Michigan Department of Treasury
5598 (08-18)

Protecting Local Government Retirement and Benefits Act Corrective Action Plan:

Defined Benefit Pension Retirement Systems

Issued under authority of Public Act 202 of 2017.

1. MUNICIPALITY INFORMATION

Local Unit Name: City of Walled Lake Six-Digit Muni Code: 632240

Defined Benefit Pension System Name: MERS

Contact Name (Administrative Officer): Sandra Barlass

Title if not Administrative Officer:

Email: finance@walledlake.com Telephone: (248) 624-4847

2. GENERAL INFORMATION

Corrective Action Plan: An underfunded local unit of government shall develop and submit for approval a corrective action plan for the local unit of government. The local unit of government shall determine the components of the corrective action plan. This Corrective Action Plan shall be submitted by any local unit of government with at least one defined benefit pension retirement system that has been determined to have an underfunded status. Underfunded status for a defined benefit pension system is defined as being less than 60% funded according to the most recent audited financial statements, and, if the local unit of government is a city, village, township, or county, the annually required contribution (ARC) for all of the defined benefit pension retirement systems of the local unit of government is greater than 10% of the local unit of government's annual governmental fund revenues, based on the most recent fiscal year.

Due Date: The local unit of government has **180 days from the date of notification** to submit a corrective action plan to the Municipal Stability Board (the Board). The Board may extend the 180-day deadline by up to an additional 45 days if the local unit of government submits a reasonable draft of a corrective action plan and requests an extension.

Filing: Per Sec. 10(1) of PA 202 of 2017 (the Act), this Corrective Action Plan must be approved by the local government's administrative officer and its governing body. ***You must provide proof of your governing body approving this Corrective Action Plan and attach the documentation as a separate PDF document.*** Per Sec. 10(4) of the Act, failure to provide documentation that demonstrates approval from your governing body will result in a determination of noncompliance by the Board.

The submitted plan must demonstrate through distinct supporting documentation how and when the local unit will reach the 60% funded ratio. Or, if the local unit is a city, village, township, or county, the submitted plan may demonstrate how and when the ARC for all of the defined benefit pension systems will be less than 10% of annual governmental fund revenues, as defined by the Act. Supporting documentation for the funding ratio and/or ARC must include an actuarial projection, an actuarial valuation, or an internally developed analysis. The local unit must project governmental fund revenues using a reasonable forecast based on historical trends and projected rates of inflation.

The completed plan must be submitted via email to Treasury at LocalRetirementReporting@michigan.gov for review by the Board. **If you have multiple underfunded retirement systems, you are required to complete separate plans and send a separate email for each underfunded system.** Please attach each plan as a separate PDF document in addition to all applicable supporting documentation.

The subject line of the email(s) should be in the following format: **Corrective Action Plan-2017, Local Unit Name, Retirement System Name** (e.g. Corrective Action Plan-2017, City of Lansing, Employees' Retirement System

Pension Plan). Treasury will send an automatic reply acknowledging receipt of the email. Your individual email settings must allow for receipt of Treasury's automatic reply. This will be the only notification confirming receipt of the application(s).

Municipal Stability Board: The Municipal Stability Board (the Board) shall review and vote on the approval of a corrective action plan submitted by a local unit of government. If a corrective action plan is approved, the Board will monitor the corrective action plan for the following two years, and the Board will report on the local unit of government's compliance with the Act not less than every two years.

Review Process: Following receipt of the email by Treasury, the Board will accept the corrective action plan submission at the next scheduled meeting of the Board. The Board shall then approve or reject the corrective action plan within 45 days from the date of the meeting.

Considerations for Approval: A successful corrective action plan will demonstrate the actions for correcting underfunded status as set forth in Sec. 10(7) of the Act (listed below), as well as any additional solutions to address the underfunded status. Please also include steps already taken to address your underfunded status as well as the date prospective actions will be taken. A local unit of government may also include in its corrective action plan, a review of the local unit of government's budget and finances to determine any alternative methods available to address its underfunded status. A corrective action plan under this section may include the development and implementation of corrective options for the local unit of government to address its underfunded status. The corrective options as described in Sec. 10(7) may include, but are not limited to, any of the following:

(i) Closing the current defined benefit plan.

(ii) Implementing a multiplier limit.

(iii) Reducing or eliminating new accrued benefits.

(iv) Implementing final average compensation standards.

Implementation: The local unit of government has up to 180 days after the approval of a corrective action plan to begin to implement the corrective action plan to address its underfunded status. The Board shall monitor each underfunded local unit of government's compliance with this act and any corrective action plan. The Board shall adopt a schedule, not less than every 2 years, to certify that the underfunded local unit of government is in substantial compliance with the Act. If the Board determines that an underfunded local unit of government is not in substantial compliance under this subsection, the Board shall within 15 days provide notification and report to the local unit of government detailing the reasons for the determination of noncompliance with the corrective action plan. The local unit of government has 60 days from the date of the notification to address the determination of noncompliance.

3. DESCRIPTIONS OF PRIOR ACTIONS

Prior actions are separated into three categories below: System Design Changes, Additional Funding, and Other Considerations. Please provide a brief description of the prior actions implemented by the local government to address the retirement system's underfunded status within the appropriate category section. Within each category are sample statements that you may choose to use to indicate the changes to your system that will positively affect your funded status. For retirement systems that have multiple divisions, departments, or plans within the same retirement system, please indicate how these changes impact the retirement **system** as a whole.

- **Please Note:** If applicable, prior actions listed within your waiver application(s) may also be included in your corrective action plan.

Please indicate where in the attached supporting documentation these changes are described and the impact of those changes (i.e. what has the local unit of government done to improve its underfunded status, and where can we find the proof of these changes in the supporting documentation?).

Note: Please provide the name of the system impacted, the date you made the change, the relevant page number(s) within the supporting documentation, and the resulting change to the system's funded ratio.

Category of Prior Actions:

☒ **System Design Changes** - System design changes may include the following: Lower tier of benefits for new hires, final average compensation limitations, freeze future benefit accruals for active employees in the defined benefit system, defined contribution system for new hires, hybrid system for new hires, bridged multiplier for active employees, etc.

Sample Statement: *The system's multiplier for current employees was lowered from 2.5X to 2X for the **General Employees' Retirement System** on **January 1, 2017**. On page **8** of the attached actuarial supplemental valuation, it shows our funded ratio will be **60%** by fiscal year **2020.***

1) The multiplier has been reduced to1.5% from 2.5% for all new admin hires beginning July 1, 2013. 2) Four divisions have had the benefit multiplier bridged down, as per MERS Annual Actuarial Valuation Report dated Dec 31, 2017, on pages 16 and 17 of the attached Benefit Provisions table 2. 3) Pensionable wages on base pay only; eliminating overtime, longevity, vacation, and sick payouts. 4) Closed the excessive Police Command pension division in 2011.

☐ **Additional Funding –** Additional funding may include the following: Voluntary contributions above the actuarially determined contribution, bonding, millage increases, restricted funds, etc.

Sample Statement: *The local unit provided a lump sum payment of **$1 million** to the **General Employees' Retirement System** on **January 1, 2017**. This lump sum payment was in addition to the actuarially determined contribution (ADC) of the system. The additional contribution will increase the retirement system's funded ratio to **61% by 2025**. Please see page **10** of the attached enacted budget, which highlights this contribution of **$1 million**.*

☐ **Other Considerations** – Other considerations may include the following: outdated Form 5572 information, actuarial assumption changes, amortization policy changes, etc.

Sample Statement: *The information provided on the Form 5572 from the audit used actuarial data from **2015**. Attached is an updated actuarial valuation for **2017** that shows our funded ratio has improved to **62%** as indicated on page **13**.*

4. DESCRIPTION OF PROSPECTIVE ACTIONS

The corrective action plan allows you to submit a plan of prospective actions which are separated into three categories below: System Design Changes, Additional Funding, and Other Considerations. Please provide a brief description of the additional actions the local government is planning to implement to address the retirement system's underfunded status within the appropriate category section. Within each category are sample statements that you may choose to use to indicate the changes to your system that will positively affect your funded status. For retirement systems that have multiple divisions, departments, or plans within the same retirement system, please indicate how these changes impact the retirement **system** as a whole.

Please indicate where in the attached supporting documentation these changes are described and the impact of those changes (i.e. what will the local unit of government do to improve its underfunded status, and where can we find the proof of these changes in the supporting documentation?).

Category of Prospective Actions:

☒ **System Design Changes** - System design changes may include the following: Lower tier of benefits for new hires, final average compensation limitations, freeze future benefit accruals for active employees in the defined benefit system, defined contribution system for new hires, hybrid system for new hires, bridged multiplier for active employees, etc.

Sample Statement: *Beginning with **summer 2018** contract negotiations, the local unit will seek to lower the system's multiplier for current employees from 2.5X to 2X for the **General Employees' Retirement System**. On page **8** of the attached actuarial supplemental valuation, it shows our funded ratio would be **60%** funded by **fiscal year 2020** if these changes were adopted and implemented by **fiscal year 2019.***

1) Beginning July 1, 2020 three members in the Admin Unit will bridge down from 2.5% multiplier to 1.5% multiplier.
2) The City is currently in negotiations with the Municipal Employees Association for Public Works and Clerical Collective Bargaining Agreement which proposes all new hires as of July 1, 2019 will have a multiplier of 1.25, 5% employee contribution, and no COLA. Currently new hires after July 2016 have a multiplier of 1.5%.

☒ **Additional Funding –** Additional funding may include the following: voluntary contributions above the actuarially determined contribution, bonding, millage increases, restricted funds, etc.

Sample Statement: Beginning in **fiscal year 2019,** *the local unit will provide a lump sum payment of **$1 million** to the **General Employees' Retirement System**. This lump sum payment will be in addition to the actuarially determined contribution (ADC) of the system. The additional contribution will increase the retirement system's funded ratio to **61% by 2025**. Please see page **10** of the attached enacted budget, which highlights this contribution of **$1 million**. Please see page **12** of the attached supplemental actuarial valuation showing the projected change to the system's funded ratio with this additional contribution.*

In November 2019 the City of Walled Lake opened a Surplus Division with MERS. The City plans to contribute additional funding into the surplus division with each fiscal year's amount being determined during the budget approval process. The City has requested a projection study from MERS to identify an appropriate additional contribution amount that will have an impact on reducing the number of years to reach a 60% funded outstanding liability.

☐ **Other Considerations** – Other considerations may include the following: outdated Form 5572 information, actuarial assumption changes, amortization policy changes, etc.

Sample Statement: *Beginning in **fiscal year 2019**, the local unit will begin amortizing the unfunded portion of the pension liability using a **level-dollar amortization method over a closed period of 10 years**. This will allow the retirement system to reach a funded status of **62%** by **2022** as shown in the attached actuarial analysis on page **13**.*

5. CONFIRMATION OF FUNDING

Please check the applicable answer:

Do the corrective actions listed in this plan allow for (insert local unit name) City of Walled Lake to make, at a minimum, the annual required contribution payment for the defined benefit pension system according to your long-term budget forecast?

☒ **Yes**
☐ **No**
If No, Explain

6. DOCUMENTATION ATTACHED TO THIS CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

Documentation should be attached as a .pdf to this Corrective Action Plan. The documentation should detail the corrective action plan that would be implemented to adequately address the local unit of government's underfunded status. Please check all documents that are included as part of this plan and attach in successive order as provided below:

Naming convention: when attaching documents please use the naming convention shown below. If there is more than one document in a specific category that needs to be submitted, include a, b, or c for each document. For example, if you are submitting two supplemental valuations, you would name the first document "Attachment 2a" and the second document "Attachment 2b".

Naming Convention	Type of Document
☒ Attachment – 1	**This Corrective Action Plan Form (Required)**
☒ Attachment – 1a	**Documentation from the governing body approving this Corrective Action Plan (Required)**
☒ Attachment – 2a	**An actuarial projection, an actuarial valuation, or an internally developed analysis, which illustrates how and when the local unit will reach the 60% funded ratio. Or, if the local unit is a city, village, township, or county, ARC will be less than 10% of governmental fund revenues, as defined by the Act. (Required)**
☐ Attachment – 3a	Documentation of additional payments in past years that is not reflected in your audited financial statements (e.g. enacted budget, system provided information).
☐ Attachment – 4a	Documentation of commitment to additional payments in future years (e.g. resolution, ordinance)
☒ Attachment – 5a	A separate corrective action plan that the local unit has approved to address its underfunded status, which includes documentation of prior actions, prospective actions, and the positive impact on the system's funded ratio
☐ Attachment –6a	Other documentation not categorized above

7. CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN CRITERIA

Please confirm that each of the four corrective action plan criteria listed below have been satisfied when submitting this document. Specific detail on corrective action plan criteria can be found in the Corrective Action Plan Development: Best Practices and Strategies document.

Corrective Action Plan Criteria	Description
☒ Underfunded Status	Is there a description and adequate supporting documentation of how and when the retirement system will reach the 60% funded ratio? Or, if your local unit is a city, village, township, or county, how and when the ARC of all pension systems will be less than 10 percent of governmental fund revenues?
☒ Reasonable Timeframe	Do the corrective actions address the underfunded status in a reasonable timeframe (see CAP criteria issued by the Board)?
☒ Legal and Feasible	Does the corrective action plan follow all applicable laws? Are all required administrative certifications and governing body approvals included? Are the actions listed feasible?
☒ Affordability	Do the corrective action(s) listed allow the local unit to make the annual required contribution payment for the pension system now and into the future without additional changes to this corrective action plan?

8. LOCAL UNIT OF GOVERNMENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER APPROVAL OF CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

I Sandra Barlass, as the government's administrative officer *(enter title)* City of Walled Lake (Ex: City/Township Manager, Executive director, and Chief Executive Officer, etc.) approve this Corrective Action Plan and will implement the prospective actions contained in this Corrective Action Plan.

I confirm to the best of my knowledge that because of the changes listed above, one of the following statements will occur:

☒ The Michigan Employees' Retirement System **(Insert Retirement Pension System Name)** will achieve a funded status of at least 60% by Fiscal Year 2032 as demonstrated by required supporting documentation listed in section 6.

OR, if the local unit is a city, village, township, or county:

☐ The ARC for all of the defined benefit pension retirement systems of _____ **(Insert local unit name)** will be less than 10% of the local unit of government's annual governmental fund revenues by Fiscal Year _____ as demonstrated by required supporting documentation listed in section 6.

Signature Sandra Barlass Date 01/28/2020

COPY

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF OAKLAND
CITY OF WALLED LAKE

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN FOR THE CITY OF WALLED LAKE'S DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION RETIREMENT FUND TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY AS REQUIRED UNDER PUBLIC ACT 202 OF 2017

RESOLUTION 2020-02

At its Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Walled Lake, Oakland County, Michigan, held in the Council Chambers at 1499 E. West Maple, Walled Lake, Michigan 48390, on the 21st day of January 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan Department of Treasury (Treasury) has implemented Public Act 202 of 2017, known as Protecting Local Government Retirement and Benefits Act, requiring local units of government to annually report retirement pension benefit funding ratios of retirement systems using Form 5572 Local Government Retirement System Annual Report; and

WHEREAS, if a local government determines the retirement pension benefit funding ratio to be below sixty percent (60%) and has a greater than ten percent (10%) actuarially determined contribution (ADC), than a corrective action plan (CAP) is required to be submitted to the State of Michigan Department of Treasury; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Treasury will review an application for waiver of the CAP if a prior action plan by the local government can be demonstrated; and

WHEREAS, in 1992 the City of Walled Lake (City) adopted a pension plan within the Michigan Employees Retirement System of Michigan (MERS); and

WHEREAS, the City has submitted the required Local Government Retirement System Annual Report (Form 5572) for 2019 which reported an unfunded liability ratio of 30.3% and an ADC of 14.0%; and

WHEREAS, the City submitted a waiver application as per Council Resolution 2019-21 in April 2019 which was denied by Treasury due to the significantly underfunded plan that necessitates close monitoring; and

WHEREAS, the City is now required to submit a CAP with an additional plan, detailing further steps the City will take to improve the outstanding liability status.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Walled Lake, County of Oakland, State of Michigan that:

Section 1. The Council does hereby approve the attached Protecting Local Government Retirement and Benefits Act Correction Action Plan: Defined Benefit Pension Retirement Systems.

Section 2. The Council authorizes the City Administrator to submit said Corrective Action Plan (attachment A) to the Michigan Department of Treasury.

Motion to approve Resolution was offered by Owsinek and seconded by Lublin.

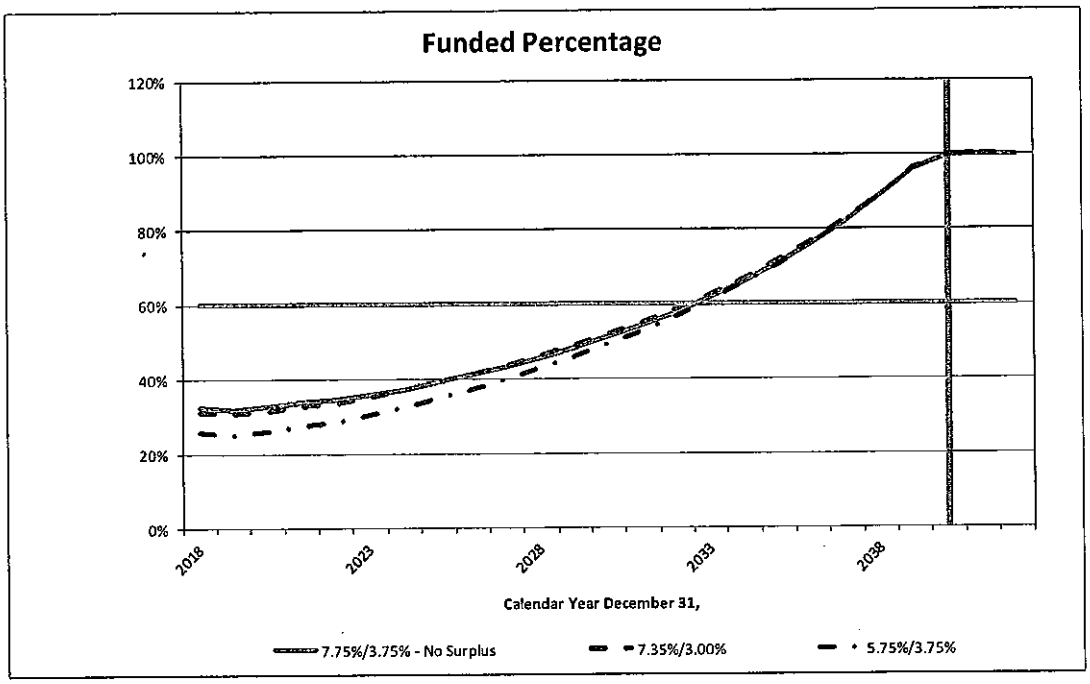
AYES: (7) Owsinek, Woods, Ambrose, Costanzo, Loch, Lublin, Ackley
NAYS: (0)
ABSENTS: (0)
ABSTENTIONS: (0)

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)SS
COUNTY OF OAKLAND)

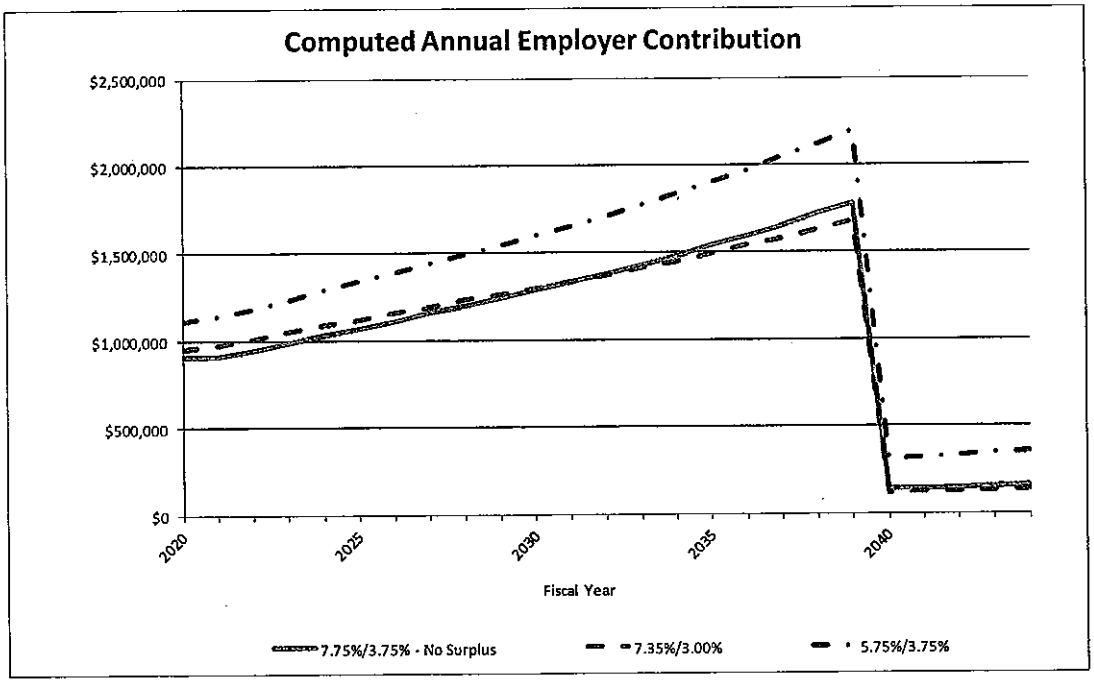
Jennifer A Stuart
JENNIFER A. STUART
City Clerk

Linda S. Ackley
LINDA S. ACKLEY
Mayor



Notes:
All projected funded percentages are shown with no phase-in.

The green indicator lines have been added at 60% funded and 22 years following the valuation date for PA 202 purposes.



Notes:
All projected contributions are shown with no phase-in.

Table 2: Benefit Provisions

01 - Pblc Wrks: Open Division

	2018 Valuation	2017 Valuation
Benefit Multiplier:	Bridged Benefit:2.25% Multiplier (80% max) Frozen FAC;1.70% Multiplier (no max)	Bridged Benefit: 2.25% Multiplier (80% max) Frozen FAC; to 1.70% Multiplier (no max)
Bridged Benefit Date:	8/31/2013	8/31/2013
Normal Retirement Age:	60	60
Vesting:	10 years	10 years
Early Retirement (Unreduced):	55/20	55/20
Early Retirement (Reduced):	50/25	50/25
	55/15	55/15
Final Average Compensation:	5 years	5 years
Employee Contributions:	5.00%	5.00%
Act 88:	Yes (Adopted 10/16/2001)	Yes (Adopted 10/16/2001)

02 - FT Police and Command: Open Division – Closed

	2018 Valuation	2017 Valuation
Benefit Multiplier:	Bridged Benefit:2.50% Multiplier (80% max) Frozen FAC;1.90% Multiplier (80% max)	Bridged Benefit: 2.50% Multiplier (80% max) Frozen FAC; to 1.90% Multiplier (80% max)
Bridged Benefit Date:	9/30/2013	9/30/2013
Normal Retirement Age:	60	60
Vesting:	10 years	10 years
Early Retirement (Unreduced):	55/25	55/25
Early Retirement (Reduced):	50/25	50/25
	55/15	55/15
Final Average Compensation:	3 years	3 years
Employee Contributions:	8.00%	8.00%
D-2:	D2 (25%)	D2 (25%)
Act 88:	Yes (Adopted 10/16/2001)	Yes (Adopted 10/16/2001)

05 - Fire: Open Division Closed

	2018 Valuation	2017 Valuation
Benefit Multiplier:	Bridged Benefit:2.50% Multiplier (80% max) Frozen FAC;1.70% Multiplier (no max)	Bridged Benefit: 2.50% Multiplier (80% max) Frozen FAC; to 1.70% Multiplier (no max)
Bridged Benefit Date:	8/31/2013	8/31/2013
Normal Retirement Age:	60	60
Vesting:	10 years	10 years
Early Retirement (Unreduced):	55/25	55/25
Early Retirement (Reduced):	50/25	50/25
	55/15	55/15
Final Average Compensation:	3 years	3 years
Employee Contributions:	5.00%	5.00%
D-2:	D2 (25%)	D2 (25%)
Act 88:	Yes (Adopted 10/16/2001)	Yes (Adopted 10/16/2001)

10 - Clerical: Open Division

	2018 Valuation	2017 Valuation
Benefit Multiplier:	Bridged Benefit:2.25% Multiplier (80% max) Frozen FAC;1.70% Multiplier (no max)	Bridged Benefit: 2.25% Multiplier (80% max) Frozen FAC; to 1.70% Multiplier (no max)
Bridged Benefit Date:	8/31/2013	8/31/2013
Normal Retirement Age:	60	60
Vesting:	6 years	6 years
Early Retirement (Unreduced):	55/25	55/25
Early Retirement (Reduced):	50/25	50/25
	55/15	55/15
Final Average Compensation:	5 years	5 years
Employee Contributions:	5.00%	5.00%
Act 88:	Yes (Adopted 10/16/2001)	Yes (Adopted 10/16/2001)

11 - Admn Unit: Closed to new hires, linked to Division 12

	2018 Valuation	2017 Valuation
Benefit Multiplier:	2.50% Multiplier (80% max)	2.50% Multiplier (80% max)
Normal Retirement Age:	60	60
Vesting:	6 years	6 years
Early Retirement (Unreduced):	50/25	50/25
Early Retirement (Reduced):	55/15	55/15
Final Average Compensation:	3 years	3 years
COLA for Future Retirees:	2.50% (Non-Compound)	2.50% (Non-Compound)
Employee Contributions:	5.25%	5.25%
Act 88:	Yes (Adopted 10/16/2001)	Yes (Adopted 10/16/2001)

12 - FT Admin ee's after 7/1/2013: Open Division, linked to Division 11

	2018 Valuation	2017 Valuation
Benefit Multiplier:	1.50% Multiplier (no max)	1.50% Multiplier (no max)
Normal Retirement Age:	60	60
Vesting:	3 years	3 years
Early Retirement (Unreduced):	55/25	55/25
Early Retirement (Reduced):	50/25	50/25
	55/15	55/15
Final Average Compensation:	3 years	3 years
COLA for Future Retirees:	1.00% (Non-Compound)	1% (Non-Compound)
Employee Contributions:	3.00%	3.00%
Act 88:	Yes (Adopted 10/16/2001)	Yes (Adopted 10/16/2001)

21 - Public Safety hired after 7/1/2016
1.5%

EE Contribution = 5%
Act 88 = yes
D-2

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND BUDGET

CITY OF WALLED LAKE, MICHIGAN

L. DENNIS WHITT
CITY MANAGER

COLLEEN M. COOGAN
DIRECTOR

1499 E. WEST MAPLE ROAD
WALLED LAKE, MICHIGAN 48390
(248) 624-4847 FAX: (248) 624-1616

June 20, 2017

To all City of Walled Lake Taxpayers:

Re: City Actions to Reduce the Pension and Retirement Healthcare Unfunded Liability

The City of Walled Lake has taken significant steps toward reducing both its pension and post-employment healthcare debt:

1. The post-employment $800 per month health care stipend has been eliminated and current city employees receive a small monthly payment into an individual health savings account for retirement health care. The city has no responsibility for the individual accounts other than the monthly contribution.
2. Overtime, longevity, vacation and sick payouts have been eliminated from pensionable wages thereby dramatically reducing the final average compensation.
3. The pension multiplier has been reduced to 1.5% for all new administrative hires.
4. Employee pension contributions have been increased.
5. The city has closed the excessive Police Command pension division.
6. In 2016 the actuaries updated the life expectancy tables with increased longevity estimates and they decreased the expected earnings rate -- the combination of which increased the pension liability estimate by almost 2 million dollars.
7. The City has successfully reduced their day to day operating costs to successfully manage the annual required contribution commitments needed to fully retire the debt in 23 years.

December 31, 2016 Accrued Liabilities and Valuation Assets

Division #	Division Name	Liability	Assets	Unfunded	Percent Funded
01	Public Works	$1,602,788	$1,018,975	$583,813	63.6%
02	FT Police	$6,315,722	$967,694	$5,348,028	15.3%
05	Fire	$450,358	$319,084	$131,274	70.9%
10	Clerical	$582,572	$457,885	$124,687	78.6%
11	Admin (closed)	$5,484,535	$1,628,546	$3,855,989	29.7%
12	Admin (new)	$111,164	$91,990	$19,174	82.8%
	Total	$14,547,139	$4,484,174	$10,062,965	30.8%