DECEMBER, 2003

Analysis of Early Retirement Incentive Program (ERIP)

for the Springfield Retirement System

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	1
Cost Analysis by Governmental Unit City School Department Housing Authority Library Museums Association	3 4 5
Effect on Funding Schedule	7
Active Data CitySchool Department	9
Retiree Data City	3 4
Actuarial Assumptions1	6

INTRODUCTION

The Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission (PERAC) is pleased to release our analysis of Chapter 116 of the Acts of 2002, *An Act Providing for Local Government Workforce Reduction Through an Early Retirement Incentive Program (ERIP) for Certain Employees* for the Springfield Retirement System. The ERIP was adopted by the City (includes the School Department and the Library Museums Association) and the Housing Authority. Section 1 of the law directed PERAC to complete an analysis of the costs and liabilities attributable to the additional benefits payable in accordance with the Act and submit a report to the board by December 31, 2003.

The law provides that retirement allowances of members who participated in the ERIP be determined by adding up to 5 years to the member's age and/or creditable service (any combination in full years up to a maximum of 5 years). A member's enhanced benefit cannot exceed 80% of the average rate of annual compensation used in his/her calculation. Members retiring under the program had effective dates of retirement between June 4, 2002 and December 31, 2002.

This study was based on active member data as of December 31, 2001, and additional data for retirees who were eligible for and elected the ERIP. All data was supplied by the board. We previously reviewed the December 31, 2001 data as part of the 2002 data submission process. We reviewed each member's data as both an active and retired member for reasonableness and consistency.

We used the investment return assumption used in the most recent actuarial valuation report. For all other assumptions, we used the standard PERAC assumption set for performing actuarial valuations as of January 1, 2002. These assumptions differ from the assumptions used in your last actuarial valuation performed as of January 1, 2003. The assumptions are shown at the back of this report.

We believe this report represents an accurate appraisal of the costs and liabilities of the ERIP for the retirement system. This analysis was performed in accordance with generally accepted actuarial principles and practices relating to pension plans. In our opinion, the actuarial assumptions used in this report are reasonable, related to plan experience and expectations, and represent our best estimate of anticipated experience.

Jośeph É. Connarton

1

Executive Director

Respectfully submitted,

Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission

Member of the American Academy of Actuaries

Associate of the Society of Actuaries Enrolled Actuary Number 02-4709

Dated: December 5, 2003

COST ANALYSIS BY GOVERNMENTAL UNIT

Methodology

The results of our analysis for each governmental unit that accepted the ERIP are presented on the following pages. Participating units had the option to limit the number of years and/or the number of members eligible to retire under the program. Such limitations are noted.

Our analysis of the cost of the ERIP consisted of measuring the change in both the actuarial accrued liability and normal cost before and after the application of the enhanced benefit. The amortization the increase in actuarial accrued liability and the normal cost form the basis of the impact of the ERIP on the plan's funding schedule. These items are discussed below.

Actuarial Accrued Liability

We measured the increase in actuarial accrued liability due to the incentive for each member who retired under the program. First, we valued the group as active members on January 1, 2002 (including any changes to reflect service adjustments made after January 1, 2002, such as service buy-backs). This calculation determines the liability attributable to the employees who elected the ERIP exclusive of the additional liability associated with the incentive program. These results were then brought forward on an actuarial basis to reflect the estimated accrued liability as of the average retirement date for each unit.

We then valued the same group as retirees after the application of the ERIP. These liabilities were determined as of the average retirement date for each unit.

The accrued liability for the members as retirees including the ERIP less the accrued liability for the members as active employees excluding the ERIP represents the increase in accrued liability due to the ERIP. This increase will be amortized as part of the system's funding schedule and will be a component of the system's annual appropriation. We assumed the amortization of the increase in liability would begin with the FY05 appropriation.

Normal Cost

The increase in actuarial liability is somewhat offset by a decrease in normal cost. The normal cost, or actuarial cost for the current year for active members, is shown as of January 1, 2002. There is no normal cost for retired members. Any decrease in normal cost for a retiring member would only be expected to last for a few years (the period the member would have remained in active service if the ERIP were not implemented).

City of Springfield

Actives		
Number of Members	121	
Average Service	24.9	
Average Compensation	\$44,937	

Reti	rees
Number of Members	121
Average Age	59.3
Average Annual Benefit	\$29,152

	As Actives	As Retirees
Total Regular Compensation	\$5,437,400	N/A
Total Normal Cost	\$721,900	N/A
Employee Contributions	\$305,100	N/A
Net Employer Normal Cost	\$416,800	N/A
Actuarial Liability (as of July 1, 2002)	\$28,260,400	\$38,709,400

Increase in Actuarial Liability (as of July 1, 2002)	\$10,449,000
Amortization of Increase for FY05 (assumed payment January 1)	
4.5% annual increasing basis to 2028	\$795,800

The above results provide a measure of the increase in actuarial accrued liability and decrease in normal cost due to the ERIP. The actuarial liability and normal cost were determined as active members (before the implementation of the ERIP) and as retired members (with the enhanced ERIP benefit).

Springfield School Department

Actives		
Number of Members	85	
Average Service	20.1	
Average Compensation	\$20,667	

Retirees		
Number of Members	85	
Average Age	61.0	
Average Annual Benefit	\$10,905	

	As Actives	As Retirees
Total Regular Compensation	\$1,756,700	N/A
Total Normal Cost	\$194,600	N/A
Employee Contributions	\$108,800	N/A
Net Employer Normal Cost	\$85,800	N/A
Actuarial Liability (as of July 1, 2002)	\$8,088,300	\$11,017,900

Increase in Actuarial Liability (as of July 1, 2002)	\$2,929,600
Amortization of Increase for FY05 (assumed payment January 1)	
4.5% annual increasing basis to 2028	\$223,100

The above results provide a measure of the increase in actuarial accrued liability and decrease in normal cost due to the ERIP. The actuarial liability and normal cost were determined as active members (before the implementation of the ERIP) and as retired members (with the enhanced ERIP benefit).

Springfield Housing Authority

Actives		
Number of Members	7	
Average Service	22.9	
Average Compensation	\$44,670	

Retirees		
Number of Members	7	
Average Age	60.7	
Average Annual Benefit	\$24,560	

	As Actives	As Retirees
Total Regular Compensation	\$312,700	N/A
Total Normal Cost	\$30,900	N/A
Employee Contributions	\$18,700	N/A
Net Employer Normal Cost	\$12,200	N/A
Actuarial Liability (as of October 1, 2002)	\$1,442,600	\$1,863,700

Increase in Actuarial Liability (as of October 1, 2002)	\$421,100
Amortization of Increase for FY05 (assumed payment January 1)	
4.5% annual increasing basis to 2028	\$31,400

The above results provide a measure of the increase in actuarial accrued liability and decrease in normal cost due to the ERIP. The actuarial liability and normal cost were determined as active members (before the implementation of the ERIP) and as retired members (with the enhanced ERIP benefit).

Springfield Library Museums Association

Actives					
Number of Members	9				
Average Service	22.0				
Average Compensation	\$34,767				

Retirees					
Number of Members	9				
Average Age	62.6				
Average Annual Benefit	\$17,922				

	As Actives	As Retirees
Total Regular Compensation	\$312,900	N/A
Total Normal Cost	\$26,000	N/A
Employee Contributions	\$15,300	N/A
Net Employer Normal Cost	\$10,700	N/A
Actuarial Liability (as of July 1, 2002)	\$1,357,100	\$1,750,600

Increase in Actuarial Liability (as of July 1, 2002)	\$393,500
Assortination of Incorporation (CVOE) (consumed in company (CVOE)	
Amortization of Increase for FY05 (assumed payment January 1)	
4.5% annual increasing basis to 2028	\$30,000

The above results provide a measure of the increase in actuarial accrued liability and decrease in normal cost due to the ERIP. The actuarial liability and normal cost were determined as active members (before the implementation of the ERIP) and as retired members (with the enhanced ERIP benefit).

EFFECT ON FUNDING SCHEDULE

Amortization of the Increase in Actuarial Accrued Liability

The bottom section of the cost page for each governmental unit shows the amortization of the increase in actuarial accrued liability a 4.5% increasing basis until FY28. This basis requires a funding amount of \$1,080,300 for FY05 and increases 4.5% each year until FY28. The allocation to each governmental unit is summarized below. Future system appropriations will reflect these unit costs.

	4.5% increasing, 24-year
Governmental Unit	Effective FY05
City	\$795,800
School Department	\$223,100
Housing Authority	\$31,400
Library Museums Association	\$30,000
Total	\$1,080,300

The legislation did not specify how the increased cost should be amortized under the schedule. The Board indicated that the ERIP will be funded on a 24-year, 4.5% increasing basis.

Decrease in Normal Cost

There is a decrease in employer normal cost for all units of approximately \$525,500 in FY03 for retiring members since normal cost accrues only for active members. This decrease is only expected to last a few years (the period the member would have remained in service if the ERIP were not implemented). This decrease will be partially offset by the normal cost for any members hired to replace retiring members. Any decrease in employer normal cost will be reflected in future actuarial valuations and corresponding funding schedules. We have not estimated the normal cost for new hires as part of this study.

CITY ACTIVE MEMBER DATA

The following data reflects data as of January 1, 2002.

Age by Service Distribution of Active Members

Years of Service

Present Age	0 - 4	5 -9	10 – 14	15 - 19	20 - 24	25 - 29	30+	Total
0 - 24								
25 - 29								
30 - 34								
35 - 39								
40 - 44								
45 - 49					1	3		4
50 - 54					6	24	7	37
55 - 59			3	4	3	19	8	37
60 - 64		1	8	4	4	10	4	31
65+		1	3	1	0	7	0	12
Total		2	14	9	14	63	19	121

Present Age	Number of Members	Total Salary	Average Salary
40 - 44			
45 - 49	4	\$153,040	\$38,260
50 - 54	37	\$1,806,956	\$48,837
55 - 59	37	\$1,705,668	\$46,099
60 - 64	31	\$1,355,998	\$43,742
65+	12	\$415,724	\$34,644
Total	121	\$5,437,386	\$44,937

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT ACTIVE MEMBER DATA

The following data reflects data as of January 1, 2002.

Age by Service Distribution of Active Members

Years of Service

Present Age	0 - 4	5 -9	10 – 14	15 - 19	20 - 24	25 - 29	30+	Total
0 - 24								
25 - 29								
30 - 34								
35 - 39								
40 - 44					1			1
45 - 49					0			0
50 - 54			1	1	1	3	2	8
55 - 59		1	10	8	4	4	2	29
60 - 64		2	9	8	5	12	2	38
65+		0	2	2	1	4	0	9
Total		3	22	19	12	23	6	85

Present Age	Number of Members	Total Salary	Average Salary
40 - 44	1	\$31,429	\$31,429
45 - 49	0	\$0	\$0
50 - 54	8	\$211,230	\$26,404
55 - 59	29	\$565,623	\$19,504
60 - 64	38	\$762,037	\$20,054
65+	9	\$186,406	\$20,712
Total	85	\$1,756,725	\$20,667

HOUSING AUTHORITY ACTIVE MEMBER DATA

The following data reflects data as of January 1, 2002.

Age by Service Distribution of Active Members

Years of Service

Present Age	0 - 4	5 -9	10 – 14	15 - 19	20 - 24	25 - 29	30+	Total
0 - 24								
25 - 29								
30 - 34								
35 - 39								
40 - 44								
45 - 49								
50 - 54							1	1
55 - 59			1		1	1	0	3
60 - 64			0	1	0	0	1	2
65+			0	1	0	0	0	1
Total			1	2	1	1	2	7

Present Age	Number of Members	Total Salary	Average Salary
40 - 44			
45 - 49			
50 - 54	1	\$54,016	\$54,016
55 - 59	3	\$109,861	\$36,620
60 - 64	2	\$91,319	\$45,660
65+	1	\$57,493	\$57,493
Total	7	\$312,690	\$44,670

LIBRARY MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION ACTIVE MEMBER DATA

The following data reflects data as of January 1, 2002.

Age by Service Distribution of Active Members

Years of Service

Present Age	0 - 4	5 -9	10 – 14	15 - 19	20 - 24	25 - 29	30+	Total
0 – 24								
25 – 29								
30 – 34								
35 – 39								
40 – 44								
45 – 49						1		1
50 – 54						2		2
55 – 59					1	0		1
60 – 64					0	0	1	1
65+		1	1	1	1	0	0	4
Total		1	1	1	2	3	1	9

Present Age	Number of Members	Total Salary	Average Salary
40 - 44			
45 - 49	1	\$34,233	\$34,233
50 - 54	2	\$80,095	\$40,047
55 - 59	1	\$23,516	\$23,516
60 - 64	1	\$29,823	\$29,823
65+	4	\$145,239	\$36,310
Total	9	\$312,906	\$34,767

CITY RETIREE DATA

The following data reflects information as of the date of retirement.

Present Age	Number of Members	Total Benefits	Average Benefits
40 - 44			
45 - 49	2	\$56,690	\$28,345
50 - 54	31	\$1,035,621	\$33,407
55 - 59	35	\$1,140,683	\$32,591
60 - 64	36	\$947,193	\$26,311
65 - 69	13	\$276,458	\$21,266
70 - 74	4	\$70,747	\$17,687
75 - 79	0	\$0	\$0
80 - 84	0	\$0	\$0
85 - 89	0	\$0	\$0
Totals	121	\$3,527,392	\$29,152

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT RETIREE DATA

The following data reflects information as of the date of retirement.

Present Age	Number of Members	Total Benefits	Average Benefits
40 - 44	1	\$5,464	\$5,464
45 - 49	0	\$0	\$0
50 - 54	4	\$53,459	\$13,365
55 - 59	23	\$224,296	\$9,752
60 - 64	47	\$502,646	\$10,695
65 - 69	9	\$133,196	\$14,800
70 - 74	1	\$7,903	\$7,903
75 - 79	0	\$0	\$0
80 - 84	0	\$0	\$0
85 - 89	0	\$0	\$0
Totals	85	\$926,964	\$10,905

HOUSING AUTHORITY RETIREE DATA

The following data reflects information as of the date of retirement.

Present Age	Number of Members	Total Benefits	Average Benefits
40 - 44			
45 - 49			
50 - 54			
55 - 59	4	\$91,647	\$22,912
60 - 64	2	\$47,457	\$23,729
65 - 69	0	\$0	\$0
70 - 74	1	\$32,814	\$32,814
75 - 79	0	\$0	\$0
80 - 84	0	\$0	\$0
85 - 89	0	\$0	\$0
Totals	7	\$171,918	\$24,560

LIBRARY MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION RETIREE DATA

The following data reflects information as of the date of retirement.

Present Age	Number of Members	Total Benefits	Average Benefits
40 - 44			
45 - 49	1	\$10,922	\$10,922
50 - 54	1	\$23,318	\$23,318
55 - 59	1	\$19,597	\$19,597
60 - 64	2	\$35,408	\$17,704
65 - 69	2	\$23,056	\$11,528
70 - 74	2	\$48,998	\$24,499
75 - 79	0	\$0	\$0
80 - 84	0	\$0	\$0
85 - 89	0	\$0	\$0
Totals	9	\$161,299	\$17,922

ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS

Actuarial Cost Method Entry Age Normal

Investment Return 8.5% per year

Interest Rate credited to the

Annuity Savings Fund 3.5% per year

Assumed rate of Cost of Living

Increases (COLA) 3% per year

Mortality RP- 2000 Healthy Annuitant table (gender distinct). This is

applicable to both pre-retirement and post-retirement benefits. For disabled members, the mortality rate is assumed to be in accordance with the RP- 2000 Table (gender distinct) set forward 2 years. It is assumed that 55% of pre-retirement deaths are job-related for Group 1 and 2 members and 90% are job-related for Group 4 members. For members retired under an Accidental Disability, 40% of deaths are assumed to be from the

same cause as the disability.

Salary Increase

Based on an analysis of past experience. Annual rates are shown below.

Service	Group 1	Group 2	Group 4
0	7.00%	7.00%	8.00%
1	6.50%	6.50%	7.50%
2	6.50%	6.50%	7.00%
3	6.00%	6.00%	6.50%
4	6.00%	6.00%	6.00%
5	5.50%	5.50%	6.00%
6	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%
7	5.00%	5.00%	5.50%
8	5.00%	5.00%	5.25%
9	4.75%	5.00%	5.25%
10+	4.75%	5.00%	5.25%

ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS (continued)

Retirement

	Groups 1 & 2		
Age	Male	Female	Group 4
45	0.000	0.000	0.010
46	0.000	0.000	0.010
47	0.000	0.000	0.010
48	0.000	0.000	0.010
49	0.000	0.000	0.010
50	0.010	0.015	0.020
51	0.010	0.015	0.020
52	0.010	0.020	0.020
53	0.010	0.025	0.050
54	0.020	0.025	0.075
55	0.020	0.055	0.150
56	0.025	0.065	0.100
57	0.025	0.065	0.100
58	0.050	0.065	0.100
59	0.065	0.065	0.150
60	0.120	0.050	0.200
61	0.200	0.130	0.200
62	0.300	0.150	0.250
63	0.250	0.125	0.250
64	0.220	0.180	0.300
65	0.400	0.150	1.000
66	0.250	0.200	1.000
67	0.250	0.200	1.000
68	0.300	0.250	1.000
69	0.300	0.200	1.000
70	1.000	1.000	1.000

ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS (continued)

Disability Based on an analysis of past experience. Sample annual rates are shown below.

Age	Groups 1 & 2	Group 4
20	0.00010	0.0010
30	0.00030	0.0030
40	0.00101	0.0030
50	0.00192	0.0125
60	0.00280	0.0085

Based on an analysis of past experience. It is also assumed that the percentage of job-related disabilities is 55% for Groups 1 & 2 and 90% for Group 4.

Withdrawal

Based on analysis of past experience. Annual rates are based on years of service. Sample annual rates for Groups 1 and 2 are shown below. For Group 4 members the rate is 0.015 each year for service up to and including 10 years. No withdrawal is assumed thereafter.

Groups 1 & 2

Service	Groups 1 & 2
0	0.150
5	0.076
10	0.054
15	0.033
20	0.020

PERAC Five Middlesex Avenue Third Floor Somerville, MA 02145

ph 617 666 4446fax 617 628 4002tty 617 591 8917web www.mass.gov/perac