IN PERSON & VIRTUAL BOARD MEETING

*The Committee meeting will be held following the Board of Retirement meeting scheduled prior.



TO VIEW VIA WEB



TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public may address the Committee orally and in writing. To provide Public Comment, you should visit the above link and complete the request form by selecting whether you will provide oral or written comment from the options located under Options next to the Committee meeting.

Attention: If you have any questions, you may email PublicComment@lacera.com. If you would like to make a public comment during the committee meeting, review the Public Comment instructions.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION 300 N. LAKE AVENUE, SUITE 650, PASADENA, CA

AGENDA

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE OPERATIONS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF RETIREMENT*

LOS ANGELES COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

300 N. LAKE AVENUE, SUITE 810, PASADENA, CA 91101

9:00 A.M., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2024**

This meeting will be conducted by the Operations Oversight Committee and Board of Retirement both in person and by teleconference under California Government Code Sections 54953(f).

Any person may view the meeting in person at LACERA's offices or online at https://LACERA.com/leadership/board-meetings.

The Committee may take action on any item on the agenda, and agenda items may be taken out of order.

COMMITTEE TRUSTEES:

JP Harris, Chair Antonio Sanchez, Vice Chair Jason Green, Trustee Wayne Moore, Trustee David Ryu, Alternate Trustee

- CALL TO ORDER
- II. PROCEDURE FOR TELECONFERENCE MEETING ATTENDANCE UNDER AB 2449, California Government Code Section 54953(f)
 - A. Just Cause
 - B. Action on Emergency Circumstance Requests
 - C. Statement of Persons Present at AB 2449 Teleconference Locations

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 2, 2024

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

(Members of the public may address the Committee orally and in writing. To provide Public Comment, you should visit https://LACERA.com/leadership/board-meetings and complete the request form by selecting whether you will provide oral or written comment from the options located under Options next to the Committee meeting.

If you select oral comment, we will contact you via email with information and instruction as to how to access the meeting as a speaker. You will have up to 3 minutes to address the Committee. Oral comment request will be accepted up to the close of the Public Comment item on the agenda.

If you select written comment, please input your written public comment or documentation on the above link as soon as possible and up to the close of the meeting. Written comment will be made part of the official record of the meeting. If you would like to remain anonymous at the meeting without stating your name, please leave the name field blank in the request form. If you have any questions, you may email PublicComment@lacera.com.)

V. REPORTS

A. LACERA Operations Briefing

Luis A. Lugo, Deputy Chief Executive Officer JJ Popowich, Assistant Executive Officer Laura Guglielmo, Assistant Executive Officer (For Information Only)

VI. ITEMS FOR STAFF REVIEW

(This item summarizes requests and suggestions by individual trustees during the meeting for consideration by staff. These requests and suggestions do not constitute approval or formal action by the Board, which can only be made separately by motion on an agendized item at a future meeting.)

November 6, 2024 Page 3

VII. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

(This item provides an opportunity for trustees to identify items to be included on a future agenda as permitted under the Board's Regulations.)

VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER (For Information Purposes Only)

IX. ADJOURNMENT

*The Board of Retirement has adopted a policy permitting any member of the Board to attend a standing committee meeting open to the public. In the event five or more members of the Board of Retirement (including members appointed to the Committee) are in attendance, the meeting shall constitute a joint meeting of the Committee and the Board of Retirement. Members of the Board of Retirement who are not members of the Committee may attend and participate in a meeting of a Board Committee but may not vote on any matter discussed at the meeting. The only action the Committee may take at the meeting is approval of a recommendation to take further action at a subsequent meeting of the Board.

**Although the meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m., it can start anytime thereafter, depending on the length of the Board of Retirement meeting preceding it. Please be on call.

Any documents subject to public disclosure that relate to an agenda item for an open session of the Committee, that are distributed to members of the Committee less than 72 hours prior to the meeting, will be available for public inspection at the time they are distributed to a majority of the Committee, at LACERA's offices at 300 North Lake Avenue, Suite 820, Pasadena, California during normal business hours from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and will also be posted on lacera.com at the same time, <u>Board Meetings | LACERA</u>.

Requests for reasonable modification or accommodation of the telephone public access and Public Comments procedures stated in this agenda from individuals with disabilities, consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, may call the Board Offices at (626) 564-6000, Ext. 4401/4402 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday or email PublicComment@Jacera.com, but no later than 48 hours prior to the time the meeting is to commence.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE OPERATIONS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF RETIREMENT*

LOS ANGELES COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

300 N. LAKE AVENUE, SUITE 810, PASADENA, CA 91101

11:10 A.M. - 11:21 A.M., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2024

This meeting was conducted by the Operations Oversight Committee both in person and by teleconference under California Government Code Section 54953(f)

COMMITTEE TRUSTEES

PRESENT: JP Harris, Chair

Antonio Sanchez, Vice Chair

Wayne Moore, Trustee

David Ryu, Alternate Trustee

ABSENT: Jason E. Green, Trustee

OTHER BOARD OF RETIREMENT TRUSTEES

Nancy Durazo, Trustee

Vivian H. Gray, Trustee

JP Harris, Trustee

Ronald Okum, Trustee

STAFF, ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS

Luis Lugo, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

JJ Popowich, Assistant Executive Officer

Laura Guglielmo, Assistant Executive Officer

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel

Jean J. Kim, Senior Staff Counsel

Ching Fong, Quality Assurance

I. CALL TO ORDER

This meeting was called to order by Chair Harris at 11:10 a.m. In the absence of Trustee Green, the Chair announced that Trustee Ryu, as the alternate, would be a voting member of the Committee.

- II. PROCEDURE FOR TELECONFERENCE MEETING ATTENDANCE UNDER AB 2449, California Government Code Section 54953(f)
 - A. Just Cause
 - B. Action on Emergency Circumstance Requests
 - C. Statement of Persons Present at AB 2449 Teleconference Locations

There were no requests received.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 4, 2024

Trustee Sanchez made a motion, Trustee Moore seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 4, 2024. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Sanchez, Moore, Ryu, Harris

No: None

Absent: Green

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no requests from the public to speak.

V. REPORTS

A. LACERA Operations Briefing

Luis A. Lugo, Deputy Chief Executive Officer JJ Popowich, Assistant Executive Officer Laura Guglielmo, Assistant Executive Officer (For Information Only)

The Executive team presented the monthly briefing and was available to answer questions from the Committee. This item was received and filed.

B. New Calendar for Pensionability Determinations

Jean J. Kim, Senior Staff Counsel
Ching Fong, Quality Assurance
(Presentation) (Memo dated September 13, 2024)

Ms. Kim and Ms. Fong gave a brief presentation and were available to answer questions from the Committee. This item was received and filed.

VI. ITEMS FOR STAFF REVIEW

(This item summarizes requests and suggestions by individual trustees during the meeting for consideration by staff. These requests and suggestions do not constitute approval or formal action by the Board, which can only be made separately by motion on an agendized item at a future meeting.)

There was nothing to report.

VII. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

(This item provides an opportunity for trustees to identify items to be included on a future agenda as permitted under the Board's Regulations.)

There was nothing to report.

October 2, 2024 Page 4

VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER (For Information Purposes Only)

There was nothing to report.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:21 a.m.

*The Board of Retirement has adopted a policy permitting any member of the Board to attend a standing committee meeting open to the public. In the event five or more members of the Board of Retirement (including members appointed to the Committee) are in attendance, the meeting shall constitute a joint meeting of the Committee and the Board of Retirement. Members of the Board of Retirement who are not members of the Committee may attend and participate in a meeting of a Board Committee but may not vote on any matter discussed at the meeting. The only action the Committee may take at the meeting is approval of a recommendation to take further action at a subsequent meeting of the Board.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY



Operations Briefing Report Fiscal Year 2024-2025



November 6, 2024

Operations Briefing Report

The Operations Briefing Report includes a Project Status Dashboard presenting a quick at-a-glance view of each project's status. The Dashboard is broken up into three color coded sections: New projects or projects with updates are reflected in purple and active projects with no new updates are reflected in blue. Projects completed this fiscal year are reflected in green.

- New Projects and Updated Project Information
- Existing Projects/Initiatives: No New Updates
- Completed Projects/Initiatives

Status Indicator Note Color coded statuses for a quick at-a-glance indicator to tell you how the project is proceeding.			
On Schedule	Delayed	Pushed Back	
(The project is on schedule and the team intends to meet the stated target date)	(The project is slightly delayed. The team does expect a one to two month slip in meeting the target date. Management is more actively watching the progress of these projects)	(The project has been impacted by a significant obstacle or has been suspended due to emergent priorities. Management is actively discussing remedial steps or has a plan waiting to be implemented)	

The Project Status Dashboard includes links to the project's Active Project Details summary or the Completed Projects Detail summary. This section continues to provide an overall narrative of the project's purpose and an overview of the project to date. The Project Details summary includes a section highlighting the latest updates to the project in the "Current Update" section followed by a "Historical Perspective" section to show past progress, successes, and challenges the project has gone through since it started.



PROJECT STATUS DASHBOARD

New Projects and Updates to Existing Projects

Project Title	Strategic Plan Initiative	Target Date	Status
Actuarial Valuation Reports: Retirement Benefits	Compliance & Enterprise Risk Management	12/31/2024	On Schedule
Annual Financial Statement Preparation and Audit	Compliance & Enterprise Risk Management	12/31/2024	On Schedule
Alameda Decision Implementation	Compliance & Enterprise Risk Management	TBD	Delayed
Case Management Project (Sol: Phase I)	Superior Member Experience	11/30/2024	Delayed
Communications Plan	Superior Member Experience	06/30/2024	Pushed Back
eDiscovery Solution	Compliance & Enterprise Risk Management	12/30/2024	Delayed
Enterprise Budget Application (Questica) Implementation Phase II: Budget Book	Compliance & Enterprise Risk Management	TBD	Delayed
Enterprise Contract Lifecycle Management (ECLM) Solution	Compliance & Enterprise Risk Management	12/31/2024	Delayed
HR-NeoGov Expansion & Learning Management System	Investing in People	12/31/2024	On Schedule



LACERA Incident Response Team (LIRT) Management Solution	Compliance & Enterprise Risk Management	TBD	Delayed
Member Experience Communication Platform (MECP)	Superior Member Experience	08/31/2025	On Schedule
Medicare Part B Verification Enhancement	Innovation Through Technology	6/30/2023	Delayed
PEPRA Implementation: Annual Benefit Statement	Superior Member Experience	12/31/2025	Delayed
PEPRA Implementation: FAC Issue	Compliance & Enterprise Risk Management	12/31/2024	Pushed Back
Prepaid Bank Card Project	Superior Member Experience	06/30/2025	Delayed
<u>Virtual Mailroom</u>	Innovation Through Technology	07/01/2024	On Schedule

Existing Projects - No Updates			
Project Title	Strategic Plan Initia- tive	Target Date	Status
COLA Bank Retroactive Changes	Compliance & Enterprise Risk Management	12/31/2024	Delayed
Pre-2003 Pension Reserve Clean-up	Superior Member Experi- ence	12/31/2024	Delayed
Retirement Estimate Redesign	Superior Member Experi- ence	12/30/2024	On Schedule
Retroactive Payroll Adjustments: Prospective Correction	Compliance & Enterprise Risk Management	TBD	Pushed Back



FY 24-25 Completed Projects

Project Title	Strategic Plan Initiative	Target Date	Status
960-hour Rehired Retiree audit process	Superior Member Experi- ence	6/30/2023	Completed
Actuarial Valuation Reports: Retiree Healthcare (RHC) or Other Post-employment Benefits (OPEB) Program	Compliance & Enterprise Risk Management	09/04/2024	Completed
Data Digitization Sharing Project	Innovation Through Technology	12/30/2024	Completed
Microsoft Copilot Search Implementation	Innovation Through Technology	07/31/2024	Completed
Retiree Healthcare Administration: Lifetime Maximum Benefit Project	Superior Member Experi- ence	12/31/2024	Completed



ACTIVE PROJECT DETAILS

Status Indicator Note Color coded statuses for a quick at-a-glance indicator to tell you how the project is proceeding.				
On Schedule	Delayed	Pushed Back		
(The project is on schedule and the team intends to meet the stated target date)	(The project is slightly delayed. The team does expect a one to two month slip in meeting the target date. Management is more actively watching the progress of these projects)	(The project has been impacted by a significant obstacle or has been suspended due to emergent priorities. Management is actively discussing remedial steps or has a plan waiting to be implemented)		



	St	rategic Plan Initiative:		& Enterprise nagement
	Type	Project Sponsor	Start Date	Target Date
Project / Issue Title Brief Description	BSG	Financial & Accounting Services Division	August 2024	December 2024
	Project Lead(s): Ted Granger			
	On Schedule			
		Current Update		

Actuarial Valuation Reports: Retirement Benefits

The Government Code requires that valuations of the Retirement Benefits Fund (Pension Plan) be performed at least once every three years. The Board of Investments' 2013 Retirement Benefit Funding Policy requires valuations be completed annually. These reports are prepared to determine employer and employee contribution rates and to measure the funded status of the Retirement Plan. In addition, the valuation report provides information used to prepare the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement Numbers 67 & 68 reports. Plan Administrators (LACERA) and Plan Sponsors (County) use the GASB reports to obtain information required for their financial statement disclosures.

Milliman continued to prepare and will present the final 2024 Valuation Report to the Board of Investments at their December 2024 meeting.

September 2024 – The County sent their annual request and Milliman provided a preliminary funding estimate letter, which includes estimates of the funded ratio as of June 30, 2024 and employer contribution rates for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025.

Historical Perspectives

August 2024 - Milliman provided and LACERA staff completed the annual information request. LACERA's Systems Division prepared and transmitted the year-end member census data to Milliman. LACERA prepared a project timeline and Milliman reviewed and approved the timeline.

Proj	ect /	Issu	ie 1	Γitle
Bri	ef D	escri	pti	on

Strategic Plan Initiative:		Compliance & Enterprise Risk Management	
Type	Project Sponsor	Start Date	Target Date
BSG	Financial & Accounting Services Division	May 2024	December 2024

Project Lead(s): Ted Granger

On-Schedule

Current Update

Annual Financial Statement Preparation and Audit:

Government code sections require that LACERA prepare annual financial statements including footnotes and disclosures in accordance with applicable accounting standards, obtain an external audit opinion of the financial statements, and transmit the reports to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors within six-months following the fiscal year-end.

2024 - Annual Financial Statements/Audit

October 2024 – LACERA staff prepared and issued two draft reports for review and one final Annual Financial Statement Report (AFS). Plante Moran completed their audit testing, audit inquiries, and issued their audit opinion. LACERA received an unmodified or "clean" audit opinion dated October 15, 2024. Per Plante Moran, there were no audit findings or recommendations to report this year, and they will provide a presentation to the Audit Compliance Risk and Ethics (ACRE) at the meeting in December. Staff sent a copy of the audited AFS to Los Angeles County by the deadline so the County can include some of LACERA's financial statement data within their financial statements.

FASD is currently working with Communications to prepare the next version of this report, which is called the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). The ACFR is essentially an enhanced version of the AFS but includes some additional information such as LACERA Trustees, transmittal letter from the CEO, and organizational chart. We expect to complete and distribute the ACFR in mid-December.

Historical Perspectives

In May and June 2024, LACERA's external auditor Plante Moran began interim audit testing, focusing on member data, benefit calculations, internal controls, and fraud interviews. By July, LACERA staff had completed the financial statement closing process and started preparing the Annual Financial Statements (AFS). In August, staff responded to audit information requests and the auditor began substantive testing. By September, Plante Moran continued testing while LACERA staff prepared draft financial statements and investment-related



disclosures, holding regular status meetings to finalize adjustments and complete the audit process.

Plante Moran completes the audit process starting in May and continues through October. Staff expects to complete the AFS and audit opinion by mid-October and provide LACERA's AFS to Los Angeles County, so the County can finalize their financial statements prior to calendar year-end.

Return to Index

Project / Issue Title
Brief Description

Alameda Decision Implementation

In 2020, the California Supreme Court issued its decision in the Alameda County Deputy Sheriff's Association v. Alameda County Employees Retirement Association ("Alameda"), challenging the constitutionality of changes passed in 2013 Assembly Bill 197, which amended the definition of compensation earnable, specifically, excluding pay items previously included such as unused vacation, termination pay, in-kind payments, and payments for services rendered outside of normal working hours. The Court upheld the

Strategic Plan Initiative:		Compliance & Enterprise Risk Management		
Type	Project Sponsor	Start Date Target Da		
MOG	Benefits	08/01/2020	TBD	

Project Lead(s): Shonita Peterson

Delayed

Current Update

Six groups of members impacted by this project have been identified in the project table. The remaining cases include previous service contracts, members subject to 401(a)(17) Compensation Limits and other complex cases that require significant time to review and correct.

Benefits staff continue to work on the remaining cases, reflected in the report below.

Alameda Project Status	Current Report	: 08/31/2024
Row Labels (Type, Status, Detail, Outstanding)	Count	%
Pending Notification (Staff Reviewing and Processing)	23	0.500%
Active	8	0.170%
Retired	5	0.11%
Deferred/Inactive	0	0.0%



constitutionality of the Legislature's actions. In 2021, the Legal Office notified the Board of Retirement that it had completed an initial review of LACERA legacy pay codes and determined that Standby Pay did not meet the expanded understanding of compensation earnable because of the Alameda Case.

Retired Deceased	4	0.09%
Active Death	4	0.09%
Other - *Active/Exceptions	2	0.04%
Withdrawn	0	0.0%
Completed	4,599	99.50%
Active	3,027	65.49%
Retired	874	18.91%
Deferred/Inactive	149	3.22%
Deceased	0	0.0%
Other - *Active/Exceptions	437	9.45%
Withdrawn	56	1.21%
Not affected	56	1.21%
Grand Total	4,622	100%

Historical Perspectives

This has been a multi-year project that evolved as we conducted discovery and made changes required by the Alameda Decision. The project involved updating salaries and recalculating contributions for members affected by the exclusion of Standby Pay from earnings. Staff broke the project into segments based on member status and situation, because each segmented group required unique handling. The summary below (produced with the assistance of Co-Pilot) reflects the historical progress to date:

- Active Members: Salaries of 4,176 members were updated, with 3,013 actively employed. Of these, 2,284 had overpaid contributions, leading to the suspension of future contributions until balances were depleted. Notifications were sent in February 2022 to avoid overwhelming the Member Services Call Center.
- **Deferred and Inactive Members:** Staff identified 149 deferred and inactive members. issuing 132 refund checks. The remaining 17 members were not owed a refund.



Retirees and Benefit Adjustments: Retirees who retired on or after January 1, 2013, had their benefits adjusted prospectively from August 30, 2020. Notifications were sent in May 2022 to 710 members about benefit reductions effective July 31, 2022, with repayment options for overpaid benefits. Some members received refund checks, while others saw no changes due to specific conditions.

An important part of the historical record for this project is the acknowledgement of the Benefits commitment to self-evaluation and transparency. In August, Benefits reviewed the report and determined the actual number of affected members is 4,622. Initially, the project was handled by multiple units and there was a duplication of members. At this point, the project team has eliminated the duplicates and also completed 35 additional cases, leaving 17 cases remaining.

In September, Benefits reviewed the full report to identify previously completed cases that now require additional processing. For example, a member who was in Active service at the time of completion may now be deceased and their case now requires coordination with the survivor. At this point, the number of open cases is 31. Now that this review is complete, we do not anticipate a future increase to this number.



Pro	ject .	/ Issu	e Tit	e
Br	ief D	escri	ption	

Strategic Plan Initiative:		Compliance & Enterprise Risk Management	
Type	Project Sponsor	Start Date	Target Date
Strategic	Executive	August 24, 2022	November 30, 2024

Project Lead(s): JJ Popowich, Luis A. Lugo, & Iveta Brecko (PM)

Delayed

Current Update

Case Management Project (Sol: Phase I)

Implement a case management system that will improve efficiency in processing member requests, provide accurate status and data collection for metrics, and improve the member experience.

Processes included in Phase I are: Disability Retirement Services (DRS) Disability Litigation Office (DLO) Benefits – First Payment

The Case Management First Payment Process is in the Execution Phase. User Acceptance Testing (UAT) for this process is currently in progress. The fifth monthly full parallel testing cycle has been successfully completed, and the Project Team is currently engaged in the sixth monthly cycle, which focuses on selected complex death and legal split cases. The new Benefit Estimate document has been finalized, with only a few minor formatting issues remaining to be addressed. Additionally, we have established a new architectural solution for routing incoming documents to Sol. Testing for letters to members and the printed Board Packages has been completed, and we are currently addressing minor fixes. Importantly, no critical issues have been reported at this time.

Training sessions for all user groups within the Benefits division have been successfully completed. Our vendor is currently finalizing the user guide for Benefits specialists and LAC-ERA Sol administrators.

We are on track to deploy the solution in the production environment during the second week of November. We plan to begin processing cases using the new system starting December 1st. Please note that only cases with a retirement date of December 1st or later will be processed in Sol. Cases with earlier retirement dates will continue to be processed using the current methods during the transition period.

Historical Perspectives

In May of 2022, the BOR approved LACERA's recommended vendor, Eccentex, to partner with LACERA to develop our Case Management System. Eccentex was selected after an extensive review of thirteen vendor proposals received from our RFP.



The team identified five phases over a series of years that would benefit from the Case Management System.

Phase I consisted of three sub-phases: Disability Retirement Services (DRS), Disability Litigation Office (DLO, and the Benefits First Payment Process. The LACERA and Eccentex teams completed the development of the case management processes for DRS going live effective: September 22, 2023. The team continues to fine tune the systems performance and making updates as needed.

Development of the last sub-phase – the Benefits First Payment process – began simultaneously with the other projects as staff worked to develop detailed process flow maps of the process and define and refine business rules and minimum expectations for the case management system. With the completion of the DRS/DLO sub-phases the teams focused their efforts on the First Payment Process.

Return to Index

Project / Iccus Title
Project / Issue Title
Brief Description

COLA Bank Retroactive Changes

In April of 2021, the Board of Retirement approved corrections to the COLA Accumulation Bank, which involved making retroactive corrections, recalculating benefit allowance amounts, and paying members retroactive benefits due to a

Strategic Plan Initiative:		Compliance & Enterprise Risk Management	
Type	Project Sponsor	Start Date	Target Date
MOG Benefits		04/01/2021 12/31/2024	

Project Lead(s): Louis Gittens / Shonita Peterson

Delayed

Current Update

No update at this time.

Historical Perspectives

The project was broken down into five phases based on the complexity of the calculations needed to pay retroactive benefits to members. We will resume working on this project in July 2024.

Phase I-IV: As of the date of this report, LACERA has paid out just over \$3.8 million in retroactive COLA earnings. Of the 9,672 members and survivors impacted, 8,511 accounts

discrepancy discovered in the COLA Accumulation.

have been systematically resolved, which represents all members and survivors currently in a payment status.

The fourth phase of the project, which requires manually calculating the retroactive benefits, includes 1,494 cases in a payment status. The manual phase of the project began in December 2021. Staff have manually calculated COLAs for 455 members and payments were issued for this population.

Phase V: The final phase involves deceased members with no survivors currently receiving benefits. This phase requires research to identify the appropriate beneficiary(ies) or estates to pay the retroactive benefits that were due to the deceased member. This phase is currently delayed due to staffing limitations and the focus on the Alameda Decision Implementation.

Systems and Benefits have been reviewing the root cause for the manual processing and developing plans for redesigning some portions of our pension administration system to help alleviate the need for processing for future projects.

COLA Bank: Retroactive Payment Project				
Status	Number	Percentage		
(As of 3/31/23)				
Completed	8,511	88%		
In-Process 1,161 12%				
Grand Total 9,672 100%				

Pro	ject /	Issu	e Titl	е
Br	ief D	escri	ption	

tegic Plan Initiative:	Superior Member Experience	
Project Sponsor	Start Date	Target Date
Exec (MOG)	02/28/2022	06/30/2024
	Project Sponsor	Project Sponsor Start Date

Project Lead(s): JJ Popowich & Cynthia Martinez

Pushed Back

Current Update

Communications Plan

The development of a strategic Communications Plan providing an overview of the guiding principles used to communicate with LACERA's various stakeholder groups. The plan will also provide an overview of the channels, resources, methods, planned campaigns, and current commitments of the Communications team. The plan will outline how our communications Division has been designed to be flexible and responsive to our needs as we fulfill our communication goals.

On October 2, 2024 the Communications team completed the update of the Communications Plan and incorporated the Strategic Plan priorities. The plan has been submitted to the Executive Office for review.

Historical Perspectives

The LACERA executive team met on August 30, 2022, to review and discuss the Communication Plan(s) drafted by both EKA (the Board of Retirement's public relations consultant) and the LACERA Communications division. Both plans outlined a more tactical approach to engaging our members and various stakeholders, as opposed to a strategic roadmap. The team discussed opportunities and ideas for improving the Communication plan document. We are going to coordinate these efforts with our Strategic Planning process, since the work overlaps with our current Strategic Planning efforts.

The Communications team is continuing the process of updating the draft Communications Plan to incorporate the Strategic Plan priorities based on the input from the assigned LEADS of each objective and other feedback provided by the Executive Team.



Project / Issue Title Brief Description

Strategic Plan Initiative:		iative: Compliance & Enterprise Risk Management	
Type	Project Sponsor	Start Date	Target Date
Strategic	ategic Information Security 12/01/2023 12/30/202		12/30/2024
Project Lead(s): Steven Rice, Chaitanya Errande, & Celso Templo (PM)			

Delayed **Current Update**

eDiscovery Solution

Implement an eDiscovery solution that provides an intuitive and seamless way for the Legal Office and Information Security Teams to conduct eDiscovery, eDiscovery is the process of identifying, collecting, and producing electronically stored information (ESI) in response to a request for production in a lawsuit or investigation. An eDiscovery solution can help automate the collection of electronic data, such as email, MS Teams messages, SharePoint storages, Bloomberg, and SMS, and automate repetitive tasks, reducing the need for manual intervention.

The eDiscovery Solution Project is currently transitioning from the Planning Phase to the Execution Phase. The eDiscovery Solution Team is in the Contract Development process, wherein terms and conditions are discussed with the vendor. The Legal Division is reviewing and proposing revisions to the contract.

Historical Perspectives

In December of 2023, the IT Coordination Council (ITCC) approved the request by the Legal Office and Information Security teams to search and select a vendor that can provide LACERA an eDiscovery Solution.

The LACERA eDiscovery Team evaluated and selected a vendor by inviting Veritas, Smarsh and GlobalRelay to provide quotes, demo the products, and answer questions relating to eDiscovery needs. Additionally, the eDiscovery project bypassed the Reguest for Proposal (RFP) process because all invited vendors offered costs below the qualifying threshold set in the RFP guidelines. After performing the necessary due diligence and incorporating selection factors such as system functionalities, pricing, support availability, system integrations, User Experience (UX), and enduser training, the eDiscovery Project team selected GlobalRelay as the vendor that would partner and collaborate with LACERA to implement the eDiscovery solution. The following milestones have been completed:

Contract Finalization and Procurement -The Administrative Services team finalized the contract agreement and procurement process.

Since the cost of the project was expected to exceed the CEO's approval threshold. the Project Executive Sponsor met with Executive Management to discuss the timeline and process for obtaining Board of Retirement approval.

Compliance & Enterprise



Return to Index

Projec	t / Issu	e Title
Brief	Descri	ption

Strategic Plan Initiative: Risk Management **Start Date Target Date** Type **Project Sponsor BSG** Executive (BSG) 12/01/2023 **TBD** Project Lead(s): Laura Guglielmo and Cookie Jaranilla (PM)

Delayed **Current Update**

Enterprise Budget Application (Questica) Implementation Phase II: Budget Book

LACERA nearly finished implementing its first automated enterprise budget application which will be used for budget development and budget control and will integrate with LACERA's financial system, Great Plains. This phase of the project will address the Budget Book that is submitted to the Boards during the approval process.

The Questica Budget Book Project is currently transitioning from the Planning Phase to the Execution Phase. The project team completed the planning and kick-off meetings with FH Black. The team is collaborating with Questica's Subject Matter Expert to develop an Ad Hoc Report Environment for the FH Black Implementation and LACERA's SMEs to be able to generate Ad Hoc reports essential for the creation of the Budget Book

Historical Perspectives

The implementation of the Questica budgeting solution has been divided into two phases. Phase I concerns the implementation of the budgeting application itself. Phase II consists of the review and implementation of the Budget Book function to assist with assembling the budget book that is submitted for approval to the Boards.

Development of the budget book is a unique and detailed process that requires significant focus to migrate to a new platform. The native budget book application provided by Questica will be evaluated by the team after we have completed implementation of the budget application. The team plans to produce the FY 25 Budget Book outside of this application while this is under review. Once we have completed the roll out of the Questica application we will assign a target date for completion of this phase. The Project Team has been actively collaborating with Questica's Implementation Team to discuss project planning and schedule a kickoff for this initiative.

On July 15th, the Budget Modernization Project Team held a kick-off meeting with FH Black, our partner from Questica, the vendor for our new budgeting software. As a historical note, FH Black, the vendor responsible for the Budget Book implementation, was introduced by Questica in October 2023. FH Black was also included in Questica's RFP response as part of their Implementation Team in July 2022. During the kick-off, the team discussed the



project's scope, requirements, implementation plan, post-implementation support, and training. We emphasized the importance of clear communication and setting expectations among all involved parties, including our own resources, subject matter experts, key stakeholders, and the vendor's implementation team.

The project team has scheduled a follow-up meeting for July 31st to discuss the project timeline, scope, and key resources in more detail. One important discussion topic will cover the integration and support of CaseWare, FH Black's business intelligence tool, which will be used to create dashboards and reports of the Budget Book.

Return to Index

Project / Issue Title
Brief Description

Strategic Plan Initiative:Compliance & Enterprise Risk ManagementTypeProject SponsorStart DateTarget DateBSGAdministrative Services03/01/202212/31/2024

Project Lead(s): Ricki Contreras, Elsy Gutierrez & Penelope Rodriguez (PM)

Delayed

Current Update

Enterprise Contract Lifecycle Management (ECLM) Solution

Pursuant to a recommendation by Administrative Services staff, the Operations Oversight Committee (OOC) on March 2, 2022, authorized a Request for Proposal (RFP) for software and consulting services to procure, configure, customize, and implement an ECLM system, which was published on LACERA.com on March 4, 2022.

The ECLM Project is currently in the Execution Phase. The ECLM project team initiated a soft launch of the solution in early September for the Administrative Services, Systems, Legal, and Financial Accounting Services Divisions. Vendor Management features are undergoing testing and modification during this period.

The ECLM project team is collaborating with the vendor to complete the configuration of ECLM and resolve any issues that are discovered during the soft launch. Once the final configuration is completed, the vendor will finalize the user manual and test the workflow for users and approvers. Training sessions are projected to begin on November 29th and will take place throughout the month of December with an estimated Go-Live date of December 31st.



Historical Perspectives

On April 4, 2022, LACERA received proposals from nine vendors. LACERA's evaluation team reviewed all RFPs and selected five vendors as finalists. These finalists demonstrated their solutions to the team. A final vendor has been identified and a recommendation to the Board of Retirement was scheduled for consideration at the September 2022 Board Meeting. The Board of Retirement approved the recommended vendor, Cobblestone, at the September 2022 Board meeting for the Enterprise Contract Lifecycle Management system.

The ECLM Solution's Iteration 4 is underway to meet the newly structured Vendor Management the basic framework for the contract administration is still intact from the initial implementation. The new process has forced a pivot to restructure user groups and security roles to align with the Vendor Management group and personnel. ECLM Vendor Management system is functional and available for testing as the workflows are updated. Systems, Admin Services, Legal, Investment Division, and FASD Subject Matter Experts (SME's) have completed rendering the final requirements imposing the process change and the final items of restructuring are in-flight. We are currently Projecting project to launch on time.

- Contract Repositories
- Vendor Portal
- Contract Approval Chain
- Consolidated Bid Responses and Evaluation RFP Management
- Al Capabilities Drafting, Reviewing & Executing of Contracts
- Reporting Contract Requests, Solicitations, Contracts, and Vendors
- Systems Integration with Great Plains

To enhance the effectiveness of end-user training across all business divisions, we have restructured the approach. Instead of conducting large 2-hour training sessions, we will now break down the training into 1-hour modules for each of the 5 individual modules. This modification aims to facilitate easier retention for end users. Additionally, each training session will involve a Subject Matter Expert (SME) from each division. These sessions will be supported by customized training materials tailored to our internal processes, which will be distributed before the sessions commence.

Proj	ect /	Issue	Title
Bri	ef De	escript	ion

Strategic Plan Initiative:		Investing in People		
Type Project Sponsor		Start Date	Target Date	
Strategic	Laura Guglielmo (Exec - BSG)	03/19/2024	12/31/2024	

Project Lead(s): Alonso Favela (PM), Carly Ntoya, & Roberta Van Nortrick
On Schedule

Current Update

HR-NeoGov Expansion & Learning Management System:

Expand LACERA's use of NeoGov to include Talent Acquisition, the Performance Module for Non-represented staff, and the Learning Module, in line with Strategic Initiative #3.3 - Investing in People.

The project is in the Execution Phase.

The HR Subject Matter Experts have been collaborating with the NeoGov's Implementation Team to produce the Employee and Position Import Data for NeoGov's data upload. A new Project Manager has been assigned to the project and introduced to the sponsors, subject matter experts, and HR-NeoGov project team.

The HR-NeoGov Solution team has initiated the implementation phase of the Performance Module. A Project kickoff meeting is scheduled on October 25 with the primary sponsors, subject matter experts, PMO, and vendor implementation team to discuss the project timeline and outline the project plan of the Performance Module.

Historical Perspectives

On March 19, 2024, the IT Coordination Council (ITCC) approved the Human Resources team's proposal to expand LACERA's use of the NeoGov system. The approved enhancements include expanding the Talent Acquisition, Performance Modules for represented staff, and the Learning Module. This initiative directly supports LACERA's Strategic Initiative #3.3, which focuses on investing in the development and growth of our workforce. Funding for the additional NeoGov modules was included in LACERA's Administrative Budget for FY 2024/25.

Project / Issue Title
Brief Description

Strategic Plan Initiative: Compliance & Enterprise Risk Management Type Project Sponsor Start Date Target Date Exec Executive 01/01/2023 TBD

Project Lead(s): JJ Popowich, Chait Errande, and David Choe (PM)

Delayed

Current Update

LACERA Incident Response Team (LIRT) Management Solution

LACERA seeks a solution that automates the tracking and workflow of LACERA incidents.

The LIRT Management Solution is in the Execution Phase. The LIRT Solution Team met on October 16 to discuss communication plans and training strategies for staff regarding the soft launch of the LIRT Management Solution and Workplace Violence Application. Subsequently, the Ethics and Compliance Committee approved the Workplace Violence Policy during its October 17 monthly meeting. The next tasks are for InfoSec and PMO to develop user manuals and documentation, HR to validate and sign-off on the documentation, HR to present the LIRT application at an upcoming Brown Bag meeting, and for the project team to finalize the soflaunch date.

Regarding Phase II's Private Policy and OnSolve integrations, PMO will set up a weekly cadence meeting with the principal Sponsors and SMEs to re-engage the development and implementation of this initiative.

Historical Perspectives

In December 2022, the Information Technology Coordination Council approved a LIRT incident management solution project to automate the tracking of LACERA incidents. The LIRT project team decided to leverage a product that is already implemented at LACERA: ServiceNow Information Technology Service Management (ITSM). LACERA selected Winward as our business partner to leverage and customize the incident workflow of ServiceNow's ITSM to support LACERA's process regarding incident tracking, management, and reporting. Because LACERA owns this product and is only configuring one module to support our specific process, we can absorb the project's cost in the FY 2023-24 budget. Although the project was initially scheduled for completion in June 2024, we have extended the timeline to incorporate additional compliance requirements related to Workplace Misconduct and Violence regulations. The adjusted target date is now August 30, 2024.



Pro	ject /	Issu	e Title	,
Br	ief D	escri	ption	

Strategic Plan Initiative:Superior Member ExperienceTypeProject SponsorStart DateTarget DateStrategicJJ Popowich (Exec - MOG)10/18/202208/31/2025

Project Lead(s): Cookie Jaranilla, Tatiana Bayer, & Cassandra Smith On Schedule

Current Update

Member Experience Communication Platform (MECP):

LACERA is looking to improve the Member Experience through innovative use of modern technology to provide better support for our omnichannel service approach. This project is to select a cloud-based communication service that provides omni-channel contact center with native MS Teams' certificated integration along with other features designed to improve and make our services more efficient.

The MECP Project is in the Planning Phase. Contract negotiations between TTEC, our BOR approved Vendor, and LACERA are underway. After several review cycles between TTEC and LACERA, the Master Agreement is in its final review stage with LACERA Legal. The Statement of Work is also under careful review by LACERA's MECP Project Team.

The MECP Project Team will hold review and discussion sessions on October 28 and October 29 to ensure that all primary stakeholders, subject matter experts, and the vendor have a shared understanding of the deliverables, expectations, and responsibilities associated with the project.

We anticipate the Master Agreement and Statement of Work packet will be signed off by the appropriate stakeholders after these review sessions.

Historical Perspectives

LACERA seeks a Member Experience Communications Platform software as a service (SaaS) with a proven, state-of-the-art, commercial-off-the-shelf solution with minimal modifications. LACERA's goal is to gain efficiency and update existing processes through a best-of-breed enterprise communications system, focusing on improving the timeliness, accuracy, consistency of information, and internal operations.

At the August 7, 2024, meeting, the Board of Retirement authorized staff to engage with TTEC/Genesys to provide software and consulting services to configure, customize, and implement the Member Experience Communications Platform (MECP) – Genesys application for the Member Services and Retiree Health Care Divisions at a first-year cost of \$590,260 (implementation cost of \$157,675 and licensing fee of \$432,585). The total anticipated five-year cost is \$2,320,600. Sufficient appropriation is included as part of the FY

2024-25 Systems Division Enterprise Software Account. Contract development is now un-
derway

Project / Issue Title
Brief Description

Strategic Plan Initiative:		Superior Member Experience		
Type	Project Sponsor	Start Date	Target Date	
Strategic	Exec (MOG)	01/01/2013	12/31/2024	

Project Lead(s): Cynthia Martinez Delayed

Current Update

PEPRA Implementation: Annual Benefit Statement

LACERA does not currently offer an Annual Benefit Statement (ABS) for PEPRA members.

The project is pending development of programming required to generate the data and print the new ABS format. However, the project has been significantly delayed due to resource challenges as System resources are dedicated to the Case Management project.

Once resources are available Systems will provide their timeline for development, beta testing, and logistics. Systems will also provide Communications with a sample test file for the print vendor. After print vendor testing of the sample files and there are no issues, Communications will determine a final timeline and estimated completion date. The final stage is expected to be a campaign to inform our members two to three months prior to distribution of the new digital and print ABS and a launch date will be announced

Historical Perspectives

LACERA was unable to generate a PEPRA member ABS until we could accurately, automatically, calculate a member's FAC. This project is moving forward now that the FAC issue is nearly resolved. In the meantime, Progress continues on the **PEPRA Implementation: FAC Issue** project and that project's target date has been updated to October 30, 2023, to allow time to import historical files necessary to calculate a member's benefit estimates.

A kickoff meeting was held on August 22, 2023, to discuss project expectations, review the Project Charter, confirm the ABS Team participants, briefly review the Active redesigned comp, and discuss next steps. It was confirmed the team will meet weekly to begin the review process of the Active redesigned comp. The team decided to change how we



generate the ABS. To provide us with more flexibility in distribution of the new ABS, the team decided to move to a digital version which will decouple LACERA's reliance on specialized programming with our print vendors, reduce print and mailing costs, expedite receipt of the ABS by members, and was expected to shorten the development time for the new ABS. Communications has incorporated all feedback from the team and the ABS is currently in production for update of data fields and rebranding based on the team input.

The project continued to be negatively impacted by delays in finalizing the PEPRA Final Average Compensation (FAC) amount. While work with the Auditor-Controller and our Systems teams continued a decision in May of 2024 was made to provide an estimated benefit amount based on an estimated FAC with caveats regarding accuracy and then focus on providing an accurate representation of the member's current and future percentage of FAC to provide insight into how their benefit is growing over time. A new target date was set for July 30, 2024, with the status of the project changing from from "Pushed Back" to "Delayed."

Since May, Communications drafted two ABS "comps" based on the team review and input (draft examples of what the new ABS will look like) and worked with Systems and our design vendor to refine the concepts. Feedback was sought from the team and then the Executive Office. A "final" review as conducted by all involved parties. After the final review, a few additional changes were required, and the ABS format was finalized.

The project has been delivered to Systems to complete development of the programming to generate the new ABS.



Proj	ject /	Issu	e Titl	е
Bri	ief De	escri	ption	

PEPRA Implementation: FAC Issue

The Final Average Compensation for PEPRA members is exclusive of most pay items except base pay. The County uses pay code 099 as their base pay code. This pay code has embedded pay items within the code that are not pensionable compensation under PEPRA. To accurately calculate a member's benefit, these non-pensionable compensation items need to be filtered out.

Strategic Plan Initiative:		Compliance & Enterprise Risk Management		
Type	Project Sponsor	Start Date	Target Date	
Strategic	Executive (MOG)	01/01/2013	12/31/2024	
Project Lead(s): JJ Popowich & Lynn Francisco				

Pushed Back Current Update

This project has been placed on hold due to an ongoing evaluation of business rules required to finalize calculation methodology for the PEPRA FAC.

Historical Perspectives

The LACERA team and the Auditor Controller's Office have been diligently working on a project with a target completion date of December 31, 2024, despite encountering several challenges.

- Initial Progress and Deadlines: As of late April 2023, both teams have been meeting regularly and made significant progress towards the initial deadline of June 30, 2023, with a commitment to complete the project by July 2023.
- **Technical Developments**: Significant advancements include the implementation of a program to update PEPRA earnings and the ingestion of historical files, which were completed by January 2024 by the Auditor-Controller's Office. Since January LAC-ERA's Systems and Quality Assurance teams have been coordinating to validate and adjust internal programming to utilize the data provided by the Auditor-Controller.
- Challenges and Adjustments: Several issues, such as handling retroactive payroll adjustments, and finalization of Business Rules have delayed the project, pushing the target date to December 31, 2024.
- Robotic Processing Automation (RPA): The RPA tool has been developed to assist in the manual verification process, although it is not yet capable of fully automating the FAC calculation due to data insufficiencies.

*This summary is Al generated and edited for content.



Pro	ject /	Issu	e Title
Br	ief D	escri	otion

Superior Member Experience Strategic Plan Initiative: Project Sponsor Start Date Type **Target Date** Executive (MOG) 07/01/2022 01/31/2025 Strategic

Project Lead(s): Louis Gittens / Shonita Peterson

Delayed Current Update

Pre-2003 Pension Reserve Clean-up

Prior to January 1, 2003, non-vested contributory individuals were required to withdraw their contributions upon termination as they were not entitled to future benefits. The law was changed as of that date and non-vested members are now permitted to leave funds on deposit and later retire. LACERA has attempted to contact the non-vested individuals who terminated prior to 2003 and still have funds on deposit so they can withdraw their funds.

The purpose of this project is to ensure that LACERA sends written notice through Certified mail to the most valid address we can find. Individuals in this group who still have funds on deposit after this initiative will have their funds placed into the Pension Reserve.

Final Notices have been sent to all impacted former members. The recipients have until 12/31/24 to respond. Based on the recipients' responses we will make final adjustments to the accounts and disburse any funds necessary or transfer all the remaining accounts accordingly. In order to accommodate processing time, we have adjusted the project completion date to 01/31/2025.

Historical Perspectives

LACERA previously sent notification to the remaining 673 affected individuals. We determined which letters were returned to LACERA and sent notifications to secondary addresses through Certified mail. In November, we began sending letters to next of kin for deceased members.

The Process Management Group (PMG) is reviewing all accounts to ensure notification has been sent to all affected individuals. PMG will then work with FASD and Systems to have funds placed in the Pension Reserve, the final stage of this project.

PMG is working with the Benefit Protection Unit within Benefits to locate individuals who have relocated. This additional effort will ensure LACERA has done all it can to notify this population.

Project extended to allow time for recipients to respond to the final notices.

Return to Index	St	rategic Plan Initiative:	Superior Memb	er Experience	
	Type	Project Sponsor	Start Date	Target Date	
Project / Issue Title	Strategic	Executive (MOG)	06/15/2022	06/30/2025	
Brief Description		Project Lead(s): JJ Pop	owich & Shonita Peterso	on (PM)	
	Delayed				
			rent Update		
Prepaid Bank Card Project Introduction of a prepaid bank card option for monthly benefit payments	The Vendor Management team is working with the project team and Conduent to finalize the amendments to the contract and the accompanying statement of work. The team expects to have this stage finalized before the end of the year.				
	Based on current progress made after the state passed AB2474, the project's status had been moved from "Pushed Back" to "Delayed". We have also adjusted the Target Date of June 30, 2025. This will account for time to finalize the contract, statement of work, set use and communication plans to our members. As directed by the Board of Retirement, this was be presented to the members and their survivors as an optional delivery method.				
		Historic	al Perspectives		
	LACERA is working on implementing a Prepaid Debit Card Service to provide an alternative to paper checks for retired and survivor benefit payments, aiming to reduce costs and improve reliability due to significant degradation of USPS mailing reliability and difficulty with delivering to some foreign countries.				
	 Project Initiation and Vendor Selection: In June 2022, LACERA issued an R a Prepaid Debit Card Service and received two proposals by September 30, Conduent was selected as the vendor, with the Board of Retirements' appro April 2023. 				
	sion the cor	ntract and Legislative Develons with Conduent proceeded a project was delayed as Conductorns expressed by the Informatics contract amendments were processed.	s planned. However, afte ent and LACERA worked t ation Security Office. Follo	r a tentative agreement to address data security	

Concurrently, LACERA worked with the State Legislature to seek changes to relevant state laws to authorize this new method of delivering benefit payments. The State Legislature passed AB 2474, authorizing a test program for the debit cards, which was signed by the Governor in July 2024.

Following the resolution of both issues contract amendments were finalized.

Additionally, discussions with Conduent continued on issues like debit card design and finalizing a Statement of Work.

Return to Index

Project / Issue Title
Brief Description

Strategic Plan Initiative:Superior Member ExperienceTypeProject SponsorStart DateTarget DateStrategicCassandra Smith9/1/20221/21/2023

Project Lead(s): Leilani Ignacio & Kevin Hunter

Delayed

Current Update

Medicare Part B Verification Enhancement Status Update

This process improvement project is to have the OCR tool (Optical Character Recognition) scrape the data from the scanned/uploaded documents submitted as proof for Medicare Part B reimbursement. Another objective of this project is to use the scraped data from documents to systematically create work objects for resolution by the business users.

We are working with the vendor Forefront Technologies to improve our implementation of the OCR technology and get their help in resolving issues as they occur. The vendor has provided a few proposed methods for resolving an issue with extracting data from multi-page Medicare Part B documents. We are currently reviewing the vendor's proposed methods of resolving the issue.

Project closure is now estimated to be at the end of December 2024 due to the additional time needed to enhance the OCR capability for multiple page documents.

Historical Perspectives

In June 2024, the software changes to support Medicare Part B Optical Character Recognition (OCR) were deployed to Workspace. The changes included new OCR web services, a new automated workflow for Medicare Part B documents, and a new user interface for Workspace.

^{*}Summary developed using AI and edited for content.



As Medicare Part B documents are received by mail and scanned into our Enterprise Content Management (ECM) system or uploaded by members on My LACERA and automatically committed to our ECM, the following steps occur:

- 1. The documents are sent through the automated Optical Character Recognition (OCR) process
- 2. The documents are automatically routed to the correct queue based on the data picked up during the OCR process
- 3. When a document is selected from a queue for processing, the data automatically picked up during the OCR process is presented to the user. The user does not need to complete any data entry, they only need to make a few decisions to confirm that data and complete the processing of the document.

The Project Team looked for opportunities to expand the automation and increase the accuracy of the OCR process. For example, members tend to submit multiple copies of the same document – by mailing one in, uploading another on My LACERA, and dropping a third copy off in LACERA's drop box. The OCR capabilities allow the workflow to detect these duplicate documents, and they are sent to a specific "duplicate Medicare Part B" queue for review. If RHC finds that the duplicate detection is accurate, and they always terminate the duplicate request with an appropriate comment, we can automate this step for them. This is one of many possibilities for increased automation using OCR for Medicare Part B data.

Historically, the documents submitted for the verification of Medicare Part B reimbursements were manually reviewed by users for key data points and entered the data manually using Workspace online transactions.

This project was created to automate the process to bypass the manual review and entry of data points into Workspace.



Notari to mack	Sti	rategic Plan Initiative:	Superior Memb	per Experience
	Type	Project Sponsor	Start Date	Target Date
Project / Issue Title	Strategic	Exec (MOG)	01/01/2019	12/30/2024
Brief Description		Project Lead(s): Maggie Luong, Shonita Peterson		
			Schedule	
			rent Update	
Retirement Estimate Redesign With the recent launch of our new Retirement Planning Hub and the My LACERA online retirement election process, we	Services s		, the estimate will be avai se the old estimate and v	ilable in Workspace pro-
are turning our attention to re-designing			al Perspectives	
the Retirement Estimate.	Election for of the imm was deter Subseque Retirement	in effort was undertaken to beta orm. The project was placed on nediate impacts of the pandemic mined the redesigned estimate ently LACERA pivoted to the new at Counseling process, and the Note workgroup made great prograted text recommendations. The fire	test a new Retirement Phold due to the COVID-19 the results of the beta test was more complicated the Retirement Planning Hully LACERA on-line retires	Pandemic. Coming out ste were reviewed and it an would be useful. b, the new Omnichannel ment election. template finalizing their
	Workspace Project in	ate was approved. LACERA's Se. The new form will be in conju September 2024. Management Group is currently on Workspace.	unction with the First Payr	ment Case Management

Pro	ect	/ Issi	ie :	Title
Br	ef D	escr	ipti	on

Strategic Plan Initiative:		the state of the s	& Enterprise agement
Type	Project Sponsor	Start Date	Target Date
MOG	Exec	06/01/2021	TBD

Project Lead(s): JJ Popowich

Pushed Back

Current Update

Retroactive Payroll Adjustments: Prospective Correction

The Auditor-Controller is responsible for collecting contributions on all compensation earnable and pensionable earnings compensation at the time of payment. For many years, the AC has not been collecting contributions on retroactive payroll adjustments. In 2021, the AC made changes to their programming to take deductions at the time of payment. However, there are still some situations where these contributions are not being collected.

No update at this time.

Historical Perspectives

Following the AC's programming change, LACERA implemented a testing regimen to ensure that the contributions were being deducted as expected.

In August, the AC notified LACERA that they were adjusting the time frame that they would be withholding contributions for retroactive adjustments to 60 months (from the current 99 months). All retroactive earnings paid for pay periods more than 60 months in arrears would no longer have contributions deducted from them. This change was made by the County due to excessive degradation in their payroll system's performance.

In 2022, LACERA met with the AC's team to discuss collection of contributions for adjustments more than 60-months old. A few ideas were generated, and we continue to work with them to develop a procedure that both the County and LACERA can support.

	Str	ategic Plan Initiative:	Innovation Thro	ugh Technology
	Type	Project Sponsor	Start Date	Target Date
Project / Issue Title	Strategic	Laura Guglielmo (Exec - BSG)	07/01/2024	02/28/2025
Brief Description	Proje	ct Lead(s): Ahmad Chisty (Pl	M), Ricki Contreras, & E	smeralda Delgado
		Or	n Schedule	
		Cur	rent Update	
Virtual Mailroom: Establish a virtual mail room to provide a business continuity plan in the event that the LACERA building in Pasadena is inaccessible.	documenti tual Project ering about rate each rizing, and pleted and the next many on March DPC team a business cessible. To coming mathen received the part of the	ct is in the Planning Phase. The Ing DPC's mailroom processes at Team has scheduled ongoing at potential solutions. Subject Me vendor's solution based on the routing digitized mail). Once the the necessary knowledge has allestone, the creation and issue Historical 19, 2024, the IT Coordination to seek a vendor for a Virtual 15 continuity plan in the event the core objective is to outsour ail to a vendor that will act as a very mail digitally, eliminating or sper mail in LACERA Document ed in LACERA's Administrative and the core of the core	Concurrently, over the new vendor presentations to fall atter Experts participating use cases identified (prepare request for information to been gathered, the project ance of the Request for Presence of the LACERA building, and the LACERA building, are the digitization of mer a virtual mail room for LA supplementing the current Processing Center (DPC)	ext three weeks, the Viracilitate information gathanin the presentations will oping, scanning, categorem the vendors is compet team will transition to roposal (RFP). Administrative Service's his initiative establishes and mail room are inacmber documents and in-CERA. LACERA would to process of digitizing in-

COMPLETED PROJECT DETAILS

This portion of the Operations Briefing will detail projects and initiatives that have been completed during the Fiscal Year 2024 - 2025.

Return to Index

	Strategic Plan Initiative:		Superior Memi	ber Experience
	Type	Project Sponsor	Start Date	Target Date
Project / Issue Title	Benefits	Exec	2/1/2023	3/31/2024
Brief Description	Project Lead(s): Shonita Peterson & Alex Ochoa			
			Completed	
		Cui	rrent Update	
960-hour Rehired Retiree Audit Pro-		y 2024, the software change	• •	

960-hour Rehired Retiree Audit Process

Automate the reporting and auditing of rehired retirees. Import data from the 120-day report into Workspace and automate notification letters to members approaching IRS limits.

In February 2024, the software changes to support automated auditing and reporting of rehired retirees were deployed in MyLACERA and Workspace. The changes included a new tile on MyLACERA for rehired retirees detailing the total hours that they have worked for the current fiscal year as well as an audit routine in Workspace that detects rehired retiree work hours and automatically sends notifications to members and their departments as certain thresholds of work hours are reached.

In March 2024, the first audit process was executed to identify rehired retirees and send notifications to both the members and their departments.

From April through June 2024, the audit process was executed monthly to identify members that were exceeding certain thresholds and sending automated notifications to both the members and their departments. It is important to note that no members have exceeded the 960-hour limit since the automated audit process was implemented. We consider this a complete success.

The Systems Division is currently transitioning the rehired retiree audit process from a monitoring and controlling phase to project closure by adding it to LACERA's enterprise systems calendar and turning operational support over to the production support team. We expect the transition to be completed and the project to be closed by August 31, 2024.



As of August 2024 with the new automated JLetters being sent to members and departments this project is complete. LACERA will rely on system automation to monitor Rehired Retiree hours worked.

Historical Perspectives

The California Public Employees' Pension Reform Act of 2013 (PEPRA) prescribes limitations on the activities of retired members of these retirement systems, which supersede the provisions of PERS with which they conflict. Under both PERS and PEPRA, a retired member is generally subject to a limit of 960 hours of employment within a calendar or fiscal year, depending on the administrator of the system, for specified employers without reinstating in the system.

To remain compliant with IRS regulations, LACERA must audit rehired retirees to ensure that these members do not exceed the 960-hour limit.

Project / Issue Title Brief Description

Strategic Plan Initiative:Superior Member ExperienceTypeProject SponsorStart DateTarget DateBSGFinancial Accounting Services DivisionAugust 2023September 2024

Project Lead(s): Ted Granger

Completed

Current Update

Actuarial Valuation Reports: Retiree Healthcare (RHC) or Other Post-employment Benefits (OPEB) Program

The Retiree Healthcare (RHC) Program administered by LACERA on behalf of Los Angeles County includes retiree healthcare benefits such as medical and dental/vision insurance plans and death benefits. GASB refers to these benefits as Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) for financial reporting. GASB Statement Numbers 74 & 75 prescribes financial statement reporting standards for OPEB programs. Actuarial valuations are prepared annually, and experience and assumption studies are prepared triennially for Los Angeles County and LACERA's Board of Retirement to make funding decisions and to provide the information for the GASB 75 report which is based on the actuarial valuation and used for employer financial statement disclosure reporting.

September 2024 – Milliman (LACERA's consulting actuary) presented the 2023 OPEB Actuarial Valuation report and CavMac (LACERA's reviewing actuary) presented the results of their review to the Board of Retirement (BOR) at their September meeting. There were some questions regarding the future funding of the OPEB Program that will be followed-up on. This presentation and BOR's approval completed the 2023 OPEB reporting cycle.

LACERA slightly delayed the experience study process so Milliman could review the Board of Investment's recently updated strategic asset allocation (SAA) for the OPEB Trust when considering the investment return assumption. The target completion date for this project was moved from August to September 2024.

Historical Perspectives

August 2023 – LACERA transmitted the census data file to Milliman when they began planning for the triennial year OPEB actuarial project cycle which includes an investigation of experience study and an annual valuation. Milliman started their work shortly thereafter.

In February 2024, Milliman presented a first draft Experience Study report to the Los Angeles County Stakeholder group. The BOR approved FY 2024-2025 retiree medical insurance premiums presented by the Retiree Healthcare (RHC) Division at the March meeting. Milliman updated their analysis to include the latest premium information to develop the medical cost trends and projections.

April 2024 – The Board of Investments approved and updated their strategic asset allocation (SAA) for the OPEB Trust. It was determined that LACERA needed to delay the experience study process so Milliman could review the new SAA when considering the OPEB Trust



investment return assumption and share this recent information with the County Stakeholder Group.

In May 2024, the Board of Investments approved and updated the OPEB Trust performance benchmarks and in June, the Investment Policy Statement (IPS) based on their recent approval of the SAA. LACERA held a second meeting to discuss draft 2 of the OPEB Experience Study with the Los Angeles County Stakeholder group including the County, Superior Court, labor groups, and their consultants, to review the remaining economic assumptions impacted by the SAA. There were no additional questions/concerns from the Stakeholder group.

June 2024 – Milliman provided an educational session to the Board of Investments at their in June meeting. The draft experience study report, which includes the actuarial assumptions, was completed by Milliman and presented at the July Board of Retirement meeting for approval. Milliman will prepare the annual valuation report and present it at the Board of Retirement meeting for approval in September.

July 2024 – The Board of Retirement approved the 2023 OPEB Experience Study draft report which included updated actuarial assumptions and methods that will be used to prepare the 2023 OPEB Valuation report. Milliman provided the draft valuation report appendices to LACERA for review.

In August 2024, Milliman completed the draft 2023 OPEB Valuation Report while LACERA staff and Milliman hosted the third and final Los Angeles County Stakeholder meeting for this project cycle. Milliman and CavMac (LACERA's reviewing actuary) presented their results with no major issues from the Stakeholder group. Milliman and staff prepared final reports for the September BOR meeting.

Development of the last sub-phase – the Benefits First Payment process – began simultaneously with the other projects as staff worked to develop detailed process flow maps of the process and define and refine business rules and minimum expectations for the case management system. With the completion of the DRS/DLO sub-phases the teams focused their efforts on the First Payment Process.



Pro	ect /	Issu	e Title
Bri	ef De	escri	ption

Strategic Plan Initiative:		Innovation Thro	ugh Technology
Type	Project Sponsor	Start Date	Target Date
Strategic	Systems	11/01/2023	12/30/2024

Project Lead(s): Tom De Luca

Completed

Current Update

Data Digitization Sharing Project

A project to share previously digitized microfiche and Optical Archive System (OAS) records with the LA County Auditor/Controller

The team presented the SharePoint prototype to the Auditor/Controller (A/C) and instructed them on how to navigate the site. The A/C have been reviewing the site on their own, asking probing questions such as the file-naming convention, how certain metadata values were sourced, and the pros and cons of various repository choices. The Project Team at LACERA completed and released a preliminary cost estimate on September 17th. This estimate includes both labor and material costs, covering hardware and software. The costs are categorized into two sections: those exclusive to LACERA and those that can be shared with the Auditor/Controller Subsequently, if A/C decides to have LACERA staff further develop the prototype into a functioning tool for their department, a new project proposal and business statement have to be created for IT Coordination Council submission and approval. Additionally, the estimate features a fixed cost component and a variable cost that depends on the page volume. The next step for this project will be to return to the IT Coordination Council with feedback from the A/C, the project cost estimates, and a project proposal.

Historical Perspectives

The Information Technology Coordination Council (ITCC) approved a prototype project to share previously digitized microfiche with the LA County Auditor/Controller (A/C) in October 2023. LACERA previously digitized 50 million microfiche and Optional Archive System (OAS) records containing LA County payroll data and built an electronic viewer for the images. The A/C only has the physical microfiche and the OAS records for this payroll data. The LACERA Systems Division would like to share our digitized images with the A/C in a portable format that is independent from all technology at LACERA. The prototype project that was approved by the ITCC will involve converting a subset of microfiche images to searchable PDF files and building a SharePoint page for searching the images. If the prototype is successful, and the A/C finds the files useful, we will make a request to the ITCC to convert 30 million of the 50 million images to searchable .pdf and securely transmit them to the A/C.

We have converted the subset of files to searchable PDF files for the prototype and are configuring the SharePoint page that will be used to search these files.

Systems completed the configuration and set-up of the SharePoint site that will be used by the Auditor-Controller. The team continued to conduct internal testing to ensure it works as expected during the month of May. The prototype for sharing the digitized microfiche with the LA County Auditor/Controller (A/C) has been completed.

Return to Index

	Str	ategic Plan Initiative:	Innovation Through Technology	
	Type	Project Sponsor	Start Date	Target Date
Project / Issue Title	Strategic	Systems	02/21/2024	09/30/2024
Brief Description		Project Lead(s): \$	Summy Voong, Jim Lyle	
		Co	mpleted	
		Curr	ent Update	
Microsoft Copilot Search Implementation	The project	has been completed.		
The introduction of Microsoft Copilot	Historical Perspectives			
Search, Microsoft's AI chat interface	deployment a Microsoft's g be presented	d Artificial Intelligence (AI) Comminat LACERA in February (2024). The enerative AI chat and search feat Ito the organization through MAC ions customized for each division.	he initial phase will involve ures that work with Microso , SAC, and Brown Bag meet	the launch and training of ft Edge. The new tool will tings as well as a series of
	2. Al pol	s: Show to Division Managers – Co licy approval – Completed to sign an acknowledgement new	·	



- 4. The Executive Board Assistants will be scheduling two meeting for Trustees TBD
- 5. Presentation/Demo to MAC/SAC teams Completed
- 6. Demonstration during Brown Bag Meeting Completed
- 7. Enable feature for all staff (that signed the Al Policy) and send out training documents Completed

Staff created a draft policy and forwarded it to the Ethics and Compliance Committee (ECC) for review.

Return to Index

Project / Issue Title
Brief Description

Strategic Plan Initiative: Superior Member Experience Type Project Sponsor Start Date Target Date 12/31/2024 03/01/2021 RHC Exec

Project Lead(s): Santos H. Kreimann & Luis A. Lugo

Completed

Current Update

Retiree Healthcare Administration: Lifetime Maximum Benefit Project

Going forward we will do an annual review with the County CEO as we move towards ultimately eliminating the lifetime maximum.

October 2024 – The county CEO will raise the lifetime maximum from \$1 million to \$1.5 million dollars effective with the next renewal cycle, July 1, 2025. LACERA will then provide the county CEO with migration data quarterly with the goal of gradually increasing lifetime maximum.

Historical Perspectives

Since the beginning of 2023, LACERA and the County CEO's Office have been in active communication by meeting biweekly to address the Lifetime Maximum Benefit issue. LAC-ERA provided the Board of Retirement (BOR) with a formal report and update on our progress during the August 2023 meeting via closed session.

In November 2023, LACERA received an information request from the County and provided the requested information to the County. The County requested additional RHC program related information from LACERA in December 2023 and January 2024, to which LACERA responded accordingly.



Since March 2024, The County of Los Angeles, and Coalition of County Unions (CCU) have continued to work through negotiations. LACERA continues to engage the County and Union representatives to provide any relevant information as they progress through their negotiations.

LACERA staff and LACERA's actuary continue to consult with the County's staff and actuary. These conversations and the County's negotiation process have resulted in additional actuarial-related information requests from the County. LACERA worked with Milliman and the County's actuary to complete and deliver these items in February 2024:

- 1) Actuarial Model Retiree Healthcare benefits analysis and modeling to project future healthcare cost changes due to hypothetical benefit changes.
- 2) Cost Projections GASB 75 report projections to analyze the impact of future healthcare cost changes.
- 3) Cost Savings Retiree Healthcare benefit analysis of Tier 2 historical cost savings.

July 2024 – LACERA CEO and Deputy CEO have completed our Lifetime Maximum Benefit (LMB) educational meetings with all five Board of Supervisor (BOS) offices as of July 2024. The BOS and County CEO office are expected to discuss LMB next month. We provided the BOS and County CEO office with projected premium impact should the County CEO and/or BOS eliminate or raise the \$1 million LMB on Anthem I, II, and Prudent Buyer plans. We also informed the BOS and County CEO that a decision is needed by September 2024 for a July 2025 effective date

LACERA Public Records Requests September 15, 2024 – October 14, 2024

DATE RECEIVED	REQUESTER	DOCS REQUESTED
09-18-24	R. Hurley, RIA Database & RIA Channel	Request: A list of names and titles of all investments staff for LACERA. Transmitted 1 document. Legal, on September 24, 2024, via email, transmitted the responsive document listed below. Investment Office Orgchart (9-14-24).pdf.
09-20-24	D. Finn, Individual	Request: 1. Correspondence, including emails, texts, notes or recordings regarding my case, a within LACERA, with any providers, and with the Disability Evaluation Doctor report from 09/04/24 and 2. Log of any medical records requested, and providers contacted by LACERA, in their review of disability case. Transmitted 1 document. Legal, on September 26, 2024, via USPS First Class Mail sent the responsive letter listed below. Pro Per Psych Policy to Dennis Finn 926 24.docx.
09-25-24	M. R. Toroy, with. Intelligence	Request: Monthly performance data from LACERA investment pools for all absolute return/hedge funds in which LACERA is currently invested for July 2024. **Transmitted 1 document.** Legal, on October 4, 2024, via email, transmitted the responsive document listed below. Hedge Funds Data Q1 2024.xlsx.
10-03-24	L. Albanese, FIN	Request: June 30, 2024, quarterly investment reports from emerging manager-of-managers Leading Edge Investment Advisors and New Alpha Asset Management. Legal, on October 11, 2024, via email, notified Requester that Investments Division was contacted and will contact Requester when LACERA learns information status. Legal, after checking with Investments Division, on October 21, 2024, via email, informed Requester the Emerging manager-of-managers were funded during 2Q 2034 and do not have reporting yet. Leading Edge was funded at end of May 2024 and New Alpha at end of June.
10-07-24	J. Lau, Secondary Link Team	Request: Information regarding 2024 Q1 and 2024 Q2 regarding alternative investments.

LACERA Public Records Requests September 15, 2024 – October 14, 2024

DATE RECEIVED	REQUESTER	DOCS REQUESTED
		Transmitted 3 documents. Legal, on October 11, 2024, via email, transmitted the 3 responsive documents listed below. Hedge Funds Data Q1 2024.xlsx; Private Markets Data Q1 2024.xlsx, and Private Markets Data Q2 2023.xlsx.
10-08-24	H. Ahaiwe, HR, LA County and 1 other Recipient	Per monthly request: Transmitted 1 document. Executive Office, on October 8, 2024, via email, transmitted the responsive document listed below. MonthlyAgenda.csv for October 1, 2024.
10-08-24	Sheriffs Dept, LA County and 4 other Recipients	Per monthly request: Transmitted 2 documents. Executive Office, on October 8, 2024, via email, transmitted the responsive documents listed below. Monthly Agenda Reports for Sheriff Department Listing and Fire Department listing, each dated October 2, 2024.
10-08-24	C. Siverson, Fire, LA County, and 5 other Recipients	Per monthly request: Transmitted 1 document. Executive Office, on October 8, 2024, via email, transmitted the responsive document listed below. Board of Retirement Meeting on October 2, 2024, Benefit Approval List.pdf.
10-14-24	T. Abbass, PEI Group	Request: Quarterly cash-flow reports from Q2 2024 of all your private capital investment. Transmitted 1 document. Legal, on October 16, 2024, via email, transmitted the responsive document listed below. Private Markets Data Q2 2024.



REPORT OF FELONY FORFEITURE CASES

October 16, 2024

#	MEMBER'S LAST NAME	MEMBER'S FIRST NAME	DEPT.	CONVICTION DATE	LACERA NOTIFIED	INITIAL IMPACT NOTICE SENT	FINAL IMPACT NOTICE SENT	STATUS*		SERV. LEVEL
69	CASTRO	RICARDO	SHERIFF	9/5/2024	10/16/2024	N/A	N/A	PEND	N/A	N/A
68	ESSEX	SEAN	SHERIFF	6/7/2024	7/22/2024	N/A	N/A	DELAY – CD	N/A	N/A
67	LYONS	ANDREW	SHERIFF	1/12/2024	2/14/2024	N/A	N/A	PEND	SCD	N/A
66	VEGA	MIGUEL	SHERIFF	9/5/2023	10/27/2023	10/17/2024	N/A	PEND	PENDING	N/A
64	RIDLEY-THOMAS	MARK	BOS	3/31/2023	3/31/2023	10/23/2023	N/A	APPEAL	N/A	N/A

STATUS LEGEND:

- •APPEAL: Pending an appeal filed with LACERA
 •6LOSED: RET: Retired member, case is complete
 •6LOSED: DEF: Deferred member, case complete
- •6LOSED: INA: Inactive member not eligible until age 70, case closed
- •DELAY-MI: Member input needed (i.e. pending a legal split decision)
- DELAY-CD: Pending a court decision (reduction in charges pending conditions being met)
- BEND: Case is currently in evaluation and notification stages
- •₩ITHDRAWN: Member withdrew prior to conviction no impact
- N/A: Not Available/Applicable