



CalPERS Actuarial Issues June 30, 2008 Valuation

March 2010

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CITY OF SAUSALITO CALPERS ACTUARIAL ISSUES – JUNE 30, 2008 VALUATION INTRODUCTION

The City of Sausalito retained Bartel Associates to provide actuarial consulting services. The following Executive Summary provides the City analysis of their CalPERS Miscellaneous and Safety pension plans. This analysis is designed to assist the City in evaluating their current funding situation.

It may be helpful to first review the summary of basic definitions starting on page 23.

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Study Highlights

- CalPERS investment losses will significantly increase pension contributions. However, due to rate smoothing and subsequent modifications, these higher contribution rates will not materialize for several years.
- When considering a second tier benefit level, several things are important to understand that cost savings are:
 - 1. Limited to Normal Cost difference between the old and new tier and
 - 2. Very modest until the second tier payroll becomes dominant, and, even then will not solve very many budget problems.

There are reasons to consider a second pension tier, such as implementing a more appropriate benefit level, or encouraging longer City service. However there are very minor short term financial benefits.

The City can realize significant savings by paying off its "Side Fund" balances for each plan (Miscellaneous, Fire Safety & Police Safety) early because balances are charge 7.75%. For example the Police Safety Plan's \$3.1 million June 30, 2010 Side Fund balance, if paid off at June 30, results in a \$2.1 million cash savings. If the cash savings is discounted at 4%, then savings becomes \$0.8 million. The Miscellaneous and Fire Safety Plans have similar (although smaller in magnitude) results.



CITY OF SAUSALITO CALPERS ACTUARIAL ISSUES – JUNE 30, 2008 VALUATION CALPERS INVESTMENT RETURNS

CalPERS Historical Investment Return

The following chart illustrates CalPERS market and actuarial value investment returns over the past several years:



The 2010 return shown is estimated based on CalPERS January 31, 2010 published rates of 10.8%, an additional gain of 3.0% through March 8, 2010 and 7.75% to June 30, 2010. CalPERS' 10 year average annual return (from July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2009) is 3.1%, while their 20 year average annual return (from July 1, 1990 through June 30, 2009) is 8.0%.

The chart shows three lines, AVA Modified (Actuarial Value of Assets with CalPERS recent smoothing modification), MVA (Market Value of Assets) Rate and AVA Unmodified (Actuarial Value of Assets based on CalPERS smoothing method prior to recent asset smoothing modification). The MVA Rate is the investment return CalPERS' assets actually earned during the respective fiscal year ends, while the AVA shows the investment return as a smoothed rate reflecting asset gains and losses over a period of time, rather than immediately. The actuarial value of asset investment return directly affects City contribution rates.

The chart indicates a -24.8% June 30, 2009 year end investment return. This compares to an expected return of +7.75%, for a net loss of 32.6%. This loss would have had a significant impact on the City's 2011/12 Miscellaneous and Safety contribution rates. However, CalPERS smoothes asset gains and losses using a technique that generally recognizes one fifteenth of market asset gains or losses in a given year. In addition, the smoothing method does not allow the smoothed (actuarial) value to be less than 80% or more than 120% of the





CITY OF SAUSALITO CALPERS ACTUARIAL ISSUES – JUNE 30, 2008 VALUATION CALPERS INVESTMENT RETURNS

market value (the 80-120% corridor). To mitigate the economic impact of the June 30, 2009 market decline, on June 13, 2009, CalPERS' Board approved a modification to the corridor, increasing it to 140% for the June 30, 2009 valuation and to 130% for June 30, 2010 valuation. The corridor will return to 120% for the June 30, 2011 and subsequent valuations. Complicating matters a bit is that each CalPERS valuation determines agency contribution rates two years later (for example, the June 30, 2009 valuation determines fiscal year 2011/12 contribution rates.)



Implication of a Second Benefit Tier

For purposes of this report we have assumed employees hired on and after July 1, 2010 would be placed into a second tier (Tier 2) providing lower pension benefits. For current employees (Tier 1), benefits would remain the same. Contribution calculations would be then calculated on benefits depending on which tier they belong. However, it is important to note that moving new employees into a different benefit level has no impact on existing unfunded liabilities; it only impacts the level of benefit future employees would earn. This means that the amortization of any unfunded liability component of the contribution rate would remain the same for Tier 2 as it is for Tier 1, but the Normal Cost component of the contribution rate would be lower. As Tier 2 grows, and Tier 1 is closed, the cost for Tier 1 will decrease (as a dollar amount) and the replacement cost of the new Tier 2 participants would be less than if they had been in the current Tier 1 plan. This results in deceasing City contribution as a percent of payroll.

The following two pages show the CalPERS benefit factor comparison for Miscellaneous and Safety Plans.



Miscellaneous Plans



Benefit Factor Comparison

Age	<u>2%@60</u>	<u>2%@55</u>	<u>2.5%@55</u>	<u>2.7%@55</u>	<u>3.0%@60</u>
50	1.092%	1.426%	2.000%	2.000%	2.000%
51	1.156%	1.522%	2.100%	2.140%	2.100%
52	1.224%	1.628%	2.200%	2.280%	2.200%
53	1.296%	1.742%	2.300%	2.420%	2.300%
54	1.376%	1.866%	2.400%	2.560%	2.400%
55	1.460%	2.000%	2.500%	2.700%	2.500%
56	1.552%	2.052%	2.500%	2.700%	2.600%
57	1.650%	2.104%	2.500%	2.700%	2.700%
58	1.758%	2.156%	2.500%	2.700%	2.800%
59	1.874%	2.210%	2.500%	2.700%	2.900%
60	2.000%	2.262%	2.500%	2.700%	3.000%
61	2.134%	2.314%	2.500%	2.700%	3.000%
62	2.272%	2.366%	2.500%	2.700%	3.000%
63	2.418%	2.418%	2.500%	2.700%	3.000%
64	2.418%	2.418%	2.500%	2.700%	3.000%
65	2.418%	2.418%	2.500%	2.700%	3.000%



Safety Plans





50	1.426%	2.000%	2.400%	3.000%
51	1.522%	2.140%	2.520%	3.000%
52	1.628%	2.280%	2.640%	3.000%
53	1.742%	2.420%	2.760%	3.000%
54	1.866%	2.560%	2.880%	3.000%
55	2.000%	2.700%	3.000%	3.000%
56	2.000%	2.700%	3.000%	3.000%
57	2.000%	2.700%	3.000%	3.000%
58	2.000%	2.700%	3.000%	3.000%
59	2.000%	2.700%	3.000%	3.000%
60	2.000%	2.700%	3.000%	3.000%



	Miscellaneous	Police Safety	Fire Safety	
Benefit Formula	2.5% @ 55	3% @ 55	3% @ 55	
• FAE	One Year (FAE1)	One Year (FAE1)	One Year (FAE1)	
• PRSA	Yes	Yes	Yes	
• COLA	2%	2%	2%	
• EPMC	No	No	9%, by Resolution	
• 10/11 ER Contr.				
 Normal Cost 	8.5%	13.3%	13.3%	
≻ Class 1 Ben.	1.5	2.6	2.6	
> Pool Amort.	1.2	2.3	2.3	
> Side Fund	<u>1.5</u>	<u>14.8</u>	<u>8.9</u>	
➢ Subtotal	12.7	33.0	27.1	
• EPMC	0.0	0.0	9.0	
• Rates on EPMC				
> Normal Cost	0.0	0.0	1.4	
> Pool Amort.	0.0	0.0	0.2	
Side Fund	<u>0.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>	0.8	
> Subtotal	<u>0.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>	2.4	
• Total	12.7	33.0	38.5	

The City's current benefit formula and 2009/10 contribution rates are:

Miscellaneous Alternative Formulas

Miscellaneous alternative Tier 2 benefits could be 2% @55 and 2% @60, both with 1 year final average earnings (FAE1) and Pre Retirement Survivor Allowance (PRSA). Each of these produces a cost savings for the City. The table below shows the Tier 2 Employer rates and net savings for the reduced Tier 2 benefits.

		Miscellaneous			
	Formula	2%@55	2%@60		
>	Normal Cost	7.7%	6.6%		
>	Surcharge for Class 1	1.4	1.2		
>	Pool Amortization	0.7	0.2		
>	Subtotal	9.9	8.0		
>	EPMC	0.0	0.0		
>	Rates on EPMC	0.0	0.0		
>	Total	9.9	8.0		
>	Saving from current formula	1.4%	3.3%		





The following table below shows estimated cost savings (000s omitted) for the Miscellaneous Plan in dollar amounts. It is split between the two alternative benefit levels (2% @55 and 2% @60) for Tier 2 participants.

Year	2% @ 55	2% @ 60
2010/11	\$ 2	\$6
2011/12	5	12
2012/13	8	18
2013/14	10	24
2014/15	13	31
2015/16	16	37
2016/17	19	44
2017/18	22	52
2018/19	25	59
2019/20	29	68
2020/21	32	76

Estimated Savings – Miscellaneous

The above savings are based on the following Miscellaneous payroll projections shown separately for current (Tier 1) participants and future (Tier 2) participants (000s omitted):

	Tie	er 1	Г	Tier 2	Total		
Year	Counts Payroll		Counts Payroll Counts Payroll		Counts	Payroll	
2010/11	40	\$ 2,831	2	\$ 175	42	\$ 3,006	
2011/12	37	2,732	5	372	42	3,104	
2012/13	35	2,653	7	552	42	3,205	
2013/14	33	2,570	9	739	42	3,309	
2014/15	30	2,472	12	944	42	3,416	
2015/16	28	2,385	14	1,142	42	3,527	
2016/17	26	2,274	16	1,368	42	3,642	
2017/18	24	2,163	18	1,597	42	3,760	
2018/19	22	2,053	20	1,830	42	3,883	
2019/20	20	1,922	22	2,087	42	4,009	
2020/21	18	1,804	24	2,335	42	4,139	

Payroll Projections - Miscellaneous

Total payroll is expected to grow annually at 3.25% each year. A slower payroll growth results in lower cost savings while a more rapid payroll growth results in greater cost savings.



Police Safety Alternative Formulas

Safety alternative Tier 2 benefits could be 2% @50 and 2% @55, both retaining FAE1 and PRSA. Each of these produces a cost savings for the City. The table below shows the Tier 2 Employer rates and net savings for the reduced Tier 2 benefits.

		Police Safety				
	Formula	2%@50	2%@55			
۶	Normal Cost	11.2%	11.0%			
>	Surcharge for Class 1	2.1	1.8			
>	Pool Amortization	2.0	0.6			
>	Subtotal	15.6	13.4			
>	EPMC	0.0	0.0			
>	Rates on EPMC	0.0	0.0			
>	Total	15.6	13.4			
٨	Saving from current formula	2.6%	4.8%			

The following table below shows estimated cost savings (000s omitted) for the Police Safety Plan in dollar amounts. It is split between the two alternative benefit levels (2% @ 50 and 2% @ 55) for Tier 2 participants.

Year	2% @ 50	2% @ 55						
2010/11	\$ 2	\$ 4						
2011/12	4	8						
2012/13	7	13						
2013/14	10	18						
2014/15	13	25						
2015/16	17	31						
2016/17	20	37						
2017/18	24	44						
2018/19	29	52						
2019/20	33	61						
2020/21	37	69						

Estimated Savings – Police Safety





The above savings are based on the following Police Safety payroll projections shown separately for current (Tier 1) participants and future (Tier 2) participants (000s omitted): **Payroll Projections – Police Safety**

	Т	'ier 1]]	Fier 2	Total					
Year	Counts Payroll		Counts	Payroll	Counts	Payroll				
2010/11	19	\$ 1,910	1	\$ 78	20	\$ 1,989				
2011/12	18	1,891	2	162	20	2,053				
2012/13	18	1,859	2	261	20	2,120				
2013/14	17	1,815	3	374	20	2,189				
2014/15	15	1,748	5	512	20	2,260				
2015/16	15	1,696	5	638	20	2,333				
2016/17	14	1,632	6	777	20	2,409				
2017/18	13	1,565	7	923	20	2,488				
2018/19	12	1,479	8	1,089	20	2,568				
2019/20	11	1,393	9	1,259	20	2,652				
2020/21	10	1,311	10	1,427	20	2,738				

Total payroll is expected to grow annually at 3.25% each year. A slower payroll growth results in lower cost savings while a more rapid payroll growth results in greater cost savings.

Fire Safety Alternative Formulas

Safety alternative Tier 2 benefits could be 2% @50 and 2% @55, both retaining FAE1 and PRSA benefits. Each of these produces a cost savings for the City. Because the City currently pays 9% employee contribution (EPMC) for Fire Safety employees, the savings are also calculated if the Tier 2 employees pay the full employee contributions. The table below shows the Tier 2 Employer rates and net savings for the reduced Tier 2 benefits.

	Fire Safety	Tier 1 d with 1	& Tier 2 EPMC	Tier 1 with EPMC, Tier 2 without EPMC			
	Alternative Formulas	2%@50	2%@55	2%@50	2%@55		
٨	Normal Cost	11.2%	11.0%	11.2%	11.0%		
۶	Surcharge for Class 1	2.1	1.8	2.1	1.8		
\checkmark	Pool Amortization	2.0	0.6	2.0	0.6		
\checkmark	Subtotal	15.6	13.4	15.6	13.4		
\checkmark	EPMC	9.0	8.0	0.0	0.0		
\checkmark	Rates on EPMC	_1.4	1.0	0.0	0.0		
4	Total	26.0	22.4	15.6	13.4		
>	Saving from current formula	2.9%	6.4%	13.3%	15.5%		



The following two tables below show estimated cost savings (000s omitted) for the Fire Safety Plan in dollar amounts. It is split between the four alternative benefit levels (2% @50 and 2% @55, with and without EPMC) for Tier 2 participants. The estimated cost savings are broken down into employer contribution savings and employee contribution savings (savings on EPMC).

	2%@50						2%@55					
Year	Employer Contr. Savings		EmployerEmployeeContr.Contr.SavingsSavings		To Sav	tal ings	Employer al Contr. ngs Savings		Employee Contr. Savings		Total Savings	
2010/11	\$	1	\$	-	\$	1	\$	3	\$	0	\$	3
2011/12		3		-		3		5		1		6
2012/13		5		-		5		8		2		10
2013/14		7		-		7		12		2		14
2014/15		9		-		9		16		3		19
2015/16		11		-		11		20		4		24
2016/17		13		-		13		25		5		30
2017/18		16		-		16		29		6		35
2018/19		19		-		19		35		7		42
2019/20		22		-		22		40		8		48
2020/21		25		-		25		46		9		55

Estimated Savings - Fire Safety Tier 1 & Tier 2 with EPMC

	2%@50				2%@55							
Year	Employer Contr. Savings		Employee Contri. Savings		Total Savings		Employer Contr. Savings		Employee Contr. Savings		Total Savings	
2010/11	\$	2	\$	4	\$	6	\$	3	\$	4	\$	7
2011/12		4		9		13		6		9		15
2012/13		7		14		21		10		14		24
2013/14		10		21		31		15		21		36
2014/15		13		28		41		20		28		48
2015/16		17		35		52		25		35		60
2016/17		20		42		62		30		42		72
2017/18		24		50		74		36		50		86
2018/19		28		60		88		43		60		103
2019/20		33		69		102		49		69		118
2020/21		37		78		115		56		78	1	134



The above savings are based on the following Fire Safety payroll projections shown separately for current (Tier 1) participants and future (Tier 2) participants (000s omitted):

	Tier 1		,	Tier 2	Total		
Year	Counts	Payroll	Counts	Payroll	Counts	Payroll	
2010/11	13	\$ 1,266	1	\$ 52	14	\$ 1,318	
2011/12	13	1,254	1	107	14	1,361	
2012/13	12	1,233	2	173	14	1,405	
2013/14	12	1,203	2	248	14	1,451	
2014/15	11	1,159	3	340	14	1,498	
2015/16	10	1,124	4	423	14	1,547	
2016/17	9	1,082	5	515	14	1,597	
2017/18	9	1,037	5	612	14	1,649	
2018/19	8	980	6	722	14	1,703	
2019/20	7	923	7	835	14	1,758	
2020/21	7	869	7	946	14	1,815	

Payroll Projections - Fire Safety Both Tier 1 & Tier 2 with EPMC

Payroll Projections - Fire Safety Tier 1 with EPMC. Tier 2 without EPMC

	Tier 1		r	Гier 2	Total		
Year	Counts	Payroll	Counts	Payroll	Counts	Payroll	
2010/11	13	\$ 1,266	1	\$ 48	14	\$ 1,314	
2011/12	13	1,254	1	99	14	1,352	
2012/13	12	1,233	2	159	14	1,391	
2013/14	12	1,203	2	228	14	1,430	
2014/15	11	1,159	3	312	14	1,470	
2015/16	10	1,124	4	388	14	1,512	
2016/17	9	1,082	5	472	14	1,555	
2017/18	9	1,037	5	561	14	1,599	
2018/19	8	980	6	662	14	1,643	
2019/20	7	923	7	766	14	1,689	
2020/21	7	869	7	868	14	1,737	

Total payroll is expected to grow annually at 3.25% each year. A slower payroll growth results in lower cost savings while a more rapid payroll growth results in greater cost savings.



CITY OF SAUSALITO CALPERS ACTUARIAL ISSUES – JUNE 30, 2008 VALUATION MISCELLANEOUS

Miscellaneous Plan

The City participates in CalPERS 2.5% @55 risk pool for Miscellaneous employees.

Contribution Rates

In October 2009, CalPERS completed its June 30, 2008 valuation cycle. The following table shows the contribution rates for the 2009/10 and 2010/11 fiscal years.

	6/30/07 <u>2009/2010</u>	6/30/08 <u>2010/2011</u>
Employer Contribution Required		
Normal Cost		
Pool Rate	8.4%	8.5%
Surcharge for Class 1 Benefits	1.5%	1.5%
Phase out of Normal Cost Difference	0.3%	0.0%
Subtotal	10.2%	10.0%
Amortization Bases		
Risk Pool's Payment on Bases	0.8%	1.2%
Amortization of Side Fund	1.4%	1.5%
> Subtotal	2.2%	2.7%
• Total Employer Contribution	12.4%	12.7%

Side Fund

A "side fund" was set up when the City's Miscellaneous Plan joined CalPERS' 2.5% @ 55 Risk Pool at June 30, 2003. The side fund's purpose was to account for the difference between the City plan's funded status and the Risk Pool when risk pools were established (June 30, 2003). Side fund payment are calculated as a level percentage of payroll based on a 7.75% interest rate and a 3.25% aggregate payroll increase. The City's Miscellaneous Plan June 30, 2010 side fund balance is \$442,474 and expected 2010/11 payment are \$45,061. However, actual 2010/11 side fund amounts paid will be based on a contribution rate (1.5%) times actual 2010/11 payroll. Any difference between expected and actual payments will go to the pool. Overpayments or underpayments do not decrease or increase the side fund's outstanding balance. CalPERS adjusts side fund contribution rate each year based on amortization payment and City projected payroll. There are 13 years of payment remaining.

The City can realize significant savings by paying off its Side Fund balance for the Miscellaneous Plan early because balances are charge 7.75%. The Miscellaneous Plan's \$443 thousand June 30, 2010 Side Fund balance, if paid off at June 30, results in a \$272 thousand cash savings. If the cash savings is discounted at 4%, then savings becomes \$108 thousand.

Projected Contribution Rates

CalPERS' actual investment return will significantly impact future City contribution rates. The following chart shows the City's projected contribution rates assuming future (beyond June 30, 2010) investment returns will average 0.4% - 4.3%, 7.75% and 11.8% - 15.3% (the





CITY OF SAUSALITO CALPERS ACTUARIAL ISSUES – JUNE 30, 2008 VALUATION MISCELLANEOUS

 75^{th} , 50^{th} and 25^{th} confidence limits¹) respectively. The projections use an estimated June 30, 2010 return of $16.8\%^2$. This assumes no future benefit increases or Tier 2 implementation to the City's retirement plans.



Investment Return Varies

The graph above projects future contribution rates under both CalPERS' modified and unmodified asset smoothing methods. As mentioned in Page 2 of this report, last year CalPERS' Board approved a modification to increase the corridor used in the actuarial value assets to 140% for the June 30, 2009 valuation and to 130% for the June 30, 2010 valuation. As illustrated above, the June 30, 2009 asset loss is deferred for several years under the modified asset smoothing method. This will give the economy time to recover while allowing the City proper time to plan for the increases contribution rates. However, it will also likely result in higher contributions in future years.



¹ Investment Return will exceed the confidence limit by the given probability

² Based on CalPERS 1/31/10 published rate of return of 10.8%, an additional gain of 3.0% through 3/08/10 and 7.75% to 6/30/10.

CITY OF SAUSALITO CALPERS ACTUARIAL ISSUES – JUNE 30, 2008 VALUATION POLICE SAFETY

Police Safety Plan

The City participates in CalPERS 3% @55 risk pool for Police Safety employees.

Contribution Rates

In October 2009, CalPERS completed its June 30, 2008 valuation cycle. The following table shows the Police Safety Plan's contribution rates for the 2009/10 and 2010/11 fiscal years.

	6/30/07 <u>2009/2010</u>	6/30/08 <u>2010/2011</u>
Employer Contribution Required		
Normal Cost		
Pool Rate	13.4%	13.3%
Surcharge for Class 1 Benefits	2.6%	2.6%
Phase out of Normal Cost Difference	<u>-0.0%</u>	0.0%
Subtotal	16.0%	15.9%
Amortization Bases		
Risk Pool's Payment on Bases	1.7%	2.3%
Amortization of Side Fund	<u>16.6%</u>	<u>14.8%</u>
Subtotal	<u>18.3%</u>	<u>17.1%</u>
 Total Employer Contribution 	34.3%	33.0%

Side Fund

A "side fund" was set up when the City's Police Safety Plan joined the 3% @ 55 Risk Pool at June 30, 2003. The side fund's purpose was to account for the difference between the City plan's funded status and the Risk Pool when risk pools were established (June 30, 2003). Side fund payment are calculated as a level percentage of payroll based on a 7.75% interest rate and a 3.25% aggregate payroll increase. The City's Police Safety Plan June 30, 2010 side fund balance is \$3,057,656 and expected 2010/11 payment are \$294,777. However, actual 2010/11 side fund amounts paid will be based on a contribution rate (14.8%) times actual 2010/11 payroll. Any difference between expected and actual payments will go to the pool. Overpayments or underpayments do not decrease or increase the side fund's outstanding balance. CalPERS adjusts side fund contribution rate each year based on amortization payment and City projected payroll. There are 14 years of payment remaining.

The City can realize significant savings by paying off its Side Fund balance for the Police Safety Plan early because balances are charge 7.75%. The Police Safety Plan's \$3.1 million June 30, 2010 Side Fund balance, if paid off at June 30, results in a \$2.1 million cash savings. If the cash savings is discounted at 4%, then savings becomes \$0.8 million.

Projected Contribution Rates

CalPERS' actual investment return will significantly impact future City contribution rates. The following chart shows the City's projected contribution rates assuming future (beyond June 30, 2010) investment returns will average 0.4% - 4.3%, 7.75% and 11.8% - 15.3% (the



CITY OF SAUSALITO CALPERS ACTUARIAL ISSUES – JUNE 30, 2008 VALUATION POLICE SAFETY

75th, 50th and 25th confidence limits³) respectively. The projections use an estimated 16.8%⁴ June 30, 2010return. This assumes no future benefit increases or Tier 2 implementation to the City's retirement plans.



Investment Return Varies

The graph above projects future contribution rates under both CalPERS' modified and unmodified asset smoothing methods. As mentioned in Page 2 of this report, last year CalPERS' Board approved a modification to increase the corridor used in the actuarial value assets to 140% for the June 30, 2009 valuation and to 130% for the June 30, 2010 valuation. As illustrated above, the June 30, 2009 asset loss is deferred for several years under the modified asset smoothing method. This will give the economy time to recover while allowing the City proper time to plan for the increases contribution rates. However, it will also likely result in higher contributions in future years.



³ Investment Return will exceed the confidence limit by the given probability

⁴ Based on CalPERS 1/31/10 published rate of return of 10.8%, an additional gain of 3.0% through 3/08/10 and 7.75% to 6/30/10.

CITY OF SAUSALITO CALPERS ACTUARIAL ISSUES – JUNE 30, 2008 VALUATION FIRE SAFETY

Fire Safety Plan

The City participates in CalPERS 3% @55 risk pool for Fire Safety employees.

Contribution Rates

In October 2009, CalPERS completed its June 30, 2008 valuation cycle. The following table shows the Fire Safety Plan's contribution rates for the 2009/10 and 2010/11 fiscal years.

		6/30/07 2009/2010	6/30/08 2010/2011
Employer	Contribution Required		
• Nor	mal Cost		
\succ	Pool Rate	13.4%	13.3%
\succ	Surcharge for Class 1 Benefits	2.6%	2.6%
\succ	Phase out of Normal Cost Difference	0.0%	0.0%
\succ	Subtotal	16.0%	15.9%
• Amo	ortization Bases		
\succ	Risk Pool's Payment on Bases	1.7%	2.3%
\succ	Amortization of Side Fund	<u>9.0%</u>	<u>8.9%</u>
\succ	Subtotal	10.7%	11.2%
• Tota	al Employer Contribution	26.7%	27.1%

Side Fund

A "side fund" was set up when the City's Fire Safety Plan joined the 3% @ 55 Risk Pool at June 30, 2003. The side fund's purpose was to account for the difference between the City plan's funded status and the Risk Pool when risk pools were established (June 30, 2003). Side fund payments are calculated as a level percentage of payroll based on a 7.75% interest rate and a 3.25% aggregate payroll increase. The City's Fire Safety Plan June 30, 2010 side fund balance is \$1,393,374 and expected 2010/11 payment are \$177,112. However, actual 2010/11 side fund amounts paid will be based on a contribution rate (8.9%) times actual 2010/11 payroll. Any difference between expected and actual payments will go to the pool. Overpayments or underpayments do not decrease or increase the side fund's outstanding balance. CalPERS adjusts side fund contribution rate each year based on amortization payment and City projected payroll. There are 17 years of payment remaining.

The City can realize significant savings by paying off its Side Fund balance for the Fire Safety Plan early because balances are charge 7.75%. The Fire Safety Plan's \$1.4 million June 30, 2010 Side Fund balance, if paid off at June 30, results in a \$1.2 million cash savings. If the cash savings is discounted at 4%, then savings becomes \$0.5 million.

Projected Contribution Rates

CalPERS' actual investment return will significantly impact future City contribution rates. The following chart shows the City's projected contribution rates assuming future (beyond June 30, 2010) investment returns will average 0.4% - 4.3%, 7.75% and 11.8% - 15.3% (the



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75th, 50th and 25th confidence limits⁵) respectively. The projections use an estimated 16.8%⁶ June 30, 2010return. This assumes no future benefit increases or Tier 2 implementation to the City's retirement plans.



Investment Return Varies

The graph above projects future contribution rates under both CalPERS' modified and unmodified asset smoothing methods. As mentioned in Page 2 of this report, last year CalPERS' Board approved a modification to increase the corridor used in the actuarial value assets to 140% for the June 30, 2009 valuation and to 130% for the June 30, 2010 valuation. As illustrated above, the June 30, 2009 asset loss is deferred for several years under the modified asset smoothing method. This will give the economy time to recover while allowing the City proper time to plan for the increases contribution rates. However, it will also likely result in higher contributions in future years.



⁵ Investment Return will exceed the confidence limit by the given probability

⁶ Based on CalPERS 1/31/10 published rate of return of 10.8%, an additional gain of 3.0% through 3/08/10 and 7.75% to 6/30/10.

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Study Conclusions

- CalPERS investment losses will significantly increase pension contributions. However, due to rate smoothing and subsequent modifications, these higher contribution rates will not materialize for several years.
- When considering a second tier benefit level, several things are important to understand that cost savings are:
 - 3. Limited to Normal Cost difference between the old and new tier and
 - 4. Very modest until the second tier payroll becomes dominant, and, even then will not solve very many budget problems.

There are reasons to consider a second pension tier, such as implementing a more appropriate benefit level, or encouraging longer City service. However there are very minor short term financial benefits.

The City can realize significant savings by paying off its "Side Fund" balances for each plan (Miscellaneous, Fire Safety & Police Safety) early because balances are charge 7.75%. For example the Police Safety Plan's \$3.1 million June 30, 2010 Side Fund balance, if paid off at June 30, results in a \$2.1 million cash savings. If the cash savings is discounted at 4%, then savings becomes \$0.8 million. The Miscellaneous and Fire Safety Plans have similar (although smaller in magnitude) results.



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Understanding these terms makes it easier to understand the City's CalPERS actuarial information.

Present Value of Benefits: When CalPERS (or any actuary) prepares a pension valuation, they first gather participant data (including active employees, former employees not in payment status, participants and beneficiaries in payment status) at the valuation date (for example June 30, 2008). Using this data and some actuarial assumptions, they project future benefit payments. (The assumptions predict, among other things, when people will retire, terminate, die or become disabled, as well as what salary increases, inflation and investment return might be.) Those future benefit payments are discounted, using expected future investment return, back to the valuation date. This discounted present value is the plan's present value of benefits. It represents the amount the plan needs as of the valuation date to pay all future benefits – if all assumptions are met and no future contributions (employee or employer) are made.

Actuarial Liability: This represents the portion of the present value of benefits that participants have earned (on an actuarial, not actual, basis) through the valuation date.

Current Employer Normal Cost: The total normal cost represents the portion of the present value of benefits expected to be earned (on an actuarial, not actual, basis) in the coming year. The current employer normal cost represents the employer's portion of the total normal cost – that is, the total normal cost offset by employee contributions.

Present Value of Benefits



The above chart shows the Present Value of Benefits as the sum of Actuarial Liability, Current Normal Cost, and Future Normal Costs. Once these amounts are calculated, the actuary compares actuarial assets to the Actuarial Liability. When assets equal liabilities, a plan is considered on track for funding. When assets are greater than liabilities, the plan has excess assets; when assets are less than liabilities, the plan has an unfunded liability.

Contribution Rate: CalPERS does not require an agency to make up any shortfall (unfunded liability) immediately, nor do they allow an immediate credit for any excess assets. Instead,





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the difference is amortized over time. An agency's contribution rate is nothing more complicated than the current employer normal cost, plus the amortized unfunded liability or less the amortized excess assets. Simply put, this contribution is the value of employer benefits earned during the year plus something to move the plan toward being on track for funding. There is a two-year delay from the valuation date to the contribution effective date. For example, the June 30, 2008 valuation generates an agency's 2010/11 fiscal year contribution. CalPERS instituted this delay a few years ago to ensure public agencies would have contribution rates as they begin their budgeting process for each fiscal year.

Fresh Start: When CalPERS prepares a valuation and determines an agency's contribution rate, it's usually in layers, such as gains/losses or plan changes, with each layer (base) adding up to the contribution rate. But if that calculation results in a zero contribution rate, CalPERS combines it into one base and tells the agency it will have a zero contribution for a fixed period. That combination is called a "fresh start." An agency with a fresh start will know it; the actuarial report will show a single base (labeled *fresh start*).

Super-Funded: A plan is super-funded when actuarial assets are greater than the present value of benefits. Referring to the above circle chart a plan has excess assets when assets exceed the Actuarial Liability and a super-surplus when asset exceed the Present Value of Benefit. When a plan is Super-Funded, the super-surplus (actuarial assets over present value of benefits) may be used to pay employee contributions. However, any super-surplus use must occur in the fiscal year for which the valuation report's contribution rate was calculated. For example, a plan super-funded in the June 30, 2008 valuation can use super-surplus to pay 2010/11 fiscal year employee contributions.

Employer Paid Member Contribution (EPMC): Each employee contributes towards his or her retirement based on the retirement formula. If employer chooses to pick up a portion or entire contribution for employees, the portion of member contribution that paid by employer is called Employer Paid Member Contribution.



