

1099-R SOON AVAILABLE
ONLINE

FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE
DECEASED PENSIONERS
& EMPLOYEES

DEADLINE APPROACHING
TO NAME YOUR PARTNER
AS YOUR SPOUSE

CONGRATULATIONS TO
OUR NEWEST RETIREES

2016 TEXAS STATE FAIR

"It is our mission to provide retirement benefits and superior service to advance the financial security of our members."

City of Dallas Proposition 1 to Save \$2 Billion

From the desk of ERF's Executive Director - Cheryl D. Alston

Recent studies indicate that life spans are increasing. To account for the additional costs associated with longer life spans, the Employees' Retirement Fund (ERF) has recommended changes to the pension plan for new employees. The changes to the plan would only affect active employees who are hired **after** December 31, 2016. We know you have questions about these plan changes and hope to address most of them in this article.

Who do the Proposed Changes to Chapter 40A Impact?

The proposed changes to Chapter 40A will **only impact active employees hired after December 31, 2016**. Current active employees and retirees **would not** be impacted by the benefit changes.

Do the Proposed Changes Impact my COLA & Health Benefit Supplement?

The proposed changes to the pension plan **would not impact your COLA or Health Benefit Supplement**.

When Will the Changes Be Effective?

At this point, these changes have been approved by the Dallas ERF Board and the Dallas City Council. The next step is for the voters of the City of Dallas to **approve Proposition 1** in the November election. If Proposition 1 is approved, it will save \$2 billion in future funding costs by establishing a new tier of benefits. Employees hired after December 31, 2016 will be in Tier B, with monthly benefits that take into account the expected increased lifespan and years of retirement.

How are Benefits for Tier B Members (those hired after December 31, 2016) different from Your Pension Benefit?

- The benefit multiplier would be reduced from 2.75% to 2.5%.
- Normal retirement age would increase from 60 to 65 with at least five years of credited pension service.
- The Rule of 78 would change to the Rule of 80 for the new members and retirement benefits for anyone retiring before age 65 would be reduced.
- Service retirement for new members would be increased from 30 years to 40 years.
- The Health Benefit Supplement would not be available to new members.

"The Dallas City Retired Employees' Association (DCREA) Board supports Proposition 1's proposed changes to the pension plan," said DCREA Board President, Andy Carroll. The changes in the pension plan are for employees beginning work with the City after December 31, 2016. Voting to approve Proposition 1 on the November 8, 2016 Dallas ballot will save \$2 Billion in pension funding costs, protecting the financial health and viability of the plan for both current members and future members.

Again, these changes **would not** apply to you as a current retiree. If you have additional questions, visit our website at www.dallaserf.org/proposed-changes-to-chapter-40A or call Melissa Harris, *Communications Manager*, at 214-580-7719.

You Will Soon Be Able to Print Your 1099-R Form Online

Beginning the end of January 2017, ERF is excited to offer the convenience of printing your 1099-R from our website. You will be able to print 1099-R statements for 2014, 2015 and 2016.

To access your 1099-R statements, you must create a secure login and password through a simple registration process. Once you have created a login and password, you will have access to:

- Three years of 1099-R statements (2014, 2015, 2016)
- ERF Newsletters
- The current address information ERF has on record for you

We are working hard in the ERF office to provide this new service to you. Check your December pay stub for an announcement of the exact date this new feature will be available to you online.



Get Many of Your Legal Questions Answered for Free



On the second and third Wednesday of each month from 5:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., the Dallas Bar Association sponsors LegalLine, an anonymous telephone hotline to offer answers to some of the basic but important legal questions you all may have.

LegalLine is staffed by local attorneys who volunteer to answer your legal questions at no cost to you.

LegalLine is a community service for Dallas County residents. Callers are welcome to call with any legal question. The telephone number to call is 214- 220-7476.

Our Sincere Sympathy To The Families Of Our Deceased Members

May 2016 - August 2016

DEPARTMENT	AGE	DEPARTMENT	AGE	DEPARTMENT	AGE
Aviation		Park & Recreation		Street Services	
Thomas H. Smith	69	H. Merwyn Carnahan	81	Mack J. Ortiz	64
		Manuel Mijares	63		
Building Services		Andrew W. Bullock, Jr.	62	Street, Sanitation & Code Enforcement	
Glenn R. Pearson	59			Dolores G. Ramirez	72
		Police			
Communication & Information Services		Wayne K. Butts	86	Trinity Watershed Management	
Francis N. Brooke	65	Connie Alexander	71	Eddie B. Day	61
		Rodney Marshall	65		
Fire		Andrea Carey	34	Water Utilities	
Rita J. Johnson	95			Luis C. Flores	96
		Public Works & Transportation		Marie G. Dunne	95
General Services		Mary E. Anderson	78	Raymond C. Williams	87
Billy W. Robinson	83			Lewis Hinton	86
		Sanitation Services		Bobby R. Sims	81
Library		Kenneth R. Luckey	63	Leroy Shackelford	80
Brenda Green	57			Rudy N. Watson	69
		Strategic Customer Services		Gregory T. Graham	66
		Darlene Green	51	Jimmy L. Cavet	63

Deadline Approaching to Name Your Partner as Your Spouse

If you were with your same sex partner but were unable to get a marriage license prior to your retirement, you may still be able to name your spouse as your pension plan beneficiary. However, time is running out!

To retroactively name your spouse, you must file a Declaration and Registration of Informal Marriage with the County Clerk indicating the date on which you began living together as a married couple. You must then submit a copy of your Declaration and a Retirement Re-Application form to ERF. If you complete this process by December 31, 2016, ERF will recognize your pre-retirement marriage even if your Declaration was issued after retirement.

Beginning in 2017, your spouse will have the right to a monthly pension benefit only if your marriage license or declaration was issued prior to your retirement date. If you have any questions, call ERF at 214-580-7700.

Congratulations To Some Of Our Newest Retirees!

Employees who retired in the months of May 2016 - August 2016 and agreed to let us share the news are listed by their department and years of City service.

DEPARTMENT	SERVICE	DEPARTMENT	SERVICE	DEPARTMENT	SERVICE
Aviation		Library, cont.		Street Services, cont.	
Robert L. Robinson, Jr.	8	Leslie E. Reed	6	Mario H. Ramirez	12
City Attorney's Office		Park & Recreation		Sustainable Development & Construction	
Ileana N. Fernandez	16	Carlos L. Strickland	28	Yemane Araya	31
Warren M. Ernst	12	Margaret A. Peters	24	Richard E. Brown	25
Code Compliance Services		Mark N. Bauman	9	Rhea C. Arterbury	8
Pamelia D. Anderson	24	Margaret L. Hanson	5	Trinity Watershed Management	
Bennie S. Gaston	15	Andrew C. MacFarlane	5	Harold W. Bishop	23
John S. Taylor	7	Jerry D. Harrison	2	Water	
Convention & Event Services		Planning & Development		George P. Campbell	40
Rickey Burns	17	Russell W. Wyman	11	Tina M. Williams	35
Bernadine Hill	17	Police		William D. Everly	32
Court & Detention Services		Patricia L. Page	34	Mashell A. Mallard	32
Pamela L. Bowman	18	Anita J. Bassinger	30	Terry L. Brown	31
Environment & Health Services		Angela B. Howard	30	Brian K. Cress, Sr.	30
Norma J. Piel-Brown	11	Melissa G. Schimka	30	Arturo A. Hernandez	30
Equipment & Building Services		Linda L. Smith	27	James C. Ryan	30
Arnold A. Castillo	32	Catherine F. Thomas	23	Charles R. Garner	28
Clifford D. Delley	32	Diana L. Multop	19	Aneydra S. Price	28
Fire-Rescue		Irma Huerta	18	Francisco E. Picazo, Jr.	26
Brenda J. Simpson	36	Belinda H. Smith	10	Rene A. Lee	25
Brian K. Roberts	25	Public Works		James E. Taylor	21
Housing & Community Services		Mary L. Nix	15	Marvin A. Woods	21
Sonia D. Haynes-Day	24	Sanitation Services		Fredrick L. Bell	19
Thelma M. Tun-Thein	6	Pablo E. Nino	19	Sylvester A. Bemis	19
Judiciary		Dwain L. Bowie	17	Samuel Hernandez	18
Phyllis P. Hillery	12	Angel Camarena	9	Evangelina Behzad	17
Library		L.B. Davis	9	Dina J. Daulat	17
Charlotte E. Bagh	26	Street Services		Gerald D. Murphy	17
Gary W. Turner	25	Francisco Flores	31	Rita J. Eckles	15
Lela F. Fletcher	19	Jesus Carrillo	30	Carlos L. Ortiz	13
		Russell A. Beals	22	Dwarkaprasad L. Acharya	11
		Rose M. Miller	22	James Mitchell	7
				Terry M. Smith	5



STATE FAIR OF TEXAS®

Celebrating 130 years of tradition, the State Fair of Texas returns this fall for another round of food, festivities and family fun. Themed “Celebrating Texas Agriculture,” the 2016 exposition kicks off on Friday, September 30 in Dallas Fair Park.

At the State Fair of Texas, the Hall of State brings fairgoers a taste of Texas with three exhibits dedicated to the Lone Star State and its history. “Six Nations over Texas” tells the story of the six countries whose flags have flown over Texas and includes rare artifacts from each nation.

The Lords of Gravity Basketball Slam Dunk Show joins the list as one of the Fair’s new daily shows for 2016. Hailing from Budapest, Hungary, the Lords of Gravity group has become one of the most well-known acrobatic basketball teams in Europe. The troupe will be performing daily in Chevrolet Park Plaza.

This year football fans have the option of enjoying three football games at the Fair instead of the traditional two games. Opening weekend of the Fair brings devoted fans from Grambling State University and Prairie View A&M University for the annual Southwest Airlines State Fair Classic on October 1. The rivalry continues on October 8 when the Cotton Bowl Stadium hosts the AT&T Red River Showdown, where the University of Texas Longhorns face the University of Oklahoma Sooners. The Cotton Bowl Stadium welcomes a new matchup on October 15, when the Air Force Academy takes on the University of New Mexico, presented by Lockheed Martin.

In addition to the traditional State Fair staples, enjoy a few new food locations this year. Trio on the Green, located under three oak trees outside the Coliseum, will be serving trios of appetizers and drinks. Fiesta Grande, a cantina-style patio features tables and umbrellas perfect for relaxing, with live acoustic music on weekends.



Tickets & Transportation to the State Fair of Texas

General Admission

2016 General admission is \$18.

Advance tickets are \$16.50 and are available at all area Kroger customer service desks. *Seniors age 60 and older admission to the fair is \$13 or receive free admission on Thursdays.*

State Fair Discounted Deals

\$4 Admission on Wednesdays - Admission is \$4 for each visitor who brings four cans of food.

Coke \$6 Thursdays - Admission is \$6 for each visitor who brings an empty 20 oz. bottle of a Coca-Cola product.

Dr Pepper \$5 Tuesdays - Admission is \$5 all day on Tuesdays for each visitor who brings an empty Dr. Pepper can.

Dr Pepper Half Price after 5 pm - Admission is half price every day for each visitor who brings an empty Dr. Pepper can.

KISS-FM Fridays – Admission to the fair is \$13 on Fridays with a coupon you can download from the KISS-FM website, www.1061kissfm.com.

DART GoPass App - Buy discounted tickets from your DART GoPass app. *General Admission tickets are just \$16, seniors and children’s tickets are \$12*

Transportation

DART Green Line to Fair Park Station - For train schedule and fare information, go to the DART website at <http://www.dart.org> or call 214-979-1111.

For more information on the State Fair of Texas, call 214-565-9931.