

TMRS Transparency Resources

for
Government Finance Officers
Association of Texas
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Presented by
Rhonda Covarrubias
Director of Finance, TMRS



TMRS Snapshot*

- 872 cities participate in TMRS (not Houston, Dallas, Ft. Worth, Austin, El Paso, or Galveston).
- TMRS has approximately 109,000 active member accounts and 56,600 annuitants.
- Governed by a 6-member Board of Trustees appointed by the Governor with Senate approval.
- Participating cities vary in size from over 6,000 employees (San Antonio non-uniformed employees) to just 1 employee (15 TMRS cities).

Dedicated to Transparency

- TMRS communicates constantly with cities, members, and elected officials
- TMRS recognized in April 2017 by the Center for State & Local Government Excellence for outstanding communications and transparency
- TMRS documents support transparency and sound management — actuarial valuations, experience studies, city rate letters, and the CAFR
- TMRS provides a Resources web page to guide cities in attaining the Comptrollers Transparency Star in the Public Pensions category

Guide for Transparency Stars Program

- Found under the Cities section of the TMRS website

The screenshot shows the TMRS website navigation menu. The top navigation bar includes "Texas Municipal Retirement System", "Members", "Retirees", "Cities", and "About". Below this, there are two buttons: "City Portal Log in" and "City Services Home". The "Cities" dropdown menu is open, displaying three columns of links:

Resources	Events & Training	Actuarial & Accounting
City Portal Information	Events & Training	Eye On GASB
Payroll Reporting (FTP)	Travel Team	City Rate Letters
Payroll Training	Video Training Library	Actuarial Reports
My City Plan	Payroll Training	Financial Reports
City Plan Provisions	Calendars	
Transparency Stars Program	Contact TMRS	
How Do I?		
Forms for City Correspondents		

Page Components - Examples

TMRS Resource Page

for Texas Comptroller of Public Account's Transparency Stars – Public Pensions

Questions? Contact pensionaccounting@tmrs.com

← Assistance from TMRS Staff

Description of [Local Government Transparency Stars Program](#) on State Comptroller's website

Description of [application process](#) on State Comptroller's website

Example [transparency pages](#) of TMRS cities on the Comptroller's website: To see TMRS city pages, view the Public Pensions column and scroll to the examples that say "View Site."

Links to Explanatory pages on Comptroller's site

To assist your city in fulfilling the documentation for the Public Pensions Guidelines [\[checklist\]](#), TMRS is providing descriptions of the materials with links where appropriate. Generally, a city should be able to find most of its information in its annual TMRS Rate Letter, with the Investment performance data for the System in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).

Links to explanatory pages on TMRS' site

Note about TMRS Cities / Entities

The Comptroller's office has indicated that members of statewide, cash balance plans such as TMRS are eligible for the pension star because they exercise some independent decision-making about their benefit elements at the local level. Cities that are members of TMRS should ensure that elements on their sites demonstrate clearly their distinct performance/decision-making within the plan (i.e., if including a statewide document or report to meet the Star requirements, include the page numbers referring to your city; or you can pull out your city-specific information from statewide information to create your graphic representations, etc.). Individual city plan provision information is available in two tables on the TMRS website. [City Plan Provisions](#) | [My City Plan](#)

Explanation of Terms

Terminology

Actuarial Valuation (AV)

AVs are currently available on the website for 2008 through 2016. [\[Actuarial Reports section of the Publications page, under "Archive"\]](#) The 2015 and 2011 **Actuarial Experience Studies** are also available on the website. Older AVs are available upon request.

Rate Letter (RL)

The City RL contains detailed information on the required city contribution rate. All RLs are available on the website for the past 5 years (2014 through 2018), accessible from a drop-down menu [\[Rate Letters page, under current and Archive sections\]](#). Prior to the 2016 RL (sent in 2015), the RL also contained GASB disclosure information.

Explanation of Comptroller's Checklist

Transparency Stars Public Pensions Checklist

(summary chart equivalent to the Public Pensions [Checklist](#) posted on the Comptroller's website). Review the overall requirements on the [Comptroller's website](#), and use the list below for help with TMRS documents. City-specific information is **highlighted in green** and the System (TMRS) information is **highlighted in yellow**. Current and archived TMRS CAFRs and Schedules of Changes in FNP are found under the [Publications for Cities](#) page, Financial Reports tab.

Abbreviations used below:
 AV = Actuarial Valuation
 CAFR = TMRS' Comprehensive Annual Financial Report
 RL = Rate Letter

Blue links to documents where information can be found

Required Elements	Source
Dedicated webpage or section of website	<i>Roll over links below for more information</i>
General narrative overview of the transparency area 3 clicks or less from the homepage	Include and explain the elements of your City Plan Provisions
Public Pensions Summary	
Funded ratio	RL (Executive Summary), AV
Amortization period	RL (Calculation of Contribution Requirement), AV
One-, three- and 10-year rates (if available) of return with basic explanation (or link to basic explanation) of methodology employed	CAFR
Assumed rate of return	RL , AV
Actuarially Determined Contribution (ADC) Rate (if plan	RL (Full Retirement Rate in the Executive

TMRS Documents

Several documents will be used by your city to obtain various information, all within the City Services section of the website or from direct links from the Transparency Resource page:

- City Rate Letters
- Actuarial Reports
- GASB Reporting Packages
- CAFR
- Schedule of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position

TMRS Documents

Portal [Log in](#) City Services [Home](#)

Actuarial & Accounting

- [Eye On GASB](#)
- [City Rate Letters](#)
- [Actuarial Reports](#)
- [Financial Reports](#)

City Rate Letters

If you need a copy of your city's rate letter showing municipal contribution rates for the year beginning January 1, 2018, please select your city name from the menu below. Letters are in pdf format.

2018 Municipal Contribution Rate Letters

Select Your City

Abernathy

[Get 2018 Rate Letter](#)

Publications

[Periodicals](#) [E-News](#) [Benefits](#) [For City Officials](#) [Financial](#) [Actuarial](#)

Actuarial Reports

- [2016 Actuarial Valuation](#)
- [Actuarial Funding Policy Effective December 31, 2015](#)
- [2015 Actuarial Valuation](#)
- [2015 Actuarial Experience Study](#)
- [2014 Actuarial Valuation](#)
- [Actuarial Funding Policy Effective December 31, 2013](#)
- [2013 Actuarial Valuation](#)
- [2013 Mortality Experience Study \(pdf\)](#)
- [2011 Actuarial Experience Study \(pdf\)](#)

Actuarial Valuations Archive

- [2016 Actuarial Valuation](#)
- [2015 Actuarial Valuation](#)
- [2014 Actuarial Valuation](#)
- [2013 Actuarial Valuation](#)
- [2012 Actuarial Valuation](#)
- [2011 Actuarial Valuation](#)
- [2010 Actuarial Valuation](#)
- [2009 Actuarial Valuation](#)
- [2008 Actuarial Valuation](#)

- **City Rate Letters**
- **Actuarial Reports**

TMRS Documents

- **GASB Reporting Packages (Eye on GASB)**
- **CAFR and Schedule of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position**

Portal [Log in](#) City Services [Home](#)

Actuarial & Accounting

- [Eye On GASB](#)
- [City Rate Letters](#)
- [Actuarial Reports](#)
- [Financial Reports](#)

Financial Reports


Comprehensive Annual Financial Report • 2016

The 2016 TMRS CAFR is a large document; you can download the entire report [here](#), or you can choose from the report's sections below.

- [Introductory section](#)
- [Financial Section](#)
- [Investments Section](#)
- [Actuarial Section](#)
- [Statistical Section](#)

Schedule of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position • 2016

Schedule of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position (by Participating Municipality)



What You Need for GASB 68 Compliance

E-mail for GASB questions: pensionaccounting@tmrs.com

2017 GASB Employer Reporting Package for Fiscal Year End 2017

Select your GASB Reporting Package based on your fiscal year end, then select your city name from the dropdown menu and click on "Get GASB Package" to download your city's reporting package for that year. Packages are in pdf format.

Select Your City

Participation from TMRS Cities

- Carrollton (CFO Bob Scott) took a leading role in completing the process for earning the Public Pensions star
- Since its initial rollout, 12 TMRS cities have received their Transparency Star for Public Pensions
- The next slide, from the Comptrollers website, shows a portion of the list of governments that have completed the Transparency Stars program

Public Pensions Transparency Stars

TRANSPARENCY STARS

The following local entities have achieved excellence in the indicated area(s) of transparency. Use this tool to search by entity name and learn more about awardees' efforts to increase fiscal accountability at the local level.

To apply for a Transparency Star, [review the criteria](#) and [submit an application](#).

Download and further analyze data using the [Texas Open Data Center](#).

Public Pensions



Entity Name	Entity Type	Traditional Finances	Contracts & Procurement	Economic Development	Public Pensions	Debt Obligations
City of Carrollton	City	★ View site		★ View site	★ View site	★ View site
City of Andrews	City	★ View site			★ View site	★ View site
Troup ISD	ISD	★ View site			N/A - TRS member*	
Hull-Daisetta ISD	ISD	★ View site			N/A - TRS member*	
Conroe ISD	ISD	★ View site	★ View site		N/A - TRS member*	★ View site
City of Abernathy	City	★ View site				★ View site
Longview ISD	ISD	★ View site			N/A - TRS member*	★ View site
Town of Westlake	City	★ View site				★ View site
Comal County	County	★ View site				

Questions

