# **PENSION***Notes*



**Active Member Newsletter** 

**Fall 2017** 

#### INSIDE

## We're Moving

Financial Snapshots

Focus on Health

**Election Notice** 

Total 2016 Contributions to CCPF<sup>1,2</sup>

\$653

Total 2016 Benefit Payments by CCPF<sup>1</sup>

million

<sup>1</sup> Reflects combined Cook County and Forest Preserve figures <sup>2</sup> Excludes Investment income

# Welcome ...

Welcome to the latest edition of PensionNotes, the member newsletter of the Cook County Pension Fund (CCPF). We encourage you to read this newsletter for helpful and important information regarding your benefits.

As we enter the final stretch of the year, we're pleased to share more about CCPF's performance as well as some positive developments happening here that will affect you.

### **CCPF** is Relocating

To meet the needs of our membership, CCPF is relocating to a new address less than a block away, effective December 1, 2017. Our new office will offer greater privacy, security, and more access to counselors. As the move will cause some temporary service disruptions, please call us at **312-603-1200** to schedule a counselor appointment ahead of time. You can read more about our upcoming move inside this newsletter, as well as at **CookCountyPension.com**.

#### 2016 Financial Snapshot

In this issue of *PensionNotes*, you can review the 2016 financial snapshot for the Cook County and Forest Preserve District plans. Both were bolstered by strong investment performance in 2016, which helped CCPF pay out a combined \$688 million in retirement benefits to retirees. According to our actuary, factors including solid investment performance and the implementation of a new prescription drugs benefit enhanced the financial position of the plans. Supplemental employer contributions to the Cook County plan in 2016 were also beneficial.

#### **CCPF Welcomes New Leadership to Benefits Team**

Finally, in our ongoing efforts to enhance our services to members, we welcome Jane Hawes to lead our health benefits team. Jane brings expertise in retiree health from the City of Chicago, RUSH, Humana, and First Health Group (now Coventry Healthcare). In her role with us, she is strengthening member education about the health care benefits available to retirees as well as exploring ways the Fund can get the greatest value from these benefits while containing costs.

We are pleased to share these updates with you and encourage you to visit our website to learn about further developments happening at the Fund this year.

# **WE'RE MOVING!**

The Cook County Pension Fund is relocating to 70 W. Madison Street, Suite 1925, effective December 1, 2017. Please take note:

- Monday, November 20 Thursday, November 30: CCPF is closed to the public due to relocation.
- Friday, December 1: CCPF reopens at its new address.

Our phone numbers and web contact information will remain the same. Please feel free to call us at **312-603-1200** or email us at **info@cookcountypension.com** with your questions. For more on our upcoming move, visit **CookCountyPension.com**.





## **COOK COUNTY PENSION FUND**

# **Financial Snapshots**

The Funds' performance reflects an environment where the S&P 500 Index returned +12% in 2016.

Full 2016 financial statements and reports can be found online at **CookCountyPension.com/Financials** 

COOK COUNTY FUND As of 12/31/2016		
General Information		
Fund Size New Retirements	<b>\$9.1 billion</b> 776	
Retiree Membership Information Retired Annuitants Annuitant Beneficiaries Average Annuity Average Retiree Age	15,222 2,687 \$38,817 71.9	
Employee Membership Information Active Employee Members Average Employee Salary Average Employee Age	20,969 \$75,361 47.4	
Benefit Payments		
Annuity Benefits Health Benefits Refunds Disability Benefits	\$672.1 million \$101.2 million \$26.7 million \$10.7 million	
Sources of Income		
Investment Income Employer Contributions Employee Contributions Annuitant Healthcare Benefits Contributions	\$623.8 million \$464.3 million \$139.4 million \$41.7 million	
*2016 Funded Ratio *2015 Funded Ratio	56.7% 55.4%	

FOREST PRESERVE FUND As of 12/31/2016		
General Information		
Fund Size New Retirements	<b>\$191.2</b> <i>million</i> 12	
Retiree Membership Information Retired Annuitants Annuitant Beneficiaries	378 152	
Average Annuity Average Retiree Age	\$29,694 72.0	
Employee Membership Information Active Employee Members Average Employee Salary Average Employee Age	572 \$60,330 45.2	
Benefit Payments		
Annuity Benefits Health Benefits Refunds Disability Benefits	\$15.4 million \$2.9 million \$0.7 million \$0.3 million	
Sources of Income		
Investment Income Employer Contributions Employee Contributions Annuitant Healthcare Benefits Contributions	\$10.4 million \$3.4 million \$3.2 million \$1.2 million	
*2016 Funded Ratio *2015 Funded Ratio	60.0% 60.0%	

\*The funded ratio is based on the Actuarial Valuation Report.

# **Contact a Counselor | Schedule an Appointment!**

Cook County Pension Fund members can now make an appointment to meet with a counselor regarding their benefits. Walk-ins are still welcome, but with this new option, you can plan your counselor meeting in advance and possibly reduce your wait time. Due to the upcoming relocation, please schedule your appointment for no later than November 9. Call 312-603-1200 to schedule an appointment with one of our counselors.

# Focus on Your Health Now and in Retirement

Make healthy decisions now to ensure a better quality of life in the future.

Did you know that among CCPF retirees enrolled in the UnitedHealthcare benefit plan, hypertension, musculoskeletal issues, respiratory distress, diabetes, and non-traumatic joint disorders (musculosketal) are the most prevalent health conditions diagnosed?

One way you can manage your healthcare needs in retirement is by starting to take steps today to strengthen your personal health.

- 1. Know Your Numbers. Stay on top of your health with regular check-ups. Your doctor can talk to you about what screenings and tests you need and when.
- 2. Talk to Your Doctor. With a clearer picture of your health, work with your doctor on identifying changes you should make to begin improving your well-being.
- 3. Get Started (but don't overdo it). Better physical fitness may be what the doctor orders but don't feel pressured to take on too much exercise to soon. Whether you'll be starting on a new diet, workout, or other regimen, be kind to yourself and gradually build up as your body adjusts to the changes. Remember, even small steps are better than no steps at all.



POSITIVE THINKING

# **Pension Fund Trustee Election Notice**

As a reminder to all Cook County Annuitants, an election for a COOK COUNTY EMPLOYEE TRUSTEE will be held on October 25, 2017. Only Cook County employees may vote for a Cook County Employee Trustee. There is no Forest Preserve Trustee Election. To learn about the candidates for trustee, visit our website to view their statements.

Please note that an election will only take place if there are two or more candidates running for the position.

Cook County employees may vote in-person or by mail.

For more information about the election, visit CookCountyPension.com.

# In-person voting:

7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. October 25, 2017 Cook County Building Room 885 118 N. Clark Street Chicago, IL 60602.



#### By mail:

To vote by mail, you must have requested to receive a mail-in ballot. Mail-in ballot request forms should have been mailed no later than September 25, 2017 to your address on record with the Fund.

If you have not received the mail-in ballot request form, contact the Fund at 312-603-1200 to request another form be mailed out.

# **PENSION***Notes*

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PRESORTED STANDARD MAIL U.S. POSTAGE PAID CHICAGO, IL Permit No. 2079

Cook County Pension Fund 33 N Dearborn St, Suite 1000 Chicago, IL 60602



#### Retirement Board

John E. Fitzgerald – President
Patrick J. McFadden – Vice-President
Diahann Goode – Secretary
Robert DeGraff
Andrew Jatico
Bill Kouruklis
Joseph N. Nevius
Dennis White
Lawrence L. Wilson, CPA

#### **Upcoming Office Closings**

Veteran's Day, November 10 Thanksgiving Day, November 23 Day after Thanksgiving, November 24 Upcoming Retirement Board Meeting Dates

November 2, 2017 December 7, 2017

Starting December 1, 2017, the Cook County Pension Fund's new address: 70 W. Madison Street, Suite 1925, Chicago, Illinois 60602

#### **Contact Us**

County Employees' and Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Cook County Forest Preserve District Employees' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Cook County 33 N Dearborn St, Suite 1000, Chicago, IL 60602

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