to meet regulatory, legislative and client requirements. Our Actuarial Technology and Systems unit, comprised of both actuaries and programmers, is responsible for the initial development and maintenance of these models. The models have a modular structure that allows for a high degree of accuracy, flexibility and user control. The client team programs the assumptions and the plan provisions, validates the models, and reviews test lives and results, under the supervision of the responsible actuary.

## Section 1: Actuarial Valuation Summary

The user of Segal's actuarial valuation (or other actuarial calculations) should keep the following in mind:

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The valuation is prepared at the request of the Board to assist ACERA in preparing items related to the pension plan in their financial reports. Segal is not responsible for the use or misuse of its report, particularly by any other party.

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An actuarial valuation is a measurement of the plan's assets and liabilities at a specific date. Accordingly, except where otherwise noted, Segal did not perform an analysis of the potential range of future financial measures. The actual long-term cost of the plan will be determined by the actual benefits and expenses paid and the actual investment experience of the plan.

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If ACERA is aware of any event or trend that was not considered in this valuation that may materially change the results of the valuation, Segal should be advised, so that we can evaluate it.

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Segal does not provide investment, legal, accounting, or tax advice. Segal's valuation is based on our understanding of applicable guidance in these areas and of the plan's provisions, but they may be subject to alternative interpretations. The Board should look to their other advisors for expertise in these areas.

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As Segal has no discretionary authority with respect to the management or assets of ACERA, it is not a fiduciary in its capacity as actuaries and consultants with respect to ACERA.

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# Section 2: GASB 67 Information

## General information about the pension plan

### Plan Description

*Plan administration.* The Alameda County Employees' Retirement Association (ACERA) was established by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors in 1947. ACERA is administered by the Board of Retirement and governed by the County Employees' Retirement Law of 1937 (California Government Code Section 31450 et. seq.). ACERA is a cost-sharing, multiple employer, defined benefit, public employee retirement system whose main function is to provide service retirement, disability, death, and survivor benefits to the General and Safety members employed by the County of Alameda. ACERA also provides retirement benefits to the employee members of First 5 Alameda County, Housing Authority of the County of Alameda, Alameda Health System, Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARP), and Superior Court of California—County of Alameda, and Alameda County Office of Education.

The management of ACERA is vested with the ACERA Board of Retirement. The Board consists of nine members and two alternates. The County Treasurer is a member of the Board of Retirement by law and is elected by the general public. Four members are appointed by the Board of Supervisors, one of whom may be a County Supervisor. Two active members are elected by the General members; one active member and one alternate are elected by the Safety members; one retired member and one alternate are elected by the retired members. All members of the Board of Retirement serve terms of three years except for the County Treasurer whose term runs concurrent with his term as County Treasurer.

*Plan membership.* At December 31, 2020, pension plan membership consisted of the following:

<b>Retired members or beneficiaries currently receiving benefits</b>	10,292
<b>Inactive vested members entitled to but not yet receiving benefits<sup>(1)</sup></b>	3,028
<b>Active members</b>	<u>11,322</u>
<b>Total</b>	24,642

<sup>(1)</sup> Includes terminated members due a refund of member contributions.

Note: Data as of December 31, 2020 is not used in the measurement of the TPL as of December 31, 2020.



## Section 2: GASB 67 Information

*Benefits provided.* ACERA provides service retirement, disability, death, and survivor benefits to eligible employees. The first date of ACERA membership varies by employer, as follows:

- Alameda County, Alameda Health System and Alameda Superior Court Employees: Membership for these employees is effective on the first day of the second pay period following the employee's hire date in an ACERA covered position. This is the date of entry into ACERA membership. As of the date of entry, payroll deductions for retirement contributions begin and service credit for each hour worked is earned. During the short period between the beginning of employment and the ACERA plan date of entry, the employee does not pay contributions or earn service credit. A member may purchase this service credit (referred to as "days prior to entry") any time before retirement without changing the membership, but date of entry does not change.
- Housing Authority and Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Employees: Membership for these employees is effective on the first day of employee's hire in an ACERA covered position. The first date of employment is the date of entry into ACERA membership. As of this date of entry, payroll deductions for retirement contributions begin and service credit for each hour work is earned.
- First 5 Employees: Membership for these employees is effective on the first day of the second pay period following the employee's hire date.
- Office of Education Employees: This is a closed plan with no more active employees (i.e., there is no new ACERA membership. However, the employer does retain retired members and beneficiaries in the Retirement Association as of the December 31, 2020 valuation date).

There are separate retirement benefits for General and Safety members. Safety membership is extended to those involved in active law enforcement, deferred firefighters, or positions that have been designated as Safety by the Board of Retirement (e.g. Juvenile Hall Group Counselor, Probation Officer, etc.). All other employees are classified as General members.

Any new member who becomes a member on or after January 1, 2013 is placed into Tier 4 and is subject to the provisions of California Public Employees' Pension Reform Act of 2013 (PEPRA), California Government Code 7522 et seq. and Assembly Bill (AB) 197.

General members enrolled in Tiers 1, 2, or 3 are eligible to retire once they attain the age of 70 regardless of service or at age 50 with five or more years of retirement service credit and a total of 10 years of qualifying membership. A non-Tier 4 General member with 30 years of service is eligible to retire regardless of age. General members enrolled in Tier 4 are eligible to retire once they have attained the age of 52 and have acquired five years of retirement service credit, or at age 70 regardless of service.

Safety members enrolled in Tiers 1, 2, 2C, or 2D are eligible to retire once they attain the age of 70 regardless of service or at age 50 with five or more years of retirement service credit and a total of 10 years of qualifying membership. A non-Tier 4 Safety member with 20 years of service is eligible to retire regardless of age. Safety members enrolled in Tier 4 are eligible to retire once they have attained the age of 50 and have acquired five years of retirement service credit, or at age 70 regardless of service.

The retirement benefit the member will receive is based upon age at retirement, final average compensation, years of retirement service credit and retirement plan and tier.

The tiers and their basic provisions are listed below:

## Section 2: GASB 67 Information

Tier Name	Service Retirement Governing Code Section	Effective Date	Basic Provisions	Final Average Salary Period	Plan Sponsors
General Tier 1	§31676.12	Various	2.0% at 57; maximum 3% COLA	Highest 1-year	All
General Tier 2	§31676.1	June 30, 1983*	2.0% at 61; maximum 2% COLA	Highest 3-years	All except LARPD
General Tier 3	§31676.18	October 1, 2008	2.5% at 55; maximum 3% COLA	Highest 1-year	LARPD
General Tier 4	§7522.20(a)	January 1, 2013	2.5% at 67; maximum 2% COLA	Highest 3-years	All
Safety Tier 1	§31664.1	Various	3.0% at 50; maximum 3% COLA	Highest 1-year	County
Safety Tier 2	§31664.1	June 30, 1983	3.0% at 50; maximum 2% COLA	Highest 3-years	County
Safety Tier 2C	§31664	October 17, 2010	2.6% at 55; maximum 2% COLA	Highest 3-years	County
Safety Tier 2D	§31664.2	October 17, 2010	3.0% at 55; maximum 2% COLA	Highest 3-years	County
Safety Tier 4	§7522.25(d)	January 1, 2013	2.7% at 57; maximum 2% COLA	Highest 3-years	County

\* For Housing Authority members, the effective date is September 30, 2011.

For members enrolled in Tiers 1, 2, 2C, 2D, or 3, the maximum monthly retirement allowance is 100% of final compensation. There is no maximum for members enrolled in Tier 4.

The member may elect an unmodified retirement allowance, or choose an optional retirement allowance. The unmodified retirement allowance provides the highest monthly benefit and a 60% continuance to an eligible surviving spouse or domestic partner. An eligible surviving spouse or domestic partner is one married to or registered with the member one year prior to the effective retirement date. There are four optional retirement allowances the member may choose. Each of the optional retirement allowances requires a reduction in the unmodified retirement allowance in order to allow the member the ability to provide certain benefits to a surviving spouse, domestic partner, or named beneficiary having an insurable interest in the life of the member.

## Section 2: GASB 67 Information

ACERA provides an annual cost-of-living benefit to all retirees. The cost-of-living adjustment, based upon the Consumer Price Index for the San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward Area (with 1982-84 as the base period), is capped at 3.0% for General Tiers 1 and 3 and Safety Tier 1, and at 2.0% for General Tiers 2 and 4 and Safety Tiers 2, 2C, 2D, and 4.

The County of Alameda and the other participating agencies contribute to the retirement plan based upon actuarially determined contribution rates adopted by the Board of Retirement. Employer contribution rates are adopted annually based upon recommendations received from ACERA's actuary after the completion of the annual actuarial valuation. The average employer contribution rate as of December 31, 2020 for 2020 (based on the December 31, 2018 valuation for the second half of 2019/2020 and on the December 31, 2019 valuation for the first half of 2020/2021) was 27.86% of compensation.

Members are required to make contributions to ACERA regardless of the retirement plan or tier in which they are included. The average member contribution rate as of December 31, 2020 for 2020 (based on the December 31, 2018 valuation for the second half of 2019/2020 and on the December 31, 2019 valuation for the first half of 2020/2021) was 9.54% of compensation.

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## Section 2: GASB 67 Information

### Net pension liability

Measurement Date	December 31, 2020	December 31, 2019
<b>Components of the Net Pension Liability</b>		
Total Pension Liability	\$10,639,300,371	\$9,959,791,606
Plan's Fiduciary Net Position	<u>(8,444,884,496)</u>	<u>(7,819,098,646)</u>
Net Pension Liability	\$2,194,415,875	\$2,140,692,960
Plan's Fiduciary Net Position as a percentage of the Total Pension Liability	79.37%	78.51%

The Net Pension Liability for the plan was measured as of December 31, 2020 and 2019. Plan's Fiduciary Net Position (plan assets) was valued as of the measurement dates and the Total Pension Liability was determined based upon rolling forward the TPL from actuarial valuations as of December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

*Plan provisions.* The plan provisions used in the measurement of the NPL as of December 31, 2020 and 2019 are the same as those used in ACERA's funding valuations as of December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

*Actuarial assumptions.* The TPL as of December 31, 2020 that was measured by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2019 used the following actuarial assumptions, which were based on the results of an experience study for the period December 1, 2016 through November 30, 2019, applied to all periods included in the measurement. They are the same assumptions used in the December 31, 2020 funding valuation for ACERA.

<b>Inflation:</b>	2.75%
<b>Salary increases:</b>	General: 8.35% to 3.65% and Safety: 11.25% to 4.05%, vary by service, including inflation
<b>Investment rate of return:</b>	7.00%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation
<b>Other assumptions:</b>	See analysis of actuarial experience during the period December 1, 2016 through November 30, 2019

## Section 2: GASB 67 Information

The TPL as of December 31, 2019, that was measured by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2018, used the following actuarial assumptions, which were based on the results of an experience study for the period December 1, 2013 through November 30, 2016, applied to all periods included in the measurement. They are the same assumptions used in the December 31, 2019 funding valuation for ACERA.

<b>Inflation:</b>	3.00%
<b>Salary increases:</b>	General: 8.30% to 3.90% and Safety: 11.30% to 4.30%, vary by service, including inflation
<b>Investment rate of return:</b>	7.25%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation
<b>Other assumptions:</b>	See analysis of actuarial experience during the period December 1, 2013 through November 30, 2016

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## Section 2: GASB 67 Information

### Determination of discount rate and investment rates of return

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments<sup>5</sup> was determined in 2020 using a building-block method in which expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These returns are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage, adding expected inflation and subtracting expected investment expenses and a risk margin. The target allocation (approved by the Board) and projected arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class, after deducting inflation, but before investment expenses are shown in the following table. This information was used in the derivation of the long-term expected investment rate of return assumption for the December 31, 2020 actuarial valuation. This information will be subject to change every three years based on the results of an actuarial experience study.

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Arithmetic Real Rate of Return
US Large Cap Equity	22.40%	5.43%
US Small Cap Equity	2.50%	6.21%
International Developed Equity	17.00%	6.67%
International Small Cap Equity	3.00%	7.36%
Emerging Markets Equity	5.00%	8.58%
Core Plus Fixed Income	11.50%	1.10%
High Yield Bonds	1.60%	2.91%
Global Fixed Income	3.00%	-0.63%
Private Equity	10.50%	10.00%
Core Real Estate	8.00%	4.58%
Commodities	0.75%	3.46%
Infrastructure	1.75%	7.80%
Private Credit	4.00%	8.50%
Absolute Return	9.00%	3.70%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	

<sup>5</sup> Note that the investment return assumption for funding purposes was developed net of both investment and administrative expenses; however, the same investment return assumption was used for financial reporting purposes, and it was considered gross of administrative expenses for financial reporting purposes. (This resulted in an increase in the margin for adverse deviation when using that investment return assumption for financial reporting.)



## Section 2: GASB 67 Information

*Discount rate.* The discount rate used to measure the Total Pension Liability (TPL) was 7.00% as of December 31, 2020 and 7.25% as of December 31, 2019. Our understanding is that Article 5.5 of the Statute, which authorizes the allocation of 50% of excess earnings to the SRBR, does not allow for the use of a different investment return assumption for funding than is used for interest crediting. In order to reflect the provisions of Article 5.5, we have treated future allocations to the SRBR as an additional outflow against the Plan's Fiduciary Net Position in the GASB crossover test, as mentioned earlier in Section 1. Again, we are estimating that the additional outflow would average approximately 0.65% of assets over time, based on the results of our stochastic modeling of the 50% allocation of future excess earnings to the SRBR.

The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes plan member contributions will be made at the current contribution rates and that employer contributions will be made at rates equal to the actuarially determined contribution rates<sup>6</sup> plus additional future contributions that would follow from the future allocation of excess earnings to the SRBR. Projected employer contributions that are intended to fund the service costs for future plan members and their beneficiaries, as well as projected contributions from future plan members, are not included. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's Fiduciary Net Position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments for current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the Total Pension Liability as of both December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019.

<sup>6</sup> For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included.

## Section 2: GASB 67 Information

### Discount rate sensitivity

*Sensitivity of the Net Pension Liability to changes in the discount rate.* The following presents the Net Pension Liability of ACERA as of December 31, 2020, calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%, as well as what ACERA's NPL would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (6.00%) or 1-percentage-point higher (8.00%) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
<b>Net Pension Liability as of December 31, 2020</b>	\$3,575,600,730	\$2,194,415,875	\$1,056,555,878

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## Section 2: GASB 67 Information

### Schedule of changes in Net Pension Liability – Last two fiscal years

Measurement Date	December 31, 2020	December 31, 2019
<b>Total Pension Liability</b>		
• Service cost <sup>(1)</sup>	\$221,824,117	\$215,625,191
• Interest	718,926,969	688,654,389
• Change of benefit terms	0	0
• Differences between expected and actual experience	33,007,683	24,548,056
• Changes of assumptions	236,513,333	0
• Benefit payments, including refunds of member contributions	(530,763,337)	(504,184,139)
<b>Net change in Total Pension Liability</b>	<b>\$679,508,765</b>	<b>\$424,643,497</b>
<b>Total Pension Liability – beginning</b>	<b><u>9,959,791,606</u></b>	<b><u>9,535,148,109</u></b>
<b>Total Pension Liability – ending</b>	<b><u>\$10,639,300,371</u></b>	<b><u>\$9,959,791,606</u></b>
<b>Plan's Fiduciary Net Position</b>		
• Contributions – employer <sup>(2)</sup>	\$309,752,998	\$298,526,950
• Contributions – member	106,104,226	103,117,022
• Net investment income	755,501,876	1,165,766,104
• Benefit payments, including refunds of member contributions	(530,763,337)	(504,184,139)
• Administrative expense	(14,809,913)	(15,273,425)
• Other	0	0
<b>Net change in Plan's Fiduciary Net Position</b>	<b>\$625,785,850</b>	<b>\$1,047,952,512</b>
<b>Plan's Fiduciary Net Position<sup>(3)</sup> – beginning</b>	<b><u>7,819,098,646</u></b>	<b><u>6,771,146,134</u></b>
<b>Plan's Fiduciary Net Position<sup>(3)</sup> – ending</b>	<b><u>\$8,444,884,496</u></b>	<b><u>\$7,819,098,646</u></b>
<b>Net Pension Liability – ending</b>	<b><u>\$2,194,415,875</u></b>	<b><u>\$2,140,692,960</u></b>
<b>Plan's Fiduciary Net Position as a percentage of the Total Pension Liability</b>	<b>79.37%</b>	<b>78.51%</b>
<b>Covered payroll<sup>(4)</sup></b>	<b>\$1,111,848,569</b>	<b>\$1,081,586,887</b>
<b>Plan Net Pension Liability as percentage of covered payroll</b>	<b>197.37%</b>	<b>197.92%</b>

(1) The Service Cost is based on the previous year's valuation, meaning the December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019 measurement date values are based on the valuations as of December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2018, respectively. Both service costs have been calculated using the assumptions shown in the December 31, 2019 measurement date column on page 8, as there had been no changes in the actuarial assumptions between the December 31, 2018 and December 31, 2019 valuations.

(2) Employer contributions are on a net basis after (i) considering the total cash contributions made by the employers, (ii) reducing by the employer contributions made to the 401(h) account, and (iii) increasing by the amount of transfer from the SRBR to the Employers Advance Reserve for employer contributions made to the 401(h) account in (ii).

(3) See footnote (2) on page 8 for a discussion on the development of the 2020 "Plan's Fiduciary Net Position – beginning" amount of \$7,819,098,646 and the 2020 "Plan's Fiduciary Net Position – ending" amount of \$8,444,884,496.

(4) Covered payroll represents Compensation Earnable and Pensionable Compensation and is defined as the payroll on which contributions to the pension plan are based.

## Section 2: GASB 67 Information

### Schedule of contributions – Last ten fiscal years

Year Ended December 31	Actuarially Determined Contributions	Contributions in Relation to the Actuarially Determined Contributions	Contribution Deficiency / (Excess)	Covered Payroll <sup>(1)</sup>	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2011	\$162,879,221	\$162,879,221	\$0	\$837,482,162	19.45%
2012	179,648,812	179,648,812	0	845,932,592	21.24%
2013	191,180,146	191,180,146	0	853,349,657	22.40%
2014	213,254,775	213,254,775	0	886,924,862	24.04%
2015	224,607,104	224,607,104	0	945,858,017 <sup>(2)</sup>	23.75%
2016	241,728,451	241,728,451	0	947,567,631	25.51%
2017	247,063,550	247,063,550	0	995,178,209	24.83%
2018	269,684,809	269,684,809	0	1,046,033,851	25.78%
2019	298,526,950	298,526,950	0	1,081,586,887	27.60%
2020	309,758,947	309,752,998	5,949 <sup>(3)</sup>	1,111,848,569	27.86%

<sup>(1)</sup> For years ended December 31, 2017 and later, covered payroll represents Compensation Earnable and Pensionable Compensation and is defined as the payroll on which contributions to the pension plan are based. For the years ended before December 31, 2017, covered payroll was referred to as covered-employee payroll and only Compensation Earnable and Pensionable Compensation that would go into the determination of retirement benefits was included.

<sup>(2)</sup> ACERA indicated that this amount is based on 27 pay periods for 2015.

<sup>(3)</sup> Actuarially Determined Contribution for the Alameda County Office of Education of \$78,000 less actual contributions paid of \$72,051.

See accompanying notes to this schedule on next page.

## Section 2: GASB 67 Information

### Notes to Schedule:

#### Methods and assumptions used to establish “actuarially determined contribution” rates:

<b>Valuation date:</b>	Actuarially determined contribution rates for the first six months of calendar year 2020 (or the second half of fiscal year 2019/2020) are calculated based on the December 31, 2018 valuation. Actuarially determined contribution rates for the last six months of calendar year 2020 (or the first half of fiscal year 2020/2021) are calculated based on the December 31, 2019 valuation.
<b>Actuarial cost method:</b>	Entry Age Actuarial Cost Method
<b>Amortization method:</b>	Level percent of payroll (3.50% payroll growth assumed in the December 31, 2019 valuation and 3.50% payroll growth assumed in the December 31, 2018 valuation)
<b>Remaining amortization period:</b>	<p><b><u>December 31, 2018 valuation</u></b></p> <p>Prior to January 1, 2012, the total UAAL was amortized on a 30-year decreasing period, with 21 years remaining as of December 31, 2011 (and 14 years remaining as of December 31, 2018). On or after January 1, 2012, any new UAAL resulting from plan amendments are amortized over separate decreasing 15-year periods; early retirement incentive programs (ERIPs) are amortized over separate decreasing 5-year periods; assumption and method changes are amortized over separate decreasing 20-year periods; and experience gains/losses are also amortized over separate decreasing 20-year periods.</p> <p><b><u>December 31, 2019 valuation</u></b></p> <p>Prior to January 1, 2012, the total UAAL was amortized on a 30-year decreasing period, with 21 years remaining as of December 31, 2011 (and 13 years remaining as of December 31, 2019). On or after January 1, 2012, any new UAAL resulting from plan amendments are amortized over separate decreasing 15-year periods; early retirement incentive programs (ERIPs) are amortized over separate decreasing 5-year periods; assumption and method changes are amortized over separate decreasing 20-year periods; and experience gains/losses are also amortized over separate decreasing 20-year periods.</p>
<b>Asset valuation method:</b>	The actuarial value of assets is determined by recognizing any difference between the actual and the expected market return over 10 six-month interest crediting periods. The actuarial value of assets is further adjusted, if necessary, to be within 40% of the market value of assets. The valuation value of assets is the actuarial value of assets reduced by the value of the non-valuation reserves.

## Section 2: GASB 67 Information

### Actuarial assumptions:

Valuation Date:	December 31, 2018 Valuation	December 31, 2019 Valuation
<b>Investment rate of return:</b>	7.25%, net of pension plan administrative and investment expense, including inflation	7.25%, net of pension plan administrative and investment expense, including inflation
<b>Inflation rate:</b>	3.00%	3.00%
<b>Real across-the-board salary increase:</b>	0.50%	0.50%
<b>Projected salary increases:</b>	General: 8.30% to 3.90% and Safety: 11.30% to 4.30%, vary by service, including inflation	General: 8.30% to 3.90% and Safety: 11.30% to 4.30%, vary by service, including inflation
<b>Cost of living adjustments:</b>	3.00% of retirement income for General Tiers 1 and 3, and Safety Tier 1; 2.00% for General Tiers 2 and 4, and Safety Tiers 2, 2C, 2D, and 4	3.00% of retirement income for General Tiers 1 and 3, and Safety Tier 1; 2.00% for General Tiers 2 and 4, and Safety Tiers 2, 2C, 2D, and 4
<b>Other assumptions:</b>	Same as those used in the December 31, 2018 funding actuarial valuation	Same as those used in the December 31, 2019 funding actuarial valuation

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# Section 3: Appendices

## Appendix A: Projection of Pension Plan's Fiduciary Net Position (\$ in millions) for use in the Calculation of Discount Rate as of December 31, 2020

Year Beginning January 1,	Projected Beginning Plan Fiduciary Net Position (a)	Projected Total Contributions (b)	Projected Benefit Payments (c)	Projected Administrative Expenses (d)	Projected Investment Earnings (e)	Projected Ending Plan Fiduciary Net Position (f) = (a) + (b) - (c) - (d) + (e)
2020	7,819	416	531	15	657	8,346 **
2021	8,346 **	441	622	16	574	8,724
2022	8,724	438	652	17	599	9,092
2023	9,092	439	683	17	624	9,454
2024	9,454	437	715	18	648	9,806
2025	9,806	438	747	19	671	10,150
2026	10,150	440	778	19	694	10,487
2027	10,487	448	809	20	717	10,822
2028	10,822	456	840	21	739	11,157
2044	12,115	225	1,198	23	807	11,926
2045	11,926	230	1,206	23	794	11,721
2046	11,721	236	1,205	22	780	11,511
2047	11,511	234	1,194	22	765	11,294
2089	286	38	115	1	17	226
2090	226	34	97	0 *	13	175
2091	175	30	82	0 *	10	133
2092	133	27	68	0 *	8	100
2093	100	24	56	0 *	6	73
2094	73	21	45	0 *	4	53
2095	53	18	37	0 *	3	37
2096	37	16	29	0 *	2	26
2097	26	14	23	0 *	1	18
2098	18	12	18	0 *	1	12
2099	12	10	14	0 *	1	8
2100	8	9	11	0 *	0 *	6
2110	2	1	2	0 *	0 *	1
2111	1	1	1	0 *	0 *	1
2112	1	1	1	0 *	0 *	0 *
2113	0 *	0 *	1	0 *	0 *	0 *
2114	0 *	0 *	0 *	0 *	0 *	0 *
2134	0 *	0 *	0 *	0	0 *	0 *
2135	0 *	0 *	0	0	0 *	0 *
2135	Discounted Value:	0 **,				

\* Less than \$1M, when rounded.

\*\* Excludes \$69.0 million in the Contingency Reserve plus \$29.7 million required to bring the Contingency Reserve to 1% of total assets as of December 31, 2020. See Note 2.

## Section 3: Appendices

### Notes

1. Amounts may not total exactly due to rounding.
2. Amounts shown in the year beginning January 1, 2020 row are actual amounts, based on the financial statements provided by ACERA. The Plan Fiduciary Net Position as of December 31, 2020 differs from the amount used for other GASB 67 purposes in that it excludes the \$69.0 million Contingency Reserve plus the \$29.7 million of the Gross Market Stabilization Reserve expected to be used to bring the Contingency Reserve up to 1% of total assets (\$98.7 million). These assets are not used in developing the projected total contributions in column (b).
3. Years 2029-2043, 2048-2088, 2101-2109, and 2115-2133 have been omitted from this table.
4. Column (a): Except for the "discounted value" shown for 2135, all of the projected beginning plan fiduciary net position amounts shown have not been adjusted for the time value of money.
5. Column (b): Projected total contributions include employee and employer normal cost contributions based on closed group projections (based on covered active members as of November 30, 2019); plus employer contributions to the unfunded actuarial accrued liability; plus employer contributions to fund each year's annual administrative expenses as well as future allocations of excess earnings to the SRBR under ACERA's funding policy, both reflecting a 20-year amortization schedule. Contributions are assumed to occur halfway through the year, on average.
6. Column (c): Projected benefit payments have been determined in accordance with paragraph 39 of GASB Statement No. 67, and are based on the closed group of active, inactive vested, retired members, and beneficiaries as of November 30, 2019. The projected benefit payments reflect the cost of living increase assumption of 2.75% per annum for Tiers 1 and 3, and 2.00% per annum for Tiers 2 and 4. The projected benefit payments include the Non-OPEB Supplemental Retiree Benefits Reserve (SRBR) benefits to the extent the current Non-OPEB SRBR supports those benefits. Benefit payments are assumed to occur halfway through the year, on average. In accordance with paragraph 31.b.(1)(e) of GASB Statement No. 67, the long-term expected rate of return on Plan investments of 7.00% per annum was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the discount rate.  
  
In addition, the projected benefit payments in column (c) include an amount equal to 0.65% of the beginning-of-year market value to reflect the approximated outflow of future allocations to the SRBR. This outflow has an estimated present value of \$0.99 billion. This present value of outflow is expected to be sufficient to pay for the remaining present value of the non-OPEB SRBR benefits of \$0.08 billion as well as the remaining present value of the OPEB SRBR benefits of \$0.26 billion.
7. Column (d): Projected administrative expenses are calculated as approximately 0.19% of the beginning plan fiduciary net position amount. The 0.19% portion was based on the actual fiscal year 2020 administrative expenses as a percentage of the beginning plan fiduciary net position amount as of January 1, 2020. Administrative expenses are assumed to occur halfway through the year, on average.
8. Column (e): Projected investment earnings are based on the assumed investment rate of return of 7.00% per annum.
9. As illustrated in this Exhibit, the Plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments for current Plan members. In other words, there is no projected "cross-over date" when projected benefits are not covered by projected assets. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on Plan investments of 7.00% per annum was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability as of December 31, 2020 shown earlier in this report, pursuant to paragraph 44 of GASB Statement No. 67.
10. This projection is based on a model developed by our Actuarial Technology and Systems unit, comprised of both actuaries and programmers. The model allows the client team, under the supervision of the responsible actuary, control over the entry of future expected contribution income, benefit payments and administrative expenses. The projection of fiduciary net position and the discounting of benefits is part of the model.

## Section 3: Appendices

### Appendix B: Definition of Terms

Definitions of certain terms as they are used in Statement 67. The terms may have different meanings in other contexts.

<b>Actuarial Present Value of Projected Benefit Payments:</b>	Projected benefit payments discounted to reflect the expected effects of the time value (present value) of money and the probabilities of payment.
<b>Actuarial Valuation:</b>	The determination, as of a point in time (the actuarial valuation date), of the service cost, Total Pension Liability, and related actuarial present value of projected benefit payments for pensions performed in conformity with Actuarial Standards of Practice unless otherwise specified by the GASB.
<b>Actuarial Valuation Date:</b>	The date as of which an actuarial valuation is performed.
<b>Actuarially Determined Contribution:</b>	A target or recommended contribution to a defined benefit pension plan for the reporting period, determined in conformity with Actuarial Standards of Practice based on the most recent measurement available when the contribution for the reporting period was adopted.
<b>Ad Hoc Cost-of-Living Adjustments (Ad Hoc COLAs):</b>	Cost-of-living adjustments that require a decision to grant by the authority responsible for making such decisions.
<b>Ad Hoc Postemployment Benefit Changes:</b>	Postemployment benefit changes that require a decision to grant by the authority responsible for making such decisions.
<b>Automatic Cost-of-Living Adjustments (Automatic COLAs):</b>	Cost-of-living adjustments that occur without a requirement for a decision to grant by a responsible authority, including those for which the amounts are determined by reference to a specified experience factor (such as the earnings experience of the pension plan) or to another variable (such as an increase in the consumer price index).
<b>Automatic Postemployment Benefit Changes:</b>	Postemployment benefit changes that occur without a requirement for a decision to grant by a responsible authority, including those for which the amounts are determined by reference to a specified experience factor (such as the earnings experience of the pension plan) or to another variable (such as an increase in the consumer price index).
<b>Cost-of-Living Adjustments:</b>	Postemployment benefit changes intended to adjust benefit payments for the effects of inflation.
<b>Cost-Sharing Multiple-Employer Defined Benefit Pension Plan (Cost-Sharing Pension Plan):</b>	A multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan in which the pension obligations to the employees of more than one employer are pooled and pension plan assets can be used to pay the benefits of the employees of any employer that provides pensions through the pension plan.
<b>Covered Payroll:</b>	Payroll on which contributions to a pension plan are based.
<b>Defined Benefit Pension Plans:</b>	Pension plans that are used to provide defined benefit pensions.

## Section 3: Appendices

<b>Defined Benefit Pensions:</b>	Pensions for which the income or other benefits that the employee will receive at or after separation from employment are defined by the benefit terms. The pensions may be stated as a specified dollar amount or as an amount that is calculated based on one or more factors such as age, years of service, and compensation. (A pension that does not meet the criteria of a defined contribution pension is classified as a defined benefit pension for purposes of Statement 67.)
<b>Defined Contribution Pension Plans:</b>	Pension plans that are used to provide defined contribution pensions.
<b>Defined Contribution Pensions:</b>	Pensions having terms that (1) provide an individual account for each employee; (2) define the contributions that an employer is required to make (or the credits that it is required to provide) to an active employee's account for periods in which that employee renders service; and (3) provide that the pensions an employee will receive will depend only on the contributions (or credits) to the employee's account, actual earnings on investments of those contributions (or credits), and the effects of forfeitures of contributions (or credits) made for other employees, as well as pension plan administrative costs, that are allocated to the employee's account.
<b>Discount Rate:</b>	<p>The single rate of return that, when applied to all projected benefit payments, results in an actuarial present value of projected benefit payments equal to the total of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The actuarial present value of benefit payments projected to be made in future periods in which (a) the amount of the pension Plan's Fiduciary Net Position is projected (under the requirements of Statement 67) to be greater than the benefit payments that are projected to be made in that period and (b) pension plan assets up to that point are expected to be invested using a strategy to achieve the long-term expected rate of return, calculated using the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments.</li><li>2. The actuarial present value of projected benefit payments not included in (1), calculated using the municipal bond rate.</li></ol>
<b>Entry Age Actuarial Cost Method:</b>	A method under which the actuarial present value of the projected benefits of each individual included in an actuarial valuation is allocated on a level basis over the earnings or service of the individual between entry age and assumed exit age(s). The portion of this actuarial present value allocated to a valuation year is called the normal cost. The portion of this actuarial present value not provided for at a valuation date by the actuarial present value of future normal costs is called the actuarial accrued liability.
<b>Inactive Employees:</b>	Terminated individuals that have accumulated benefits but are not yet receiving them, and retirees or their beneficiaries currently receiving benefits.
<b>Multiple-Employer Defined Benefit Pension Plan:</b>	A defined benefit pension plan that is used to provide pensions to the employees of more than one employer.
<b>Net Pension Liability (NPL):</b>	The liability of employers and nonemployer contributing entities to employees for benefits provided through a defined benefit pension plan.

## Section 3: Appendices

<b>Other Postemployment Benefits:</b>	All postemployment benefits other than retirement income (such as death benefits, life insurance, disability, and long-term care) that are provided separately from a pension plan, as well as postemployment healthcare benefits, regardless of the manner in which they are provided. Other postemployment benefits do not include termination benefits.
<b>Pension Plans:</b>	Arrangements through which pensions are determined, assets dedicated for pensions are accumulated and managed and benefits are paid as they come due.
<b>Pensions:</b>	Retirement income and, if provided through a pension plan, postemployment benefits other than retirement income (such as death benefits, life insurance, and disability benefits). Pensions do not include postemployment healthcare benefits and termination benefits.
<b>Plan Members:</b>	Individuals that are covered under the terms of a pension plan. Plan members generally include (1) employees in active service (active plan members) and (2) terminated employees who have accumulated benefits but are not yet receiving them and retirees or their beneficiaries currently receiving benefits (inactive plan members).
<b>Postemployment</b>	The period after employment.
<b>Postemployment Benefit Changes:</b>	Adjustments to the pension of an inactive employee.
<b>Postemployment Healthcare Benefits:</b>	Medical, dental, vision, and other health-related benefits paid subsequent to the termination of employment.
<b>Projected Benefit Payments:</b>	All benefits estimated to be payable through the pension plan to current active and inactive employees as a result of their past service and their expected future service.
<b>Public Employee Retirement System:</b>	A special-purpose government that administers one or more pension plans; also may administer other types of employee benefit plans, including postemployment healthcare plans and deferred compensation plans.
<b>Real Rate of Return:</b>	The rate of return on an investment after adjustment to eliminate inflation.
<b>Service Costs:</b>	The portions of the actuarial present value of projected benefit payments that are attributed to valuation years.
<b>Single-Employer Defined Benefit Pension Plan (Single-Employer Pension Plan):</b>	A defined benefit pension plan that is used to provide pensions to employees of only one employer.
<b>Termination Benefits:</b>	Inducements offered by employers to active employees to hasten the termination of services, or payments made in consequence of the early termination of services. Termination benefits include early-retirement incentives, severance benefits, and other termination-related benefits.
<b>Total Pension Liability (TPL):</b>	The portion of the actuarial present value of projected benefit payments that is attributed to past periods of employee service in conformity with the requirements of Statement 67.



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VIA E-MAIL

April 6, 2021

Ms. Margo Allen  
Fiscal Services Officer  
Alameda County Employees' Retirement Association  
475 14th Street, Suite 1000  
Oakland, CA 94612-1900

**Re: Alameda County Employees' Retirement Association (ACERA)  
Addendum to the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 67  
Actuarial Valuation as of December 31, 2020**

Dear Margo:

In our Governmental Accounting Standards (GASB) Statement 67 actuarial valuation report dated April 6, 2021, we provided the Net Pension Liabilities (NPL) and other elements that are required for completing the Plan's financial reporting requirements under GASB Statement 67. In this letter, we have provided as an addendum to that report two additional schedules that the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) State and Local Government Expert Panel recommends be prepared by the Retirement Association's actuary (Segal) for use in allocating the NPL and pension expense by employer, before we issue the full companion report for the employer's financial reporting for ACERA under GASB Statement 68.

The attached schedules have been developed based on the assumptions, methods, and results shown in our report dated April 6, 2021. Exhibits A1 and A2 detail the method used for allocating the NPL and they provide the NPL amounts allocated to the seven employers at ACERA as of December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2020, respectively.

The Alameda County Office of Education (ACOE) made a lump sum contribution of \$750,000 in 2019 to partially pay off their UAAL. That lump sum is greater than the amount that ACOE would have to make on an installment basis over 20 years. In order to have a more level allocation of the NPL to ACOE, ACERA approved an approach outlined in our March 2, 2020 letter to determine ACOE's proportionate share of the non-OPEB SRBR NPL by using ACOE's required contributions determined had they not make the additional lump sum contribution in 2019. We have continued to use that method in determining ACOE's proportionate share of the non-OPEB SRBR NPL in this letter.

Ms. Margo Allen  
April 6, 2021  
Page 2

Exhibit B summarizes the allocated NPL, deferred outflows and inflows of resources, and pension expense by the seven employers. Additional information required under GASB Statement 68 that each of the employers will need to disclose will be provided later in a separate report.

These calculations were performed under the supervision of Eva Yum, FSA, MAAA, Enrolled Actuary. We are members of the American Academy of Actuaries and we meet the Qualification Standards of the American Academy of Actuaries to render the actuarial opinion herein.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Andy Yeung, ASA, MAAA, FCA, EA  
Vice President & Actuary

Eva Yum, FSA, MAAA, EA  
Senior Actuary

JB/  
Enclosures

DRAFT



## Schedule of Employer Allocations as of December 31, 2019

### Actual Employer Contributions by Employer and Membership Class January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019

Employer	General Members, Excluding ACOE and LARPD		General ACOE Members Only		General LARPD Members Only		All General Members Combined	
	Contributions	Percentage <sup>1</sup>	Contributions	Percentage	Contributions	Percentage	Contributions	Percentage
Alameda County	\$124,398,408	64.606%	\$0	0.000%	\$0	0.000%	\$124,398,408	63.924%
Health System	54,239,577	28.169%	0	0.000%	0	0.000%	54,239,577	27.872%
Superior Court	11,501,609	5.973%	0	0.000%	0	0.000%	11,501,609	5.910%
First 5	1,200,993	0.624%	0	0.000%	0	0.000%	1,200,993	0.617%
Housing Authority	1,208,258	0.628%	0	0.000%	0	0.000%	1,208,258	0.621%
LARPD	0	0.000%	0	0.000%	1,306,574	100.000%	1,306,574	0.671%
ACOE	0	0.000%	750,000	100.000%	0	0.000%	750,000	0.385%
<b>Total for all Employers</b>	<b>\$192,548,845</b>	<b>100.000%</b>	<b>\$750,000</b>	<b>100.000%</b>	<b>\$1,306,574</b>	<b>100.000%</b>	<b>\$194,605,419</b>	<b>100.000%</b>

### Actual Employer Contributions by Employer and Membership Class January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019

Employer	Safety Members		Total		Adjusted Total <sup>2</sup>	
	Contributions	Percentage	Contributions	Percentage	Contributions	Percentage <sup>1</sup>
Alameda County	\$103,921,531	100.000%	\$228,319,939	76.482%	\$228,319,939	76.639%
Health System	0	0.000%	54,239,577	18.169%	54,239,577	18.207%
Superior Court	0	0.000%	11,501,609	3.853%	11,501,609	3.861%
First 5	0	0.000%	1,200,993	0.402%	1,200,993	0.403%
Housing Authority	0	0.000%	1,208,258	0.405%	1,208,258	0.406%
LARPD	0	0.000%	1,306,574	0.438%	1,306,574	0.439%
ACOE	0	0.000%	750,000	0.251%	132,883 <sup>2</sup>	0.045%
<b>Total for all Employers</b>	<b>\$103,921,531</b>	<b>100.000%</b>	<b>\$298,526,950</b>	<b>100.000%</b>	<b>\$297,909,833</b>	<b>100.000%</b>

<sup>1</sup> The unrounded percentages are used in the allocation of the NPL amongst the employers.

<sup>2</sup> ACOE made a lump sum contribution of \$750,000 in 2019 to partially pay off their UAAL. That lump sum is greater than the amount that ACOE would have to make on an installment basis over 20 years. In order to have a more level allocation of the NPL to ACOE, ACERA approved an approach outlined in our March 2, 2020 letter to determine ACOE's proportionate share of the non-OPEB SRBR NPL by using the total annual UAAL contribution ACOE would have made of \$132,883 in 2019 if they did not make the additional contribution to partially pay off their UAAL.

## Schedule of Employer Allocations as of December 31, 2019

## Allocation of December 31, 2019 Net Pension Liability

Employer	General NPL, Excluding ACOE and LARPD (Excl. non-OPEB SRBR NPL)		General ACOE NPL Only (Excl. non-OPEB SRBR NPL)		General LARPD NPL Only (Excl. non-OPEB SRBR NPL)		Total General NPL (Excl. non-OPEB SRBR NPL)	
	NPL	Percentage <sup>1</sup>	NPL	Percentage <sup>1</sup>	NPL	Percentage <sup>1</sup>	NPL	Percentage
Alameda County	\$750,950,156	64.606%	\$0	0.000%	\$0	0.000%	\$750,950,156	63.849%
Health System	327,425,563	28.169%	0	0.000%	0	0.000%	327,425,563	27.838%
Superior Court	69,431,235	5.973%	0	0.000%	0	0.000%	69,431,235	5.903%
First 5	7,249,979	0.624%	0	0.000%	0	0.000%	7,249,979	0.616%
Housing Authority	7,293,836	0.628%	0	0.000%	0	0.000%	7,293,836	0.620%
LARPD	0	0.000%	0	0.000%	13,024,823	100.000%	13,024,823	1.107%
ACOE	0	0.000%	793,504	100.000%	0	0.000%	793,504	0.067%
<b>Total for all Employers</b>	<b>\$1,162,350,769</b>	<b>100.000%</b>	<b>\$793,504</b>	<b>100.000%</b>	<b>\$13,024,823</b>	<b>100.000%</b>	<b>\$1,176,169,096</b>	<b>100.000%</b>

## Allocation of December 31, 2019 Net Pension Liability

Employer	Safety NPL (Excl. non-OPEB SRBR NPL)		General & Safety Total (Excl. non-OPEB SRBR NPL)		General & Safety Non-OPEB SRBR NPL		Total	
	NPL	Percentage <sup>1</sup>	NPL	Percentage	NPL	Percentage <sup>2</sup>	NPL	Percentage
Alameda County	\$810,219,254	100.000%	\$1,561,169,410	78.594%	\$118,260,007	76.639%	\$1,679,429,417	78.452%
Health System	0	0.000%	327,425,563	16.483%	28,093,792	18.207%	355,519,355	16.608%
Superior Court	0	0.000%	69,431,235	3.495%	5,957,344	3.861%	75,388,579	3.522%
First 5	0	0.000%	7,249,979	0.365%	622,063	0.403%	7,872,042	0.368%
Housing Authority	0	0.000%	7,293,836	0.367%	625,826	0.406%	7,919,662	0.370%
LARPD	0	0.000%	13,024,823	0.656%	676,750	0.439%	13,701,573	0.640%
ACOE	0	0.000%	793,504	0.040%	68,828	0.045%	862,332	0.040%
<b>Total for all Employers</b>	<b>\$810,219,254</b>	<b>100.000%</b>	<b>\$1,986,388,350</b>	<b>100.000%</b>	<b>\$154,304,610</b>	<b>100.000%</b>	<b>\$2,140,692,960</b>	<b>100.000%</b>

## Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Allocated based on the actual employer contributions within each membership class.

<sup>2</sup> Allocated based on the actual employer contributions in total, with an adjustment to reflect the total annual UAAL contribution ACOE would have made of \$132,883 in 2019 if they did not make the additional contribution to partially pay off their UAAL. This approach is outlined in our March 2, 2020 letter and is approved by ACERA.

Based on the January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 employer contributions as provided by ACERA.

### **Pension (excluding non-OPEB SRBR)**

The Net Pension Liability (NPL) for each membership class is the Total Pension Liability (TPL) minus the Plan's Fiduciary Net Position (plan assets). The Total Pension Liability for each membership class is obtained from internal valuation results. The Plan's Fiduciary Net Position for each membership class is obtained by allocating the total Plan's Fiduciary Net Position for Pension (excluding non-OPEB SRBR) proportionally based on the valuation value of assets for each membership class relative to the total valuation value of assets for all membership classes.<sup>1</sup> The total Plan's Fiduciary Net Position for pension as of December 31, 2019 includes the net fair value of assets less SRBR assets. The SRBR assets include the SRBR-OPEB reserve (after reducing the reserve by the SRBR implicit subsidy transfer), the 401(h) reserve, and the Non-OPEB SRBR reserve, plus a proportionate share of one half of the deferred market gains (after adjustment to replenish the balance in the Contingency Reserve) commensurate with the size of those SRBR reserves and 401(h) reserve to valuation and 401(h) reserves.

The General ACOE membership class has only one employer (ACOE), so all of the NPL for General ACOE is allocated to the ACOE. The General LARPD membership class has only one employer (LARPD), so all of the NPL for General LARPD is allocated to LARPD. The Safety membership class also has only one employer (County), so all of the NPL for Safety is allocated to the County.

For General excluding ACOE and LARPD, the NPL is allocated based on the actual employer contributions within the General membership class excluding any contributions made by ACOE and LARPD. The steps used for the allocation are as follows:

- First calculate the ratio of the employer's contributions to the total contributions for the membership class.
- This ratio is multiplied by the NPL for the membership class to determine the employer's proportionate share of the NPL for the membership class.

### **Non-OPEB SRBR**

The non-OPEB SRBR assets include the Non-OPEB SRBR reserve, plus a proportionate share of one half of the deferred market gains (after adjustment to replenish the balance in the Contingency Reserve) commensurate with the size of the non-OPEB to total SRBR reserves.

For non-OPEB SRBR, the NPL is allocated based on the actual employer contributions in total.<sup>2</sup> The steps used for the allocation are as follows:

- First calculate the ratio of the employer's total contributions to the total contributions for all employers.
- This ratio is multiplied by the NPL for the non-OPEB SRBR to determine the employer's proportionate share of the NPL for the non-OPEB SRBR.

### **Total**

The employer's total allocated NPL is the sum of its allocated pension NPL from each membership class and the non-OPEB SRBR. The proportionate share of the total plan NPL is then the ratio of the employer's total allocated NPL to the total NPL of all employers.

<sup>1</sup> As of December 31, 2019, the total Plan's Fiduciary Net Position for Pension (excluding non-OPEB SRBR) is \$174.9 million **higher** than the valuation value of assets as of the same date due to the inclusion of deferred market **gains**.

<sup>2</sup> Includes an adjustment to reflect the total annual UAAL contribution ACOE would have made of \$132,883 in 2019 if they did not make the additional contribution to partially pay off their UAAL. This approach is outlined in our March 2, 2020 letter and is approved by ACERA.

## Schedule of Employer Allocations as of December 31, 2020

### Actual Employer Contributions by Employer and Membership Class January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020

Employer	General Members, Excluding ACOE and LARP		General ACOE Members Only		General LARP Members Only		All General Members Combined	
	Contributions	Percentage <sup>1</sup>	Contributions	Percentage	Contributions	Percentage	Contributions	Percentage
Alameda County	\$129,742,973	65.180%	\$0	0.000%	\$0	0.000%	\$129,742,973	64.672%
Health System	54,283,769	27.271%	0	0.000%	0	0.000%	54,283,769	27.059%
Superior Court	12,372,365	6.216%	0	0.000%	0	0.000%	12,372,365	6.167%
First 5	1,329,139	0.668%	0	0.000%	0	0.000%	1,329,139	0.663%
Housing Authority	1,323,493	0.665%	0	0.000%	0	0.000%	1,323,493	0.660%
LARP	0	0.000%	0	0.000%	1,490,917	100.000%	1,490,917	0.743%
ACOE	0	0.000%	72,051	100.000%	0	0.000%	72,051	0.036%
<b>Total for all Employers</b>	<b>\$199,051,739</b>	<b>100.000%</b>	<b>\$72,051</b>	<b>100.000%</b>	<b>\$1,490,917</b>	<b>100.000%</b>	<b>\$200,614,707</b>	<b>100.000%</b>

### Actual Employer Contributions by Employer and Membership Class January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020

Employer	Safety Members		Total		Adjusted Total <sup>2</sup>	
	Contributions	Percentage	Contributions	Percentage	Contributions	Percentage <sup>1</sup>
Alameda County	\$109,138,291	100.000%	\$238,881,264	77.121%	\$238,881,264	77.104%
Health System	0	0.000%	54,283,769	17.525%	54,283,769	17.521%
Superior Court	0	0.000%	12,372,365	3.994%	12,372,365	3.993%
First 5	0	0.000%	1,329,139	0.429%	1,329,139	0.429%
Housing Authority	0	0.000%	1,323,493	0.427%	1,323,493	0.427%
LARP	0	0.000%	1,490,917	0.481%	1,490,917	0.481%
ACOE	0	0.000%	72,051	0.023%	138,832 <sup>2</sup>	0.045%
<b>Total for all Employers</b>	<b>\$109,138,291</b>	<b>100.000%</b>	<b>\$309,752,998</b>	<b>100.000%</b>	<b>\$309,819,779</b>	<b>100.000%</b>

<sup>1</sup> The unrounded percentages are used in the allocation of the NPL amongst the employers.

<sup>2</sup> ACOE made a lump sum contribution of \$750,000 in 2019 to partially pay off their UAAL. That lump sum is greater than the amount that ACOE would have to make on an installment basis over 20 years. In order to have a more level allocation of the NPL to ACOE, ACERA approved an approach outlined in our March 2, 2020 letter to determine ACOE's proportionate share of the non-OPEB SRBR NPL by using ACOE's required contributions determined in our December 31, 2018 valuation in the amount of \$78,000 based on an April 1, 2020 payment date plus the amortization of the remaining balance of the original \$750,000 lump sum amount (an amount of \$60,832 which represents the additional UAAL contribution ACOE would have been required to pay if they did not make the additional lump sum contribution in 2019). Note that in 2020, the actual contribution made by ACOE is \$72,051 which is \$5,949 less than the required contribution. Since \$5,949 is part of the required contributions, we included this amount for purposes of determining ACOE's proportionate share of the non-OPEB SRBR NPL.

## Schedule of Employer Allocations as of December 31, 2020

## Allocation of December 31, 2020 Net Pension Liability

Employer	General NPL, Excluding ACOE and LARPD (Excl. non-OPEB SRBR NPL)		General ACOE NPL Only (Excl. non-OPEB SRBR NPL)		General LARPD NPL Only (Excl. non-OPEB SRBR NPL)		Total General NPL (Excl. non-OPEB SRBR NPL)	
	NPL	Percentage <sup>1</sup>	NPL	Percentage <sup>1</sup>	NPL	Percentage <sup>1</sup>	NPL	Percentage
Alameda County	\$826,710,745	65.180%	\$0	0.000%	\$0	0.000%	\$826,710,745	64.436%
Health System	345,891,373	27.271%	0	0.000%	0	0.000%	345,891,373	26.959%
Superior Court	78,835,615	6.216%	0	0.000%	0	0.000%	78,835,615	6.145%
First 5	8,469,156	0.668%	0	0.000%	0	0.000%	8,469,156	0.660%
Housing Authority	8,433,180	0.665%	0	0.000%	0	0.000%	8,433,180	0.657%
LARPD	0	0.000%	0	0.000%	13,833,231	100.000%	13,833,231	1.078%
ACOE	0	0.000%	832,627	100.000%	0	0.000%	832,627	0.065%
<b>Total for all Employers</b>	<b>\$1,268,340,069</b>	<b>100.000%</b>	<b>\$832,627</b>	<b>100.000%</b>	<b>\$13,833,231</b>	<b>100.000%</b>	<b>\$1,283,005,927</b>	<b>100.000%</b>

## Allocation of December 31, 2020 Net Pension Liability

Employer	Safety NPL (Excl. non-OPEB SRBR NPL)		General & Safety Total (Excl. non-OPEB SRBR NPL)		General & Safety Non-OPEB SRBR NPL		Total	
	NPL	Percentage <sup>1</sup>	NPL	Percentage	NPL	Percentage <sup>2</sup>	NPL	Percentage
Alameda County	\$850,522,497	100.000%	\$1,677,233,242	78.614%	\$46,946,231	77.104%	\$1,724,179,473	78.572%
Health System	0	0.000%	345,891,373	16.212%	10,668,139	17.521%	356,559,512	16.248%
Superior Court	0	0.000%	78,835,615	3.695%	2,431,484	3.993%	81,267,099	3.703%
First 5	0	0.000%	8,469,156	0.397%	261,210	0.429%	8,730,366	0.398%
Housing Authority	0	0.000%	8,433,180	0.395%	260,100	0.427%	8,693,280	0.396%
LARPD	0	0.000%	13,833,231	0.648%	293,003	0.481%	14,126,234	0.644%
ACOE	0	0.000%	832,627	0.039%	27,284	0.045%	859,911	0.039%
<b>Total for all Employers</b>	<b>\$850,522,497</b>	<b>100.000%</b>	<b>\$2,133,528,424</b>	<b>100.000%</b>	<b>\$60,887,451</b>	<b>100.000%</b>	<b>\$2,194,415,875</b>	<b>100.000%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Allocated based on the actual employer contributions within each membership class.

<sup>2</sup> Allocated based on the actual employer contributions in total, with an adjustment to reflect the total annual UAAL contribution ACOE would have been required to make of \$138,832 in 2020 if they did not make the additional contribution in 2019 to partially pay off their UAAL. This approach is outlined in our March 2, 2020 letter and is approved by ACERA.

**Notes:**

Based on the January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 employer contributions as provided by ACERA.

**Pension (excluding non-OPEB SRBR)**

The Net Pension Liability (NPL) for each membership class is the Total Pension Liability (TPL) minus the Plan's Fiduciary Net Position (plan assets). The Total Pension Liability for each membership class is obtained from internal valuation results. The Plan's Fiduciary Net Position for each membership class is obtained by allocating the total Plan's Fiduciary Net Position for Pension (excluding non-OPEB SRBR) proportionally based on the valuation value of assets for each membership class relative to the total valuation value of assets for all membership classes.<sup>1</sup> The total Plan's Fiduciary Net Position for pension as of December 31, 2020 includes the net fair value of assets less SRBR assets. The SRBR assets include the SRBR-OPEB reserve (after reducing the reserve by the SRBR implicit subsidy transfer), the 401(h) reserve, and the Non-OPEB SRBR reserve, plus a proportionate share of one half of the deferred market gains (after adjustment to replenish the balance in the Contingency Reserve) commensurate with the size of those SRBR reserves and 401(h) reserve to valuation and 401(h) reserves.

The General ACOE membership class has only one employer (ACOE), so all of the NPL for General ACOE is allocated to the ACOE. The General LARPD membership class has only one employer (LARPD), so all of the NPL for General LARPD is allocated to LARPD. The Safety membership class also has only one employer (County), so all of the NPL for Safety is allocated to the County.

For General excluding ACOE and LARPD, the NPL is allocated based on the actual employer contributions within the General membership class excluding any contributions made by ACOE and LARPD. The steps used for the allocation are as follows:

- First calculate the ratio of the employer's contributions to the total contributions for the membership class.
- This ratio is multiplied by the NPL for the membership class to determine the employer's proportionate share of the NPL for the membership class.

**Non-OPEB SRBR**

The non-OPEB SRBR assets include the Non-OPEB SRBR reserve, plus a proportionate share of one half of the deferred market gains (after adjustment to replenish the balance in the Contingency Reserve) commensurate with the size of the non-OPEB to total SRBR reserves.

For non-OPEB SRBR, the NPL is allocated based on the actual employer contributions in total.<sup>2</sup> The steps used for the allocation are as follows:

- First calculate the ratio of the employer's total contributions to the total contributions for all employers.
- This ratio is multiplied by the NPL for the non-OPEB SRBR to determine the employer's proportionate share of the NPL for the non-OPEB SRBR.

**Total**

The employer's total allocated NPL is the sum of its allocated pension NPL from each membership class and the non-OPEB SRBR. The proportionate share of the total plan NPL is then the ratio of the employer's total allocated NPL to the total NPL of all employers.

<sup>1</sup> As of December 31, 2020, the total Plan's Fiduciary Net Position for Pension (excluding non-OPEB SRBR) is \$306.4 million **higher** than the valuation value of assets as of the same date due to the inclusion of deferred market **gains**. The total Plan's Fiduciary Net Position also includes the Contingency Reserve and the deferred market gains for replenishing the Contingency Reserve from \$69.0 million to \$98.7 million.

<sup>2</sup> Includes an adjustment to reflect the total annual UAAL contribution ACOE would have been required to make of \$138,832 in 2020 if they did not make the additional contribution to partially pay off their UAAL. This approach is outlined in our March 2, 2020 letter and is approved by ACERA.

## Schedule of Pension Amounts by Employer as of December 31, 2020

Employer	Net Pension Liability	Deferred Outflows of Resources				Total Deferred Outflows of Resources
		Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Earnings on Pension Plan Investments	Changes of Assumptions	Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	
Alameda County	\$1,724,179,473	\$42,239,675	\$0	\$293,037,119	\$11,520,977	\$346,797,771
Health System	356,559,512	8,559,363	0	72,609,580	3,818,149	84,987,092
Superior Court	81,267,099	1,950,851	0	16,549,187	5,881,353	24,381,391
First 5	8,730,366	209,576	0	1,777,847	923,064	2,910,487
Housing Authority	8,693,280	208,686	0	1,770,295	438,903	2,417,884
LARPD	14,126,234	3,162,181	0	1,809,278	59,936	5,031,395
ACOE	<u>859,911</u>	<u>705,561</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>48,179</u>	<u>26,280</u>	<u>780,020</u>
<b>Total for all Employers</b>	<b>\$2,194,415,875</b>	<b>\$57,035,893</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$387,601,485</b>	<b>\$22,668,662</b>	<b>\$467,306,040</b>



## Schedule of Pension Amounts by Employer as of December 31, 2020

Employer	Deferred Inflows of Resources				Pension Expense			
	Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Earnings on Pension Plan Investments	Changes of Assumptions	Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	Proportionate Share of Plan Pension Expense	Net Amortization of Deferred Amounts from Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	Total Employer Pension Expense
Alameda County	\$7,854,374	\$286,812,664	\$73,087,610	\$2,547,465	\$370,302,113	\$214,728,025	\$1,555,596	\$216,283,621
Health System	2,621,704	80,123,553	16,608,548	17,345,961	116,699,766	42,784,267	-2,168,534	40,615,733
Superior Court	597,539	18,261,773	3,785,423	1,987,380	24,632,115	9,751,396	483,130	10,234,526
First 5	64,192	1,961,827	406,661	10,197	2,442,877	1,047,575	281,813	1,329,388
Housing Authority	63,919	1,953,493	404,933	693,125	3,115,470	1,043,122	-118,356	924,766
LARPD	156,944	2,342,976	456,158	45,153	3,001,231	2,129,738	-16,303	2,113,435
ACOE	1,159	106,696	42,477	39,381	189,713	344,092	-17,346	326,746
<b>Total for all Employers</b>	<b>\$11,359,831</b>	<b>\$391,562,982</b>	<b>\$94,791,810</b>	<b>\$22,668,662</b>	<b>\$520,383,285</b>	<b>\$271,828,215</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$271,828,215</b>

## Schedule of Pension Amounts by Employer as of December 31, 2020

### Notes:

Amounts shown in this exhibit were allocated first by employer within each of the four pension plan membership class (excl. non-OPEB SRBR) and within the non-OPEB SRBR based on the Employer Allocation Percentage calculated in Exhibit A2, and added together to produce the results by employer in total.

In determining the pension expense:

- Any differences between projected and actual investment earnings on pension plan investments are recognized over a period of five years beginning with the year in which they occur.
- Current-period (i.e., 2020) differences between expected and actual experience and changes of assumptions are recognized over the average of the expected remaining service lives of all employees that are provided with pensions through ACERA determined as of December 31, 2019 (the beginning of the measurement period ending December 31, 2020) and is 5.26 years.
- Prior-period differences between expected and actual experience and changes of assumptions are continued to be recognized based on the expected remaining service lives of all employees calculated as of those prior measurement dates.

The average of the expected remaining service lives of all employees was determined by:

- Calculating each active employee's expected remaining service life as the present value of \$1 per year of future service at zero percent interest.
- Setting the remaining service life to zero for each nonactive or retired member.
- Dividing the sum of the above amounts by the total number of active employees and nonactive and retired members.

There was a decrease in the total employer pension expense from \$420.5 million calculated last year to \$271.8 million calculated this year. The primary cause of the decrease was due to the full recognition of: (a) expense from assumption changes implemented in the December 31, 2014 valuation and (b) investment loss from the December 31, 2015 valuation used in developing last year's pension expense.



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MEMORANDUM TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

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DATE: May 20, 2021

TO: Members of the Audit Committee

FROM: Margo Allen, Fiscal Services Officer 

SUBJECT: Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 67 and Statement No. 74 Actuarial Valuations and Addendums as of December 31, 2020

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**Executive Summary**

Staff has completed its review and evaluation of the GASB Statement No. 67 and Statement No. 74 Actuarial Valuations and Addendums<sup>1</sup> as of December 31, 2020. Staff and ACERA's actuary, Segal Consulting, conducted presentations of this information at the following meetings:

- April 15, 2021, Audit Committee meeting; and
- April 28, 2021, Participating Employers' Meeting.

Having no need for further review, staff recommends the Board of Retirement consider a motion to adopt the GASB Statement No. 67 and Statement No. 74 Actuarial Valuations and Addendums as of December 31, 2020.

**Recommendation**

Staff recommends that the Audit Committee recommend that the Board of Retirement adopt the GASB Statement No. 67 and Statement No. 74 Actuarial Valuations and Addendums as of December 31, 2020

Attachments: Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 67 and Statement No. 74 Actuarial Valuations and Addendums as of December 31, 2020

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<sup>1</sup>The addendums contain additional schedules recommended by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) for use in allocating the Net Pension Liability (NPL) and the Net OPEB Liability (NOL) by employer, before issuing the full companion reports for the employers' financial reporting under GASB Statement No. 68 and Statement No. 75.

Alameda County Employees'  
Retirement Association (ACERA)

**Governmental Accounting Standards  
Board (GASB) Statement 74 Actuarial  
Valuation of the Benefits Provided by the  
Supplemental Retiree Benefits Reserve  
Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)**

As of December 31, 2020

**DRAFT – FOR DISCUSSION WITH CLIENT**

This report has been prepared at the request of the Board of Retirement to assist in administering the Fund. This valuation report may not otherwise be copied or reproduced in any form without the consent of the Board of Retirement and may only be provided to other parties in its entirety, unless expressly authorized by Segal. The measurements shown in this actuarial valuation may not be applicable for other purposes.

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**Segal**



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April 6, 2021

Board of Retirement  
Alameda County Employees' Retirement Association  
475 14th Street, Suite 1000  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Board Members:

We are pleased to submit this Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 74 Actuarial Valuation as of December 31, 2020. It contains various information that will need to be disclosed in order to comply with GASB 74.

This report was prepared in accordance with generally accepted actuarial principles and practices at the request of the Board to assist in administering the Association. The census and financial information on which our calculations were based was prepared by ACERA. That assistance is gratefully acknowledged.

The measurements shown in this actuarial valuation may not be applicable for other purposes. 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 health care cost, economic or demographic assumptions; changes in health care trend, and changes in plan provisions or applicable law.

The actuarial calculations were completed under the supervision of Thomas Bergman, ASA, MAAA, Enrolled Actuary and Andy Yeung, ASA, MAAA, FCA, Enrolled Actuary. The health care trend and other related medical assumptions have been reviewed by Paul Sadro, ASA, MAAA. We are members of the American Academy of Actuaries and we collectively meet the Qualification Standards of the American Academy of Actuaries to render the actuarial opinion herein. To the best of our knowledge, the information supplied in the actuarial valuation is complete and accurate. Further, in our opinion, the assumptions as approved by the Board are reasonably related to the experience of and expectations for the Association.

Board of Retirement  
April 6, 2021

We look forward to reviewing this report with you and to answering any questions.

Sincerely,

Segal

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Andy Yeung, ASA, MAAA, FCA, EA  
Vice President and Actuary

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Thomas Bergman, ASA, MAAA, EA  
Senior Actuary

/mv

DRAFT

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# Section 1: Actuarial Valuation Summary

## Purpose and basis

This report has been prepared by Segal to present certain disclosure information required for “Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)” plans by Statement No. 74 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board as of December 31, 2020. This valuation is based on:

- The benefit provisions of the OPEB Plan, as administered by the Board of Retirement;
- The characteristics of covered active members, inactive vested members, and retired members and beneficiaries as of November 30, 2019, provided by ACERA;
- The assets of the Plan as of December 31, 2020, provided by ACERA;
- Economic assumptions regarding future salary increases and investment earnings adopted by the Board for the December 31, 2020 valuation; and
- Other actuarial assumptions, regarding employee terminations, retirement, death, and health care trends etc. adopted by the Board for the December 31, 2020 valuation.

## General observations on GASB 74 actuarial valuation

1. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) rules only define OPEB liability and expense for financial reporting purposes, and do not apply to contribution amounts for OPEB funding purposes. Employers and plans still develop and adopt funding policies, if applicable, under current practices.
2. When measuring OPEB liability, GASB uses the same actuarial cost method (Entry Age) and, for benefits that are being fully funded on an actuarial basis, the same expected return on Plan assets as used for funding.<sup>1</sup> This means that the Total OPEB Liability (TOL) measure for financial reporting shown in this report is determined on the same basis as the Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) measure for funding.
3. The Net OPEB Liability (NOL) is equal to the difference between the TOL and the Plan’s Fiduciary Net Position. The Plan’s Fiduciary Net Position is equal to the fair value of assets. The NOL reflects all investment gains and losses as of the measurement date.

<sup>1</sup> See discussions on next page regarding source of funding for payment of OPEB SRBR benefits not covered by current OPEB Plan’s Fiduciary Net Position in the SRBR.

# Section 1: Actuarial Valuation Summary

## Highlights of the valuation

1. The NOL decreased from \$112.9 million as of December 31, 2019 to \$6.7 million as of December 31, 2020 primarily as a result of favorable investment return during calendar year 2020 of about \$193.5 million (for an actual market return of 27.7%<sup>2</sup> versus 7.25% assumed in the valuation), offset somewhat by lowering the discount rate<sup>3</sup> (which on a net basis increased the NOL by about \$33.2 million). Changes in these values during the last two fiscal years ending December 31, 2020 and 2019 can be found in *Section 2, Schedule of Changes in Net OPEB Liability* on page 16.
2. As we disclosed in our December 31, 2020 pension funding valuation report, the 7.00% investment return assumption that the Board approved for determining the liabilities for funding purposes and used for establishing the employer and employee contribution rates has continued to be developed without considering the impact of any future 50/50 excess earnings allocation. This is based on our understanding that Article 5.5 of the Statute, which authorizes the allocation of 50% of excess earnings to the SRBR, does not allow for the use of a different investment return for funding than is used for interest crediting. This would appear in effect to preclude the prefunding of the SRBR through the use of an assumption lower than the market earnings assumption of 7.00%.

As required by the Actuarial Standard of Practice (ASOP) No. 4 (“Measuring Pension Obligations and Determining Pension Plan Costs or Contributions”), we performed a stochastic model to estimate the impact of the 50% allocation of future excess earnings to the SRBR. The results of our model indicated that the 50/50 allocation of future excess earnings would have about the same impact as an “outflow” (i.e., assets not available to fund the benefits included in the determination of the Total Pension Liability) that would average approximately 0.65% of assets over time. This approximated outflow was incorporated into our GASB crossover test for the pension benefits (reference: *Section 2, Schedule of Changes in Net Pension Liability* of our GASB 67 report as of December 31, 2020), along with the additional future employer contributions that would result from those future allocations of excess earnings to the SRBR under ACERA’s funding policy.

Furthermore, note (6) provided in *Section 3, Appendix A* of the GASB 67 report indicates that the present value of outflows from the 0.65% of assets over time is expected to be higher than the present values of the remaining OPEB and non-OPEB SRBR benefits that could be paid after the exhaustion of assets currently available in the SRBR.

Therefore, in developing the crossover test for the OPEB SRBR in *Section 2, Schedule of Changes in Net OPEB Liability* on page 16 of this report, we have only included the projected benefits so that on a present value basis they are equal to the OPEB assets currently available in the SRBR as the remaining OPEB SRBR benefits would be paid from future excess earnings.

<sup>2</sup> Note that the 27.7% market value investment return mentioned above for the SRBR is higher than the 11.5% investment return included in the December 31, 2020 Pension Funding Valuation for Association’s entire portfolio. The higher return for the SRBR is primarily a result of including the 50% of future excess earnings allocated to the SRBR for the deferred investment gains as of December 31, 2020.

<sup>3</sup> The discount rate was lowered from 7.25% to 7.00% based on the 7.00% investment rate of return assumption that the Board approved based on the recommended assumption from the Actuarial Experience Study for the period December 1, 2016 through November 30, 2019, dated September 9, 2020.

## Section 1: Actuarial Valuation Summary

3. The TOL as of December 31, 2020 was determined by rolling forward the liability results used in determining the sufficiency of the SRBR to provide medical and dental subsidy benefits as of December 31, 2019. That TOL has been adjusted to reflect the health care trend assumptions recommended for the upcoming sufficiency study for the SRBR as of December 31, 2020 (reference: our letter dated March 22, 2021) and the assumptions approved by the Board from the Actuarial Experience Study for the period December 1, 2016 through November 30, 2019, dated September 9, 2020.
4. We have also continued the practice of adjusting the Plan's Fiduciary Net Position as of December 31, 2020 to include the \$891.6 million set aside by the Retirement Board in the SRBR reserve to pay OPEB benefits as of December 31, 2020. This includes \$882.5 million in the OPEB-related SRBR reserve (after reducing the reserve by the \$7.5 million SRBR implicit subsidy transfer), and \$9.1 million in the 401(h) reserve. It should be noted that as of December 31, 2020, the deferred investment gain for the entire Plan was \$643.3 million. Consequently, after first replenishing the Contingency Reserve from \$69.0 million to \$98.7 million (1% of total assets), we have added to the Plan's Fiduciary Net Position the proportionate share of one-half of the net deferred investment gain that is commensurate with the size of the OPEB SRBR reserve to total SRBR and 401(h) reserve to valuation and 401(h) reserve, or \$293.3 million (which will cause the future interest crediting rate to the SRBR reserve to be raised above 7.00% per year).
5. The Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic is rapidly evolving and has had a significant impact on the US economy in 2020, including most retiree health plans, and will likely continue to have an impact in the future. Our results do not include the impact of the following:
  - Direct or indirect effects of COVID-19 on short-term health plan costs
  - Short-term or long-term impacts on mortality of the covered population
  - The potential for federal or state fiscal relief

Each of the above factors could significantly impact the results prepared using these assumptions. The net effect of the above factors generally have not affected our assumptions for the December 31, 2020 valuation. Given the high level of uncertainty and fluidity of the current events, we will monitor to assess any potential changes in the assumptions proposed here.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, market conditions have varied significantly during 2020. The Plan's funded status does not reflect short-term fluctuations of the market, but rather is based on the market values on the last day of the Plan Year. While it is impossible to determine how the pandemic will continue to affect market conditions, health care costs, and other demographic experience of the Plan prior to next year's valuation, Segal is available to prepare projections of potential outcomes upon request.

# Section 1: Actuarial Valuation Summary

## Summary of key valuation results

Measurement Date		December 31, 2020	December 31, 2019
<b>Disclosure elements for fiscal year ending December 31:</b>	• Service cost <sup>(1)</sup>	\$31,510,436	\$27,678,194
	• Total OPEB Liability	1,191,570,896	1,083,114,679
	• Plan's Fiduciary Net Position <sup>(2)</sup>	1,184,882,854	970,180,405
	• Net OPEB Liability	6,688,042	112,934,274
<b>Schedule of contributions for fiscal year ending December 31:</b>	• Actuarially determined contributions	N/A	N/A
	• Actual contributions <sup>(3)</sup>	N/A	N/A
	• Contribution deficiency / (excess)	0	0
<b>Demographic data for plan year ending December 31:<sup>(4)</sup></b>	• Number of retired members receiving medical benefits <sup>(5)</sup>	TBD	6,575
	• Number of retired members receiving dental and vision benefits	TBD	7,741
	• Number of vested terminated members	TBD	430
	• Number of active members	TBD	11,336
<b>Key assumptions as of December 31:</b>	• Discount rate	7.00%	7.25%
	• Health care premium trend rates		
	Non-Medicare medical plan	Graded from 6.75% to ultimate 4.50% over 9 years	Graded from 6.75% to ultimate 4.50% over 9 years <sup>(7)</sup>
	Medicare medical plan	Graded from 6.25% to ultimate 4.50% over 7 years	Graded from 6.25% to ultimate 4.50% over 7 years <sup>(7)</sup>
	Dental/Vision	4.00% <sup>(6)</sup>	4.00%
	Medicare Part B	4.50%	4.50%

<sup>(1)</sup> The Service Cost is based on the previous year's valuation, meaning the December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019 measurement date values are based on the valuations as of December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2018, respectively. The December 31, 2020 service cost has been calculated using the assumptions shown in the December 31, 2019 column, and the December 31, 2019 service cost has been calculated using the following assumptions:

**Key assumptions as of December 31, 2018:**

Discount rate	7.25%
Health care premium trend rates	
Non-Medicare medical plan <sup>(7)</sup>	Graded from 7.00% to ultimate 4.50% over 10 years
Medicare medical plan <sup>(7)</sup>	Graded from 6.50% to ultimate 4.50% over 8 years
Dental/Vision and Medicare Part B	4.00%

## Section 1: Actuarial Valuation Summary

- (2) For 2020, the Plan's Fiduciary Net Position shown (\$1,184,882,854) includes the OPEB-related SRBR reserve of \$882,528,291 (after reducing the reserve by the SRBR implicit subsidy transfer of \$7,548,683) and 401(h) reserve (\$9,051,620), plus the proportionate share of one-half of the net deferred investment gain that is commensurate with the size of the OPEB SRBR reserve to total SRBR and 401(h) reserve to valuation and 401(h) reserve (\$293,302,942), after first replenishing the Contingency Reserve from \$69.0 million to \$98.7 million (1% of total assets). For 2019, the Plan's Fiduciary Net Position shown (\$970,180,405) includes the OPEB-related SRBR reserve of \$877,769,175 (after reducing the reserve by the SRBR implicit subsidy transfer of \$6,510,876) and 401(h) reserve (\$10,415,538), plus the proportionate share of one-half of the net deferred investment gain that is commensurate with the size of the OPEB SRBR reserve to total SRBR and 401(h) reserve to valuation and 401(h) reserve (\$81,995,692), after first replenishing the Contingency Reserve from \$0 to \$89.4 million (1% of total assets). Note that amounts may not total exactly due to rounding.
- (3) Employer contributions are on a net basis. Benefits are funded by employer contributions to the 401(h) account and similar amounts are transferred from the SRBR to the Employers Advance Reserve to backfill the employer contributions that would have otherwise been made to the Retirement Plan.
- (4) The December 31, 2019 data is used in the measurement of the TOL as of December 31, 2020. The following data as of December 31, 2018 was used in the measurement of the TOL as of December 31, 2019:

Number of retired members receiving medical benefits	6,385
Number of retired members receiving dental and vision benefits	7,519
Number of vested terminated members	410
Number of active members	11,349

The demographic data as of December 31, 2020 will be used in the sufficiency study for the SRBR as of December 31, 2020 as well as in the next year's GASB 74 valuation when we roll forward the liability from December 31, 2020 to December 31, 2021. The December 31, 2020 demographic data will be included in the final version.

- (5) The retiree count excludes beneficiaries under 65 receiving an implicit subsidy.
- (6) The first two years of trend for dental were updated to reflect the three-year rate guarantee (premiums would be fixed at the 2021 levels for 2022 and 2023). The first four years of trend for vision were updated to reflect the five-year rate guarantee (premiums would be fixed at 2021 levels for 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025).
- (7) The trend rates for 2020 as of the December 31, 2019 measurement are before reflecting the repeal of the Health Insurance Tax (HIT) taking effect in 2021 that would further reduce 1.20% from non-Medicare plan trend of 6.75% and 0.90% from Medicare plan trend of 6.25%. The trends for 2019 as of the December 31, 2018 measurement are before reflecting a one-time adjustment to reflect the estimated impact of the reinstatement of the HIT. The weighted average increase amongst all carriers is approximately 1.20% for Non-Medicare plans and 0.90% for Medicare plans.

## Section 1: Actuarial Valuation Summary

### Important information about actuarial valuations

An actuarial valuation is a budgeting tool with respect to the financing of future projected obligations of a postretirement health plan. It is an estimated forecast – the actual long-term cost of the plan will be determined by the actual benefits and expenses paid and the actual investment experience of the plan.

In order to prepare a valuation, Segal relies on a number of input items. These include:

<b>Plan of benefits</b>	Plan provisions define the rules that will be used to determine benefit payments, and those rules, or the interpretation of them, may change over time. It is important to keep Segal informed with respect to plan provisions and administrative procedures, and to review the plan description in this report (as well as the plan summary included in our funding valuation report) to confirm that Segal has correctly interpreted the plan of benefits.
<b>Participant data</b>	An actuarial valuation for a plan is based on data provided to the actuary by ACERA. Segal does not audit such data for completeness or accuracy, other than reviewing it for obvious inconsistencies compared to prior data and other information that appears unreasonable. It is important for Segal to receive the best possible data and to be informed about any known incomplete or inaccurate data.
<b>Assets</b>	This valuation is based on the fair value of assets as of the valuation date, as provided by ACERA. The Association uses an actuarial value of assets that differs from fair value of assets to gradually reflect six-month changes in the fair value of assets in the SRBR sufficiency valuation.
<b>Actuarial assumptions</b>	In preparing an actuarial valuation, Segal projects the benefits to be paid to existing plan participants for the rest of their lives and the lives of their beneficiaries. This projection requires actuarial assumptions as to the probability of death, disability, withdrawal, and retirement of each participant for each year. In addition, the benefits projected to be paid for each of those events in each future year reflect actuarial assumptions as to health care trends. The projected benefits are then discounted to a present value, based on the assumed rate of return that is expected to be achieved on the plan's assets. There is a reasonable range for each assumption used in the projection and the results may vary materially based on which assumptions are selected. It is important for any user of an actuarial valuation to understand this concept. Actuarial assumptions are periodically reviewed to ensure that future valuations reflect emerging plan experience. While future changes in actuarial assumptions may have a significant impact on the reported results, that does not mean that the previous assumptions were unreasonable.



## Section 1: Actuarial Valuation Summary

### Models

Segal accounting results are based on proprietary actuarial modeling software. The accounting valuation models generate a comprehensive set of liability and cost calculations that are presented to meet accounting standards and client requirements. Our Actuarial Technology and Systems unit, comprising both actuaries and programmers, is responsible for the initial development and maintenance of these models. The models have a modular structure that allows for a high degree of accuracy, flexibility and user control. The client team programs the assumptions and the plan provisions, validates the models, and reviews test lives and results, under the supervision of the responsible actuary.

The user of Segal's actuarial valuation (or other actuarial calculations) should keep the following in mind:

The valuation is prepared at the request of the Board to assist ACERA in preparing items related to the OPEB SRBR plan in their financial reports. Segal is not responsible for the use or misuse of its report, particularly by any other party.

An actuarial valuation is a measurement of the plan's assets and liabilities at a specific date. Accordingly, except where otherwise noted, Segal did not perform an analysis of the potential range of future financial measures. The actual long-term cost of the plan will be determined by the actual benefits and expenses paid and the actual investment experience of the plan.

If ACERA is aware of any event or trend that was not considered in this valuation that may materially change the results of the valuation, Segal should be advised, so that we can evaluate it.

Segal does not provide investment, legal, accounting, or tax advice. Segal's valuation is based on our understanding of applicable guidance in these areas and of the plan's provisions, but they may be subject to alternative interpretations. The Board should look to their other advisors for expertise in these areas.

As Segal has no discretionary authority with respect to the management or assets of ACERA, it is not a fiduciary in its capacity as actuaries and consultants with respect to ACERA.



# Section 2: GASB 74 Information

## General information about the OPEB plan

### Plan Description

*Plan administration.* The Alameda County Employees' Retirement Association (ACERA) was established by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors in 1947. ACERA is administered by the Board of Retirement and governed by the County Employees' Retirement Law of 1937 (California Government Code Section 31450 et. seq.). ACERA is a cost-sharing, multiple employer, defined benefit, public employee retirement system whose main function is to provide service retirement, disability, death, and survivor benefits to the General and Safety members employed by the County of Alameda. ACERA also provides retirement benefits to the employee members of First 5 Alameda County, Housing Authority of the County of Alameda, Alameda Health System, Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD), Superior Court of California—County of Alameda, and Alameda County Office of Education (ACOE).

The management of ACERA is vested with the ACERA Board of Retirement. The Board consists of nine members and two alternates. The County Treasurer is a member of the Board of Retirement by law and is elected by the general public. Four members are appointed by the Board of Supervisors, one of whom may be a County Supervisor. Two active members are elected by the General members; one active member and one alternate are elected by the Safety members; one retired member and one alternate are elected by the retired members. All members of the Board of Retirement serve terms of three years except for the County Treasurer whose term runs concurrent with his term as County Treasurer.

*Plan membership.* At December 31, 2020, OPEB plan membership consisted of the following:

<b>Retired members currently receiving medical benefits</b>	TBD
<b>Retired members currently receiving dental and vision benefits</b>	TBD
<b>Vested terminated members entitled to, but not yet receiving benefits</b>	TBD
<b>Active members</b>	<u>TBD</u>
<b>Total</b>	TBD

*Note:* Data as of December 31, 2020 is not used in the measurement of the TOL as of December 31, 2020. It will be used for the sufficiency study for the SRBR as of December 31, 2020 as well as in next year's GASB 74 valuation. The December 31, 2020 demographic data will be included in the final version.

*The retiree count excludes beneficiaries under 65 receiving an implicit subsidy.*

## Section 2: GASB 74 Information

*Benefits provided.* ACERA provides benefits to eligible employees under the following terms and conditions.

<b>Eligibility:</b>									
<i>Service Retirees:</i>	Retired with at least 10 years of service (including deferred vested members who terminate employment and receive a retirement benefit from ACERA)								
<i>Disabled Retirees:</i>	A minimum of 10 <sup>4</sup> years of service is required for non-duty disability. There is no minimum service requirement for duty disability.								
<b>Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB):</b>									
<i>Monthly Medical Allowance</i>									
Service Retirees:	<p>For retirees not purchasing individual insurance through the Medicare Insurance Exchange, a Maximum Monthly Medical Allowance of \$578.65 per month is provided, effective January 1, 2020. For the period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021, the maximum allowance will remain at \$578.65 per month.</p> <p>For those purchasing individual insurance through the Individual Medicare Insurance Exchange, the Maximum Monthly Medical Allowance is \$443.28 per month for 2020 and 2021. These Allowances are subject to the following subsidy schedule:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Completed Years of Service</th> <th>Percentage Subsidized</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>10-14</td> <td>50%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15-19</td> <td>75%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20+</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Completed Years of Service	Percentage Subsidized	10-14	50%	15-19	75%	20+	100%
Completed Years of Service	Percentage Subsidized								
10-14	50%								
15-19	75%								
20+	100%								
Disabled Retirees:	<p>Non-duty disabled retirees receive the same Monthly Medical Allowance as service retirees.</p> <p>Duty disabled retirees receive the same Monthly Medical Allowance as those service retirees with 20 or more years of service.</p>								
<i>Medicare Benefit Reimbursement Plan:</i>	<p>The SRBR reimburses the full Medicare Part B premium to qualified retired members. To qualify for reimbursement, a retiree must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have at least 10 years of ACERA service,</li> <li>• Be eligible for Monthly Medical Allowance,</li> <li>• Provide proof of enrollment in Medicare Part B.</li> </ul>								

<sup>4</sup> The 10 years of service requirement is only used for determining eligibility for health benefits. For pension benefits, the eligibility requirements is 5 years of service.

## Section 2: GASB 74 Information

<i>Dental and Vision Plans:</i>	The SRBR provides dental and vision benefits for retirees only. The maximum combined monthly dental and vision premium was \$46.28 in 2020 and is \$48.12 in 2021. The eligibility for these premiums is as follows.
Service Retirees:	Retired with at least 10 years of service.
Disabled Retirees:	For non-duty disabled retirees, 10 years of service is required. For grandfathered non-duty disabled retirees (with effective retirement dates on or before January 31, 2014), there is no minimum service requirement. For duty disabled retirees, there is no minimum service requirement.
<i>Note about Monthly Medical Allowance:</i>	The maximum levels of subsidy are reviewed by the Board annually and are not indexed to increase automatically. In addition, the Monthly Medical Allowance can only be used to pay for retiree medical benefits. There is no benefit payable to beneficiaries, current spouses, former spouses or dependents. If the actual cost of coverage is less than the Monthly Medical Allowance, the difference is not paid in cash or applied towards the coverage for beneficiaries, current spouses, former spouses or dependents.
<b>Deferred Benefit:</b>	Members who terminate employment with 10 or more years of service before reaching Pension eligibility commencement age may elect deferred MMA and/or dental/vision benefits.
<b>Death Benefit:</b>	Surviving spouses/domestic partners of members who die before the member commences retiree health benefits may enroll in an ACERA group medical plan on the date that the member would have been eligible to commence benefits. The surviving spouse/domestic partner must pay 100% of the premium. Because premiums for surviving spouses/domestic partners under age 65 include active participants for purposes of underwriting, the surviving spouses/domestic partners receive an implicit subsidy from the actives, which creates a liability for the SRBR.

## Section 2: GASB 74 Information

### Net OPEB Liability

Measurement Date	December 31, 2020	December 31, 2019
<b>Components of the Net OPEB Liability</b>		
Total OPEB Liability	\$1,191,570,896	\$1,083,114,679
Plan's Fiduciary Net Position	<u>1,184,882,854</u>	<u>970,180,405</u>
Net OPEB Liability	\$6,688,042	\$112,934,274
Plan's Fiduciary Net Position as a percentage of the Total OPEB Liability	99.44%	89.57%

The Net OPEB Liability (NOL) was measured as of December 31, 2020 and 2019. The Plan's Fiduciary Net Position (plan assets) was valued as of the measurement date, while the Total OPEB Liability (TOL) was determined by rolling forward the TOL as of December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

*Plan provisions.* The plan provisions used in the measurement of the NOL as of December 31, 2020 and 2019 are the same as those used in ACERA's SRBR sufficiency valuation as of December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

*Actuarial assumptions.* The actuarial assumptions used for the December 31, 2020 valuation were based on the results of the experience study for the period from December 1, 2016 through November 30, 2019 that were approved by the Board effective with the December 31, 2020 valuation and the health care trend assumptions recommended for the upcoming sufficiency study for the SRBR as of December 31, 2020 (reference: our letter dated March 22, 2021). The assumptions used in the December 31, 2020 SRBR OPEB actuarial valuation for ACERA were applied to all periods included in the measurement:

<b>Investment rate of return</b>	7.00%, net of OPEB plan investment expense, including inflation
<b>Inflation</b>	2.75%
<b>Health care premium trend rates (used to project health care costs after calendar year 2021):</b>	
Non-Medicare medical plan	Graded from 6.75% in 2021 to ultimate 4.50% over 9 years
Medicare medical plan	Graded from 6.25% in 2021 to ultimate 4.50% over 7 years
Dental	0.00% for the first two years to reflect a three-year rate guarantee (premiums fixed at 2021 level for 2022 and 2023) and 4.00% thereafter.
Vision	0.00% for the first four years to reflect a five-year rate guarantee (premiums fixed at 2021 level for 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025) and 4.00% thereafter.
Medicare Part B <sup>5</sup>	4.50%
<b>Other assumptions:</b>	Same as those proposed in the experience study for the period December 1, 2016 through November 30, 2019.

<sup>5</sup> The actual calendar year 2020 trend of 2.70% reflecting the standard 2021 calendar year premium of \$148.50 per month, consistent with Segal's Medicare Part B memo dated November 12, 2020 was reflected in the current year GAS 74 valuation with December 31, 2020 measurement date.

## Section 2: GASB 74 Information

The actuarial assumptions used for the December 31, 2019 valuation were based on the results of the experience study for the period from December 1, 2013 through November 30, 2016 that were approved by the Board effective with the December 31, 2017 valuation and the health care trend assumptions recommended for the sufficiency study for the SRBR as of December 31, 2019 (reference: our letter dated May 6, 2020). The assumptions used in the December 31, 2019 SRBR OPEB actuarial valuation for ACERA were applied to all periods included in the measurement:

<b>Investment rate of return</b>	7.25%, net of OPEB plan investment expense, including inflation
<b>Inflation</b>	3.00%
<b>Health care premium trend rates (used to project health care costs after calendar year 2020):</b>	
Non-Medicare medical plan <sup>6</sup>	Graded from 6.75% in 2020 to ultimate 4.50% over 9 years
Medicare medical plan <sup>6</sup>	Graded from 6.25% in 2020 to ultimate 4.50% over 7 years
Dental/Vision	4.00%
Medicare Part B	4.50%
<b>Other assumptions:</b>	Same as those proposed in the experience study for the period December 1, 2013 through November 30, 2016.

<sup>6</sup> The trend rates shown above for 2020 as of the December 31, 2019 measurement do not include a one-time reduction of 1.20% to the first year non-Medicare trend of 6.75% and 0.90% to the first year Medicare trend of 6.25% to reflect the recent repeal of the Health Insurance Tax (HIT) taking effect in 2021.

## Section 2: GASB 74 Information

### Determination of discount rate and investment rates of return

The long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan investments<sup>7</sup> was determined in 2020 using a building-block method in which expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These returns are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage, adding expected inflation and subtracting expected investment expenses and a risk margin. The target allocation (approved by the Board) and projected arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class, after deducting inflation, but before investment expenses are shown in the following table. This information was used in the derivation of the long-term expected investment rate of return assumption for the December 31, 2020 actuarial valuation. This information will be subject to change every three years based on the results of an actuarial experience study.

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Arithmetic Real Rate of Return
US large Cap Equity	22.40%	5.43%
US Small Cap Equity	2.50%	6.21%
International Developed Equity	17.00%	6.67%
International Small Cap Equity	3.00%	7.36%
Emerging Markets Equity	5.00%	8.58%
Core Plus Fixed Income	11.50%	1.10%
High Yield Bonds	1.60%	2.91%
Global Fixed Income	3.00%	-0.63%
Private Equity	10.50%	10.00%
Core Real Estate	8.00%	4.58%
Commodities	0.75%	3.46%
Infrastructure	1.75%	7.80%
Private Credit	4.00%	8.50%
Absolute Return	9.00%	3.70%
Total	100.00%	5.56%

<sup>7</sup> Note that the investment return assumption for SRBR sufficiency (and pension funding) purposes was developed net of both investment and administrative expenses; however, the same investment return assumption was used for financial reporting purposes, and it was considered gross of administrative expenses for financial reporting purposes. (This resulted in an increase in the margin for adverse deviation when using that investment return assumption for financial reporting.)

## Section 2: GASB 74 Information

*Discount rate.* The discount rate used to measure the Total OPEB Liability was 7.00% and 7.25% as of December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019, respectively. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed benefits are paid out of current OPEB SRBR assets. Based on those assumptions, the SRBR OPEB Plan's Fiduciary Net Position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefits payments for current plan members.<sup>8</sup> Therefore the long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the Total OPEB Liability as of December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019.

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<sup>8</sup> See discussions in Section 1 regarding source of funding for payment of OPEB SRBR benefits not covered by current OPEB SRBR Plan's Fiduciary Net Position.



## Section 2: GASB 74 Information

### Discount rate and trend sensitivity

*Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability to changes in the discount rate.* The following presents the Net OPEB Liability of ACERA as of December 31, 2020, calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%, as well as what ACERA's NOL would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (6.00%) or 1-percentage-point higher (8.00%) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
<b>Net OPEB Liability as of December 31, 2020</b>	\$161,734,615	\$6,688,042	-\$121,795,777

*Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability to changes in the healthcare cost trend rate.* The following presents the Net OPEB Liability of ACERA as of December 31, 2020, calculated using the current trend rate as well as what ACERA's Net OPEB Liability would be if it were calculated using a trend rate that is 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current rate:

	1% Decrease*	Current Trend Rates*	1% Increase*
<b>Net OPEB Liability as of December 31, 2020</b>	-\$146,614,305	\$6,688,042	\$196,585,237

\* Current trend rates: 6.75% graded down to 4.50% over 9 years for Non-Medicare medical plan costs; 6.25% graded down to 4.50% over 7 years for Medicare medical plan costs, 4.00% for all years after the first two years and four years for Dental and Vision costs, respectively; and 4.50% for all years for Medicare Part B costs. The first two years of trend for dental were 0.00% to reflect three-year rate guarantee (premiums fixed at 2021 levels for 2022 and 2023). The first four years of trend for vision were 0.00% to reflect five-year rate guarantee (premiums fixed at 2021 levels for 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025).

## Section 2: GASB 74 Information

### Schedule of changes in Net OPEB Liability – Last two fiscal years

Measurement Date	December 31, 2020	December 31, 2019
<b>Total OPEB Liability</b>		
• Service cost <sup>(1)</sup>	\$31,510,436	\$27,678,194
• Interest	79,142,070	73,843,280
• Change of benefit terms	0	0
• Differences between expected and actual experience	-13,871,821	-41,706,128
• Changes of assumptions	57,696,237	12,524,469
• Benefit payments	-46,020,705	-43,562,150
<b>Net change in Total OPEB Liability</b>	<b>\$108,456,217</b>	<b>\$28,777,665</b>
<b>Total OPEB Liability – beginning</b>	<b><u>1,083,114,679</u></b>	<b><u>1,054,337,014</u></b>
<b>Total OPEB Liability – ending</b>	<b><u>\$1,191,570,896</u></b>	<b><u>\$1,083,114,679</u></b>
<b>Plan's Fiduciary Net Position</b>		
• Contributions – employer <sup>(2)</sup>	N/A	N/A
• Contributions – member	N/A	N/A
• Net investment income	\$262,139,154	\$193,656,620
• Benefit payments	-46,020,705	-43,562,150
• Administrative expense	-1,416,000	-1,354,500
• Other	0	0
<b>Net change in Plan's Fiduciary Net Position</b>	<b>\$214,702,449</b>	<b>\$148,739,970</b>
<b>Plan's Fiduciary Net Position<sup>(3)</sup> – beginning</b>	<b><u>970,180,405</u></b>	<b><u>821,440,435</u></b>
<b>Plan's Fiduciary Net Position<sup>(3)</sup> – ending</b>	<b><u>\$1,184,882,854</u></b>	<b><u>\$970,180,405</u></b>
<b>Net OPEB Liability – ending</b>	<b><u>\$6,688,042</u></b>	<b><u>\$112,934,274</u></b>
<b>Plan's Fiduciary Net Position as a percentage of the Total OPEB Liability</b>	<b>99.44%</b>	<b>89.57%</b>
<b>Covered employee payroll<sup>(4)</sup></b>	N/A	N/A
<b>Plan Net OPEB Liability as percentage of covered employee payroll</b>	N/A	N/A

(1) The Service Cost is based on the previous year's valuation, meaning the December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019 measurement date values are based on the valuations as of December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2018, respectively.

(2) Employer contributions are on a net basis. Benefits are funded by employer contributions to the 401(h) account and similar amounts are transferred from the SRBR to the Employers Advance Reserve to backfill the employer contributions that would have otherwise been made to the Retirement Plan.

(3) See footnote (2) on page 5 for a discussion on the development of the 2020 "Plan's Fiduciary Net Position – beginning" amount of \$970,180,405 and the 2020 "Plan's Fiduciary Net Position – ending" amount of \$1,184,882,854.

(4) Covered-employee payroll is not shown as contributions to the OPEB plan are not based on a measure of pay. Covered-employee payroll represents Compensation Earnable and Pensionable Compensation. Only Compensation Earnable and Pensionable Compensation that would go into the determination of retirement benefits would otherwise be included.

## Section 2: GASB 74 Information

### Schedule of Employer contributions – Last ten fiscal years

Year Ended December 31	Actuarially Determined Contributions <sup>(1)</sup>	Contributions in Relation to the Actuarially Determined Contributions <sup>(1)</sup>	Contribution Deficiency / (Excess)	Covered Employee Payroll <sup>(2)</sup>	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll
2011	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
2012	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
2013	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
2014	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
2015	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
2016	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
2017	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
2018	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
2019	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
2020	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A

<sup>(1)</sup> Benefits are funded by employer contributions to the 401(h) account and similar amounts are transferred from the SRBR to the Employers Advance Reserve to backfill the employer contributions that would have otherwise been made to the Retirement Plan.

<sup>(2)</sup> Covered-employee payroll is not shown as contributions to the OPEB plan are not based on a measure of pay. Covered-employee payroll represents Compensation Earnable and Pensionable Compensation. Only Compensation Earnable and Pensionable Compensation that would go into the determination of retirement benefits would otherwise be included.

# Section 3: Appendices

## Appendix A: Projection of OPEB Plan's Fiduciary Net Position (\$ in millions) for use in the Calculation of Discount Rate as of December 31, 2020

Year Beginning January 1,	Projected Beginning OPEB Plan's Fiduciary Net Position (a)	Projected Total Contributions (b)	Projected Benefit Payments (c)	Projected Administrative Expenses (d)	Projected Investment Earnings (e)	Projected ending OPEB Plan's Fiduciary Net Positions (f) = (a)+(b)-(c)-(d)+(e)
2020	\$970	\$0	\$46	\$1	\$262	\$1,185
2021	1,185	0	57	2	81	1,207
2022	1,207	0	61	2	82	1,226
2023	1,226	0	65	2	84	1,242
2024	1,242	0	70	2	84	1,255
2025	1,255	0	74	2	85	1,264
2026	1,264	0	79	2	86	1,270
2027	1,270	0	83	2	86	1,271
2028	1,271	0	87	2	86	1,267
2029	1,267	0	91	2	86	1,260
2030	1,260	0	96	2	85	1,247
2031	1,247	0	100	2	84	1,229
2032	1,229	0	104	2	82	1,206
2033	1,206	0	108	2	81	1,176
2034	1,176	0	112	2	78	1,141
2035	1,141	0	116	2	76	1,099
2036	1,099	0	119	2	73	1,051
2037	1,051	0	122	2	69	997
2038	997	0	126	1	65	935
2039	935	0	128	1	61	866
2040	866	0	131	1	56	790
2041	790	0	134	1	51	706
2042	706	0	136	1	45	613
2043	613	0	138	1	38	512
2044	512	0	140	1	31	402
2045	402	0	142	1	23	283
2046	283	0	143	0*	15	154
2047	154	0	144	0*	6	16
2048	16	0	17	0*	1	0
2134	0	0	0	0	0	0
2135	0	0	0	0	0	0
2135	Discounted value: 0					

\* Less than \$1 million, when rounded

## Section 3: Appendices

### Notes

1. Amounts may not total exactly due to rounding.
2. Amounts shown in the year beginning January 1, 2020 row are actual amounts, based on the financial statements provided by ACERA.
3. Years 2049 – 2133 have been omitted from this table.
4. Column (a): Except for the "discounted value" shown for 2135, all of the projected beginning Plan's Fiduciary Net Position amounts shown have not been adjusted for the time value of money.
5. Column (b): \$0. Benefits are funded by employer contributions to the 401(h) account and similar amounts are transferred from the SRBR to the Employers Advance Reserve to backfill the employer contributions that would have otherwise been made to the Retirement Plan.
6. Column (c): Projected benefit payments have been determined in accordance with paragraph 43-47 of GASB Statement No. 74, and are based on the closed group of active, inactive vested, retired members, and beneficiaries as of November 30, 2019. The projected benefit payments reflect future health care trends. The projected benefit payments include the OPEB SRBR benefits to the extent the current OPEB SRBR (including the portion of deferred investment gain as of December 31, 2020 that is expected to be allocated to the SRBR) supports those benefits\*. Benefit payments are assumed to occur halfway through the year, on average. In accordance with paragraph 35 b.(2)(e) of GASB Statement No. 74, the long-term expected rate of return on Plan investments of 7.00% per annum was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the discount rate.
7. Column (d): Projected administrative expenses are calculated as approximately 0.15% of the beginning OPEB SRBR Plan's Fiduciary Net Position amount. The 0.15% portion was based on the actual fiscal year 2020 administrative expenses as a percentage of the beginning OPEB SRBR Plan's Fiduciary Net Position amount as of January 1, 2020. Administrative expenses are assumed to occur halfway through the year, on average.
8. Column (e): Projected investment earnings are based on the assumed investment rate of return of 7.00% per annum.
9. As illustrated in this Exhibit, the OPEB SRBR Plan's Fiduciary Net Position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments for current Plan members. In other words, there is no projected "cross-over date" when projected benefits are not covered by projected assets. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on Plan investments of 7.00% per annum was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total OPEB liability as of December 31, 2020 shown earlier in this report, pursuant to paragraph 48 of GASB Statement No. 74.

\* See discussion on page 2 regarding source of funding for payment of OPEB SRBR benefits not covered by current OPEB Plan's Fiduciary Net Position in the SRBR.

## Section 3: Appendices

### Appendix B: Definition of Terms

Definitions of certain terms as they are used in Statement 74. The terms may have different meanings in other contexts.

<b>Actuarially Determined Contribution:</b>	A target or recommended contribution to an OPEB plan for the reporting period based on the most recent measurement available.
<b>Assumptions or Actuarial Assumptions:</b>	The estimates on which the cost of the Plan is calculated including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>Investment return — the rate of investment yield that the Plan will earn over the long-term future;</li><li>Mortality rates — the death rates of employees and pensioners; life expectancy is based on these rates;</li><li>Retirement rates — the rate or probability of retirement at a given age;</li><li>Turnover rates — the rates at which employees of various ages are expected to leave employment for reasons other than death, disability, or retirement.</li></ol>
<b>Covered Employee Payroll:</b>	The payroll of the employees that are provided OPEB benefits
<b>Discount Rate:</b>	The single rate of return, that when applied to all projected benefit payments results in an actuarial present value that is the sum of the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>the actuarial present value of projected benefit payments projected to be funded by plan assets using a long term rate of return, and</li><li>the actuarial present value of projected benefit payments that are not included in (1) using a yield or index rate for 20 year tax exempt general obligation municipal bonds with an average rating of AA/Aa or higher.</li></ol>
<b>Entry Age Actuarial Cost Method:</b>	An actuarial cost method where the present value of the projected benefits for an individual is allocated on a level basis over the earnings or service of the individual between entry age and assumed exit age.
<b>Healthcare Cost Trend Rates:</b>	The rate of change in per capita health costs over time.
<b>Net OPEB Liability:</b>	The Total OPEB Liability less the Plan Fiduciary Net Position.
<b>Plan Fiduciary Net Position:</b>	Market Value of Assets
<b>Real Rate of Return:</b>	The rate of return on an investment after removing inflation.
<b>Service Cost:</b>	The amount of contributions required to fund the benefit allocated to the current year of service.
<b>Total OPEB Liability:</b>	The portion of the actuarial present value of projected benefit payments that is attributed to past periods of employee service in conformity with the requirements of Statement 74.

## Section 3: Appendices

**Valuation Date:**

The date at which the actuarial valuation is performed

5683401v8/05579.003

DRAFT





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Via Email

**DRAFT – FOR DISCUSSION WITH CLIENT**

April 6, 2021

Ms. Margo Allen  
Fiscal Services Officer  
Alameda County Employees' Retirement Association  
475 14th Street, Suite 1000  
Oakland, CA 94612

**Re: Alameda County Employees' Retirement Association (ACERA)  
Addendum to the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 74  
Actuarial Valuation as of December 31, 2020**

Dear Margo:

In our Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 74 actuarial valuation report draft dated March 31, 2021, we provided the Net OPEB Liability (NOL) and other elements that are required for completing the Plan's financial reporting requirements under GASB Statement 74. In this letter, we have provided as an Addendum to that report two additional schedules for use in allocating the NOL and OPEB expense by employer, before we issue the full companion report for the employer's financial reporting for ACERA under GASB Statement 75. This is similar to a recommendation made by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) State and Local Government Expert Panel to have comparable schedules prepared for the Pension Plan when we implemented GASB Statements 67 and 68.

The attached schedules have been developed based on the assumptions, methods, and results shown in our report draft dated March 31, 2021. Exhibits A1 and A2 detail the method used for allocating the NOL and the NOL amounts allocated to the seven employers at ACERA as of December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2020, respectively.<sup>1</sup>

Exhibit B summarizes the allocated NOL, deferred outflows and inflows of resources, and OPEB expense by the seven employers. Additional information required under GASB Statement 75 that each of the employers will need to disclose will be provided in a separate report.

<sup>1</sup> The December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2020 NOL has been allocated to the different employers in proportion to the total employer contributions made by those employers to the Pension Plan during calendar years 2019 and 2020, respectively, based on prior discussions and approval provided by the Board.

Ms. Margo Allen  
April 6, 2021  
Page 2

The actuarial calculations were completed under the supervision of Thomas Bergman, ASA, MAAA, Enrolled Actuary and Andy Yeung, ASA, MAAA, FCA, Enrolled Actuary. The health care trend and other related medical assumptions have been reviewed by Paul C. Sadro, ASA, MAAA. We are members of the American Academy of Actuaries and meet the Qualification Standards of the American Academy of Actuaries to render the actuarial opinion herein.

Please give us a call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Andy Yeung, ASA, MAAA, FCA, EA  
Vice President and Actuary

Thomas Bergman, ASA, MAAA, EA  
Senior Actuary

TJH/

DRAFT

## Schedule of Employer Allocations as of December 31, 2019

### Actual Employer Contributions by Employer January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019

Employer	Contributions	Percentage*
Alameda County	\$228,319,939	76.639%
Health System	54,239,577	18.207%
Superior Court	11,501,609	3.861%
First 5	1,200,993	0.403%
Housing Authority	1,208,258	0.406%
LARPD	1,306,574	0.439%
ACOE	132,883	0.045%
<b>Total for all Employers</b>	<b>\$297,909,833</b>	<b>100.000%</b>

\* The unrounded percentages are used in the allocation of the NOL amongst employers.

### Allocation of December 31, 2019 Net OPEB Liability

Employer	NOL	Percentage
Alameda County	\$86,553,526	76.639%
Health System	20,561,615	18.207%
Superior Court	4,360,131	3.861%
First 5	455,283	0.403%
Housing Authority	458,037	0.406%
LARPD	495,308	0.439%
ACOE	50,374	0.045%
<b>Total for all Employers</b>	<b>\$112,934,274</b>	<b>100.000%</b>

#### Notes:

1. With the exception of an adjustment for the lump sum contribution made by ACOE (see item 4), the above is based on the January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 employer contributions in total as provided by ACERA.
2. The Net OPEB Liability (NOL) is the Total OPEB Liability (TOL) minus the OPEB SRBR Plan's Fiduciary Net Position (plan assets).
3. The employer's share of the total plan NOL is the ratio of the employer's total contributions to the total contributions for all employers.
4. ACOE made a lump sum contribution of \$750,000 in 2019 to partially pay off their liability to the pension plan. That lump sum is greater than the amount that ACOE would have had to make on an installment basis over 20 years. In order to have a more level allocation of the NPL and NOL to ACOE, ACERA approved an approach outlined in our letter dated March 2, 2020 to determine ACOE's proportionate share of OPEB SRBR NOL by using the total annual UAAL contribution ACOE would have made of \$132,883 in 2019 if they did not make the additional contribution to partially pay off their UAAL.

## Schedule of Employer Allocations as of December 31, 2020

### Actual Employer Contributions by Employer January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020

Employer	Contributions	Percentage*
Alameda County	\$238,881,264	77.104%
Health System	54,283,769	17.521%
Superior Court	12,372,365	3.993%
First 5	1,329,139	0.429%
Housing Authority	1,323,493	0.427%
LARPD	1,490,917	0.481%
ACOE	<u>138,832</u>	<u>0.045%</u>
<b>Total for all Employers</b>	<b>\$309,819,779</b>	<b>100.000%</b>

\* The unrounded percentages are used in the allocation of the NOL amongst employers.

### Allocation of December 31, 2020 Net OPEB Liability

Employer	NOL	Percentage
Alameda County	\$5,156,701	77.104%
Health System	1,171,817	17.521%
Superior Court	267,081	3.993%
First 5	28,692	0.429%
Housing Authority	28,570	0.427%
LARPD	32,184	0.481%
ACOE	<u>2,997</u>	<u>0.045%</u>
<b>Total for all Employers</b>	<b>\$6,688,042</b>	<b>100.000%</b>

#### Notes:

1. With the exception of an adjustment for the lump sum contribution made by ACOE (see item 4), the above is based on the January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 employer contributions in total as provided by ACERA.
2. The Net OPEB Liability (NOL) is the Total OPEB Liability (TOL) minus the OPEB SRBR Plan's Fiduciary Net Position (plan assets).
3. The employer's share of the total plan NOL is the ratio of the employer's total contributions to the total contributions for all employers.
4. ACOE made a lump sum contribution of \$750,000 in 2019 to partially pay off their UAAL to the pension plan. That lump sum is greater than the amount that ACOE would have to make on an installment basis over 20 years. In order to have a more level allocation of the NPL and NOL to ACOE, ACERA approved an approach outlined in our March 2, 2020 letter to determine ACOE's proportionate share of the OPEB SRBR NOL by using ACOE's required contributions determined in our December 31, 2018 valuation in the amount of \$78,000 based on an April 1, 2020 payment date plus the amortization of the remaining balance of the original \$750,000 lump sum amount (an amount of \$60,832 which represents the additional UAAL contribution ACOE would have been required to pay if they did not make the additional lump sum contribution in 2019). Note that in 2020, the actual contribution made by ACOE is \$72,051 which is \$5,949 less than the required contribution. Since \$5,949 is part of the required contributions, we included this amount for purposes of determining ACOE's proportionate share of the OPEB SRBR NOL.

Schedule of OPEB Amounts by Employer as of December 31, 2020

Employer	Net OPEB Liability	Deferred Outflows of Resources					Total Deferred Outflows of Resources
		Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Investment Earnings on OPEB Plan Investments	Changes of Assumptions	Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions		
Alameda County	\$5,156,701	\$0	\$0	\$62,650,700	\$1,206,194	\$63,856,894	
Health System	1,171,817	0	0	14,236,848	487,409	14,724,257	
Superior Court	267,081	0	0	3,244,865	\$520,054	3,764,919	
First 5	28,692	0	0	348,589	82,806	431,395	
Housing Authority	28,570	0	0	347,109	\$36,785	383,894	
LARPD	32,184	0	0	391,019	111,646	502,665	
ACOE	<u>2,997</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>36,411</u>	<u>57,241</u>	<u>93,652</u>	
<b>Total for all Employers</b>	<b>\$6,688,042</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$81,255,541</b>	<b>\$2,502,135</b>	<b>\$83,757,676</b>	

## Schedule of OPEB Amounts by Employer as of December 31, 2020

Employer	Deferred Inflows of Resources				OPEB Expense			
	Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	Net Difference Between Actual and Projected Investment Earnings on OPEB Plan Investments	Changes of Assumptions	Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	Proportionate Share of Plan OPEB Expense	Net Amortization of Deferred Amounts from Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	Total Employer OPEB Expense
Alameda County	\$49,931,864	\$145,945,820	\$4,849,048	\$269,207	\$200,995,939	-\$11,797,830	\$135,447	-\$11,662,383
Health System	11,346,599	33,164,967	1,101,905	1,901,560	47,515,031	-2,680,959	-194,808	-2,875,767
Superior Court	2,586,118	7,558,964	251,146	203,737	10,599,965	-611,045	39,192	-571,853
First 5	277,822	812,045	26,980	1,470	1,118,317	-65,642	16,289	-49,353
Housing Authority	276,642	808,595	26,866	71,474	1,183,577	-65,365	-11,061	-76,426
LARPD	311,637	910,884	30,264	49,812	1,302,597	-73,635	4,357	-69,278
ACOE	<u>29,019</u>	<u>84,820</u>	<u>2,818</u>	<u>4,875</u>	<u>121,532</u>	<u>-6,857</u>	<u>10,584</u>	<u>3,727</u>
<b>Total for all Employers</b>	<b>\$64,759,701</b>	<b>\$189,286,095</b>	<b>\$6,289,027</b>	<b>\$2,502,135</b>	<b>\$262,836,958</b>	<b>-\$15,301,333</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>-\$15,301,333</b>

## Schedule of OPEB Amounts by Employer as of December 31, 2020

### Notes:

1. Amounts shown in this exhibit were allocated by employer based on the Employer Allocation Percentage calculated in Exhibit A2.
2. In determining the OPEB expense:
  - Any differences between projected and actual investment earnings on OPEB plan investments are recognized over a period of five years beginning with the year in which they occur.
  - Current-period (i.e., 2020) changes in assumptions and differences between expected and actual experience are recognized over the average of the expected remaining service lives of all employees that are provided with OPEB benefits through ACERA determined as of December 31, 2019 (the beginning of the measurement period ending December 31, 2020) and is 6.53 years.<sup>1</sup>
3. The average of the expected remaining service lives of all employees was determined by:
  - Calculating each active employee's expected remaining service life as the present value of \$1 per year of future service at zero percent interest.
  - Setting the remaining service life to zero for each nonactive or retired member.
  - Dividing the sum of the above amounts by the total number of active employees and nonactive and retired members
4. There was an decrease in the total employer OPEB expense from \$18.2 million calculated last year to (negative) -\$15.2 million calculated this year. The primary cause of the decrease was due to the favorable return on the market value of assets for the year ended December 31, 2020 which lowered the OPEB expense by \$38.7 million.

<sup>1</sup> The remaining service lives of all employees of 6.53 years used here for GASB 75 is different from the 5.26 years used for GASB 68 because the number of payees and nonactive members (with 0 years of expected remaining service lives) receiving health benefits under the SRBR Plan is less than the number of payees and nonactive members receiving pension benefits.






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MEMORANDUM TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

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**DATE:** May 20, 2021

**TO:** Members of the Audit Committee

**FROM:** Harsh Jadhav, Chief of Internal Audit

**SUBJECT:** Progress on the 2021 Internal Audit Program

**Executive Summary**

The Internal Audit Department's objective in 2021 is to perform three internal audits, one policy audit, complete the Alameda Health System (AHS) employer audit, and implement three special projects. The Audit Committee meeting in May 2021 will feature the progress on the 2021 Internal Audit Program and an update on the Cybersecurity Data Security Self-Assessment project. Staff is also developing the annual fraud training for ACERA employees and drafting the audit reports for the Pension Benefits Calculation Audit and Alameda Health System PEPRA Audit.

**2021 Audit Schedule**

Internal Audit Plan (2021)	Service Line	Assigned	Status	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Felony Forfeiture Policy Audit	Policy Audit	Caxton	Not Started				
Pension Benefits Calculation Audit	Internal Audit	Caxton	In Progress				
Cash Management (Positive Pay) Audit	Internal Audit	Caxton	Not Started				
Prevent Member Identity Theft Audit	Internal Audit	Lyndon	Not Started				
Employer Audit - Alameda Health	Employer Audit	Caxton/Harsh	In Progress				
2021 Annual Risk Assessment	Administration	Harsh	Completed				
2022 Annual Risk Assessment	Administration	Harsh	Not Started				
Fraud Hotline Management	Administration	Lyndon	Continuous				
Fraud Training	Administration	Lyndon/Caxton	In Progress				
Internal Controls Review - PAS Project	Special Project	Team	In Progress				
Operations Manual Update	Special Project	Lyndon	Completed				
Cybersecurity and Data Security Self-Assessment	Special Project	Vijay/Harsh	In Progress				

**2021 Audit Program**

***Policy Audits***

**Audit - Felony Forfeiture Policy**

The purpose of the audit is to review compliance with the ACERA Felony Forfeiture Policy. This policy provides guidance on how participating employers handle felony forfeitures of retirement benefits. The Public Employees' Pension Reform Act of 2013 ("PEPRA") added two forfeiture statutes applicable to all public employees convicted of felonies on or after January 1, 2013. The audit also examines participating employer compliance by selecting employers to determine if the employer implemented effective procedures to report felony forfeitures to ACERA.

## ***Internal Audits and Reviews***

### **Review – Prevent Member Identity Theft**

The purpose of this audit is to strengthen internal fraud controls to prevent third parties from making unauthorized changes to member accounts and banking information. The examination will review the business process and explore technology solutions to enhance identity management controls.

### **Audit – Cash Management (Positive Pay)**

The purpose of the audit is to identify internal control weaknesses and recommend strategies to improve cash management. The Positive Pay process is a bank control that systematically compares checks presented for payment to the issued-check files to detect serial numbers and dollar amounts that don't match. This audit will review the payee validation process to ensure ACERA has implemented the necessary internal controls to safeguard against fraud.

### **Audit – Pension Benefits Calculation Audit**

The purpose of the audit is to sample retired members to verify if the final pensionable salary calculation was accurate. The amount of final pensionable salary depends on member type and membership tier. It is a function of the highest salary earned over the qualifying period (i.e., the highest salary earned over 36 months for Tier II General Members).

## ***Employer Audits***

### **Audit – PEPRA Employer Audit of Alameda Health System**

The employer audit of the Alameda Health System will assess the participating employer's compliance with state laws, rules, regulations, and administrative policies regarding the enrollment of members, reporting of member data, and the reporting and remittance of employer contributions in accordance with the Public Employees' Pension Reform Act of 2013.

## ***Special Projects***

### **Special Project – Pension Administration System Internal Controls Review**

The objective of this special project will be for the Internal Audit Department to support the business with technical guidance on risk and internal controls as the leadership plans to roll out the Pension Gold (Version 3) to the organization.

### **Special Project - Cybersecurity and Data Security Self-Assessment**

The objective of this special project will be to work with the PRISM Department to determine if adequate firewall, access controls, employee training, and processes for incident response, business recovery, and threat analysis are in place to ensure sensitive organizational data and member data are protected and secure.

### **Special Project - Operation Manual Update**

The Internal Audit Department is updating the existing department operations manual to reflect changes in the department operations, internal audit best practices, and audit procedures. The objective is to ensure documentation exists for business continuity and as training for new internal audit employees.

## **Summary**

We are focused on meeting the 2021 Audit Program objectives. We want to acknowledge the Board of Retirement for their ongoing support and guidance. The Internal Audit Staff continues to do a great job partnering with management, servicing the Board of Retirement, and protecting our members.



**Alameda County Employees' Retirement Association  
Internal Audit Department**



# **Internal Audit Department 2021 Internal Audit Plan**

**May 20, 2021**

# 2021 Internal Audit Plan

Internal Audit Plan (2021)	Service Line	Assigned	Status	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Felony Forfeiture Policy Audit	Policy Audit	Caxton	Not Started				
Pension Benefits Calculation Audit	Internal Audit	Caxton	In Progress				
Cash Management (Positive Pay) Audit	Internal Audit	Caxton	Not Started				
Prevent Member Identity Theft Audit	Internal Audit	Lyndon	Not Started				
Employer Audit - Alameda Health	Employer Audit	Caxton/Harsh	In Progress				
2021 Annual Risk Assessment	Administration	Harsh	Completed				
2022 Annual Risk Assessment	Administration	Harsh	Not Started				
Fraud Hotline Management	Administration	Lyndon	Continuous				
Fraud Training	Administration	Lyndon/Caxton	In Progress				
Internal Controls Review - PAS Project	Special Project	Team	In Progress				
Operations Manual Update	Special Project	Lyndon	Completed				
Cybersecurity and Data Security Self-Assessment	Special Project	Vijay/Harsh	In Progress				

National  
Institute of  
Standards  
and  
Technology  
(NIST)  
Framework



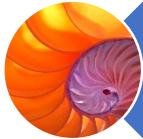
# ACERA Control Review



Account Management



Authenticator Management



Identifier Management



Least Privilege



Passwords



Separation of Duties

# Ransomware Attack Shuts Down Pipeline Operator

On May 8, 2021, Colonial Pipeline announced it suffered a ransomware attack temporarily stopping all pipeline operations.





Questions

