

#### AGENDA RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING

Thursday, May 23, 2024, 8:30 A.M.

Location: Merced County Administration Building 2222 M Street, Merced, CA Los Banos and Livingston Conference Rooms, Basement Zoom Conference Information:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/93030195748?pwd=NGhFeGItSVhaSTIsK2JGWE83TVFydz09 Dial In Number: 669-900-6833, MEETING ID: 930 3019 5748, PASSCODE: 095484 (For use only if Zoom Connection Malfunctions) Telephone Number: 1-310-372-7549, Conference Code: 975839

#### 1. Call to Order- 8:30 A.M.

The Retirement Board may discuss and take action on the following:

#### 2. Roll Call

#### 3. <u>Teleconference Request</u>

Trustee Teleconference Request (Govt. Code §54953(f)(2)(A)(i)).

4. Approval of Minutes – April 25, 2024 and May 13, 2024 (Special Meeting).

#### 5. Public Comment

Members of the public may comment on any item under the Board's jurisdiction including items on the Board's agenda. Matters presented under this item will not be discussed or acted upon by the Board at this time. Persons addressing the Board will be limited to a maximum of five (5) minutes in total. Please state your name for the record.

#### 6. Consent Calendar

Consent matters are expected to be routine and may be acted upon, without discussion, as one unit. If an item is taken off the Consent Calendar for discussion, it will be heard as the last item(s) of the Open Session as appropriate:

Retirements: Pursuant to Govt. Code § 31663.25 or § 31672.				
Name	Effective Date			
Chin, Donna	05/01/2024			
Coughlin, Michael	05/04/2024			
Duran, Julia	05/21/2024			
Martin, James	05/06/2024			
Miller, Todd	05/01/2024			
Ortiz, Isidoro	05/04/2024			
Richards, Anita	05/18/2024			
Thomas, Andrew	05/06/2024			
Zyskowski, Ralph	05/20/2024			

a. Retirements: Pursuant to Govt. Code § 31663.25 or § 31672.

- b. Monthly budget report submitted.
- c. Monthly expenditures report for new building construction submitted.
- d. Monthly performance report from Meketa.



#### 7. Closed Session

As provided in the Ralph M. Brown Act, Government Code sections 54950 et seq., the Board may meet in closed session with members of its staff, county employees and its attorneys. These sessions are not open to the public and may not be attended by members of the public. The matters the Board will meet on in closed session are identified below. Any public reports of action taken in the closed session will be made in accordance with Government Code sections 54957.1:

- a. Discussion and possible action regarding investments (Govt. Code § 54956.81) in recommended funds by Cliffwater LLC.
- b. Disability Retirement Applications: Personnel exceptions (Govt. Code § 54957, 31532; Cal Const. art I § 1).
  - 1. Initial Disability Application Recommendation Leslie Xiong

#### 8. Report Out of Closed Session

#### 9. Open Session

- a. Discussion on education pertaining to the Direct Lending allocation Cliffwater LLC.
- b. Discussion and possible action to approve MercedCERA budget for Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Staff.
- c. Discussion and possible action to adopt the proposed Resolution creating a new MercedCERA Assistant Plan Administrator Investments position and create the salary range/bands for the position, and authorize the Plan Administrator to recruit and fill the position with the Ad Hoc Subcommittee Staff.
- d. Chair to appoint person to Investment Committee to replace Trustee Ness.

#### 10. Information Sharing & Agenda Item Requests

#### 11. Adjournment

The Agenda and supporting documentation, including any material that was submitted to the Merced County Employees' Retirement Association Board after the distribution of the Agenda, are available online at www.mercedcera.com.

All supporting documentation for Agenda items, including any material that was submitted to the retirement board after the distribution of the Agenda, is also available for public inspection Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the administrative office for the Merced County Employees' Retirement Association located at 3199 M Street, Merced, California 95348.

Persons who require accommodation for a disability in order to review an agenda, or to participate in a meeting of the Merced County Employees' Retirement Association per the American Disabilities Act (ADA), may obtain assistance by requesting such accommodation in writing addressed to Merced County Employees' Association, 3199 M Street, Merced, CA 95348 or telephonically by calling (209) 726-2724. Any such request for accommodation should be made at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting for which assistance is requested.

Persons who require accommodation for any audio, visual or other disability or Spanish or Hmong interpretation in order to review an agenda, or to participate in a meeting of the Merced County Employees' Retirement Association per the American Disabilities Act (ADA), may obtain assistance by requesting such accommodation. Please address your written request to Merced County Employees' Association, 3199 M Street, Merced, CA 95348 or telephonically by calling (209) 726-2724. Any such request for accommodation should be made at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting for which assistance is requested.

#### Spanish and Hmong interpreters are available.



Interpretes de espanol y hmong estan disponibles. Peb muaj tug paab txhais lug Mev hab Hmoob.



#### MINUTES RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING

Thursday, April 25, 2024, 8:30 A.M.

Location: Merced County Department of Public Health 260 E. 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Merced, CA 95341 Auditorium

Zoom Conference Information:

#### https://us06web.zoom.us/j/93030195748?pwd=NGhFeGItSVhaSTIsK2JGWE83TVFydz09

Dial In Number: 669-900-6833, MEETING ID: 930 3019 5748, PASSCODE: 095484 (For use only if Zoom Connection Malfunctions) Telephone Number: 1-310-372-7549, Conference Code: 975839

#### 1. Call to Order- 8:31 A.M.

#### 2. Roll Call

**Board Members Present:** Scott Johnston (virtual), Karen Adams (arrived at 8:34 A.M.), Alfonse Peterson, Ryan Paskin, Corrina Brown, Scott Silveria, and Moses Nelson. **Absent:** Aaron Rosenberg, Janey Cabral, and Michael Harris. **Counsel:** Tom Ebersole and Ashley Dunning. **<u>Staff</u>:** Kristie Santos, Martha Sanchez Barboa, Mark Harman, Monica Gallegos, Khue Xiong, Patrick Armendarez, Nikki Barraza, Kristy Barajas, Sheri Villagrana, and Marissa Coelho.

#### 3. <u>Teleconference Request</u>

Trustee Teleconference Request (Govt. Code §54953(f)(2)(A)(i)). Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to approve the teleconference request of Trustee Johnston to the May 23<sup>rd</sup> board meeting. 1<sup>st</sup> – Silveira/2<sup>nd</sup> – Brown, passes 6/0

#### 4. <u>Approval of Minutes</u> – March 28, 2024.

Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to approve the March 28, 2024, meeting minutes.

1<sup>st</sup> – Silveira/2<sup>nd</sup> – Johnston, passes 7/0

#### 5. Public Comment

Members of the public may comment on any item under the Board's jurisdiction including items on the Board's agenda. Matters presented under this item will not be discussed or acted upon by the Board at this time. Persons addressing the Board will be limited to a maximum of five (5) minutes in total. Please state your name for the record. **None** 

#### 6. <u>Consent Calendar</u>

Consent matters are expected to be routine and may be acted upon, without discussion, as one unit. If an item is taken off the Consent Calendar for discussion, it will be heard as the last item(s) of the Open Session as appropriate:

a. Retirements: Pursuant to Govt. Code § 31663.25 or § 31672.

Name	Effective Date
Casanova, Henrietta	03/30/2024
Kostecky, Lori	04/13/2024
Mattox, Cynthia	03/30/2024
Miller, Penelope	03/23/2024



Ramirez, Nola	03/31/2024
Red, Teresa	04/06/2024
Spuur, Anne	03/31/2024
Thao, Zong	03/29/2024

- b. Monthly and quarterly budget reports submitted.
- c. Monthly performance report from Meketa.
- d. Monthly expenditures report for new building construction.
- e. Adopt the revised Emergency Plan Policy for MercedCERA with revisions.
- f. SACRS Legislative Update.

## Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to approve the consent agenda as presented.

1<sup>st</sup> – Adams/2<sup>nd</sup> – Johnston, passes 7/0

#### 7. Closed Session

As provided in the Ralph M. Brown Act, Government Code sections 54950 et seq., the Board may meet in closed session with members of its staff, county employees and its attorneys. These sessions are not open to the public and may not be attended by members of the public. The matters the Board will meet on in closed session are identified below. Any public reports of action taken in the closed session will be made in accordance with Government Code sections 54957.1:

- a. Discussion and possible action regarding investments (Govt. Code § 54956.81) in recommended funds by Cliffwater LLC.
- b. Conference with Real Property Negotiator (Gov. Code section 54956.8.)
  Property: 3199 M Street, Merced, CA Agency negotiator: Kristen Santos Under negotiation: Price and terms, payment, or both.

#### 8. Report Out of Closed Session

a. Discussion and possible action regarding investments (Govt. Code § 54956.81) in recommended funds by Cliffwater LLC.

Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to invest up \$8 million to KKR Global Infrastructure Investors V, SCSp, a private infrastructure partnership focused on large, global infrastructure investments, subject to satisfactory legal negotiations.

1<sup>st</sup> – Silveira/2<sup>nd</sup> – Brown, passes 6-0

 b. Conference with Real Property Negotiator (Gov. Code section 54956.8.) Property: 3199 M Street, Merced, CA Agency negotiator: Kristen Santos Under negotiation: Price and terms, payment, or both. Staff given direction.

#### 9. Open Session

- a. Discussion on fiduciary training for trustees Ashley Dunning, Nossaman. **Discussion item only.**
- b. Discussion and possible action to adopt the asset allocation recommendations from Meketa and Cliffwater including investment belief statements – Meketa.
   Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to adopt the asset allocation recommendations from Meketa and Cliffwater including investment belief statements.

1<sup>st</sup> – Brown/2<sup>nd</sup> – Johnston, passes 7/0



c. Chair to appoint a Trustee to Investment Subcommittee (to replace Trustee Ness) – Chair.

Item pulled and will discuss at next meeting.

d. Discussion and possible adoption on the proposed classification for an investment officer with possible appointment of Trustees to ad hoc Human Resources Subcommittee – Staff
 Board voted via roll call vote to adopt the proposed classification for investment officer.
 1<sup>st</sup> – Silveira/2<sup>nd</sup> – Brown, passes 6/1 (Nelson)

Chair appointed Trustees Brown, Cabral, and Paskin to the ad hoc Human Resources Subcommittee.

- g. Discussion and possible action to approve the SACRS business meeting agenda and designate Janey Cabral and/or Kristie Santos and/or Martha Sanchez Barboa as voting delegates – Staff
   Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to approve the SACRS business meeting agenda and designate Janey Cabral and/or Kristie Santos and/or Martha Sanchez Barboa as voting delegates. 1<sup>st</sup> – Silveira/2<sup>nd</sup> – Adams, passes 7/0
- h. Discussion on update of new headquarters building Staff **No action taken.**

#### 10. Information Sharing & Agenda Item Requests

 Trustee Silveira shared neighboring county budget deficits around the State and the Spring Fair is coming to Merced County.

#### 11. Adjournment 11:09 A.M.

Accepted By,

Trustee Name/Position	Signature	Date
Ryan Paskin/Chair		
Al Peterson/Secretary		



#### MercedCERA SPECIAL RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES May 13, 2024 – 9:00 A.M. MERCED COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

#### MERCED COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING 2222 M STREET, MERCED LOS BANOS AND LIVINGSTON CONFERENCE ROOMS, BASEMENT ZOOM CONFERENCE

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/93030195748?pwd=NGhFeGItSVhaSTIsK2JGWE83TVFydz09 DIAL IN NUMBER: 669-900-6833, MEETING ID: 930 3019 5748, PASSCODE: 095484 (FOR USE ONLY IF ZOOM CONNECTION MALFUNCTIONS) TELEPHONE NUMBER: 1-310-372-7549, CONFERENCE CODE: 975839

#### 1.Call to Order- 9:00 A.M.

#### 2.Roll Call

**Board Members Present:** Aaron Rosenberg, Scott Johnston, Janey Cabral, Karen Adams, Alfonse Peterson, Ryan Paskin, Michael Harris, Corrina Brown, Moses Nelson, Bayani Manilay and Scott Silveira. **Absent:** None. **Counsel:** Tom Ebersole. **Staff:** Kristie Santos and Martha Sanchez Barboa.

#### **3.Teleconference Request:**

Trustee Teleconference Request (Govt. Code §54953(f)(2)(A)(i)). None

#### 4.Public Comment:

Members of the public may comment on any item under the Board's jurisdiction including items on the Board's agenda. Matters presented under this item will not be discussed or acted upon by the Board at this time. Persons addressing the Board will be limited to a maximum of five (5) minutes in total. Please state your name for the record.

#### 5.Closed Session:

As provided in the Ralph M. Brown Act, Government Code sections 54950 et seq., the Board may meet in closed session with members of its staff, county employees and its attorneys. These sessions are not open to the public and may not be attended by members of the public. The matters the Board will meet on in closed session are identified below. Any public reports of action taken in the closed session will be made in accordance with Government Code sections 54957.1.

 a. Conference with Real Property Negotiator (Gov. Code section 54956.8.)
 Property: 3199 M Street, Merced, CA Agency negotiator: Kristen Santos
 Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment.

#### 6.Report to Open Session:

 a. Conference with Real Property Negotiator - Kristie Santos. (Gov. Code section 54956.8.)
 Staff given direction.

#### 7.Information Sharing & Agenda Item Requests

Plan Administrator Santos advised that the next MercedCERA Board Meeting will be held at this same location in the county administration building conference rooms.



#### 8.Adjournment at 9:13 A.M.

Accepted By,

Trustee Name/Position	Signature	Date
Ryan Paskin/Chair		
Al Peterson/Secretary		

0 740 500 00					
3,740,500.00	3,740,500.00	191,074.30	1,861,953.18	1,878,546.82	50'
		13,822.50			
		33,333.33			
		53,750.00			
		13,609.55			
		14,540.42			
		48,408.96			
	-	191,074.30			
175,000.00	175,000.00	-	67,888.00	107,112.00	399
	-	-			
102,000.00	102,000.00	5,992.71	58,348.12	43,651.88	579
		4,968.36			
	-	5,992.71			
430,000.00	430,000.00	17,640.20	261,760.86	168,239.14	619
		,			
		,			
		,			
		906.50			
		1,268.70			
	-	17,640.20			
150,000.00	150,000.00	1,173.79	44,535.30	105,464.70	309
		165.00			
	-	1,173.79			
505,000.00	505,000.00	8,519.30	352,101.07	152,898.93	709
		601.34			
		6,107.00			
		900.00			
		210.96			
		700.00			
	-	8,519.30			
250,000.00	250,000.00		-	250,000.00	
	102,000.00 430,000.00 150,000.00 505,000.00		33,333.33    53,750.00      13,609.55    14,540.42      13,609.55    48,408.96      191,074.30    -      102,000.00    102,000.00    5,992.71      321.35    703.00      430,000.00    430,000.00    12,720.00      3,710.00    5,992.71      321.35    703.00      430,000.00    430,000.00    1,7640.20      2,720.00    3,710.00      5,168.00    3,867.00      1,268.70    1,268.70      1,268.70    1,640.20      1,268.70    1,173.79      165.00    6,01.34      6,107.00    900.00      210.96    700.00	33,333,33      53,750.00      13,609,55      14,540,42      13,609,55      48,409,96      191,074.30      175,000.00    175,000.00      102,000.00    102,000.00      5,992,71    58,348.12      321,35    703.00      4,968,36    703.00      2,720.00    3,710.00      5,992,71    58,348.12      33,333    321,35      703.00    1,7640,20      261,760.86    2,720.00      3,710.00    5,168.00      3,67.00    3,67.00      3,667.00    3,687.00      3,687.00    3,687.00      3,687.00    3,687.00      3,687.00    3,687.00      3,687.00    3,687.00      3,687.00    3,687.00      3,687.00    3,687.00      3,687.00    3,687.00      3,687.00    3,687.00      3,687.00    3,687.00      3,687.00    3,687.00      3,687.00    3,687.00      3,687.00    3,687.00      3,687.00    3,687.0	333333 53,750.00 13,609.55 14,540.42 13,609.55 48,408.96 

#### Merced County Employees' Retirement Association Non-Administrative Expenses Prev Year Comparison (Preliminary) 04/30/2024

	April 2024	April 2023	_	\$ Change	% Change
Expense					
62025 · Non-Administrative Expenses					
21800 · Investment Expenses	\$ 191,074.30	\$ 585,391.90	\$	(394,317.60)	-67.36%
21802 Actuarial Services	-	31,173.00		(31,173.00)	-100.00%
21812 · Data Processing	5,992.71	7,429.62		(1,436.91)	-19.34%
21834 · Legal Services	17,640.20	18,066.58		(426.38)	-2.36%
21840 · Custodial Banking Services	1,173.79	1,803.69		(629.90)	-34.92%
22350 · Software and Technology	8,519.30	21,351.20		(12,831.90)	-60.10%
Depreciation Expense	-	-		-	
Total 62025 · Non-Administrative Expenses	\$ 224,400.30	\$ 665,215.99	\$	(440,815.69)	-66.27%

Administrative Budget	Adopted	Current Budget	Expended 2024-04	Expended YTD	Bal Remaining	% Exp YTD
10110 · Salaries & Wages	1,975,000.00	1,975,000.00	106,242.01	1,060,766.64	914,233.36	. 54%
04/12/2024 Office Payroll 2024 PP 08 - Administrative Allocation			53,061.92			
04/26/2024 Office Payroll 2024 PP 09 - Administrative Allocation			53,180.09			
Total 10110 · Salaries & Wages			106,242.01			
20600 · Communications	9,800.00	9,800.00	769.81	6,214.37	3,585.63	63%
04/08/2024 AT&T - 2024-03 CALNET			165.56			
04/15/2024 2024-02 iPhone Chgs			263.00			
04/15/2024 2024-02 Comm Chgs			341.25			
Total 20600 · Communications			769.81			
20900 · Household Expense	15,750.00	15,750.00	2,014.78	10,703.80	5,046.20	68%
04/01/2024 Geil Enterprises - 2024-03 Janitorial Svcs			959.00			
04/16/2024 Bob's Pest Control - 2024-03 Pest Control			40.00			
04/22/2024 ADT - 2024-04 Security Svcs			56.78			
04/25/2024 Geil Enterprises - 2024-04 Janitorial Svcs			959.00			
Total 20900 · Household Expense			2,014.78			
21000 · Insurance - Other	105,000.00	105,000.00	-	101,995.00	3,005.00	97%
Total 21000 · Insurance - Other			-			
21301 · Maintenance Structure Improvement	16,000.00	16,000.00	551.14	8,067.05	7,932.95	50%
04/03/2024 Yard Masters - 2024-03 Landscape Svc			360.00			
04/15/2024 2024-01 DPW Chgs			72.71			
04/15/2024 2024-02 DPW Chgs			118.43			
Total 21301 · Maintenance Structure Improvement			551.14			
21500 · Membership	8,000.00	8,000.00		6,415.00	1,585.00	80%
Total 21500 · Membership			-			
21700 · Office Expense - General	19,275.00	19,275.00	561.22	14,412.72	4,862.28	75%
04/01/2024 First Choice - 2024-03-14 Water Svc			79.27			
04/08/2024 Ingraham Trophies - Name Plate			13.53			
04/08/2024 First Choice - 2024-03-28 Water Svc			79.27			
04/15/2024 2024-02 Stores Billing			389.15			
Total 21700 · Office Expense - General			561.22			
21710 · Office Expense - Postage	20,000.00	20,000.00	1,826.20	16,591.26	3,408.74	83%
04/15/2024 2024-02 Mailroom Chgs	•		1,826.20	· · · · · ·		
Total 21710 · Office Expense - Postage			1,826.20			
21805 · Audits	65,000.00	65,000.00	-	49,000.00	16,000.00	75%
Total 21805 · Audits			-			

Administrative Budget	Adopted	Current Budget	Expended 2024-04	Expended YTD	Bal Remaining	% Exp YT
21808 · Board Membership	10,000.00	10,000.00	-	4,161.20	5,838.80	42
Total 21808 · Board Membership			-			
21900 · Publications & Legal Notices	5,000.00	5,000.00	-	4,999.32	0.68	100
				·		
Total 21000 Dublications & Local Nations						
Total 21900 · Publications & Legal Notices			-			
22300 · Spec Dept Exp - Other	750.00	750.00		206.87	543.13	28
Total 22300 · Spec Dept Exp - Other		•	-			
22310 · Election Expense	30,000.00	30,000.00	-	5,541.41	24,458.59	18
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Total 22310 · Election Expense		-				
22327 · Spec Dept Exp - Cost Allocation	40,000.00	40,000.00	-	29,686.50	10,313.50	74
Total 22327 · Spec Dept Exp - Cost Allocation			-			
22500 · Transportation & Travel	250.00	250.00		70.95	179.05	2
04/10/2024 DSW Travel Reimb 2024-03-13			18.09			
Total 22500 · Transportation & Travel			18.09			
22505 · Trans & Travel - Staff Development	4,000.00	4,000.00		149.00	3,851.00	4
	<b>,</b>	,			-,	
Total 22505 · Trans & Travel - Staff Development		-				
			-			
22515 · Trans & Travel - In State	40,000.00	40,000.00	710.00	22,403.52	17,596.48	5
04/11/2024 CALAPRS - Admin Assistant RT			50.00			
04/17/2024 CALAPRS - Overview Course			300.00 360.00			
04/25/2024 SACRS Registration Reimb			300.00			
Total 22515 · Trans & Travel - In State		•	710.00			
22516 · Trans & Travel - Out of State	7,500.00	7,500.00	-	3,481.31	4,018.69	4
Total 22516 · Trans & Travel - Out of State			-			
22600 · Utilities	20,000.00	20,000.00	1,537.51	14,900.68	5,099.32	7
04/16/2024 City of Merced - 2024-04 WS&G - New Building	20,000.00	20,000.00	15.18	14,300.00	3,033.32	1
04/17/2024 City of Merced - 2024-04 WS&G - 3199 M St			183.70			
04/25/2024 PG&E - 2024-04 Utility Billing			1,338.63			
Fotal 22600 · Utilities			1,537.51			
			1,007.01			
Depreciation Expense	27,000.00	27,000.00	-		27,000.00	
Total Administrative Budget	2,418,325.00	2,418,325.00	114,230.76	1,359,766.60	1,058,558.40	56

MercedCER	MercedCERA New Headquarters Expenditures					
Land and Due	Diligence Expenditures					
08/01/2019	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 106670 - 2019-07 Due Diligence New Building	3,225.00				
08/12/2019	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 106727 - 2019-07 Due Diligence New Building	11,877.50				
10/03/2019	Nossaman - Inv 500498 - 2019-08 - Real Estate Purchase Related Legal	3,707.55				
10/10/2019	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 106900 - 2019-09 Due Diligence New Building	3,277.50				
10/23/2019	TransCounty Title - Purchase of Land for New MCERA Building	352,585.00				
11/05/2019	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 106900 - 2019-10 Due Diligence - New Building	9,357.25				
11/05/2019	Nossaman - Inv 501678 - 2019-09 - Real Estate Purchase Related Legal	3,288.60				
12/05/2019	Nossaman - Inv 502566 - 2019-10 - Real Estate Purchase Related Legal	5,481.91				
01/30/2020	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv107252 - Thru 2020-01-11 Due Diligence - New Building	4,492.50				
01/30/2020	Nossaman - Inv 503888 - 2019-11 - Real Estate Purchase Related Legal	2,506.67				
01/30/2020	Nossaman - Inv 504751 - 2019-12 - Real Estate Purchase Related Legal	1,289.25				
01/31/2020	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv107210 - Thru 2019-12-28 Due Diligence - New Building	4,572.50				
02/07/2020	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv107301 - Thru 2020-01-25 Due Diligence - New Building	432.50				
02/24/2020	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv107349 - Thru 2020-02-08 Due Diligence - New Building	1,140.00				
03/10/2020	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv107387 - Thru 2020-02-22 Due Diligence - New Building	1,165.00				
04/09/2020	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv107451 - Thru 2020-03-21 Due Diligence - New Building	2,132.50				
06/29/2020	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv107881 - 2020-03-21 Thru 2020-06-21 Due Diligence - New Building	523.13				
06/29/2020	Nossaman - Inv 505773 - 2020-01-Potential Real Estate Purchase by MCERA	987.45				
08/21/2020	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv107881 - Thru 2020-07-25 Due Diligence - New Building	174.37				
09/22/2020	Nossaman - Inv 513318 - 2020-08 - MCERA New Building	144.45				
03/16/2021	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 108508 - Thru 2021-02-20 Due Diligence - New Building	120.00				
06/02/2021	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 108836 - Thru 2021-05-15 Due Diligence - New Building	240.00				
11/03/2021	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 109356 - New Building Due Diligence thru 2021-10-16	180.00				
11/10/2021	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 109429 - New Bldg Due Diligence Thru 10/31/2021	1,928.00				
03/01/2022	Nossaman - Inv 531558 - 2022-01 New Bldg Legal	2,740.05				
06/08/2022	Nossaman - Inv 535102 - 2022-04 New Bldg	155.25				

#### Total Land & Due Diligence Expenditures

417,723.93

Maintenance I	Maintenance Expenditures					
12/04/2019	J & B Fencing - Inv 943 - 2019-11 Temp Fencing Installment	1,980.00				
02/11/2020	Yard Masters - Inv16037 - 2020-01 - New Building Weed Abatement	250.00				
06/29/2020	Yard Masters - Inv16825 - 2020-06 - New Building Weed Abatement	300.00				
02/01/2021	J & B Fencing - Inv 1027 - 2 Months of Temp Fencing Rental	300.00				
04/19/2021	J & B Fencing - Inv 1156 - 3 Months of Temp Fencing Rental (Feb, Mar, Apr)	450.00				
11/03/2021	J & B Fencing - Inv 1329 - 2021-05 - 2021-11 Fencing at 19th & N.	1,050.00				
03/17/2022	Yard Masters - Inv 20451 - Weed Control for New Bldg	950.00				
06/20/2022	J & B Fencing - Inv 1453 - 2021-12 thru 2022-05 Fence Rental	900.00				
08/16/2022	J & B Fencing - Inv 1472 - 2022-06 thru 2022-08 Fence Rental	450.00				
09/21/2022	J & B Fencing - Inv 1501 - 2022-09 Fence Rental	350.00				
12/09/2022	J&B Fencing - Inv 1548 - 2022-10 Thru 2022-12 Fence Rental	1,050.00				
02/27/2023	J&B Fencing - Inv 1582 - 2023-01 Thru 2023-02 Fence Rental	700.00				
04/28/2023	Yard Masters - Inv 23021 - Weed Abatement at New Building Lot	975.00				
06/29/2023	J&B Fencing - Inv 1640 - 2023-03 thru 2023-06 Fencing	1,400.00				
11/21/2023	J&B Fencing - Inv 1681 - 2023-07 thru 2023-09 Fencing	1,050.00				
Total Mainten	ance Expenditures	12,155.00				

Architectural, Engineering, and Construction Expenditures (Budgeted per Hilbers Contract)

06/29/2022	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 110079 - Prof Svcs thru 2022-06-20	18,862.50
06/29/2022	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 110118 - Prof Svcs thru 2022-06-25	10,620.00
09/08/2022	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1101022 - Prof Svcs thru 2022-08-20	16,747.50
09/20/2022	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1100934 - Prof Svcs thru 2022-07-23	11,850.00
09/20/2022	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 110157 - Prof Svcs thru 2022-07-09	7,007.50
09/21/2022	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1101056 - Prof Svcs thru 2022-09-03	6,672.50
10/07/2022	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1101130 - Prof Svcs thru 2022-10-01	10,577.50
10/31/2022	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1101081 - Prof Svcs thru 2022-09-17	10,480.00
10/31/2022	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1101217 - Prof Svcs thru 2022-10-15	16,850.50
	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1101255 - Prof Svcs thru 2022-10-29	12,092.50
11/23/2022	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1101329 - Prof Svcs thru 2022-11-12	19,325.00
12/06/2022	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1101374 - Prof Svcs thru 2022-11-26	14,042.50
12/29/2022	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1101434 - Prof Svcs thru 2022-12-23	27,410.50
02/01/2023	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1101432 - Prof Svcs thru 2022-12-10	26,499.50
02/01/2023	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1101533 - Prof Svcs thru 2023-01-21	6,560.00
02/14/2023	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1101548 - Prof Svcs thru 2023-02-04	3,030.00
03/07/2023	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1101659 - Prof Svcs thru 2023-02-18	9,040.00
03/17/2023	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1101675 - Prof Svcs thru 2023-03-04	14,260.00
03/31/2023	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1101749 - Prof Svcs thru 2023-03-18	6,820.00
04/28/2023	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1101839 - Prof Svcs thru 2023-04-15	7,047.50
05/25/2023	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1101893 - Prof Svcs Thru 2023-04-29	1,255.00
06/16/2023	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1101975 - Prof Svcs thru 2023-05-27	8,109.50
06/29/2023	Golden Valley Engineering - Svcs Thru 2023-06-10	5,602.00
08/01/2023	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1102166 - Prof Svcs Thru 2023-07-08	260.00
08/17/2023	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1102232 - Prof Svcs Thru 2023-07-22	7,552.50
10/02/2023	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1102416 - 2023-07 thru 2023-09	13,111.25
11/22/2023	Hilbers Inc - Inv 23-1119 - New HQ Bldg Progress Pymt 1	195,024.68
11/27/2023	Hilbers Inc - Inv 23-1132 - Permit & Process Fee - New Bldg	38,411.16
11/28/2023	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1102541 - Prof Svcs Thru 2023-10-28	8,867.50
11/28/2023	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1102606 - Prof Svcs Thru 2023-11-11	7,860.00
12/14/2023	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1102656 Prof Svcs Thru 2023-11-25	15,369.50
12/21/2023	RMA Geoscience Inc - Inv 17540 - Prof Svcs 2023 Oct 16-Nov 12	1,443.25
12/27/2023	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1102689 - Prof Svcs Thru 2023-12-09	2,310.00
12/28/2023	Hilbers Inc - New HQ Bldg Progress Pymt 2	370,256.66
01/18/2024	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1102729 - Prof Svcs Thru 2024-01-06	20,679.58
01/22/2024	RMA Geoscience Inc - Inv 17732 - Prof Svcs 2023-11-13 thru 2023-12-10	8,242.25
02/05/2024	Hilbers - Inv 24-0102 - Progress Billing #3 - Dec 2023	541,025.25
02/09/2024	Hilbers - Inv 24-0140 - Progress Billing #4 - Jan 2024	1,248,126.73
02/13/2024	Hilbers - Inv 24-0209 - Permit/Processing Fees	3,932.73
02/23/2024	Hoffman Electronic Systems - Inv 659689 - Permit Fees	389.00
03/13/2024	Hilbers Inc - Inv23-1147rvs - New HQ Bldg Progress Pymt 2	507,195.46
03/28/2024	Merced Irrigation District - Inv 8291 - Project EC24AA00-0016 Deposit	32,733.16
04/04/2024	RMA Geoscience Inc - Inv 17953 - Prof Svcs 2023-12-11 thru 2024-01-14	6,788.00
04/04/2024	RMA Geoscience Inc - Inv 18153 - Prof Svcs 2024-01-15 thru 2024-02-11	2,679.00
04/04/2024	RMA Geoscience Inc - Inv 18313 - Prof Svcs 2024-02-12 thru 2024-03-10	1,986.50
04/17/2024	COBB Enterprises - Inv 22643 - Network/Audio/Video System	12,797.05
04/17/2024 04/26/2024	Golden Valley Engineering - Inv 1102971 - Prof Svcs Thru 2024-03-30 Hilbers Inc - Inv 24-0423 - Expedited Switch Gear Deposit	15,350.00 47,500.00
04/20/2024	nibers nic - inv 24-0423 - Expedited Switch Gear Deposit	47,500.00

Total Architectural, Engineering, and Construction Expenditures	3,380,653.21
Total Budgeted for Architectural, Engineering, & Construction	10,591,802.40
Balance Remaining	7,211,149.19
Percentage Expended	31.92%
All new headquarters building-related expenditures through 04/30/2024	3,810,532.14







**Table of Contents** 

## **Table of Contents**

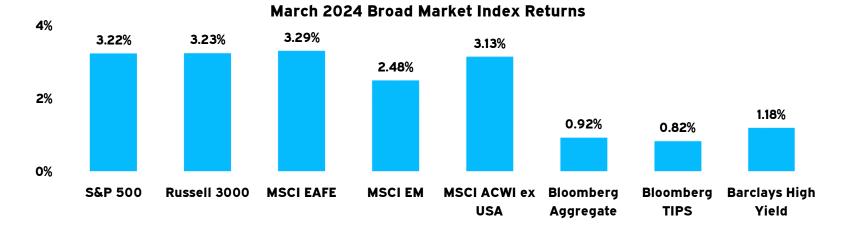
- 1. Performance Highlights as of March 31, 2024
- 2. Performance Update as of March 31, 2024
- 3. Disclaimer, Glossary, and Notes

**Performance Highlights** As of March 31, 2024



Performance Highlights as of March 31, 2024

#### Market Review and Performance Summary for March 2024



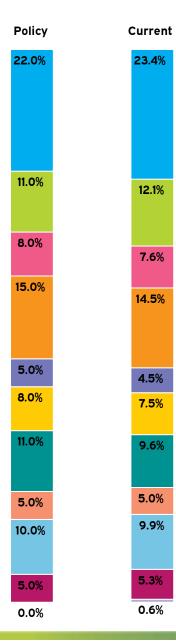
→ March saw positive returns across the markets. Equities broadly saw strong positive returns on continued strong economic data, while the same data weighed Fixed Incomes markets due to the implication of delayed rate cuts. Domestically, value outpaced growth stocks in March, while relative performance between small and large cap markets were mixed. Developed International Equities saw strong returns as continued strong performance by Japanese equities contributed, though Emerging Markets underperformed relative to their Developed counterparts, primarily due to China, though Chinese markets saw a small positive return over the month. Broad US Fixed Income saw positive returns in March, with High Yield performing the strongest over a turbulent quarter.

- → Merced CERA reported a monthly return of 2.3% net of fees. US Equities returned 2.9%, marginally trailing the index return of 3.2%. International Equities returned 3.4%, with both International Developed and Emerging Markets sleeve outpaced their respective indices. US Fixed Income returned 0.9%, mirroring its benchmark return. Opportunistic Credit posted 1.1% for the month, outpacing the blended benchmark of 1.0%.
- $\rightarrow$  As of March 31, 2024, total assets for the Merced CERA Portfolio are estimated at \$1.2 billion.

**Performance Update** As of March 31, 2024

### Merced County Employees' Retirement Association

#### Total Fund | As of March 31, 2024



	ļ	Allocation vs	s. Targets	and Policy		
	Current Balance (\$)	Current Allocation (%)	Policy (%)	Difference (%)	Policy Range (%)	Within IPS Range?
US Equity	285,147,482	23.4	22.0	1.4	16.0 - 27.0	Yes
International Equity	147,779,874	12.1	11.0	1.1	6.0 - 16.0	Yes
Emerging Markets Equity	92,218,085	7.6	8.0	-0.4	4.0 - 12.0	Yes
Private Equity	177,325,412	14.5	15.0	-0.5	5.0 - 20.0	Yes
Direct Lending	54,918,394	4.5	5.0	-0.5	0.0 - 10.0	Yes
Real Estate	91,113,943	7.5	8.0	-0.5	6.0 - 10.0	Yes
US Fixed Income	116,844,580	9.6	11.0	-1.4	6.0 - 16.0	Yes
Opportunistic Credit	60,402,142	5.0	5.0	0.0	3.0 - 7.0	Yes
Hedge Funds	121,101,019	9.9	10.0	-0.1	5.0 - 15.0	Yes
Real Assets	64,746,649	5.3	5.0	0.3	3.0 - 7.0	Yes
Cash	7,662,442	0.6	0.0	0.6	0.0 - 5.0	Yes
Total	1,219,260,021	100.0	100.0	0.0		

MEKETA INVESTMENT GROUP

### Merced County Employees' Retirement Association

		A	55EL F	Allocat		Fello	manc	e   AS		51, 2024
	Market Value \$	% of Portfolio	QTD (%)	Fiscal YTD	1 Yr (%)	3 Yrs (%)	5 Yrs (%)	10 Yrs (%)	Inception (%)	Inception Date
Total Fund (Net)	1,219,260,021	100.0	4.7	9.7	12.5	5.1	8.8	7.4	8.1	Jan-95
Total Fund (Gross)			4.8	10.0	12.9	5.5	9.1	7.7	8.2	Jan-95
Policy Index			5.0	10.4	14.1	5.7	8.6	7.5	6.4	
Total Fund w/o Alternatives (Net)	702,392,162	57.6	6.5	12.8	17.4	3.6	8.8	7.4		Jan-08
Total Fund w/o Alternatives (Gross)			6.7	13.1	17.8	4.0	9.2	7.7		Jan-08
Policy Index w/o Al			4.7	11.0	14.9	3.0	7.3	6.6		
US Equity (Net)	285,147,482	23.4	9.5	17.9	27.6	9.3	13.6	12.3	10.6	Jan-95
US Equity (Gross)			9.6	18.1	27.8	9.6	13.8	12.6	10.7	Jan-95
Russell 3000			10.0	19.3	29.3	9.8	14.2	12.1	10.6	
International Equity (Net)	239,997,959	19.7	7.8	13.8	16.0	0.0	9.1	5.6	5.9	Jan-99
International Equity (Gross)			8.1	14.5	17.0	0.8	9.9	6.3	6.2	Jan-99
International Equity Custom			4.4	10.2	12.7	0.9	5.7	4.5	4.5	
Developed International Equity (Net)	147,779,874	12.1	8.0	15.4	18.6	5.6	9.0	5.4	4.8	Feb-08
Developed International Equity (Gross)			8.2	16.0	19.4	6.3	9.7	5.9	5.3	Feb-08
Custom Blended Developed International Equity BM			5.0	11.7	14.8	3.9	7.1	4.7	3.7	
Emerging Markets Equity (Net)	92,218,085	7.6	7.6	11.2	12.2	-8.3	7.8	6.1	5.2	May-12
Emerging Markets Equity (Gross)			7.9	12.1	13.3	-7.4	8.8	7.1	6.2	May-12
MSCI EM			2.4	7.2	<i>8.2</i>	-5.1	2.3	3.2	2.9	
US Fixed Income (Net)	116,844,580	9.6	-0.6	2.8	2.0	-2.8	-0.1	1.4	4.3	Jan-95
US Fixed Income (Gross)			-0.6	2.9	2.1	-2.7	0.0	1.6	4.5	Jan-95
US Fixed Income Custom Benchmark			-0.7	2.7	1.8	-2.2	0.3	1.6	4.5	

#### Asset Allocation & Performance | As of March 31, 2024

Data Prior to March 2018 provided by prior consultant.

### Merced County Employees' Retirement Association

		A	55el A	Anocat		Fello	manc	e   AS	of march	51, 2024
	Market Value \$	% of Portfolio	QTD (%)	Fiscal YTD	1 Yr (%)	3 Yrs (%)	5 Yrs (%)	10 Yrs (%)	Inception (%)	Inception Date
Opportunistic Credit (Net)	60,402,142	5.0	2.7	8.3	11.9	4.3			5.3	May-19
Opportunistic Credit (Gross)			2.8	8.7	12.5	4.9			5.7	May-19
50% Barclays US Aggregate / 25% Barclays US High Yield / 25% Credit Suisse Lever			0.6	5.8	6.7	0.8	2.6		2.5	
Real Estate (Net)	91,113,943	7.5	-0.2	-0.2	-1.8	3.7	2.4	5.1	6.4	Dec-10
Real Estate (Gross)			-0.2	-0.2	-1.8	3.7	2.4	5.5	7.4	Apr-99
Custom Blended Real Estate Benchmark			-4.8	-9.1	-12.0	4.9	4.1	6.6	6.8	
CPI +5% (Seasonally Adjusted)			2.4	6.5	8.6	10.9	9.4	8.0	7.7	
Private Real Estate (Net)	73,483,266	6.0	0.0	-1.7	-4.0	4.9	2.8	5.3	6.6	Dec-10
Private Real Estate (Gross)			0.0	-1.7	-4.0	5.0	2.8	5.7	7.5	Apr-99
Custom Blended Real Estate Benchmark			-4.8	-9.1	-12.0	4.9	4.1	6.6	6.8	
Private Equity (Net)	177,325,412	14.5	2.6	5.9	6.3	16.1	16.8	13.1	10.3	Jul-05
Private Equity (Gross)			2.6	5.9	6.3	16.1	16.8	13.1	10.4	Jul-05
Custom Private Equity Benchmark			12.2	17.2	26.4	12.3	16.6	15.0		
Direct Lending (Net)	54,918,394	4.5	2.4	8.1	11.3	8.1			10.1	Jul-20
Direct Lending (Gross)			2.4	8.1	11.3	8.1			10.1	Jul-20
S&P LSTA Leveraged Loan +2%			3.0	10.7	14.7	8.1	7.6	6.6	9.6	
Hedge Fund (Net)	121,101,019	9.9	3.5	7.1	8.0	4.4	5.5		4.6	Jul-14
Hedge Fund (Gross)			3.9	8.2	9.3	5.4	6.4		5.2	Jul-14
Custom Blended Hedge Fund Benchmark			4.2	8.1	9.8	2.9	5.0		3.8	
Real Assets (Net)	64,746,649	5.3	3.7	8.7	10.8	14.1	11.8	9.6	9.8	Dec-10
Real Assets (Gross)			3.7	8.7	10.9	14.2	11.9	10.1	10.3	Dec-10
Custom Blended Real Assets Benchmark			1.8	7.1	5.1	<u>8.2</u>	5.6	7.0		
CPI +5% (Seasonally Adjusted)			2.4	6.5	8.б	10.9	9.4	8.0	7.8	

#### Asset Allocation & Performance | As of March 31, 2024

Real Assets includes State Street Real Assets NL Fund.

## Merced County Employees' Retirement Association

## Asset Allocation & Performance | As of March 31, 2024

	Market Value \$	% of Portfolio	QTD (%)	Fiscal YTD	1 Yr (%)	3 Yrs (%)	5 Yrs (%)	10 Yrs (%)	Inception (%)	Inception Date
Private Infrastructure (Net)	33,571,158	2.8	4.9	8.5	12.4	11.8	13.6		10.3	Jan-15
Private Infrastructure (Gross)			4.9	8.5	12.4	12.0	13.7		10.3	Jan-15
S&P Global Infrastructure			1.3	4.2	4.1	5.5	4.9	5.2	5.0	
Private Natural Resources (Net)	26,751,354	2.2	2.6	10.4	13.1	25.0	14.7		15.8	Oct-15
Private Natural Resources (Gross)			2.6	10.4	13.1	25.0	14.7		15.8	Oct-15
S&P Global Natural Resources Sector Index (TR)			2.2	9.7	5.7	9.5	9.0	5.4	11.2	
Cash (Net)	7,662,442	0.6	1.1	3.1	4.3	1.7	1.4			Dec-10
Cash (Gross)			1.1	3.1	4.3	1.7	1.4			Dec-10

## Merced County Employees' Retirement Association

	Asset Anocation & Performance   As of March 31, 2										
	Market Value \$	% of Portfolio	QTD (%)	Fiscal YTD	1 Yr (%)	3 Yrs (%)	5 Yrs (%)	10 Yrs (%)	Inception (%)	Inception Date	
Total Fund	1,219,260,021	100.0	4.7	9.7	12.5	5.1	8.8	7.4	8.1	Jan-95	
Policy Index			5.0	10.4	14.1	5.7	<u>8</u> .6	7.5	6.4		
Total Fund w/o Alternatives	702,392,162	57.6	6.5	12.8	17.4	3.6	8.8	7.4		Jan-08	
Policy Index w/o AI			4.7	11.0	14.9	3.0	7.3	6.6			
US Equity	285,147,482	23.4	9.5	17.9	27.6	9.3	13.6	12.3	10.6	Jan-95	
Russell 3000			10.0	19.3	29.3	9.8	14.2	12.1	10.6		
BNY Mellon Newton Dynamic US Equity	64,899,924	5.3	10.4	18.5	28.1	10.1	14.7	14.1	16.0	Jan-13	
S&P 500 Index			10.6	19.4	29.9	11.5	15.0	13.0	14.4		
BNY Mellon Large Cap	189,692,049	15.6	10.4	19.6	30.0	10.4	14.7		14.3	Apr-16	
Russell 1000 Index			10.3	19.6	29.9	10.5	14.8	12.7	14.3		
Champlain Small Cap	30,555,508	2.5	2.9	6.8	12.5	0.2			8.2	Nov-20	
Russell 2000 Index			5.2	13.8	19.7	-0.1	8.1	7.6	11.4		
International Equity	239,997,959	19.7	7.8	13.8	16.0	0.0	9.1	5.6	5.9	Jan-99	
International Equity Custom			4.4	10.2	12.7	0.9	5.7	4.5	4.5		
Developed International Equity	147,779,874	12.1	8.0	15.4	18.6	5.6	9.0	5.4	4.8	Feb-08	
Custom Blended Developed International Equity BM			5.0	11.7	14.8	3.9	7.1	4.7	3.7		
Acadian ACWI ex U.S. Small Cap Equity	16,372,096	1.3	5.5	13.6	14.2	4.1			9.8	May-19	
MSCI AC World ex USA Small Cap (Net)			2.1	10.5	12.8	0.4	6.2	4.7	5.9		
Driehaus International Small Cap Growth	16,266,310	1.3	7.8	14.9	16.9	-0.1			9.2	May-19	
MSCI AC World ex USA Small Growth Index (Net)			1.8	8.0	10.0	-2.5	5.8	4.8	5.3		
GQG International Equity	61,676,400	5.1	13.2	25.5	32.9	10.2			11.3	Dec-19	
MSCI AC World ex USA (Net)			4.7	10.6	<i>13.3</i>	1.9	6.0	4.3	5.6		

Asset Allocation & Performance | As of March 31, 2024

Historical returns for the US Equity Composite prior to January 2012 and for the International Equity Composite prior to December 2010 are gross only.

## Merced County Employees' Retirement Association

	Asset Anocation & Performance   As of March S										
	Market Value \$	% of Portfolio	QTD (%)	Fiscal YTD	1 Yr (%)	3 Yrs (%)	5 Yrs (%)	10 Yrs (%)	Inception (%)	Inception Date	
First Eagle International Value Fund	53,465,068	4.4	3.3	6.2	7.0	3.0			4.1	Dec-19	
MSCI EAFE (Net)			5.8	12.0	<i>15.3</i>	4.8	7.3	4.8	6.7		
Emerging Markets Equity	92,218,085	7.6	7.6	11.2	12.2	-8.3	7.8	6.1	5.2	May-12	
MSCIEM			2.4	7.2	8.2	-5.1	2.3	3.2	2.9		
Artisan Developing World TR	66,266,332	5.4	11.1	15.2	17.1	-7.8			7.8	Dec-19	
MSCI Emerging Markets (Net)			2.4	7.2	8.2	-5.1	2.2	2.9	2.5		
RWC	25,951,753	2.1	-0.3	2.1	1.4	-9.4			0.6	Dec-19	
MSCI Emerging Markets (Net)			2.4	7.2	8.2	-5.1	2.2	2.9	2.5		
US Fixed Income	116,844,580	9.6	-0.6	2.8	2.0	-2.8	-0.1	1.4	4.3	Jan-95	
US Fixed Income Custom Benchmark			-0.7	2.7	1.8	-2.2	0.3	1.6	4.5		
Vanguard Short-Term Treasury Index Fund	6,735,308	0.6	0.2	3.5	2.9	0.0	1.1		1.4	Mar-18	
Bloomberg U.S. Government 1-3 Year Index			0.3	3.6	3.0	0.0	1.1	1.1	1.4		
Vanguard Total Bond Market Index Fund	17,788,230	1.5	-0.8	2.6	1.7	-2.4			0.4	May-19	
Blmbg. U.S. Aggregate Index			-0.8	2.6	1.7	-2.5	0.4	1.5	0.4		
Payden & Rygel Low Duration Fund	8,197,443	0.7	0.8	4.7	4.4				6.4	Nov-22	
Blmbg, U.S. Treasury: 1-3 Year			0.3	3.6	2.9	0.0	1.1	1.1	3.8		
Brandywine US Fixed Income	33,702,829	2.8	-1.7	0.9	-0.9				0.8	Nov-22	
Blmbg. U.S. Aggregate Index			-0.8	2.6	1.7	-2.5	0.4	1.5	5.6		
Wellington Core Bond	50,420,769	4.1	-0.2	3.8	3.8				4.9	Nov-22	
Blmbg. U.S. Aggregate Index			<i>-0.8</i>	2.6	1.7	-2.5	0.4	1.5	5.6		

#### Asset Allocation & Performance | As of March 31, 2024

Developed International Equity and Emerging Markets Equity composites were only reported as one composite prior to March 2018.

### Merced County Employees' Retirement Association

	Asset Allocation & Performance   As of March 31,									
	Market Value \$	% of Portfolio	QTD (%)	Fiscal YTD	1 Yr (%)	3 Yrs (%)	5 Yrs (%)	10 Yrs (%)	Inception (%)	Inception Date
Opportunistic Credit	60,402,142	5.0	2.7	8.3	11.9	4.3			5.3	May-19
50% Barclays US Aggregate / 25% Barclays US High Yield / 25% Credit Suisse Lever			0.6	5.8	6.7	0.8	2.6		2.5	
PIMCO Income Fund	11,982,272	1.0	1.4	6.8	8.1	1.6			2.9	May-19
Blmbg. U.S. Aggregate Index			-0.8	2.6	1.7	-2.5	0.4	1.5	0.4	
GoldenTree Multi-Sector Credit	26,653,247	2.2	3.3	10.8	13.2	4.7			5.6	Jun-19
50% BBg US High Yield TR/50% Credit Suisse Leveraged Loans			2.0	9.2	11.8	4.0	4.8	4.5	4.8	
Sculptor Credit Opportunities Domestic Partners, LP	392,565	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.1	5.4			8.8	Jul-20
50% BBg US High Yield TR/50% Credit Suisse Leveraged Loans			2.0	9.2	11.8	4.0	4.8	4.5	6.2	
OWS Credit Opportunity Fund LP	21,374,058	1.8	2.7						5.0	Oct-23
50% BBg US High Yield TR/50% Credit Suisse Leveraged Loans			2.0	9.2	11.8	4.0	4.8	4.5	7.1	
Real Estate	91,113,943	7.5	-0.2	-0.2	-1.8	3.7	2.4	5.1	6.4	Dec-10
Custom Blended Real Estate Benchmark			-4.8	-9.1	-12.0	4.9	4.1	6.6	8.3	
CPI +5% (Seasonally Adjusted)			2.4	6.5	8.6	10.9	9.4	8.0	7.8	
Vanguard REIT Index	17,630,677	1.4	-1.2	6.8	8.6	1.8			5.7	Sep-20
Spliced Vanguard REIT Benchmark			-1.1	6.9	8.7	1.9	3.8	6.3	5.8	
Private Real Estate	73,483,266	6.0	0.0	-1.7	-4.0	4.9	2.8	5.3	6.6	Dec-10
Custom Blended Real Estate Benchmark			-4.8	-9.1	-12.0	4.9	4.1	6.6	8.3	
Greenfield Gap VII	724,565	0.1	-10.9	-6.1	-3.0	13.6	14.5		13.9	Jan-15
Patron Capital V	5,506,166	0.5	12.3	-2.5	2.4	-8.6	-7.7		0.9	Feb-16
UBS Trumbull Property	22,027,729	1.8	-4.0	-8.9	-15.4	1.7	-0.5	3.4	5.7	Apr-99
Carlyle Realty VIII	2,406,661	0.2	-3.8	-1.0	-1.5	37.8	27.3		9.3	Jan-18

#### Asset Allocation & Performance | As of March 31, 2024

Sculptor market value reflects holdback from June liquidation.

All private markets performance and market values reflect a 12/31/2023 capital account balance unless otherwise noted.

Private Real Estate results prior to 1/1/2019 were included in the Real Assets composite. All results for the Private Real Estate composite that include the period prior to 1/1/2019 will reflect only the latest lineup of managers that Meketa received information for, therefore it may not reflect the entire Private Real Estate composite at that given time.

### Merced County Employees' Retirement Association

		Asset Allocation & Performance   As of March 5											
	Market Value \$	% of Portfolio	QTD (%)	Fiscal YTD	1 Yr (%)	3 Yrs (%)	5 Yrs (%)	10 Yrs (%)	Inception (%)	Inception Date			
Taconic CRE Dislocation Fund II	3,234,114	0.3	-2.1	0.6	0.9	8.9	9.4		8.5	Nov-18			
Carmel Partners Investment Fund VII	4,536,927	0.4	5.6	6.8	7.8	3.0	-17.5		-17.5	Apr-19			
AG Realty Value Fund X, L.P.	3,350,233	0.3	-2.4	-5.3	-6.1	9.2			4.3	Jun-19			
Rockpoint Real Estate Fund VI, L.P.	4,554,740	0.4	-4.6	-6.6	-6.1	9.8			7.5	May-20			
Cerberus Real Estate Debt Fund, L.P.	4,934,009	0.4	1.8	9.3	10.8	6.6			10.7	Jul-20			
Taconic CRE Dislocation Onshore Fund III	7,631,136	0.6	2.9	8.6	7.7				8.1	Jun-21			
Starwood Distressed Opportunity Fund XII Global	4,313,962	0.4	7.5	3.7	-0.7				90.4	Jun-21			
Carlyle Realty Partners IX	1,711,915	0.1	-8.6	-4.4	-12.5				-156.3	Dec-21			
Carmel Partners Investment Fund VIII	5,363,241	0.4	3.6	10.4	9.7				-3.4	Apr-22			
Rockpoint Real Estate Fund VII L.P.	3,187,868	0.3	1.1	0.2	3.9				8.1	Aug-22			
Private Equity	177,325,412	14.5	2.6	5.9	6.3	16.1	16.8	13.1	10.3	Jul-05			
Custom Private Equity Benchmark			12.2	17.2	26.4	12.3	16.6	15.0					
Taconic Credit Dislocation Fund IV L.P.	3,252,268	0.3	3.6	9.6					9.6	Jul-23			
Khosla Ventures Seed F, L.P.	553,142	0.0	-3.0	-7.6					-7.6	Jul-23			
Adams Street	3,629,072	0.3	1.4	-2.5	-3.3	1.5	10.1	11.0	7.7	Oct-05			
Invesco VI	477,377	0.0	0.0	-10.0	-29.4	7.2	16.3	14.8	13.9	Jul-13			
Ocean Avenue II	6,712,520	0.6	3.4	-3.8	-7.8	23.3	27.6		20.0	Jul-14			
Pantheon I	62,737	0.0	1.9	0.1	-3.4	-13.0	-13.4	-4.7	-1.4	Jan-06			
Pantheon II	2,607,497	0.2	2.0	-0.1	-0.7	6.0	11.6	11.6	11.7	Jan-12			

Asset Allocation & Performance | As of March 31, 2024

Pantheon I includes Pantheon US Fund VI and Pantheon Europe Fund IV. Pantheon Europe Fund IV is adjusting from the 12/31/2022 NAV.

Pantheon II includes Panthron US Fund IX, Pantheon Asia Fund VI, and Pantheon Europe Fund VII.

Pantheon Secondary includes Pantheon GLO SEC III B.

Adams Street includes Adams street 2005, Adams Street 2007, and Adams Street 2011.

Invesco VI is adjusting from the 9/30/2023 NAV.

MEKETA INVESTMENT GROUP

### Merced County Employees' Retirement Association

	Asset Allocation & Performance   As of March 3										
	Market Value \$	% of Portfolio	QTD (%)	Fiscal YTD	1 Yr (%)	3 Yrs (%)	5 Yrs (%)	10 Yrs (%)	Inception (%)	Inception Date	
Pantheon Secondary	108,489	0.0	-0.5	-1.9	-2.2	-9.1	-7.0	-2.0	0.4	Jul-07	
Davidson Kempner Long-Term Distressed Opportunities Fund IV	2,635,566	0.2	3.2	10.2	21.6	29.1	19.0		18.5	Apr-18	
GTCR Fund XII	5,645,631	0.5	-0.1	6.1	3.6	19.0	26.9		14.7	Jun-18	
Carrick Capital Partners III	5,028,440	0.4	2.6	9.8	10.6	13.8	16.0		11.5	Aug-18	
Cressey & Company Fund VI	5,089,115	0.4	-3.0	-4.4	-3.5	15.7	16.7		13.3	Jan-19	
TCV X	6,403,125	0.5	4.2	9.3	12.0	10.5	16.8		16.8	Apr-19	
Accel-KKR Growth Capital Partners III	4,873,918	0.4	1.9	-8.6	-7.7	15.5			6.7	Jul-19	
Genstar Capital Partners IX	9,884,148	0.8	3.5	12.3	14.1	28.2			25.6	Aug-19	
Cortec Group Fund VII	9,128,362	0.7	3.9	8.3	2.2	20.7			24.7	Dec-19	
Spark Capital Growth Fund III	8,484,275	0.7	-1.8	-3.4	-2.9	22.8			13.0	Mar-20	
Spark Capital VI	3,754,789	0.3	3.4	44.9	40.4	15.7			7.1	Mar-20	
Summit Partners Growth Equity Fund X-A	9,080,188	0.7	5.0	8.4	15.9	5.6			7.5	Mar-20	
Taconic Market Dislocation Fund III L.P.	6,542,217	0.5	6.0	13.0	12.6	15.0			14.9	Jul-20	
Marlin Heritage Europe II, L.P.	7,811,535	0.6	4.7	3.6	7.5	2.2			0.8	Oct-20	
Khosla Ventures VII	5,508,064	0.5	6.1	13.3	14.8	9.1			8.4	Jan-21	
Accel-KKR Capital Partners VI	4,492,147	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.7			-4.4	Feb-21	
Khosla Ventures Seed E	2,329,867	0.2	1.6	9.7	18.2	110.9			102.8	Feb-21	
TCV XI	5,158,532	0.4	1.3	-3.7	-3.1	-5.3			-5.0	Feb-21	

#### Asset Allocation & Performance | As of March 31, 2024

## Merced County Employees' Retirement Association

	Asset Anocation & Performance   As of March S										
	Market Value \$	% of Portfolio	QTD (%)	Fiscal YTD	1 Yr (%)	3 Yrs (%)	5 Yrs (%)	10 Yrs (%)	Inception (%)	Inception Date	
Thoma Bravo Discover Fund III	9,233,014	0.8	5.8	10.1	10.9				8.3	Jun-21	
Summit Partners Venture Capital Fund V-A	3,855,055	0.3	5.3	9.0	7.7				-1.9	May-21	
GTCR Fund XIII/A & B	4,414,082	0.4	4.1	9.8	7.9				74.7	Jun-21	
Genstar Capital Partners X	7,673,339	0.6	-1.4	-1.5	-0.1				4.1	Oct-21	
Nautic Partners X	4,600,389	0.4	3.4	16.5	18.4				7.5	Jan-22	
Spark Capital Growth Fund IV	2,923,739	0.2	-1.5	-5.5	-7.9				10.2	Jan-22	
Spark Capital VII	1,716,424	0.1	0.8	-2.5	-4.5				-6.2	Feb-22	
TCV Velocity Fund I	4,016,581	0.3	4.8	69.5	61.3				2.5	Feb-22	
Accel-KKR Growth Capital Partners IV	1,861,196	0.2	0.9	1.6	2.1				-13.5	Apr-22	
Summit Partners Growth Equity Fund XI-A	2,321,763	0.2	4.2	8.6	10.2				-35.1	Apr-22	
GTCR Strategic Growth Fund I/A&B LP	1,784,374	0.1	-1.4	4.8	4.2				-31.2	Jul-22	
Threshold Ventures IV LP	875,130	0.1	1.3	-6.7	-10.8				-18.8	Aug-22	
Thoma Bravo Discovery Fund IV	4,982,251	0.4	3.3	7.6	13.0				13.5	Jan-23	
Marlin Heritage III	1,888,174	0.2	4.3	-0.6	4.6				-76.1	Jan-23	
Cortec Group Fund VIII, L.P.	839,848	0.1	-2.1	-15.7	-16.7				-16.7	Apr-23	
Khosla Ventures VIII	856,668	0.1	-3.4						-5.3	Sep-23	
Ares Capital Europe VI (D) Levered, L.P.	4,218,999	0.3	1.3						7.8	Nov-23	
Genstar Capital Partners XI	11,363	0.0	-64.3						-64.3	Nov-23	

#### Asset Allocation & Performance | As of March 31, 2024

## Merced County Employees' Retirement Association

	Asset Anocation & Performance   As of March Si,									
	Market Value \$	% of Portfolio	QTD (%)	Fiscal YTD	1 Yr (%)	3 Yrs (%)	5 Yrs (%)	10 Yrs (%)	Inception (%)	Inception Date
Direct Lending	54,918,394	4.5	2.4	8.1	11.3	8.1			10.1	Jul-20
S&P LSTA Leveraged Loan +2%			3.0	10.7	14.7	8.1	7.6	6.6	9.6	
Silver Point Specialty Credit Fund II, L.P.	6,637,022	0.5	2.7	8.4	12.1	8.6			10.5	Jul-20
Ares Senior Direct Lending Fund II	12,658,920	1.0	3.7	12.7	16.5				11.5	Jan-22
Varagon Capital Direct Lending Fund	12,618,290	1.0	0.0	5.0	7.2				2.1	Jan-22
AG Direct Lending Fund IV Annex	9,487,006	0.8	2.9	8.5	11.2				9.4	May-22
AG Direct Lending Fund V	4,587,820	0.4	0.0	3.9	6.0				6.8	Aug-22
Accel-KKR Credit Partners II LP	2,178,821	0.2	2.1	9.3	42.4				38.6	Mar-23
Silver Point Specialty Credit Fund III	6,750,515	0.6	6.0	7.6	5.8				5.3	Mar-23
Hedge Fund	121,101,019	9.9	3.5	7.1	8.0	4.4	5.5		4.6	Jul-14
Custom Blended Hedge Fund Benchmark			4.2	8.1	9.8	2.9	5.0		3.8	
Hudson Bay Fund	15,838,514	1.3	2.4	5.3					5.6	Jun-23
Sculptor (OZ) Domestic II	264,914	0.0	-0.4	-1.0	1.7	-2.1	3.9		4.8	Jul-14
Graham Absolute Return	10,750,533	0.9	5.8	11.2	9.8	7.7	6.4		5.3	Sep-17
Wellington-Archipelago	17,551,435	1.4	7.3	11.8	16.7	8.0	7.3		6.7	Sep-17
Marshall Wace Eureka	4,925,106	0.4	7.1	8.5	11.0	6.1	7.2		6.4	Dec-17
Silver Point Capital	19,825,672	1.6	3.6	5.5	8.0	8.5	10.1		8.1	Dec-17
Laurion Capital	14,008,641	1.1	-0.1	3.6	2.1	-1.9	8.9		8.7	Aug-18
Taconic Opportunity Fund	14,514,232	1.2	1.9	4.9	5.7	1.9	3.2		3.4	Jan-19

#### Asset Allocation & Performance | As of March 31, 2024

AG Direct Lending Fund V is adjusting from the 9/30/2023 NAV. Varagon Capital Direct Lending Fund is adjusting from the 9/30/2023 NAV.

## Merced County Employees' Retirement Association

		Asset Allocation & Performance   As of March 31, 202								31, 2024
	Market Value \$	% of Portfolio	QTD (%)	Fiscal YTD	1 Yr (%)	3 Yrs (%)	5 Yrs (%)	10 Yrs (%)	Inception (%)	Inception Date
Marshall Wace Global Opportunities	11,641,670	1.0	5.4	7.8	9.2	6.0			6.3	May-20
Caxton Global Investments	11,780,302	1.0	0.8	7.6	2.3				5.2	May-21
Real Assets	64,746,649	5.3	3.7	8.7	10.8	14.1	11.8	9.6	9.8	Dec-10
Custom Blended Real Assets Benchmark			1.8	7.1	5.1	8.2	5.6	7.0		
SSgA	4,424,137	0.4	0.9	3.6	1.5	5.8	5.9		5.5	May-17
Real Asset NL Custom Blended Index			0.9	4.1	2.3	5.8	6.0		5.6	
Private Infrastructure	33,571,158	2.8	4.9	8.5	12.4	11.8	13.6		10.3	Jan-15
S&P Global Infrastructure			1.3	4.2	4.1	5.5	4.9	5.2	5.0	
KKR Global II	3,465,700	0.3	7.2	11.7	25.1	19.5	23.7		17.2	Jan-15
North Haven Infrastructure II	2,624,087	0.2	0.2	-1.8	-4.3	8.6	8.6		7.5	Jun-15
ISQ Global Infrastructure Fund II	5,653,049	0.5	3.0	6.1	5.1	10.8	12.5		4.7	Jul-18
KKR Global Infrastructure Investors III	4,911,045	0.4	9.7	17.1	26.5	7.6	3.5		1.0	Jan-19
Ardian Infrastructure Fund V	4,426,095	0.4	5.3	8.9	13.3	5.1			-5.9	Nov-19
ISQ Global Infrastructure Fund III	2,204,427	0.2	7.1	10.7	12.3				-457.8	Jun-21
KKR Global Infrastructure Investors IV	5,297,678	0.4	3.8	10.8	14.2				-219.7	Sep-21
BlackRock Global Infrastructure Fund IV	3,995,416	0.3	4.2	2.6	-2.1				-7.6	Dec-22
Ardian Infrastructure Fund VI	993,662	0.1								

#### Asset Allocation & Performance | As of March 31, 2024

Ardian Infrastructure Fund VI is being cash flow adjusted as its initial quarterly NAV has not yet been released.

## Merced County Employees' Retirement Association

		ASSET Anotation & Perior mance   AS of March 31, 2020							51, 2024	
	Market Value \$	% of Portfolio	QTD (%)	Fiscal YTD	1 Yr (%)	3 Yrs (%)	5 Yrs (%)	10 Yrs (%)	Inception (%)	Inception Date
Private Natural Resources	26,751,354	2.2	2.6	10.4	13.1	25.0	14.7		15.8	Oct-15
S&P Global Natural Resources Sector Index (TR)			2.2	9.7	5.7	9.5	9.0	5.4	11.2	
EnCap Flatrock Midstream Fund V	2,902,011	0.2	-1.1	-5.9					-5.9	Jun-23
EnCap XI	4,932,576	0.4	-1.5	16.4	20.2	35.0	8.3		-4.7	Aug-17
EnCap IV	1,729,812	0.1	1.5	4.5	5.8	49.1	32.5		22.4	Mar-18
GSO Energy Opportunities	440,892	0.0	31.1	51.3	61.0	54.6	27.9		23.3	Dec-15
Taurus Mining	357,964	0.0	5.8	1.8	6.6	54.9	28.5		24.1	Oct-15
Taurus Mining Annex	185,475	0.0	5.2	0.0	2.8	20.1	19.2		22.7	Feb-17
BlackRock Global Energy and Power Infrastructure Fund III LP	4,669,979	0.4	0.3	3.2	6.1	8.0			12.8	Aug-19
Tailwater Energy Fund IV, LP	4,411,751	0.4	9.5	10.0	9.4	30.0			8.0	Oct-19
Carnelian Energy Capital IV	4,262,644	0.3	0.2	13.7	19.0				2.4	May-22
EnCap Energy Capital Fund XII	2,858,249	0.2	8.2						23.7	Aug-23
Cash	7,662,442	0.6	1.1	3.1	4.3	1.7	1.4			Dec-10
Cash	4,582,523	0.4	1.4	3.6	4.9	1.8	1.6	1.2	-1.2	Dec-10
Treasury Cash	3,079,919	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.1	Sep-17

#### Asset Allocation & Performance | As of March 31, 2024



#### Benchmark History | As of March 31, 2024

Benchmark History							
From Date	To Date	Benchmark					
Total Fund							
01/01/2022	Present	22.0% Russell 3000, 11.0% Custom Blended Developed International Equity BM, 8.0% MSCI EM, 11.0% US Fixed Income Custom Benchmark, 10.0% Custom Blended Hedge Fund Benchmark, 15.0% Custom Private Equity Benchmark, 5.0% S&P LSTA Leveraged Loan +2%, 5.0% Custom Blended Real Assets Benchmark, 8.0% Custom Blended Real Estate Benchmark, 5.0% 50% Barclays US Aggregate / 25% Barclays US High Yield / 25% Credit Suisse Lever					
01/01/2020	01/01/2022	21.0% Russell 3000, 10.0% Custom Blended Developed International Equity BM, 8.0% MSCI EM, 18.0% BBgBarc US Aggregate TR, 10.0% Custom Blended Hedge Fund Benchmark, 15.0% Custom Private Equity Benchmark, 5.0% Custom Blended Real Assets Benchmark, 8.0% Custom Blended Real Estate Benchmark, 5.0% 50% Barclays US Aggregate / 25% Barclays US High Yield / 25% Credit Suisse Lever					
07/01/2019	01/01/2020	21.0% US Equity Custom, 18.0% International Equity Custom, 18.0% US Fixed Custom, 10.0% Custom Blended Hedge Fund Benchmark, 15.0% Thomson Reuters Cambridge Private Equity Index, 5.0% Real Asset Custom, 8.0% NCREIF ODCE (Net), 5.0% 50% Barclays US Aggregate / 25% Barclays US High Yield / 25% Credit Suisse Lever					
01/01/2019	07/01/2019	21.0% US Equity Custom, 23.0% US Fixed Custom, 18.0% International Equity Custom, 10.0% Custom Blended Hedge Fund Benchmark, 15.0% Thomson Reuters Cambridge Private Equity Index, 5.0% Real Asset Custom, 8.0% NCREIF ODCE (Net)					
01/01/2017	01/01/2019	27.0% US Equity Custom, 22.0% US Fixed Custom, 23.0% International Equity Custom, 5.0% Custom Blended Hedge Fund Benchmark, 9.0% Thomson Reuters Cambridge Private Equity Index, 14.0% Real Asset Custom					
07/01/2014	01/01/2017	22.7% Russell 1000 Index, 5.7% Russell 2000 Index, 23.6% International Equity Custom, 28.5% US Fixed Custom, 4.5% Custom Blended Hedge Fund Benchmark, 8.0% NCREIF ODCE (Net), 7.0% Thomson Reuters Cambridge Private Equity Index					
US Equity							
01/01/2020	Present	100.0% Russell 3000 Index					
12/31/1994	01/01/2020	100.0% Russell 3000					
International E	quity						
01/01/2019	Present	56.0% MSCI EAFE Index, 44.0% MSCI Emerging Markets Index					
01/01/2017	01/01/2019	69.6% MSCI EAFE Index, 30.4% MSCI Emerging Markets Index					
07/01/2013	01/01/2017	100.0% MSCI AC World ex USA index					
US Fixed Incor	ne						
12/01/1994	Present	10.0% Blmbg. U.S. Treasury: 1-3 Year, 90.0% BBgBarc US Aggregate TR					



Benchmark History | As of March 31, 2024

From Date	To Date	Benchmark
Hedge Fund		
07/01/2017	Present	100.0% HFRI Fund of Funds Composite Index
01/01/2015	07/01/2017	50.0% HFRI Fund of Funds Composite Index, 50.0% HFRI RV: Multi-Strategy Index
Real Assets		
01/01/2022	Present	50.0% S&P Global Infrastructure, 50.0% S&P Global Natural Resources Sector Index (TR)
01/01/2020	01/01/2022	50.0% Cambridge Energy Upstream & Royalties & Private Energy (1 Quarter Lagged), 50.0% Cambridge Infrastructure (1 Quarter Lagged)
03/01/1999	01/01/2020	100.0% Real Asset Custom
SSgA		
04/01/2017	Present	10.0% S&P Global Infrastructure, 15.0% Dow Jones U.S. Select RESI, 25.0% Bloomberg Roll Select Commodity TR Index, 25.0% S&P Global LargeMidcap Resources & Commodities Ind, 25.0% Blmbg. U.S. TIPS Index
Private Real Es	state	
01/01/2020	Present	100.0% NCREIF ODCE 1Q Lagged
03/01/1999	01/01/2020	100.0% NCREIF Fund Index-Open End Diversified Core Equity (VW) (Net)
Private Equity		
01/01/2022	Present	100.0% Custom PE BM (Jan 2022 -) 1Q Lag
01/01/2020	01/01/2022	100.0% Cambridge Global Private Equity & VC (1 Quarter Lagged)
12/31/1994	01/01/2020	100.0% Thomson Reuters Cambridge Private Equity Index

Disclaimer, Glossary, and Notes



WE HAVE PREPARED THIS REPORT (THIS "REPORT") FOR THE SOLE BENEFIT OF THE INTENDED RECIPIENT (THE "RECIPIENT").

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS MAY OCCUR (OR HAVE OCCURRED) AFTER THE DATE OF THIS REPORT AND THAT IT IS NOT OUR FUNCTION OR RESPONSIBILITY TO UPDATE THIS REPORT. ANY OPINIONS OR RECOMMENDATIONS PRESENTED HEREIN REPRESENT OUR GOOD FAITH VIEWS AS OF THE DATE OF THIS REPORT AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME. ALL INVESTMENTS INVOLVE RISK. THERE CAN BE NO GUARANTEE THAT THE STRATEGIES, TACTICS, AND METHODS DISCUSSED HERE WILL BE SUCCESSFUL.

INFORMATION USED TO PREPARE THIS REPORT WAS OBTAINED FROM INVESTMENT MANAGERS, CUSTODIANS, AND OTHER EXTERNAL SOURCES. WHILE WE HAVE EXERCISED REASONABLE CARE IN PREPARING THIS REPORT, WE CANNOT GUARANTEE THE ACCURACY OF ALL SOURCE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN.

CERTAIN INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT MAY CONSTITUTE "FORWARD - LOOKING STATEMENTS," WHICH CAN BE IDENTIFIED BY THE USE OF TERMINOLOGY SUCH AS "MAY," "WILL," "SHOULD," "EXPECT," "AIM", "ANTICIPATE," "TARGET," "PROJECT," "ESTIMATE," "INTEND," "CONTINUE" OR "BELIEVE," OR THE NEGATIVES THEREOF OR OTHER VARIATIONS THEREON OR COMPARABLE TERMINOLOGY. ANY FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS, FORECASTS, PROJECTIONS, VALUATIONS, OR RESULTS IN THIS PRESENTATION ARE BASED UPON CURRENT ASSUMPTIONS. CHANGES TO ANY ASSUMPTIONS MAY HAVE A MATERIAL IMPACT ON FORWARD - LOOKING STATEMENTS, FORECASTS, PROJECTIONS, VALUATIONS, VALUATIONS, OR RESULTS IN THIS PRESENTATION ARE BASED UPON CURRENT, PROJECTIONS, VALUATIONS, OR RESULTS. ACTUAL RESULTS MAY THEREFORE BE MATERIALLY DIFFERENT FROM ANY FORECASTS, PROJECTIONS, VALUATIONS, OR RESULTS IN THIS PRESENTATION.

PERFORMANCE DATA CONTAINED HEREIN REPRESENT PAST PERFORMANCE. PAST PERFORMANCE IS NO GUARANTEE OF FUTURE RESULTS.



Credit Risk: Refers to the risk that the issuer of a fixed income security may default (i.e., the issuer will be unable to make timely principal and/or interest payments on the security).

**Duration:** Measure of the sensitivity of the price of a bond to a change in its yield to maturity. Duration summarizes, in a single number, the characteristics that cause bond prices to change in response to a change in interest rates. For example, the price of a bond with a duration of three years will rise by approximately 3% for each 1% decrease in its yield to maturity. Conversely, the price will decrease 3% for each 1% increase in the bond's yield. Price changes for two different bonds can be compared using duration. A bond with a duration of six years will exhibit twice the percentage price change of a bond with a three-year duration. The actual calculation of a bond's duration is somewhat complicated, but the idea behind the calculation is straightforward. The first step is to measure the time interval until receipt for each cash flow (coupon and principal payments) from a bond. The second step is to compute a weighted average of these time intervals. Each time interval is measured by the present value of that cash flow. This weighted average is the duration of the bond measured in years.

**Information Ratio:** This statistic is a measure of the consistency of a portfolio's performance relative to a benchmark. It is calculated by subtracting the benchmark return from the portfolio return (excess return), and dividing the resulting excess return by the standard deviation (volatility) of this excess return. A positive information ratio indicates outperformance versus the benchmark, and the higher the information ratio, the more consistent the outperformance.

Jensen's Alpha: A measure of the average return of a portfolio or investment in excess of what is predicted by its beta or "market" risk. Portfolio Return- [Risk Free Rate+Beta\*(market return-Risk Free Rate)].

**Market Capitalization:** For a firm, market capitalization is the total market value of outstanding common stock. For a portfolio, market capitalization is the sum of the capitalization of each company weighted by the ratio of holdings in that company to total portfolio holdings; thus it is a weighted-average capitalization. Meketa Investment Group considers the largest 65% of the broad domestic equity market as large capitalization, the next 25% of the market as medium capitalization, and the smallest 10% of stocks as small capitalization.

Market Weighted: Stocks in many indices are weighted based on the total market capitalization of the issue. Thus, the individual returns of higher market-capitalization issues will more heavily influence an index's return than the returns of the smaller market-capitalization issues in the index.

Maturity: The date on which a loan, bond, mortgage, or other debt/security becomes due and is to be paid off.

**Prepayment Risk:** The risk that prepayments will increase (homeowners will prepay all or part of their mortgage) when mortgage interest rates decline; hence, investors' monies will be returned to them in a lower interest rate environment. Also, the risk that prepayments will slow down when mortgage interest rates rise; hence, investors will not have as much money as previously anticipated in a higher interest rate environment. A prepayment is any payment in excess of the scheduled mortgage payment.

Price-Book Value (P/B) Ratio: The current market price of a stock divided by its book value per share. Meketa Investment Group calculates P/B as the current price divided by Compustat's quarterly common equity. Common equity includes common stock, capital surplus, retained earnings, and treasury stock adjusted for both common and nonredeemable preferred stock. Similar to high P/E stocks, stocks with high P/B's tend to be riskier investments.



**Price-Earnings (P/E) Ratio:** A stock's market price divided by its current or estimated future earnings. Lower P/E ratios often characterize stocks in low growth or mature industries, stocks in groups that have fallen out of favor, or stocks of established blue chip companies with long records of stable earnings and regular dividends. Sometimes a company that has good fundamentals may be viewed unfavorably by the market if it is an industry that is temporarily out of favor. Or a business may have experienced financial problems causing investors to be skeptical about is future. Either of these situations would result in lower relative P/E ratios. Some stocks exhibit above-average sales and earnings growth or expectations for above average growth. Consequently, investors are willing to pay more for these companies' earnings, which results in elevated P/E ratios. In other words, investors will pay more for shares of companies whose profits, in their opinion, are expected to increase faster than average. Because future events are in no way assured, high P/E stocks tend to be riskier and more volatile investments. Meketa Investment Group calculates P/E as the current price divided by the I/B/E/S consensus of twelve-month forecast earnings per share.

**Quality Rating:** The rank assigned a security by such rating services as Fitch, Moody's, and Standard & Poor's. The rating may be determined by such factors as (1) the likelihood of fulfillment of dividend, income, and principal payment of obligations; (2) the nature and provisions of the issue; and (3) the security's relative position in the event of liquidation of the company. Bonds assigned the top four grades (AAA, AA, A, BBB) are considered investment grade because they are eligible bank investments as determined by the controller of the currency.

Sharpe Ratio: A commonly used measure of risk-adjusted return. It is calculated by subtracting the risk free return (usually three-month Treasury bill) from the portfolio return and dividing the resulting excess return by the portfolio's total risk level (standard deviation). The result is a measure of return per unit of total risk taken. The higher the Sharpe ratio, the better the fund's historical risk adjusted performance.

STIF Account: Short-term investment fund at a custodian bank that invests in cash-equivalent instruments. It is generally used to safely invest the excess cash held by portfolio managers.

**Standard Deviation:** A measure of the total risk of an asset or a portfolio. Standard deviation measures the dispersion of a set of numbers around a central point (e.g., the average return). If the standard deviation is small, the distribution is concentrated within a narrow range of values. For a normal distribution, about two thirds of the observations will fall within one standard deviation of the mean, and 95% of the observations will fall within two standard deviations of the mean.

**Style:** The description of the type of approach and strategy utilized by an investment manager to manage funds. For example, the style for equities is determined by portfolio characteristics such as price-to-book value, price-to-earnings ratio, and dividend yield. Equity styles include growth, value, and core.

Tracking Error: A divergence between the price behavior of a position or a portfolio and the price behavior of a benchmark, as defined by the difference in standard deviation.



**Yield to Maturity:** The yield, or return, provided by a bond to its maturity date; determined by a mathematical process, usually requiring the use of a "basis book." For example, a 5% bond pays \$5 a year interest on each \$100 par value. To figure its current yield, divide \$5 by \$95—the market price of the bond—and you get 5.26%. Assume that the same bond is due to mature in five years. On the maturity date, the issuer is pledged to pay \$100 for the bond that can be bought now for \$95. In other words, the bond is selling at a discount of 5% below par value. To figure yield to maturity, a simple and approximate method is to divide 5% by the five years to maturity, which equals 1% pro rata yearly. Add that 1% to the 5.26% current yield, and the yield to maturity is roughly 6.26%.

5% (discount)=1% pro rata, plus=5 (yrs. to maturity)=5.26% (current yield)=

= 6.26% (yield to maturity)

Yield to Worst: The lowest potential yield that can be received on a bond without the issuer actually defaulting. The yield to worst is calculated by making worst-case scenario assumptions on the issue by calculating the returns that would be received if provisions, including prepayment, call, or sinking fund, are used by the issuer.

**NCREIF Property Index (NPI):** Measures unleveraged investment performance of a very large pool of individual commercial real estate properties acquired in the private market by tax-exempt institutional investors for investment purposes only. The NPI index is capitalization-weighted for a quarterly time series composite total rate of return.

NCREIF Fund Index - Open End Diversified Core Equity (NFI-ODCE): Measures the investment performance of 28 open-end commingled funds pursuing a core investment strategy that reflects funds' leverage and cash positions. The NFI-ODCE index is equal-weighted and is reported gross and net of fees for a quarterly time series composite total rate of return.

Sources: Investment Terminology, International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans, 1999. The Handbook of Fixed Income Securities, Fabozzi, Frank J., 1991

The Russell Indices<sup>®</sup>, TM, SM are trademarks/service marks of the Frank Russell Company.

Throughout this report, numbers may not sum due to rounding.

Returns for periods greater than one year are annualized throughout this report.

Values shown are in millions of dollars, unless noted otherwise.

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# Direct Lending Overview

# Merced County Employees' Retirement Association



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2

# What is the U.S. Middle Market?

The U.S. Middle Market is made up of companies with Annual revenues between \$10 million & \$1 billion

Responsible for roughly onethird of private U.S. GDP, enough to be the 5<sup>th</sup> largest economy in the world Catalyst of economic opportunity – creating over 2 million jobs in the years spanning the global financial crisis from 2007 to 2010 Consists of nearly 200,000 companies – including family-controlled, private equity sponsored, and publicly owned businesses 2020 employment declines in the U.S. Middle Market (-2.2%) were significantly lower than smaller and larger businesses (-5.1% and -8.2% respectively)



# Direct Lending and Bank Lending are Not the Same



#### Full Enterprise Value Pledged as Collateral

Loans are typically secured by all assets and operations of a firm, including future cash flows and all equity. This makes a much larger term loan available with higher interest rates, SOFR+5%-9%.

#### Limited Collateral

Banks compete for loans secured by certain assets, such as accounts receivable and inventory, making this a market for relatively smaller transactions. Rates tend to be ~SOFR+2%.

#### Significant Business Impact

#### **Direct Lending Facilitates**

Transformative acquisitions that can greatly boost earnings. Refinancings that can reduce operating costs and extend debt maturities. Debt lending also allows owners to execute their plans without equity dilution.

#### Modest Business Impact

#### **Bank Lending Facilitates**

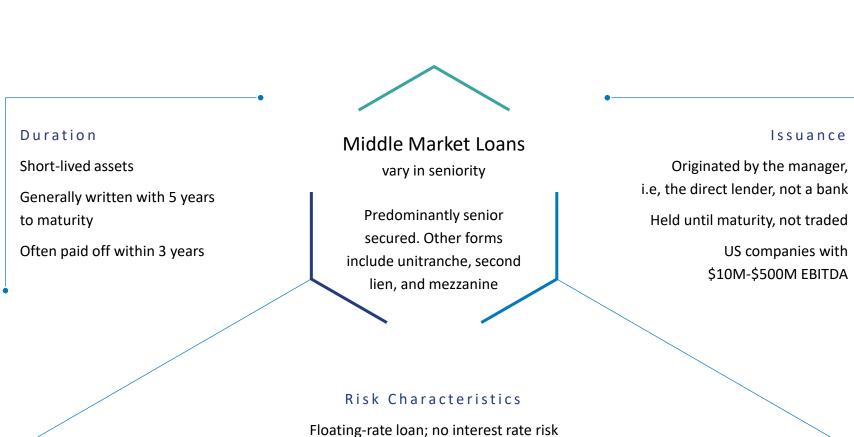
Short-term liquidity and working capital loans. Bank lending does not generally add much buying power as borrowing capacity is too limited to facilitate meaningful expansion or acquisition.

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# Direct Loan Characteristics





Floating-rate loan; no interest rate risk Reduce portfolio volatility & hedge against inflation Cushion against potential decline in valuation

Typical loan-to-value of 50%

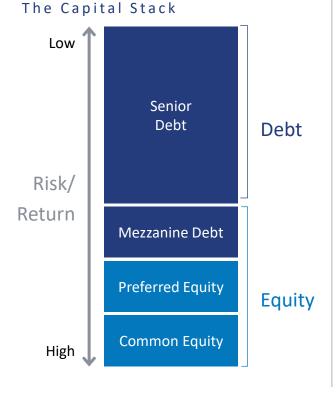
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#### **Senior Secured**

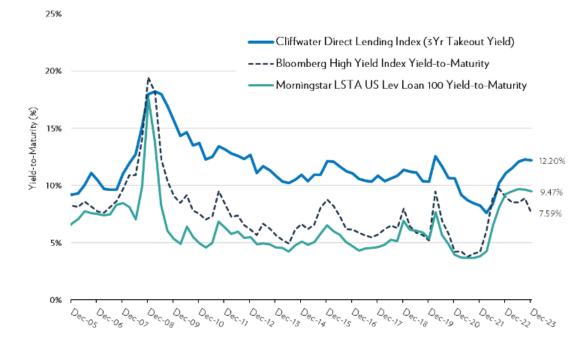
Middle market loans are predominantly senior secured, meaning they have a priority claim over any junior debt or equity, cushioning lenders against potential declines in valuation.



#### **Return Potential**

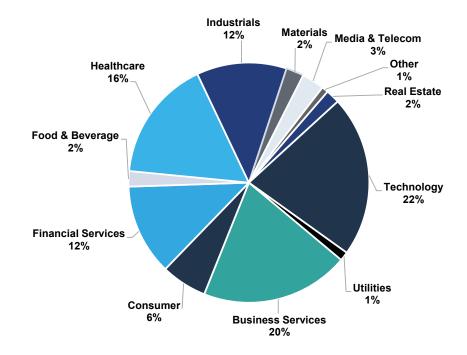
Gross yield premium continues to be very attractive relative to bank loans and publicly traded fixed income markets and have averaged 4% above high yield bonds over the past 15 years

#### CDLI, High Yield Bond, and Leveraged Loan-to-Maturity Comparisons, Sep 2004-Dec 2023



# U.S. Middle Market Sector Exposure

- Established, profitable companies are sought by direct lenders; many of which are backed by private equity firms ("sponsored") and some are independent ("non-sponsored")
- Range of opportunities allows managers to diversify by sector and industry

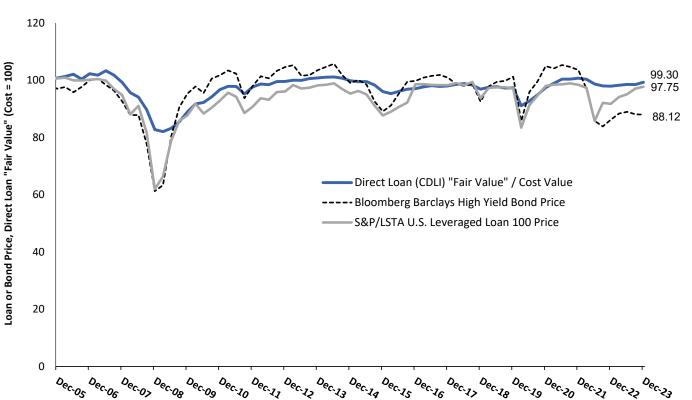


#### **CDLI Industry Weights as of Dec 2023**

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# CDLI Valuation vs. Leveraged Loans vs. High Yield Bonds

Middle market loan values move with broadly syndicated loan values, though with less volatility



Comparison of Market Value versus Cost (Principal) Value for CDLI with High Yield Bond and Bank Loan Prices, Sep 2004 to Dec 2023

Note: Most loans in the CDLI are directly originated, not secondary purchases, therefore, cost value equates to principal value.

Source: Cliffwater research, as of Dec 31, 2023. "Direct Loan "Fair Value" / Cost Value" is calculated based on the SEC filings of the BDCs that comprise the CDLI. Because direct loans are not traded assets and fair values are independent and unbiased estimates of the market values of assets, Cliffwater believes this metric can be used as a reasonable comparison to high yield bond and bank loan prices. The index returns are provided for information only. Reference to an index does not imply that a portfolio will achieve returns, volatility or other results similar to the index. Past performance is not indicative of future returns. Please see additional CDLI and Index disclosures at the end of the presentation.





## CDLI Realized Loss Rates vs. Leveraged Loans vs. High Yield Bonds

	High	Yield Bor	nds <sup>a</sup>	Leve	raged Loa	ans <sup>a</sup>	CDLI Middle Market Debt <sup>b</sup>
	Default	Recov	Credit	Default	Recov	Credit	Credit
	Ratio	Rate	Loss	Ratio	Rate	Loss	Loss
2005	2.8%	56%	1.23%	3.0%	84%	0.48%	-0.9%
2006	0.9%	55%	0.41%	0.5%	84%	0.08%	-0.6%
2007	0.4%	55%	0.18%	0.2%	69%	0.06%	-1.7%
2008	2.3%	27%	1.68%	3.7%	58%	1.55%	0.59%
2009	10.3%	36%	6.59%	12.8%	61%	4.99%	6.91%
2010	0.8%	41%	0.47%	1.8%	71%	0.52%	2.96%
2011	1.7%	49%	0.87%	0.4%	67%	0.13%	1.78%
2012	1.3%	53%	0.61%	1.4%	55%	0.63%	0.60%
2013	0.7%	53%	0.33%	1.7%	69%	0.53%	0.19%
2014	2.9%	48%	1.51%	4.3%	73%	1.16%	-0.01%
2015	1.8%	25%	1.35%	1.7%	48%	0.88%	0.70%
2016	3.6%	31%	2.48%	1.5%	63%	0.56%	1.41%
2017	1.3%	53%	0.60%	1.8%	57%	0.79%	1.75%
2018	1.8%	40%	1.08%	1.7%	63%	0.64%	0.93%
2019	2.6%	23%	2.02%	1.6%	49%	0.84%	0.87%
2020	6.2%	22%	4.84%	4.0%	48%	2.08%	3.30%
2021	0.3%	50%	0.15%	0.5%	56%	0.22%	-0.27%
2022	0.8%	55%	0.38%	1.0%	60%	0.39%	0.09%
2023	<u>2.1</u> %	<u>33</u> %	<u>1.41</u> %	<u>2.1</u> %	<u>38</u> %	<u>1.30</u> %	<u>0.86</u> %
Inception	2.35%	42%	1.48%	2.41%	62%	0.94%	1.02%
Last 10 Yrs	2.34%	38%	1.58%	2.03%	56%	0.88%	0.96%

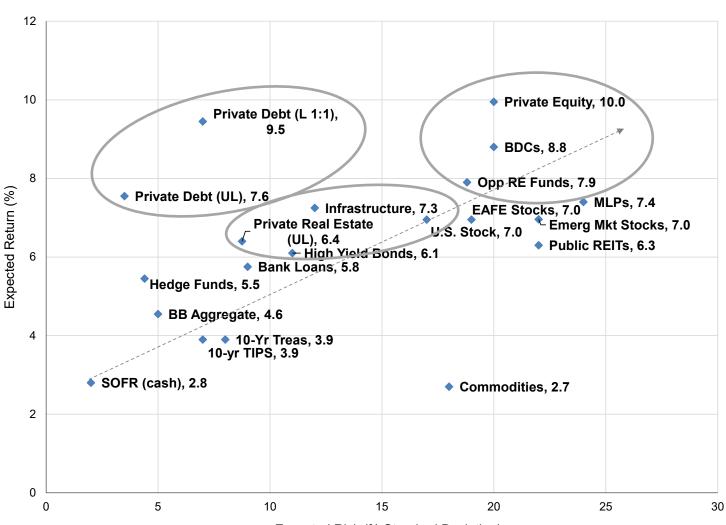
19 Year Credit Loss Rate (2005 to 2023)

Annualized realized losses for middle market loans (1.02%) has been slightly higher than for leveraged loans (0.94%) but lower than for high yield bonds (1.48%)

<sup>a</sup> Source: JPMorgan Markets

<sup>b</sup> Source: Cliffwater Direct Lending Index (Realized Credit Losses)

## Cliffwater Expected Asset Class Returns



Expected Risk (% Standard Deviation)

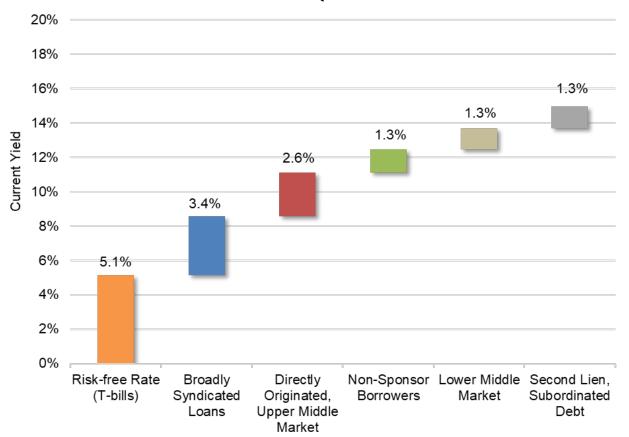
#### Calculations underlying Cliffwater Direct Lending Expected Return – Jan 1, 2024

(1) Loan Assumptions		
Loan Interest Income	8.75%	
Fee Income (OID)	0.50%	
Credit Losses	0.50%	
(2) Leverage Assumptions		
Cost of Debt	4.80%	4.80%
Leverage Amount	0.00x	1.00x
(3) Fee Assumptions		
Mgmt Fees (Gross Assets)	1.00%	1.00%
Operating Expenses (NAV)	0.20%	0.20%
Incentive Fee	0%	10%
Preferred Return	0%	6%
(4) Expected Return Calculation		
	<u>Unlevered</u>	Levered
Unlevered Portfolio Yield	8.75%	8.75%
+ Loan Origination Income	0.50%	0.50%
+ Effect of Leverage	0.00%	9.25%
- Interest Cost of Leverage	<u>0.00%</u>	<u>-4.80%</u>
= Gross Levered Yield	9.25%	13.70%
- Expected Credit Losses	-0.50%	-1.00%
- Estimated Mgmt Fees	-1.00%	-2.00%
- Other Expenses	-0.20%	-0.20%
- Estimated Incentive Fee	<u>0.00%</u>	<u>-1.05%</u>
= Net Expected Return	7.55%	9.45%

The information on this page contains Cliffwater's current views, projections regarding future events, and forecasts regarding the strategies described herein. There is no assurance that such events or forecasts will be achieved; and they may be significantly different from those that are shown here.



Lenders receive five independent "risk premiums" beyond the risk-free rate for investing in middle market loans



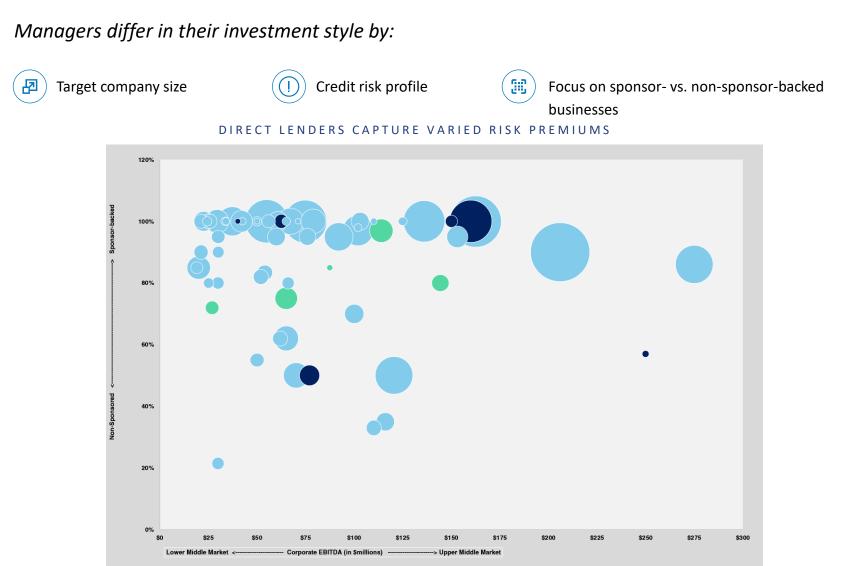
Risk Premiums in Direct US Middle Market Loans – Averaged Over the Past 4 Quarters as of Dec 2023

Cliffwater research based on public information and confidential responses of direct lending managers to Cliffwater inquiries. Source information may be over a year old and subject to interpretation by direct lending manager respondents. Risk premiums are estimates only and estimated using a cross-sectional three-factor regression of public and private BDCs' four quarter gross yields against Cliffwater's best estimates of each manager's loan seniority, expected/actual portfolio company size by average EBITDA and expected/actual share of sponsor vs. non-sponsor lending. Broadly syndicated loan yield as reported by the interest return of the S&P/LSTALLS Leveraged Loan Index

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# U.S. Middle Market Funding Activity





Light blue indicates managers focused on portfolios greater than 80% senior secured, dark blue indicates managers focused on portfolios between 50% and 80% senior secured and green indicates managers focused on portfolios with less than 50% senior secured.

# Portfolio Impact – Private Assets Have Outperformed Public Markets



Direct lending has historically delivered attractive returns with low volatility

Reallocating equity investments to direct lending offers potential for similar long-term returns with substantial reduction in volatility

Reallocating bond investments to direct lending offers the potential to increase yield and reduce interest rate risk



## Cliffwater Direct Lending Index Disclosures

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The Cliffwater Direct Lending Index (the "CDLI") seeks to measure the unlevered, gross of fees performance of U.S. middle market corporate loans, as represented by the underlying assets of Business Development Companies ("BDCs"), including both exchange-traded and unlisted BDCs, subject to certain eligibility requirements. The CDLI: Senior-Only (CDLI-S) is comprised of six BDC direct loan portfolios within the CDLI that Cliffwater has determined focus on investing in senior secured direct corporate loans. Data begins on September 30, 2010. The CDLI and CDLI-S are asset-weighted indexrd that are calculated on a quarterly basis using financial statements and other information contained in the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") filings of all eligible BDCs. Cliffwater believes that the CDLI is representative of the direct lending asset class. The CDLI and the CDLI-S are owned exclusively by Cliffwater, and are protected by law including, but not limited to, United States copyright, trade secret, and trademark law, as well as other state, national, and international laws and regulations. Cliffwater provides this information on an "as is" and "as available" basis, without any warranty of any kind, whether express or implied. Past performance of the CDLI and CDLI-S are not indicative of future returns. It is not possible to invest directly in the CDLI or the CDLI-S have not been reviewed by an independent accounting firm, have been prepared for informational purposes only and should not be considered investment advice. Index returns do not reflect payment of any sales charges or fees a person may pay to purchase the securities underlying the CDLI-S or a product that is intended to track the performance of the CDLI or CDLI-S performance of the CDLI or CDLI-S performance of the CDLI or CDLI-S performance shown.

Any information presented prior to the Launch Date of the CDLI (September 30, 2015) or that of the CDLI-S (June 30, 2017) is back-tested. Back-tested performance is not actual performance, but is hypothetical. Unless otherwise indicated, the back-tested calculations are based on the same methodology that was in effect when the CDLI or the CDLI-S were officially launched. Please refer to the methodology papers for the CDLI and CDLI-S (available at www.CliffwaterDirectLendingIndex.com) for more details about the CDLI and the CDLI-S, including the Base Dates/Values (September 30, 2004 for the CDLI; and September 30, 2010 for the CDLI-S), the Launch Dates, the manner in which the CDLI and CDLI-S are reconstituted and the eligibility criteria for the CDLI. Prospective application of the methodology used to construct the CDLI and CDLI-S may not result in performance commensurate with any back-tested returns shown. The back-test period does not necessarily correspond to the entire available history of the CDLI and CDLI-S. Another limitation of back-tested hypothetical information is that generally the back-tested calculation is prepared with the benefit of hindsight. Back-tested data reflect the application of the CDLI and CDLI-S methodology and selection of CDLI and CDLI-S constituents in hindsight. No hypothetical record can completely account for the impact of financial risk in actual trading. For example, there are numerous factors related to the financial markets in general which cannot be, and have not been accounted for, in the preparation of the CDLI and CDLI-S information set forth, all of which can affect actual performance. When Cliffwater was unable to determine the nature of a BDC's investments because of limited information included in historical SEC filings, Cliffwater did not apply the portfolio composition criteria (a substantial majority (approximately 75%) of reported total assets are represented by direct loans made to corporate borrowers, as categorized by each BDC and subject to Cliffwater's disc

The CDLI and CDLI-S are derived from sources that are considered reliable, but Cliffwater does not guarantee the veracity, currency, completeness or accuracy of the CDLI, the CDLI-S or other information furnished in connection with them. The CDLI and CDLI-S may include inaccuracies or typographical errors. Due to various factors, including the inherent possibility of human or mechanical error, the accuracy, completeness, timeliness and correct sequencing of such information and the results obtained from its use are not guaranteed by Cliffwater. No representation, warranty or condition, express or implied, statutory or otherwise, as to condition, satisfactory quality, performance, or fitness for purpose are given or duty or liability assumed by Cliffwater in respect of the CDLI or CDLI-S or any data included therein, omissions therefrom or the use of the CDLI or CDLI-S in connection with any product, and all those representations, warranties and conditions are excluded save to the extent such exclusion is prohibited by applicable law.

## General Disclosures

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Index Disclosures: References to market or indices, benchmarks or other measures of relative market performance over a specified period of time (each, an "index") are provided for information only. Reference to an index does not imply that a portfolio will achieve returns, volatility or other results similar to the index. The composition of an index may not reflect the manner in which a portfolio is constructed in relation to expected or achieved returns, portfolio guidelines, restrictions, sectors, correlations, concentrations, volatility or tracking error targets, all of which are subject to change over time. Investors cannot invest directly in indices and, unlike an account managed by Cliffwater, an index is unmanaged and fully invested. Index returns reflect the reinvestment of dividends but do not reflect the deduction of any fees or expenses, which would reduce returns.

The S&P/LSTA U.S. Leveraged Loan Index is a market value weighted index tracking institutional leveraged loans in the United States based upon market weightings, spreads and interest payment, including Term Loan A, Term Loan B and Second Lien tranches.

The Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Corporate High Yield Index (Bloomberg Barclays High Yield) measures the USD-denominated, high yield, fixed-rate corporate bond market. Securities are classified as high yield if the middle rating of Moody's, Fitch and S&P is Ba1/BB+/BB+ or below. Bonds from issuers with an emerging markets country of risk, based on the indices' EM country definition are excluded.

The Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Index represents securities that are SEC-registered, taxable, and dollar denominated. The index covers the U.S. investment grade fixed rate bond market, with index components for government and corporate securities, mortgage pass-through securities, and asset-backed securities.

The NCREIF Property Index is a quarterly time series composite total rate of return measure of investment performance of a very large pool of individual commercial real estate properties acquired in the private market for investment purposes only. All properties in the index have been acquired, at least in part, on behalf of tax-exempt institutional investors.

The Cambridge Private Equity Index is based on data compiled from global institutional-quality buyout, growth equity, private equity energy, venture capital and mezzanine funds, including fully liquidated partnerships, formed between 1986 and 2016.

The Russell 3000 Index is a capitalization-weighted stock market index that seeks to track the entire U.S stock market. It measures the performance of the 3,000 largest publicly held companies incorporated in the United States based on market capitalization.



Date:	May 23, 2024
To:	MercedCERA Board of Retirement
From:	Mark Harman, Fiscal Manager

**Subject:** Proposed Budget Policy, Administrative Budget, Non-Administrative Cost Projection, and Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

#### Item Number: Action Item b

#### Item Type: Action

#### **Staff Recommendation:**

- 1. Adopt the proposed Administrative Budget recommendation for MercedCERA for Fiscal Year 2024-2025.
- 2. Approve the Non-Administrative Projection and Capital Budget recommendations for MercedCERA for Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

#### Discussion:

#### Budget and Projection:

Staff compared the current year's budget and to-date expenditures to projected expenditures and projects for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (FY23-24). Prior year budget numbers, as well as the proposed budget and projection request for FY24-25, are in the attached budget and projection spreadsheets. Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (FY23-24) total expenditures to date are \$4,006,353.13 (as of April 30, 2024). We estimate these will fall below the final Administrative Budget, Non-Administrative Projection, and Capital Budget approved by the Board of Retirement for FY23-24.

Government Code Section 31580.2 within the County Employees Retirement Law of 1937 (CERL) allows for expenditures of administrative services to be the greater of 21 basis points (bps) (0.21%) of the actuarial accrued liability (AAL) of MercedCERA <u>or</u> a flat dollar amount of \$2,000,000, adjusted yearly by a specified cost of living adjustment (\$2,953,178) as of this year, as adjusted. MercedCERA's AAL as of the June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation was \$1.575B, of which 21 bps (0.21%) is \$3,306,680. Being the greater amount, this will be MercedCERA's FY24-25 administrative budget cap.

#### Budgeting, Projection, and Reporting Methodology

MercedCERA's Fiscal Staff utilize a three-pronged approach when approaching its annual budget and projection:

- 1. Recognize certain expenses as administrative under §31580.2 of the CERL. These are formally budgeted and fall under the aforementioned cap.
- 2. Recognize non-administrative costs: software and technology costs (§31580.2(b)); investment-related costs (§31596.1); and non-investment-related legal costs

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(§31529.9). The CERL requires no formal budget for non-administrative costs. Budgeting is also insufficient for costs that can be highly fluid, such as investment manager fees. We instead rely on projecting costs, subject to periodic adjustments. This provides the board with an idea of potential spending without the staff experiencing the burden of budgeting costs that are impossible to budget.

 Recognize planned capital items, which are also subject to future depreciation expense, if necessary, in a separate Capital Assets Budget set aside for this purpose. Resultant depreciation expenses are either administrative or nonadministrative depending on the nature of the asset itself.

MercedCERA staff relies on multiple variables to develop the estimates for the budgets and projection, including historical costs, known planned spending, contracted amounts, investment fee rates, current market conditions, and prior years' actual costs.

For transparency and prudence, the staff provides a separate Non-Administrative Projection in addition to its administrative budget and reports these expenses at MercedCERA public board meetings. MercedCERA staff also provide quarterly and monthly year-over-year non-administrative expenditure comparison reporting to provide greater accountability and transparency for the non-budgeted items.

#### Administrative Budget:

#### Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Proposed Budget Request

MercedCERA staff requests \$2,633,050 for <u>administrative expenses</u> in FY24-25. The largest increases are from insurance, utilities, and depreciation expenses. It is planned that MercedCERA will be relocated to its new headquarters building, currently under construction, as early as November 2024 and this will result in the biggest changes to the Administrative Budget, year-over-year. Increases in other budget line items resulted from anticipated cost inflation, industry wage increases, and other factors related to the new headquarters building. Below are the budget items that had the largest changes compared to last fiscal year.

#### Insurance

It is estimated that that insurance to cover the new building will create the bulk of the \$30,000 increase to the budgeted amount for insurance. Additionally, staff expect other insurance coverage premiums to increase for other policies.

#### Utilities

It is estimated that budgeted utilities will increase by \$20,000 to accommodate the new headquarters building.

#### Administrative Depreciation Expense

Estimated administrative depreciation expense will be increased to account for the first year of depreciation of \$125,000 for the new headquarters building allocated toward

administrative functions. This amount of the allocation is percentage based on square footage, staffing, and board use.

#### MercedCERA's Administrative Budget per the CERL

For FY24-25, staff continues to exercise prudence in budgeting for administrative expenses by submitting a budget that is only 16.72 basis points (bps) (0.1669%) of MercedCERA's AAL and 4.28 bps below the allotted legal limit of 21 bps of MercedCERA's AAL, per the CERL. The proposed administrative budget for FY24-25 is \$2,633,050 versus \$2,418,325 for FY23-24, a net increase of \$214,725.

#### Non-Administrative Projection:

#### Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Proposed Projection

We project \$5,643,500 <u>non-administrative expenses</u> in FY24-25, a net increase of \$290,500 versus the prior fiscal year. The following are details of this increase.

#### Investment Expenses

Investment Expenses will experience a net increase of \$137,500 from FY23-24:

- Investment Consultant Fees will experience a nominal decrease of \$17,500 to account for a recent contract negotiation with Meketa Investment Group.
- Investment-related technology cost estimate increase of \$137,500, which includes costs related to a potential investment data and document aggregation solution.

MercedCERA continues to allocate a projection to one staff member dedicated to investments for FY24-25, at \$460,000. Estimated staff costs of \$543,000 are also allocated to investment expenses. Staff costs related to investments are not subject to the administrative cap.

MercedCERA includes an amount in its projection related to fee fluctuations and staff due diligence costs. For FY24-25, we project this cost at \$100,000.

#### Actuarial Fees

MercedCERA projects a decrease of \$25,000 for FY24-25 due to a reduction in FY23-24 fiscal year-to-date actuals. The projection also includes a buffer for additional costs that are unforeseen due to any impact from changes in legislation and/or potential litigation.

#### Non-Investment Legal Services

Non-Investment Legal Services projection will decrease to \$400,000 for FY24-25 to adjust according to realized year-to-date actuals for FY23-24. These costs include Merced County Counsel; disability counsel and associated providers; board counsel; tax counsel; a disability hearing officer; court reporters; and sub-rosa investigations.

#### **Custodial Banking Services**

Custodial banking fees and related costs projection will increase by \$30,000 for FY24-25 to cover costs related to capital call execution and treasury management services.

#### Software, Technology, and Data Processing

The Data Processing projection will increase by \$3,000 due, in part, to cost estimates from Merced County Admin Services.

Software and technology projection will be \$605,000. This includes ongoing support and maintenance costs for CPAS; CPAS Oracle Cloud Hosting; CPAS Data Cleanup and Training; FRSecure consulting, and COGNOS licensing as major items. The projected amount represents a \$100,000 increase from the prior year's projection. This increase also includes costs for digitizing MercedCERA's member files and replacement hardware.

#### Depreciation

The non-administrative depreciation projection will increase to \$325,000 for FY24-25 from \$250,000.00 for FY23-24, an increase of \$75,000 which covers partial year depreciation of the new headquarters building, which part has been allocated for MercedCERA's investment activities. \$241,000 of the total depreciation is for CPAS.

#### Capital Assets Budget:

We currently plan no Capital Assets spending for FY24-25 aside from costs related to the continued construction of MercedCERA's new headquarters building, which is handled in a separate budget and associated reporting.

				Adm	inistrativ	ve Budget,	Fiscal Year	2024-20	25
Acct#	Account Name and Description	Adopted 2023/2024	Expended as of 4/30/2024	% Expended As of 4/30/2024	Balance	Proposed Budget FY2024/2025	Line Item Changes from 2023/2024	% Change From Last Year	Note #
10110	SALARIES/BENEFITS Staff compensation and benefits	\$ 1,975,000.00	\$ 1,060,766.64	54%	\$ 914,233.36	\$ 1,975,000.00	\$-	0%	i I
20600	COMMUNICATIONS AT&T, IS Communication Charges	9,800.00	6,214.37	63%	3,585.63	9,800.00	-	0%	
20900	HOUSEHOLD EXPENSE Bobs Community Pest Control, Geil Enterprises, ADT Security	15,750.00	10,703.80	68%	5,046.20	20,000.00	4,250.00	27%	A1
21000	INSURANCE Fiduciary/Building ( The Hartford, Alliant Ins. Svc., CSAC Excess Ins. )	105,000.00	101,995.00	97%	3,005.00	135,000.00	30,000.00	29%	A2
21301	MAINT STRUCT IMPROVEMENT & GROUNDS Yard Masters, DPW, & HVAC Routine Maint.	16,000.00	8,067.05	50%	7,932.95	25,000.00	9,000.00	56%	A3
21500	MEMBERSHIP SACRS, CALAPRS, NCPERS, & GFOA	8,000.00	6,415.00	80%	1,585.00	10,000.00	2,000.00	25%	A4
21700	OFFICE EXPENSE - GENERAL Office Depot, First Choice water, Petty cash, Supplies	19,275.00	14,412.72	75%	4,862.28	25,000.00	5,725.00	30%	A5
21710	OFFICE EXPENSE - POSTAGE FedEx, Mail Room Charges	20,000.00	16,591.26	83%	3,408.74	25,000.00	5,000.00	25%	A6
21805	AUDITS Outside Auditor (UHY LLP)	65,000.00	49,000.00	75%	16,000.00	65,000.00	-	0%	
21808	BOARD MEMBERSHIP Board Members	10,000.00	4,161.20	42%	5,838.80	10,000.00	-	0%	
21900	PUBLICATIONS & LEGAL NOTICES Merced Sun Star, Alliance, WSJ, GASB Updates	5,000.00	4,999.32	100%	0.68	7,500.00	2,500.00	50%	A7
22300	SPEC DEPT EXPENSE - OTHER	750.00	206.87	28%	543.13	1,000.00	250.00	33%	A8
22310	SPEC DEPT EXPENSE - ELECTION EXPENSE	30,000.00	5,541.41	18%	24,458.59	30,000.00	-	0%	
22327	SPEC DEPT EXP - COST ALLOCATION PLAN Use of County Departments	40,000.00	29,686.50	74%	10,313.50	40,000.00	-	0%	
22500	TRANSPORTATION & TRAVEL Mail run (Staff mileage reimbursement)	250.00	70.95	28%	179.05	250.00	-	0%	
22505	STAFF DEVELOPMENT Staff training and education	4,000.00	149.00	0%	3,851.00	10,000.00	6,000.00	150%	A9
22515	TRANS & TRAVEL - INSTATE OVERNIGHT (Conferences & Trainings)	40,000.00	22,403.52	56%	17,596.48	45,000.00	5,000.00	13%	A10
22516	TRANS & TRAVEL - OUT OF STATE (Conferences & Trainings)	7,500.00	3,481.31	46%	4,018.69	7,500.00	-	0%	
22600	UTILITIES P G & E and City of Merced	20,000.00	14,900.68	75%	5,099.32	40,000.00	20,000.00	100%	A11
	ADMINISTRATIVE DEPRECIATION EXPENSE	27,000.00	-	0%	27,000.00	152,000.00	125,000.00	463%	A12
	Total MercedCERA Administrative Budget	\$ 2,418,325.00	\$ 1,359,766.60	56%	\$ 1,058,558.40	\$ 2,633,050.00	\$ 214,725.00	9%	

#### Notes to Administrative Budget:

#### Account Note

- 20900 Projected increase to cover increased costs related to the new building (+\$4.3K). A1
- A2 21000 Projected increase to cover insurance on the new building (+\$30.0K).
- Increase due to increased costs related to maintenance on the new building (+\$9.0K). А3 21301
- Increase to cover increase in membership dues for professional organizations (+\$2.0K). A4 21500
- A5 21700 Increase due to costs related to an increase in staff (+\$5.7K).
- 21710 Expected cost increases due to expected increase in mailings to members (+\$5.0K). A6
- Increase to cover potential increase in activity based on projected actuals in current FY (+\$2.5K). A7 21900
- Expected increase in costs incidental to board meetings and other items (+\$0.25K). A8 22300
- Expected increase in staff development costs (+\$6.0K). A9 22505

- A10 22515 Expected increase in travel related to SACRS, CALAPRS, NCPRS, etc (+\$5.0K).
- A11 22600 Expected increase due to costs from expected move to new larger building mid year FY 24-25 (+\$20.0K).
- Includes portion of projected first year new building depreciation allocated to Administrative Budget functions (+\$125.0K). A12 DEPR

#### Administrative Budget Governance Notes:

- А. AB 609 amended §31580.2 and repealed §31580.3 of the California Government Code, relating to county employees' retirement. Approved September 30, 2010. This Bill prohibits expenses for the costs of administration of the retirement system incurred in any year from exceeding the greater of 21/100 of 1% of the accrued actuarial liability (AAL) of the retirement system or \$2,000,000, as adjusted annually by a specified annual cost-of-living adjustment not to exceed 3%. Refer to table to the right for information related to the cap.
- В. The Administrative Budget is governed by §31580.2 of the Government Code.

#### Changes to methodology and presentation from Prior Year's Budget:

- А. Added Alternate Administrative Budget Cap to table and added Budget Information box to provide contextual analysis.
- В. Added Note V to cover immaterial changes and adjustments to various budget accounts for the purpose of simplifying presentation and notes.

Budget Information, at a Glan	ice	
Total budget increase due to salaries	\$	-
Salary percentage increase		0.00%
Net increase, excluding salaries	\$	214,725
Percentage increase, excluding salaries		8.88%
Percentage of salaries to total budget		75.01%
% change of salaries to change of budget		0.00%
Percentage of all others to total budget		24.99%
% change of all others to % change of budget		100.00%

Administrative Budget Cap Inforr	nati	on
Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL)	\$	1,574,609,437
Administrative Cap %		0.21%
Administrative Cap	\$	3,306,680
FY 24-25 Administrative Budget	\$	2,633,050
% of FY 24-25 Budget to Cap		79.63%
% of FY 24-25 Budget to AAL		0.1672%
Alternate Administrative Budget Cap, a	s Ca	lculated
(provided for information on	ly)	
Alternate Cap Base Amount	\$	2,000,000
Alternate Cap, Adjusted for Cost of Living	\$	2,953,178

	Non Administrative Projection								
Acct#	Account Name and Description	Original Projection 2023/2024	Expended as of 4/30/2024	% Expended As of 4/30/2024	Balance	Projected 2024/2025	Line Item Changes from 2023/2024	% Change From Last Year	Not
21800	INVESTMENT EXPENSESFund Managers/Consulting/Investment Legal								
	Investment Management Fees	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 716,118.96	48%	\$ 783,881.04	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ -	0%	
	Investment Legal	400,000.00	72,779.60	18%	327,220.40	400,000.00	-	0%	
	Retirement Investment Staff	460,000.00	198,023.98	43%	261,976.02	460,000.00	-	0%	
	Staff Costs Allocated to Investments (new for FY 2023-2024)	543,000.00	346,674.52	64%	196,325.48	543,000.00	-	N/A	
	Investment Consultants	637,500.00	462,016.97	72%	175,483.03	620,000.00	(17,500.00)	-3%	
	Investment Technology Costs	100,000.00	17,716.67	18%	82,283.33	255,000.00	155,000.00	155%	
	Investment Extras (due diligence, due diligence travel, management expense fluctuations, etc)	100,000.00	48,622.48	49%	51,377.52	100,000.00	-	0%	
	Total Investment Expenses	3,740,500.00	1,861,953.18	50%	1,878,546.82	3,878,000.00	137,500.00	4%	P1
21802	ACTUARIAL SERVICES Cheiron, Segal	175,000.00	67,888.00	39%	107,112.00	150,000.00	(25,000.00)	-14%	P2
21812	DATA PROCESSING County Information Services, Internet Services	102,000.00	58,348.12	57%	43,651.88	105,000.00	3,000.00	3%	P3
21834	LEGAL SERVICES General and Disability Counsel and Associated Costs	430,000.00	261,760.86	61%	168,239.14	400,000.00	(30,000.00)	-7%	P4
21840	CUSTODIAL BANKING SERVICES Northern Trust, BNY Mellon, County Wire Fees	150,000.00	44,535.30	30%	105,464.70	180,000.00	30,000.00	20%	P5
22350	SOFTWARE & TECHNOLOGY CPAS /Payroll/Acct Program/LexisNexis/Copier /SyTech	505,000.00	352,101.07	70%	152,898.93	605,000.00	100,000.00	20%	P6
	NON-ADMINISTRATIVE DEPRECIATION EXPENSE	250,000.00	-	0%	250,000.00	325,000.00	75,000.00	30%	P7
	Total Non-Administrative Projection	\$ 5,352,500.00	\$ 2,646,586.53	49%	\$ 2,705,913.47	\$ 5,643,000.00	\$ 290,500.00	5%	

#### Notes to Non-Admininstrative Projection:

#### Account Note

- P1 21800 Estimated net increase of \$137.5K due to reduced cost from consultants (-\$17.5K) and possible investment information aggregation and analytics service (+\$155.0K).
- P2 21802 Estimated decrease of \$25.0K to reflect lower costs from FY23/24 projected actuals.
- P3 21812 Estimated increase of \$3.0K due to Cradlepoint Access Costs, Comcast, and IS Monthly billing.
- P4 21834 Estimated decrease of \$30.0K to reflect lower costs from 23/24 projected actuals.
- P5 21840 Estimated increase of \$30.0K due to planned addition of capital call execution and treasury management services from custodial bank.
- P6 22350 Estimated net increase of \$100.0k due to increase in previously projected imaging project (+\$85K) and hardware updates (+15.K).
- P7 DEPR Estimated increase of of \$75.0k due to non-administrative depreciation allocation for new building.

#### Non-Administrative Projection Governance Notes:

- A. Non-Administrative Expenses are items that are not subject to the Administrative budget and cap requirements under the CERL.
- B. Investment Expenses, Actuarial Services, and Custodial Banking Services are non-administrative expenses under \$31596.1.
- C. Data Processing, Software, and Technology are non-administrative expenses under §31580.2(b).
- D. Non-Investment Legal Services are non-administrative expenses under §31529.9.

#### Changes to methodology and presentation from Prior Year's Projection:

A. None.

Capital Asset Budget - Excluded from Administrative Cap									
Acct#	Account Name and Description	Adopted 2022/2023	Expended as of 2/28/2023	% Expended As of 2/28/2023	Proposed Balance Budget FY2023/2024		Line Item Changes from 2022/2023	% Change From Last Year	Note #
									Α
	Total Capital Asset Budget	\$-	\$-	N/A	\$-	\$-	\$-	N/A	1

#### Notes to Capital Asset Budget:

#### Account Note

A. No projected capital spending for FY 24-25. New headquarters building budget and actuals presented in separate reporting as a consent item.



ITEM TYPE:	Action
ITEM NUMBER:	Action Item c
SUBJECT:	MercedCERA Assistant Plan Administrator - Investments
FROM:	Kristie Santos, Plan Administrator
то:	MercedCERA Board of Retirement
DATE:	May 23, 2024

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

1. Adopt the proposed Resolution 2024-03 establishing the salary range for the Assistant Plan Administrator – Investments and authorize the Plan Administrator to begin the recruitment and hiring process, once the position is established.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

At the Board of Retirement meeting on April 25, 2024, the Board approved a draft classification specification, convened an ad hoc subcommittee and authorized the Plan Administrator to work with County Human Resources to create a new Assistant Plan Administrator - Investments position.

The Plan Administrator received feedback from the ad hoc subcommittee regarding the classification document and the proposed Resolution being presented today establishing the salary range for the position. These documents will be needed to work with County Human Resources. Once the position is created, the Plan Administrator is asking for delegated authority to begin the recruitment and hiring process with the ad hoc subcommittee.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt the proposed Resolution 2024-03 establishing the salary range for the Assistant Plan Administrator – Investments and authorize the Plan Administrator to begin the recruitment and hiring process, once the position is established.

# ASSISTANT PLAN ADMINISTRATOR -Investments

Class Code: 7539

Bargaining Unit: "B" Level Unrepresented Management

MERCED COUNTY Established Date: XXXX, 2023 Revision Date: XXXX

# SALARY RANGE

\$60.12 - \$73.19 Hourly \$4,809.60 - \$5,855.20 Biweekly \$10,420.80 - \$12,686.27 Monthly \$125,049.60 - \$225,000 Annually

# **DESCRIPTION:**

Under direction of the Plan Administrator, assists in the implementation and administration of the Investment Program of the Merced County Employees' Retirement Association (MercedCERA); monitors and analyzes investment performance; evaluates the performance of investment service providers; and assists in the planning and development of investment strategies and may coordinate the work of the fiscal staff and the MercedCERA Investment Consultants. This class is characterized by the responsibility to assist and provide direction in the management and implementation of the MercedCERA investment strategy and policies and to monitor and analyze fund investments and maintain and discharge discretionary authority and responsibility over some aspects of the Program. This class performs the most complex and specialized investment related duties, works under general supervision and may play a role in coordinating the work of staff.

# **EXAMPLES OF DUTIES:**

Duties may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Assist in developing objectives and guidelines for the MercedCERA investment program and writing policies; assist in the formulation of investment strategies and tactics;
- Research and analyze pension fund trends and new product developments in the institutional investment industry; analyze economic and financial markets on a global basis;
- Prepare special analysis of the investment portfolio; develop investment improvement recommendations; conduct research and screen investment opportunities and oversee the general investment process;
- Prepare and present written and oral reports to and conduct workshops for the MercedCERA Board, and stakeholders including but not limited to retirees, employees, and other groups as directed;
- Provide primary support to Investment Manager Searches, Watch Status and Terminations;

- Oversee investment contract processes with knowledge of current market terms; prepare Request for Proposals; assist in benchmarking investment services providers performance; meet with investment managers to evaluate products and firms; assist in the review, negotiation and administration of contracts for services, including alternative investments;
- Attend monthly Board meetings; develop and present the results of analytical projects to the Board; study and make recommendations to the Retirement Board based on internal research and/or advice received from outside consultants; properly maintain the asset allocation plan approved by the Retirement Board;
- Participate in evaluating the investment performance of investment managers and MercedCERA's portfolio; evaluate trade cost analysis of MercedCERA's investment managers; act as primary liaison to investment managers in monthly and quarterly reporting and monitors their compliance with Board established reporting deadlines and report formats; monitor and assist in ensuring compliance of the Retirement System's investment managers with the Board's investment policies and guidelines;
- Coordinate portfolio rebalancing; monitor allocation mix of short-term investment funds; recommend changes to the MercedCERA Investment Policy Statement;
- Perform compliance audits of investment managers; verify and track fees for investment managers and consultants.
- Calculate, analyze and reconcile alternative investment account fee structures, expenses and performance measures;
- Review investment training opportunities with the Board and Staff; attend Client and Investment Conferences; meet with banking, financial and investment organizations to discuss investments, financial markets and economic trends;
- Apply statistical principles and methodologies to data sets. Principles and methodologies may include such things as linear regression, multiple linear regression, regime switching return models, mean reversion models, auto regressive/moving average models, asset liability modeling, confidence intervals, hypothesis testing and tests for collinearity;
- Provide peer review and technical direction and guidance to staff;
- Perform special projects as assigned; and
- Perform related duties as assigned.

# **KNOWLEDGE OF:**

- The principals and practices of institutional investing for a public pension plan;
- Financial analysis;
- The principals of pension administration and retirement benefits administration;
- Risk monitoring, economic and market trends and conditions;
- Applicable investment laws, rules and regulations;
- Benchmarking;
- Administrative analysis;
- Statistics and actuarial analysis;
- 1937 (California) County Employees Retirement Act, and other applicable State, Federal and local regulations; Principles and practices of policy development and implementing; and
- Modem office procedures, methods and computer equipment;
- Principles of effective employee management, supervision, training, and development.

# **ABILITY TO:**

- Plan, organize, direct, manage, and coordinate the operations, functions, and investment strategies of MercedCERA;
- Evaluate, monitor, and strategically manage public pension system investment portfolio;
- Analyze and communicate the strategies related to complex financial investments;
- Perform complex financial and statistical analysis;
- Develop and maintain statistical records and reports for MercedCERA investment portfolio;
- Establish and maintain investment policies and procedures for MercedCERA investments;
- Prepare and write reports or presentations;
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with all MercedCERA stakeholders;
- Effectively communicate verbally and in writing;
- Make presentations to Boards and management groups;
- Develop complex plans and reports;
- Ability to work collaboratively with staff in a small office; and
- Work cooperatively with the MercedCERA Plan Administrator
- Provide direction, supervision, training, development, and evaluation of work performance for assigned MercedCERA staff.

# **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

#### **Experience:**

Any combination of education and experience that would provide the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and abilities listed. Normally this would include possession of a Bachelor's degree, or equivalent, in finance, statistics, actuarial science, mathematics, applied mathematics, economics, business administration or closely related field; **AND** 

Four (4) years of investment experience in a public agency or financial institution which involved investment portfolio management, formulating, recommending and implementing investment strategies, economic analysis, and/or investment reporting or performance measurement; **OR** 

A Master's degree, or equivalent, with an emphasis in any of the above listed areas and three years of experience in the above listed areas. Experience in retirement benefits administration and pursuit or possession of the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation is highly desirable.

# **SKILLS AND ABILITIES:**

- ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS
  - Communicate effectively with others in person, in writing, and over the telephone or teleconferencing software.
- Operate a personal computer and other office equipment, including repetitive hand arm motions;
- Analyze complex financial investments and statistical analysis and develop appropriate conclusions;
- Monitor investment data and ensure adherence to MercedCERA directives, policies, and regulations;

- Meet deadlines under stressful conditions; complete multiple of priority projects with conflicting deadlines;
- Maintain, confidential information in accordance to legal standards/and or MercedCERA regulations.
- Resolve conflicts and respond appropriately to complaints.Prepare and write reports or presentations;
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with all MercedCERA stakeholders;
- Establish, implement and achieve goals and objectives;
- Train, evaluate, and supervise staff.
- •
- Conduct presentations to Boards and management groups;
- Develop complex plans and reports;
- Frequent use of depth perception, peripheral vision and color perception.
- Frequently lift, carry, reach, push, pull, twist and manipulate large and small objects.
- Frequent use of hand-eye coordination; Normal dexterity, frequent holding and grasping.
- Occasionally lift and carry up to 40 pounds.
- Regular attendance is an essential function.

# **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

FLSA: Exempt Probationary Period: At Will Classification

#### RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF RETIREMENT OF MERCED COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION RESOLUTION 2024-03 REGARDING THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT PLAN ADMINISTRATOR -INVESTMENTS

WHEREAS, Government Code section 31522.3 authorizes the Board of Retirement, if it has appointed personnel under Government Code section 31522.1, to appoint assistant administrators and chief investment officers as County employees not subject to County civil service or merit system rules provided that the Board of Supervisors has adopted a resolution making that section applicable in the County of Merced, and

WHEREAS, on July 19, 2022, the Board of Supervisors, in Resolution No. 2022-74, made Government Code section 31522.3 applicable in the County of Merced, and

WHEREAS, under Government Code section 31522.3, and Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 2022-74, the Board of Retirement has the authority to create the position and set the salary for the position of Assistant Plan Administrator - Investments (subsequently "Assistant Plan Administrator - Investments"), and

WHEREAS, the Board of Retirement desires to set the salary range and the process for raises within that range for the Assistant Plan Administrator - Investments the initial salary range of \$125,049.60 to \$225,000 on May 23, 2024, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Retirement hereby creates the position and adopts a salary range of \$125,049.60 to \$225,000 for the Assistant Administrator – Investment's position. That range will be increased as provided for in salary increases given to County employees classified as B Level Unrepresented Management.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Retirement will set the Assistant Plan Administrator - Investment's salary at an amount and may be amended, and salary increases as follows:

- 1. The Board of Retirement will conduct a yearly review of the Assistant Plan Administrator - Investment's performance as near as practicable to the anniversary date of the appointment date.
- 2. The Assistant Plan Administrator Investments will automatically receive all salary increases provided to County employees classified as B Level Unrepresented Management.
- 3. At its discretion, the Board of Retirement may increase the Assistant Plan Administrator Investment's salary at any time, and in any amount, and may, in the future, grant a non-pensionable bonus based on performance criteria established by the Board.

ADOPTED: May 23, 2024

Chair, Ryan Paskin

ATTEST:

Kristen Santos, Plan Administrator