

Calaveras County Water District

Retiree Health Trust Fund Investment Strategies



- The District sponsors a single employer defined Other Postemployment Benefit Plan (OPEB) that provides retiree health benefits, such as medical, prescription drug, dental and vision coverage at retirement.
- Under this program the District maintains an IRS Section 115 trust with Public Agency Retirement Services (PARS).
- U.S. Bank is the trustee and PFM Asset Management (PFM) manages our investments.

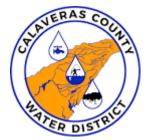


- At the June 26 Board meeting GovInvest presented the District's GASB 75 Disclosures for the fiscal year Ending June 30, 2024, with the following findings:
 - The District's Net OPEB Liability decreased from \$8,175,039 as of June 30, 2022, to \$5,946,368 as of June 30, 2023. This decrease can be attributable to a combination of several factors, including:
 - Better actual asset performance compared to expected.
 - Favorable actual demographic experience that is offset by slightly higher healthcare cost increase than expected.
 - The trust's funding deficiency is \$410,000



- Although the Net OPEB Liability experienced a \$2.2 million decrease in 2023, it is still \$3.98 million higher than the \$2.0 million in 2021.
- The primary reason for the increase in the Net OPEB Liability was a change in the discount rate, which is the expected rate of return on the trust's investments.
- Lowering the discount rate reduces the amount of future assets available for OPEB expenses and in turn increases the Net OPEB Liability.
 In 2021 the District lowered the discount rate from 7.0% to 6.0%.
- The Net OPEB Liability appears in the District's Audited Financial Statements (AFS) as a Non-Current Liability in the Statement of Net Position.

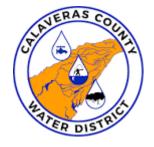
CALAVERAS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT



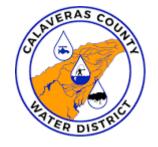
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - PROPRIETARY FUNDS (Continued)

June 30, 2023 (With Prior Year Data for Comparative Purposes Only)

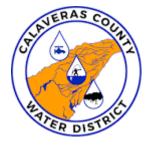
	\$ 3,346,774 463,233 150,350 2,620,189 6,580,546
RESOURCES AND NET POSITION CURRENT LIABILITIES Accounts payable and accrued expenses \$ 1,953,126 \$ 1,860,182 \$ 3,813,308 \$	463,233 150,350 2,620,189
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	463,233 150,350 2,620,189
Denogita navable 262 222 5 022 269 156	150,350 2,620,189
Deposits payable 262,233 5,923 268,156 Accrued interest payable 261,003 125,222 386,225	2,620,189
Current portion oflong-term liabilities 1,824,967 757,294 2,582,261	
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES 4,301,329 2,748,621 7,049,950	0,360,340
101AL CORRENT EIABIEITIES 4,501,525 2,746,021 7,045,550	
NONCURRENT LIABILITIES	
Unearned revenue 261,681 17,338 279,019	265,79
Interfund loans 303,139 645,746 948,885	1,585,14
Retention payable 367,012 249,807 616,819	234,29
Noncurrent portion oflong-term liabilities 29,333,850 11,713,843 41,047,693	42,901,02
Net pension liability 6,211,039 2,297,234 8,508,273	422,870
Net other postemployment benefits liability 5,967,778 2,207,261 8,175,039	2,008,65
TOTAL NONCURRENT LIABIL ITIES 42,444,499 17,131,229 59,575,728	47,417,773
TOTAL LIABILITIES 46,745,828 19,879,850 66,625,678	53,998,319
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
Pension plan 1,169,002 432,371 1,601,373	2,459,571
Other postemployment benefits 1,099,921 406,820 1,506,741	3,056,656
Leases 587,386 217,252 804,638	826,796
TOTAL DEFFERED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES 2,856,309 1,056,443 3,912,752	6,343,023
NET POSITION	
Net investment in capital assets 79,420,806 42,297,094 121,717,900	115,597,923
Restricted for expansion and construction 11,995,529 13,003,579 24,999,108	26,697,854
Restricted for grant programs	4,516
Unrestricted 3,016,046 (2,217,991) 798,055	6,179,541
TOTAL NET POSITION 94,432,381 53,082,682 147,515,063	148,479,834
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS	\$ 208,821,176



- In comparison to FY 2021-22, the \$6.0 million increase in our Net OPEB Liability plus the Net Pension Liability (PERS) added a total \$14.3 million to our Non-Current Liabilities.
- The investment strategies, discount rate and investment returns for the Net Pension Liability are controlled by PERS.
- The District's one tool to help lower the pension liability is to make additional payments to reduce our Unfunded Accrued Liability (UAL), which stands at \$10.5 million.



- The District has options to mitigate the Net OPEB Liability, including making additional contributions to the trust (\$410,000), or moving from a Moderate asset allocation to a Balanced asset allocation strategy.
- A Balanced allocation has a greater percentage of investments in equities and the potential for a higher rate of return.
- However, it does come with additional investment risk and potential losses as it is expected to witness more volatility over a market cycle, the incremental increase in risk was modest.



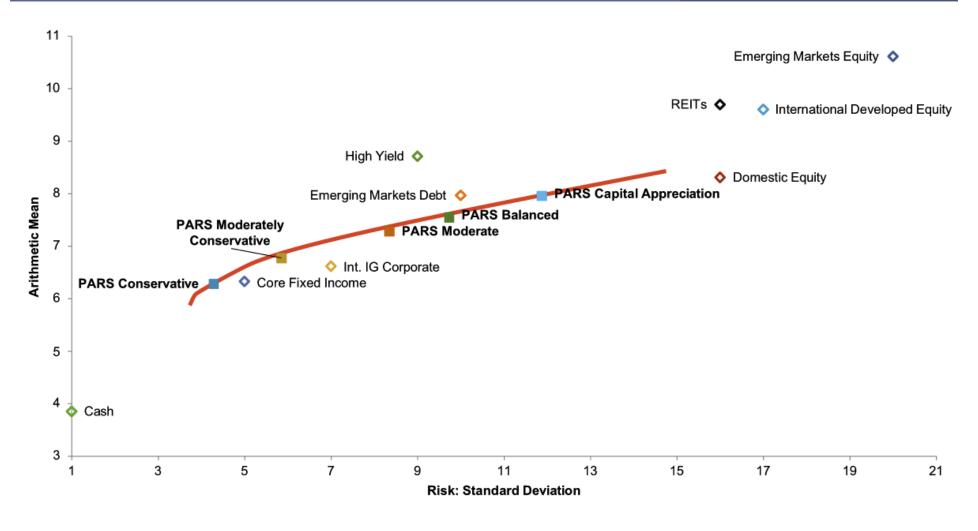
Asset Allocation Summary

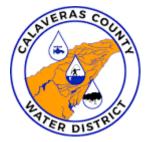
	PARS Conservative	PARS Moderately Conservative	PARS Moderate	PARS Balanced	PARS Capital Appreciation
Equity	15.0%	30.0%	50.0%	60.0%	75.0%
Domestic Equity	11.5%	23.0%	39.0%	47.0%	57.5%
International Developed Equity	2.0%	4.0%	6.0%	7.0%	10.3%
Emerging Markets Equity	1.0%	2.0%	3.3%	4.0%	5.3%
REITs	0.5%	1.0%	1.8%	2.0%	2.0%
Fixed Income	80.0%	65.0%	45.0%	35.0%	20.0%
Short-Term Bonds	25.8%	14.0%	10.0%	6.8%	3.0%
Core Fixed Income	52.3%	49.3%	33.5%	27.0%	16.0%
High Yield	2.0%	1.8%	1.5%	1.3%	1.0%
Cash	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%
Intermediate-Term (5 Years)					
Expected Return	6.2%	6.7%	7.0%	7.2%	7.5%
Standard Deviation	4.3%	5.9%	8.3%	9.7%	11.9%
Return / Standard Deviation	1.44	1.14	0.84	0.74	0.63
Long-Term (30 Years)					
Expected Return	5.0%	5.6%	6.3%	6.6%	7.1%
Standard Deviation	4.3%	5.9%	8.3%	9.7%	11.9%
Return / Standard Deviation	1.17	0.97	0.75	0.68	0.60



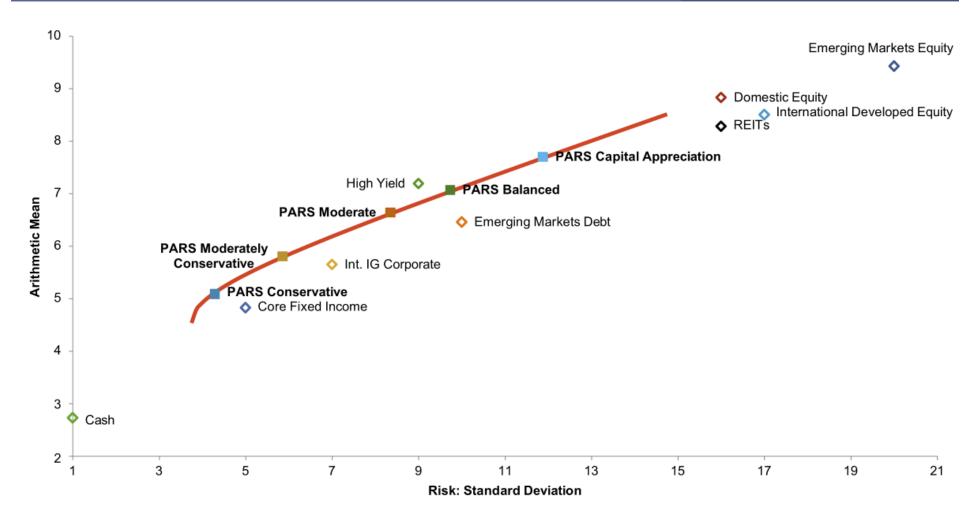


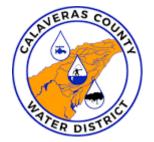
Efficient Frontier (Intermediate-Term)



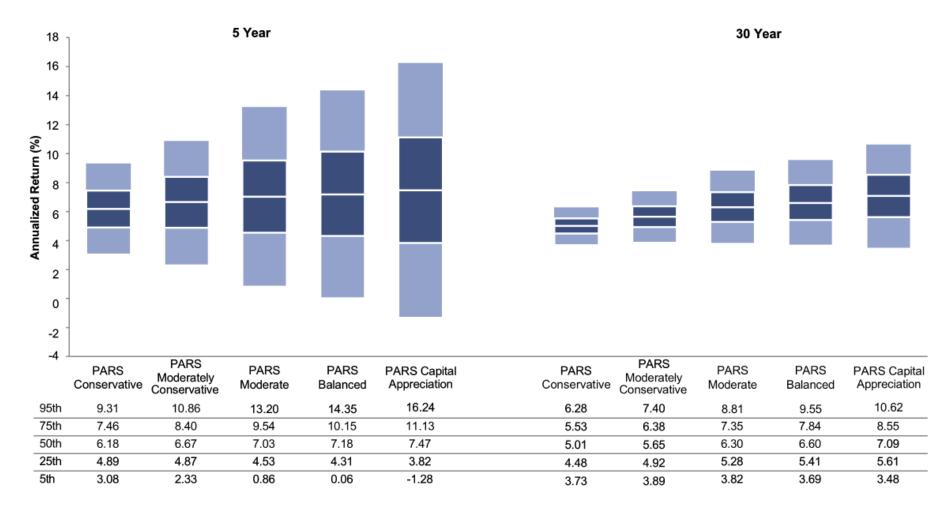


Efficient Frontier (Long-Term)





Return Projections (Intermediate and Long-Term)







- Another factor are the District's other funding needs, operating and capital. The District has a significant backlog of water and wastewater capital projects.
- Although loans can help provide funding for capital projects, loans require adequate funding for debt service and a satisfactory debt service coverage ratio.
- There will be a time when the District pushes against its debt limits. When this happens, shifting limited rate revenue to backfill the Net OPEB Liability could reduce the availability of funds for the District's CIP.



- If the District changes from a Moderate to Balanced, and if the trust fund can achieve the projected returns of the Balanced asset allocation, the increase in the discount rate has the potential to fulfill the following goals:
 - Use current assets in the retiree health trust to grow the necessary funds to meet our OPEB obligations.
 - Minimize annual contributions to the trust fund.
 - Reduce our Net OPEB Liability.
 - Preserve funding for the district's operations and capital programs.
- However, if the Balanced asset allocation cannot meet its projected returns, then the discount rate cannot increase, and we will still have a Net OPEB Liability that will appear in the District's Audited Financial Statements.
- Furthermore, if there are losses, the Retiree Health Trust will be negatively impacted.



Questions

Recommendation