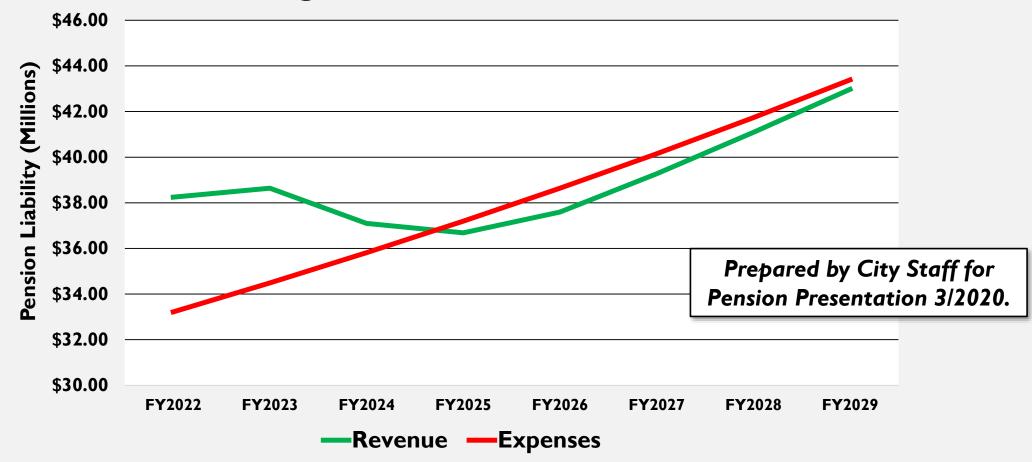
# CALPERS PENSION UPDATE

Presented to Beaumont City Council September 21, 2021 Jennifer Ustation, Finance Director

## LONG-TERM FINANCIAL FORECAST PRESENTED 3/2020 – GENERAL FUND

**Long-term Financial Forecast** 



# **PENSION STUDY RESULTS**

#### Pension Costs

- Projected Growth 7% Annually
- Next I2 years

## Long-Term Pension Costs (After FY2033)

- Outlook Improves Out Years
- Mostly due to **PEPRA**

#### • After FY2033

- Pension Liability Projected to be **Paid Off**
- Almost All Employees Will Be **PEPRA**

#### • Preferred Options to Address Pension Liability (Bartel Associates):

- Place Funds In A **Pension 115 Trust**
- **Direct Contributions** to CalPERS to Pay Down Unfunded Liability

# **PENSION COSTS OVERVIEW**

#### • Two Liability Types

- Normal Costs
- **Unfunded** Liability

#### Normal Costs

- Associated w/ Existing Employees
- Computed as Percentage of Wages

#### • Liability Costs

- Associated w/ Past & Current Employees
- Cost of Future **Benefits Exceed Amount of Funds Available** to pay those benefits

#### Annual City Costs

- City Makes **Payments** to CalPERS
- Applied to Normal & Liability Costs

## INPUTS INTO THE PENSION SYSTEM

#### Two Major Inputs to the Pension System

- Contributions
  - **Employers** Contributions
  - Employees Contributions
- Investment Returns
  - Gains/Losses
  - Subject to CalPERS **Amortization** Policy

## **CALPERS DISCOUNT RATE**

#### Calculated Long-term Interest Rate

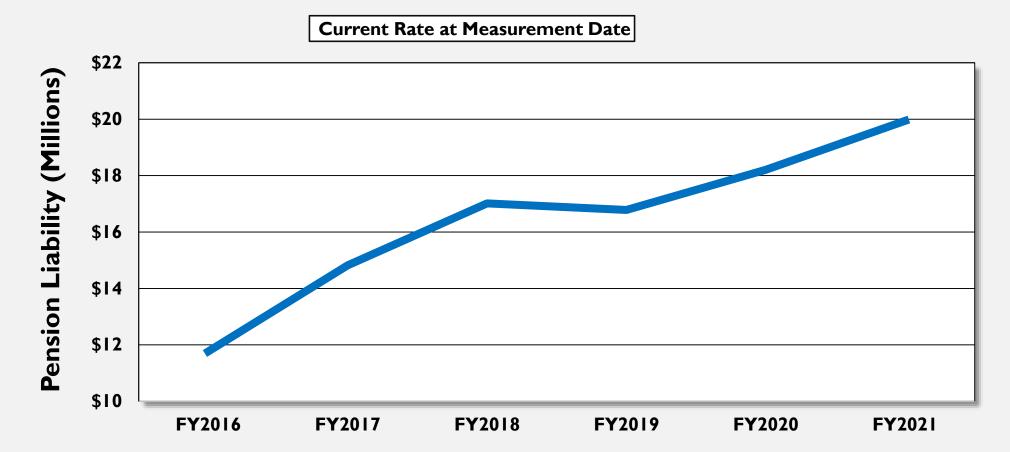
- Assumed **Real Rate** of Return
- Assumed Annual Price Inflation

#### Key Component of Asset Liability Management Cycle

- **Balance** Assets to Future Obligations
- Inverse Effect to Costs
  - Plan's **Sensitivity** to Change

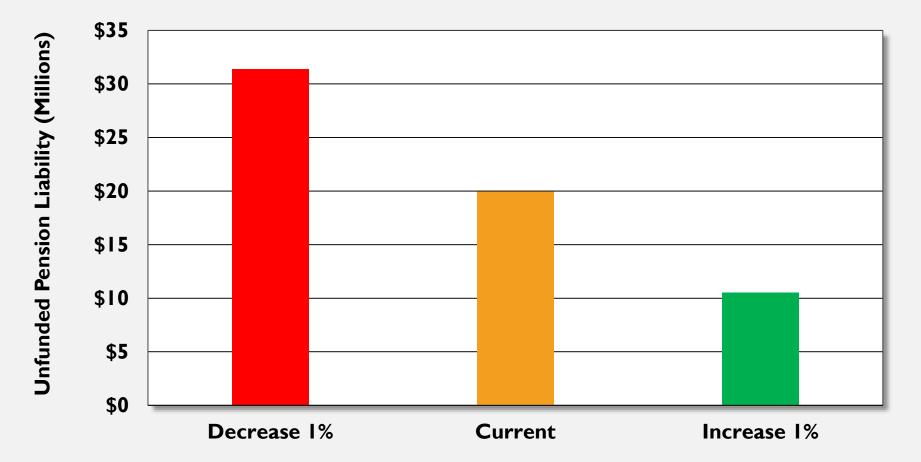
## CITY OF BEAUMONT PENSION STATUS

Estimated FY2021 Liability \$19,940,189 - Increase of \$1,732,807 from Prior Year



## PLAN'S SENSITIVITY TO CHANGE IN DISCOUNT RATE

Liability is Sensitive to Discount Rate Change



## CALPERS FUNDING RISK MITIGATION POLICY

## Reduce Funding Risk Over Time

- Lowers Discount Rate
- FY2021 Preliminary Returns of 21.3%

### Increases Costs

- Discount Rate Decreased to 6.8%
- Returns **Amortized** Over 20 Years

## First Time Policy Triggered

# CALPERS ASSET LIABILITY MANAGEMENT PROCESS

#### • Integrated Review of Assets and Liabilities

- Full Review Every **4 Years**
- Mid-Cycle Review Every **2 Years**

#### CalPERS Currently in Full Review

- Discussion of **Portfolio** Options
- What **Discount Rate** Applied
- Final Decision November 2021

## Cal PERS Candidate Portfolios

Portfolio	Discount Rate	<b>Projected Return</b>
Current Portfolio: Status Quo	6.25%	6.2%
Candidate Portfolio A	6.375%	6.4%
Candidate Portfolio B	6.75%	6.8%
Candidate Portfolio C	6.75%	6.8%
Candidate Portfolio D	6.75%	6.8%
Candidate Portfolio E	7.0%	7.0%

## WHAT HAS THE CITY DONE SO FAR?

#### Committed General Fund Reserve

• **\$2,500,000** for Future Options

## • UAL Payment Options

- Monthly or **Upfront**
- Interest Savings **\$49,594**

# **OPTIONS TO ADDRESS LIABILITY**

- Keep Funds in General Fund Reserves
  - Pros
    - Flexible
    - Reserve Requirement Allowed
  - Cons
    - Fixed Income Investing Only
    - Unprotected from Creditors & Spending Pressures

## Section I I 5 Pension Trust

- Pros
  - Long-Term Investment Strategy
  - Can be Tailored
  - Protected from Creditors
  - Solely for Pension Costs

# OPTIONS TO ADDRESS LIABILITY (CONT.)

- Section I I 5 Pension Trust
  - Cons
    - Irrevocable
  - Supplemental II5 or Cal PERS (CEPPT) II5
    - Supplemental
      - Pros
        - Flexible
        - Investment Strategy Choice
        - More Visible
      - Cons
        - Does Not Reduce Pension Liability

# OPTIONS TO ADDRESS LIABILITY (CONT.)

- CalPERS (CEPPT)
  - Pros
    - Reduces Net Pension Liability
    - Likely Higher Long-Term Return
  - Cons
    - Locked-In
    - No Investment Choice
    - More Restricted

## Additional Discretionary Payments

- Pros
  - Possible Long-Term Investment Return
- Cons
  - Irrevocable
  - Not Eligible for Future Credit
  - Subject to CalPERS Gaines/Losses

# OPTIONS TO ADDRESS LIABILITY CONT.

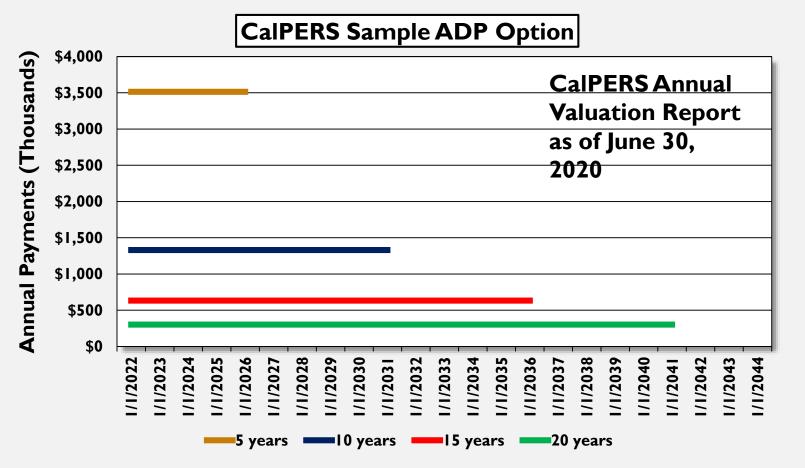
## • CalPERS "Fresh Start"

- Pros
  - Less Interest
  - Lower Long-Term Payments
- Cons
  - Higher Short-Term Payment
  - Requires Contract Amendment
  - Locked into New Schedule
  - Subject to CalPERS Gains/Losses

# ADDITIONAL DISCRETIONARY PAYMENTS

## **Additional Payments to CalPERS**

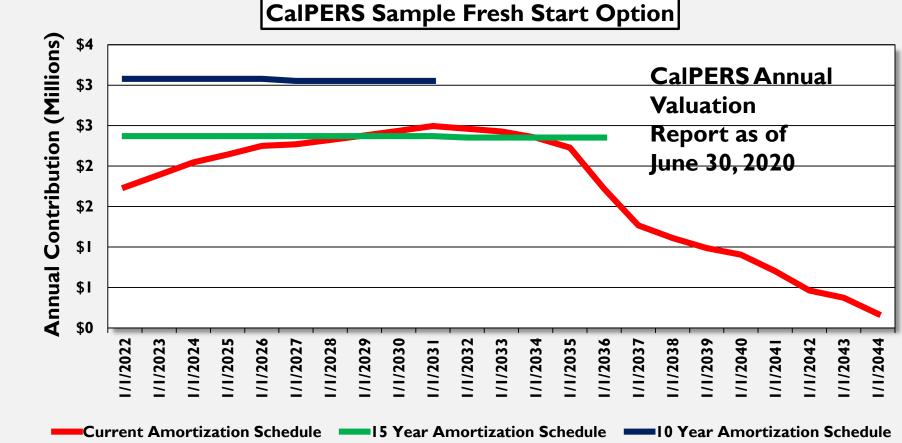
- Employers
- Reduce UAL for **Future** Contributions
- One-Time



# CALPERS "FRESH START"

## Shorter Amortization Schedule

- Higher Annual Payments
- Contract Amendment
- Locked-In



## **PENSION OBLIGATION BONDS**

## Not Recommended by Staff

- **GFOA** Advisory
- Considerable Investment **Risk**
- Very **Complex**
- **Bonded** Debt Burden
- Doesn't Make Financial **Sense**

# **STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### • Model Financial Scenarios

- Medium to Long-Term
- Internally Fully Funded
- **Create** Pension Funding Policy
- Research Section 115 Trusts
  - Supplemental
    - Single Employer
    - Multiple Employer
  - CalPERS (CEPPT)
- Combination of Options

## **COUNCIL DIRECTION**

# Questions?