

May 27, 2020 AGENDA ITEM #7

Discuss and consider approving a cost of living adjustment for Mobility Authority retirees

Strategic Plan Relevance: Transparency/Accountability

Department: Finance

Contact: William Chapman, CFO

Associated Costs: Funded via CTRMA's incremental contribution rate

Funding Source: FY 2021 Operating Budget

Action Requested: Consider and act on draft resolution

<u>Background - CTRMA</u> provides employees a retirement benefit managed through the Texas County & District Retirement System (TCDRS). This benefit can provide a cost of living adjustment (COLA) granted annually by the Board to active retirees drawing their pension. A COLA increases a retiree's benefit to make up for the loss of buying power due to inflation.

Currently, four former CTRMA employees, or their beneficiaries, are collecting retirement benefits through TCDRS.

The TCDRS system allows for two types of retiree COLAs:

<u>Flat-rate</u>: Increases the benefit amounts of all CTRMA retirees by the same percentage. With this type of adjustment, the benefit payment increases by a percentage of the Board's choosing up to the limit set by the TCDRS Board of Trustees each year. The TRDRS Board reviews this annually and most recently adopted a maximum 2% flat-rate increase.

<u>CPI-based</u>: With this type of adjustment, the Board may choose to increase CTRMA retirees' benefit payments by a percentage based on the increase in the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U), an index the federal government uses to measure inflation. Each retiree's benefit is individually increased according to how much inflation has occurred as measured by the CPI-U. The Board chooses a percentage of CPI-U change you wish to cover. The TCDRS plan allows a range between 10% and 100% of the CPI-U. A CPI-based COLA, specific for each individual retiree, helps restore the lost buying power for each retiree, based on their original benefit payment amount and how much

inflation has occurred since they started receiving the benefit. The calculation for the CPI-based COLA for each retiree is done by TCDRS.

The type of COLA (Flat-rate vs CPI-based) can be changed from year to year at the time of the annual Board adoption.

<u>Previous Actions/Brief History of the Project/Program</u> - The Board approved a <u>CPI-based</u> retiree COLA at 100% of the CPI-U on September 11, 2019 that took effect on January 1, 2020. At the September 11, 2019 Board meeting, the Board also amended the Mobility Authority Policy Code by adopting a new Article 3, Subchapter E regarding Employee Retirement Benefits. This amendment states that "The board shall consider adopting a cost of living adjustment for retirees receiving a pension each year in conjunction with adopting the annual budget."

<u>Financing</u> – CTRMA currently contributes 14.33% vs the required rate of 11.93% of employee salaries for the required employer contribution rate. This results in a current Funded Ratio of 101.9%. This additional contribution rate has prepared CTRMA to fund these retiree COLAs. Each CTRMA employee also contributes 7.00% to the TCDRS retirement system.

<u>Action Requested</u> – Staff recommends adopting the <u>2% Flat-rate increase</u> to be effective January 1, 2021.

Backup Provided: Draft Resolution

Plan Comparison

GENERAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CENTRAL TEXAS REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION NO. 20-0XX

APPROVING A COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT FOR MOBILITY AUTHORITY RETIREES

WHEREAS, in Resolution No. 04-19, dated May 5, 2004, the Board of Directors approved participation by the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority ("Mobility Authority") in the Texas County & District Retirement System ("TCDRS") to provide benefits to Mobility Authority employees under the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority TCDRS Plan (the "Plan"); and

WHEREAS, the Plan requires certain authorizations from time to time by the Board of Directors regarding ongoing provisions of and/or changes to the Plan; and

WHEREAS, former Mobility Authority employees and/or their beneficiaries, are collecting retirement benefits through TCDRS; and

WHEREAS, the Plan provides an annual opportunity for a retiree cost-of-living adjustment ("COLA"); and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Mobility Authority recommends adopting a oneyear retiree COLA to be effective January 1, 2021 at the maximum flat-rate increase established by TCDRS of 2%; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby approves and adopts a one-year retiree COLA to be effective January 1, 2021 at the maximum flat-rate increase established by TCDRS of 2%; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to execute such documents and take all other actions necessary to implement the one-year retiree cost-of-living adjustment approved herein.

Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority on the 27th day of May 2020.

Submitted and reviewed by:	Approved:		
Geoffrey Petrov, General Counsel	Robert W. Jenkins, Jr. Chairman, Board of Directors		

Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority

CURRENT PLAN AND PROPOSED PLAN(S)

	Current Plan	CPI2020	Flat2020
Basic Plan Options			
Employee Deposit Rate Employer Matching Application of Matching Prior Service Credit	7.00% 250% Past & Future 175%	7.00% 250% Past & Future 175%	7.00% 250% Past & Future 175%
Retirement Eligibility			
Age 60 (Vesting) Rule Of At Any Age	5 yrs of service 75 yrs total age + service 30 yrs of service	5 yrs of service 75 yrs total age + service 30 yrs of service	5 yrs of service 75 yrs total age + service 30 yrs of service
Optional Benefits			
Partial Lump-Sum Payment at Retirement	No	No	No
Group Term Life COLA	ACTIVE-PLUS-RETIREES N/A	ACTIVE-PLUS-RETIREES 100% CPI	ACTIVE-PLUS-RETIREES 2% FLAT
Retirement Plan Funding			
Normal Cost Rate UAAL/(OAAL) Rate Required Rate Elected Rate Additional Employer Contribution	12.43% -0.50% 11.93% 14.00% \$0.00	12.43% -0.46% 11.97% 14.00% \$0.00	12.43% -0.46% 11.97% 14.00% \$0.00
Total Contribution Rate			
Retirement Plan Rate Group Term Life Rate Total Contribution Rate Valuation Results	14.00% 0.33% 14.33%	14.00% 0.33% 14.33%	14.00% 0.33% 14.33%
Actuarial Accrued Liability	\$9,813,446	\$9,833,132	\$9,830,678
Actuarial Value of Assets	\$9,998,662	\$9,998,662	\$9,998,662
Unfunded/(Overfunded) Actuarial Liability	(\$185,216)	(\$165,530)	(\$167,984)
Funded Ratio	101.9%	101.7%	101.7%