

**EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT PLAN
OF THE
DENVER BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS**

Financial Statements

December 31, 2015 and 2014

(With Independent Auditors' Report Thereon)

**EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT PLAN
OF THE
DENVER BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

The Board of Water Commissioners, City and County of Denver, Colorado
Employees' Retirement Plan of the Denver Board of Water Commissioners
Denver, Colorado

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying statements of fiduciary net position and statements of changes in fiduciary net position of the Employees' Retirement Plan of the Denver Board of Water Commissioners (the Plan), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Plan's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the fiduciary net position of the Plan as of December 31, 2015, and the respective changes in fiduciary net position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

The financial statements of the Plan as of December 31, 2014, were audited by other auditors whose report dated April 30, 2015, expressed an unmodified opinion on those statements.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis on pages 3-7 and Schedules of Changes in Net Pension Liability and Related Ratios, Employer Contributions and Investment Returns on pages 25-27 are presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated April 28, 2016, on our consideration of the Plan's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Plan's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Broomfield, Colorado
April 28, 2016

**EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT PLAN
OF THE
DENVER BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS**

Management's Discussion and Analysis

December 31, 2015 and 2014

(Unaudited)

This is an analysis and overview of the financial activities of the Employees' Retirement Plan of the Denver Board of Water Commissioners (Plan) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014. This information should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and notes which follow.

Financial Highlights

As of December 31, 2015 and 2014, \$298.6 million and \$302.3 million, respectively, were held in trust for the payment of Plan benefits, and to meet the Plan's future obligations to its participants.

For 2015, the net position restricted for pension of the Plan decreased by \$3.8 million or 1.3%. This compares with a \$12.5 million increase or 4.3% in 2014. The decrease in the Plan's net position restricted for pension in 2015 and the increase in the Plan's total net position restricted for pension in 2014 are primarily due to changes in the market value of the Plan's investments. Investments decreased \$3.9 million or 1.3% in 2015 and increased \$12.9 million or 4.5% in 2014. Plan returns for 2015 and 2014 were 1.1% (0.8% net of fees) and 6.7% (6.4% net of fees), respectively.

Additions to the Plan's net position restricted for pension in 2015 included employer contributions of \$14.5 million and a net investment gain of \$2.5 million resulting in total additions to the Plan's net position restricted for pension of \$17.0 million. Additions to the Plan's net position restricted for pension in 2014 included employer contributions of \$14.5 million and a net investment gain of \$18.5 million resulting in total additions to the Plan's net position restricted for pension of \$33.0 million.

Deductions from the Plan's net position restricted for pension for 2015 were \$20.7 million compared to \$20.5 million in 2014, an increase of 1.1%. Retirement benefit payments were \$20.6 million in 2015 and \$20.2 million in 2014 resulting in an increase in benefit payments of \$366,300 or 1.8%.

The Plan's investment objective is to preserve the actuarial soundness of the Plan by achieving a long-term return of at least the actuarial earnings rate and to prudently manage the inherent investment risks that are related to the achievement of this goal. As of January 1, 2015 and 2014, the dates of the latest actuarial valuations, the funded ratio for the Plan was 82.8% and 80.8%, respectively.

Overview of the Financial Statements

The following discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Plan's financial statements which follow. The statements include the following:

1. Statements of Fiduciary Net Position
2. Statements of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position
3. Notes to Financial Statements
4. Required Supplementary Information by U.S. generally accepted accounting principles

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The Statements of Fiduciary Net Position include information about Plan assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and net position restricted for pension, as applicable as of December 31, 2015 and 2014.

The Statements of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position show the additions to, deductions from, and net increase (or decrease) in the Plan's net position restricted for pension during 2015 and 2014.

The above financial statements are presented in accordance with the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 72, *Fair Value Measurement and Application*, which provides guidance for determining a fair value measurement for financial reporting purposes and provides guidance for applying fair value to certain investments and disclosures related to all fair value measurements, Statement No. 67, *Financial Reporting for Pension Plans* (replacing GASB 25, *Financial Reporting for Defined Benefit Pension Plans and Note Disclosures for Defined Contribution Plans* and GASB 50, *Pension Disclosures*) and GASB Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments*, and all other applicable GASB pronouncements including GASB Statement No. 40, *Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosures* and GASB Statement No. 63, *Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position*. This statement requires the reporting of deferred inflows and deferred outflows of resources in separate sections of the Statement of Fiduciary Net Position, which was renamed from Statement of Net Position. These pronouncements address the requirements for financial statement presentation and certain disclosures for state and local governmental entities. The Plan's financial statements comply with all material requirements of these pronouncements.

These financial statements provide a snapshot of the Plan's assets and liabilities as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the activities that occurred during the years. Both financial statements were prepared using the accrual basis of accounting as required by GASB. All investment activities have been reported based on the trade dates and have been valued by independent outside sources.

Notes to Financial Statements provide additional information that is essential to have a full understanding of the basic financial statements.

Required Supplementary Information prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, provides additional information about the Plan's progress in funding its future obligations and the history of the Denver Board of Water Commissioners (Board) contributions to the Plan.

Changes in Net Position Restricted for Pension

The Statements of Fiduciary Net Position display Plan assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and the net position restricted for pension, as applicable at year-end. The Statements of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position provide information on the source of the change in net position restricted for pension during the year. The decrease in total assets of \$4.3 million or 1.4% in 2015 was the result of a decrease in the fair value of investments. Comparatively, in 2014, total assets increased \$13.1 million or 4.5%. The increase in 2014 was the result of a combination of an increase in the fair value of investments, an increase in cash and cash equivalents as well as an increase in receivables.

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Winslow Capital Management, Inc., Advisory Research, Inc. and Denver Investment Advisors LLC reported cash and cash equivalents as of December 31, 2015. Cash and cash equivalents are also held in the custodial cash account used for disbursement of benefit payments and administrative expenses. Many of the other managers have cash holdings from time to time but do not specifically identify them in their reporting.

As of December 31, the Plan's net positions restricted for pension were as follows:

Net Position Restricted for Pension

(Amounts expressed in thousands)

| | Years ended December 31 | | | 2015 – 2014 | | 2014 – 2013 | |
|---|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | 2015 | 2014 | 2013 | Increase (decrease) | Percentage change | Increase (decrease) | Percentage change |
| | | | | | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 3,272 | 3,716 | 3,580 | (444) | (11.9)% | \$ 136 | 3.8% |
| Dividends, interest, and other receivables | 425 | 364 | 299 | 61 | 16.8 | 65 | 21.7 |
| Investments, at fair value | 295,137 | 299,073 | 286,162 | (3,936) | (1.3) | 12,911 | 4.5 |
| Total assets | 298,834 | 303,153 | 290,041 | (4,319) | (1.4) | 13,112 | 4.5 |
| Total liabilities | 260 | 814 | 215 | (554) | (68.1) | 599 | 278.6 |
| Net position restricted for pension \$ | <u>298,574</u> | <u>302,339</u> | <u>289,826</u> | <u>(3,765)</u> | <u>(1.2)%</u> | <u>\$ 12,513</u> | <u>4.3%</u> |

Liabilities of the Plan for 2015 and 2014 consisted primarily of unpaid, but earned investment manager fees and amounts related to unsettled investment trades. In 2015, liabilities consisted primarily of unsettled trades of \$78,800 and outstanding investment expenses of \$180,200. In comparison, in 2014, liabilities consisted primarily of unsettled trades of \$598,600 and outstanding investment expenses of \$214,200. The change in the net position restricted for pension is a function of the change in total assets offset by the change in total liabilities. The Plan recorded a decrease in net position restricted for pension of \$3.8 million in 2015 and an increase of \$12.5 million in 2014.

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Additions

The funds needed to pay benefits are accumulated from the contributions made by the Board and the income generated from the Plan's investments, including interest, dividends, and proceeds from the sale of individual investments. Any earnings on investments are reported net of investment management expenses. Board contributions for 2015 and 2014 totaled \$14.5 million. The Board has contributed more than the actuarially determined contribution for 10 of the last 11 years.

Additions to Net Position Restricted for Pension

(Amounts expressed in thousands)

| | Years ended December 31 | | | 2015 - 2014 | | 2014 - 2013 | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| | 2015 | 2014 | 2013 | Increase (decrease) | Percentage change | Increase (decrease) | Percentage change |
| | Employer contributions | \$ 14,500 | 14,500 | 15,000 | — | —% | \$ (500) |
| Net investment income | 2,473 | 18,523 | 39,023 | (16,050) | (86.6) | (20,500) | (52.5) |
| Total additions, net | \$ 16,973 | 33,023 | 54,023 | (16,050) | (48.6)% | \$ (21,000) | (38.9)% |

Deductions

Annual Plan expenditures include retirement benefits, death benefits, refunds of employee contributions with associated interest and administrative expenses. The Plan's normal benefit is a single life annuity to retired members, but members may elect to receive benefits in various other forms, including a lump sum or annuities that provide spousal benefits. Please refer to the Plan document for detailed information regarding the Plan. For the year ended December 31, 2015, annual Plan deductions totaled \$20.7 million which compares with \$20.5 million in 2014. This represents an increase in deductions in 2015 of 1.1% as compared to an increase in 2014 over 2013 of 14.2%. The increase in total deductions in 2015 was primarily due to an increase in benefit payments.

Deductions to Net Position Restricted for Pension

(Amounts expressed in thousands)

| | Years ended December 31 | | | 2015 - 2014 | | 2014 - 2013 | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| | 2015 | 2014 | 2013 | Increase (decrease) | Percentage change | Increase (decrease) | Percentage change |
| | Retirement benefits | \$ 20,581 | 20,214 | 17,644 | 367 | 1.8% | \$ 2,570 |
| Death benefits | 85 | 85 | 55 | — | — | 30 | 54.5 |
| Refunds of employee contributions | 28 | 66 | 151 | (38) | (57.6) | (85) | (56.3) |
| Administrative expenses | 44 | 144 | 116 | (100) | (69.4) | 28 | 24.1 |
| Total deductions | \$ 20,738 | 20,509 | 17,966 | 229 | 1.1% | \$ 2,543 | 14.2% |

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Investment Activities

Year 2015 was marked by elevated market volatility as concerns of slowing growth in China, as well as globally, persisted. The U.S. Federal Reserve announced in December the first rate increase since 2006 in response to continued job growth and a solid housing market. As a result of the rate hike, interest rates across U.S. Fixed income sector increased in the fourth quarter, leading to a decline in fixed income prices. Despite the year-end losses, domestic fixed income reported a slightly positive return for the year. Oil prices were the most talked about area of the market in the second part of 2015. Nearly six months ago Brent oil saw prices over \$100 per barrel and since then have fallen to less than \$50 per barrel. The setback is attributed to oversupply, strength of the U.S. dollar, and worries of a global growth slowdown. Broad-based domestic equity indexes such as the S&P 500 and Russell 3000 were slightly positive for the year, while international benchmarks reported negative returns during 2015, with emerging market equities significantly underperforming their developed-market peers. China's news led headlines for most of the year followed with the political and fiscal woes in Brazil and other topics correlated to geopolitical events in the Middle East. In Europe, the Greek election has fashioned doubt for the European Union and geopolitical risk has been amplified due to the Russian and Ukrainian conflicts that continue to linger.

Denver Water's Retirement Plan posted a 1.1% gain (0.8% net of fee return) in line with the Plan's customized benchmark return of 1.1% for 2015. Once again, Real Estate was the best absolute performer posting a 15.5% gain, compared to its benchmark, NCREIF ODCE index return of 15.0%. Hedge Funds were the best relative performer during the year, posting 0.8% return and beating the benchmark, HFR Fund of Funds Composite by 1 percentage point. Equities segment reported a loss of 2.6%, driven largely by negative international equity returns and losses in the domestic energy-linked equities. This compares to MSCI ACWI Net index return of -2.4%. The fixed Income segment reported 0.5% return for the year versus the Barclays Aggregate Bond index return of 0.6%.

Requests for Information

This discussion and analysis is designed to provide a general overview of the Plan's financial status as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and changes in financial status for the years then ended. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to:

Treasurer
Denver Water
1600 W. 12th Ave.
Denver, CO 80204

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Statements of Fiduciary Net Position

December 31, 2015 and 2014

| | 2015 | 2014 |
|---|----------------|-------------|
| Assets: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 3,272,400 | 3,716,400 |
| Dividends, interest and other receivables | 424,900 | 364,300 |
| Investments, at fair value: | | |
| Equities: | | |
| Common stock | 9,919,700 | 15,754,300 |
| Common stock- funds | 143,157,700 | 151,126,400 |
| Preferred stock | 98,300 | 138,100 |
| Other equities | 8,731,900 | 9,551,600 |
| Total equities | 161,907,600 | 176,570,400 |
| Fixed income: | | |
| Government bonds | 4,363,000 | 9,373,500 |
| Government bonds-funds | 14,606,700 | 18,617,300 |
| Municipal/provincial bonds | 997,900 | 1,772,200 |
| Corporate bonds | 9,844,400 | 16,657,300 |
| Other fixed income | 14,606,500 | 15,091,600 |
| Total fixed income | 44,418,500 | 61,511,900 |
| Real estate | 57,665,600 | 30,858,800 |
| Hedge funds | 30,231,600 | 30,131,600 |
| Private equity | 914,000 | — |
| Total investments | 295,137,300 | 299,072,700 |
| Total assets | 298,834,600 | 303,153,400 |
| Liabilities: | | |
| Accrued administrative expense | 1,000 | 1,600 |
| Accrued investment expense | 180,200 | 214,200 |
| Securities payable | 78,800 | 598,600 |
| Total liabilities | 260,000 | 814,400 |
| Net position restricted for pension | \$ 298,574,600 | 302,339,000 |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

**EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT PLAN
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Statements of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position

Years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

| | 2015 | 2014 |
|---|----------------|-------------|
| Additions: | | |
| Employer contributions | \$ 14,500,000 | 14,500,000 |
| Investment income: | | |
| Net depreciation in fair value of investments | (976,100) | 15,102,800 |
| Interest | 1,969,600 | 2,422,100 |
| Dividends | 2,025,700 | 2,199,500 |
| Real estate income, net of operating expenses | 1,722,900 | 1,283,700 |
| | 4,742,100 | 21,008,100 |
| Less investment expense | (2,268,800) | (2,484,900) |
| Net investment income | 2,473,300 | 18,523,200 |
| Total additions | 16,973,300 | 33,023,200 |
| Deductions: | | |
| Retirement benefits | 20,580,500 | 20,214,200 |
| Death benefits | 85,000 | 85,000 |
| Refunds of employee contributions | 28,000 | 66,400 |
| Administrative expenses | 44,200 | 144,000 |
| Total deductions | 20,737,700 | 20,509,600 |
| Net increase (decrease) in fiduciary net position | (3,764,400) | 12,513,600 |
| Net position restricted for pension: | | |
| Beginning of year | 302,339,000 | 289,825,400 |
| End of year | \$ 298,574,600 | 302,339,000 |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

**EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT PLAN
OF THE
DENVER BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS**

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2015 and 2014

(1) Plan Description

(a) Plan Administration

The Board of Water Commissioners, City and County of Denver, Colorado (the Board), adopted the Employees' Retirement Plan of the Denver Board of Water Commissioners (Plan) in 1944. It is a defined benefit, single-employer plan covering substantially all regular employees of the Board.

The Board is made up of five members appointed by the Mayor of the City and County of Denver for staggered six-year terms. The Board is the sponsor, administrator and trustee of the assets of the Plan. The Board has delegated certain responsibilities regarding the Plan administration through a delegation resolution to the Director of Human Resources and to the Director of Finance. The delegation resolution instructs the CEO/Manager to create an advisory committee, with representation from the Finance, the Human Resources, and the Legal divisions, for the purpose of making recommendations to the CEO/Manager, the Director of Finance and the Director of Human Resources regarding the Retirement Program. The advisory committee, in and of itself, has no decision-making authority. The Plan is exempt from compliance with the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended, as it is a governmental plan.

Various asset classes and investment manager styles are used to create a broadly diversified portfolio. The Board develops long-term asset allocation ranges, while the Director of Finance is charged with developing and implementing a current asset allocation and rebalancing strategy which is designed to reflect, and be consistent with the Board-approved long term asset allocation ranges. Please refer to the notes of the financial statements under "Investment Policy" for more information on asset allocations.

(b) Plan Membership

All regular and discretionary employees of the Board become participants of the Plan upon completion of the required introductory period. As of January 1, 2015, there were 1,711 Plan participants: 90 were deferred vested participants, 582 participants were retired, 1,034 participants were active and 5 were on long term disability.

(c) Benefits Provided

Participants become fully vested after 5 years of employment. The normal retirement age is 65. An employee who reaches age 55 and has 5 years of service is eligible to receive a reduced early retirement benefit. Unreduced retirement benefits prior to age 65 are provided for employees who are a minimum of age 55, whose age and years of service totaled 75 on the last day of employment and whose employment ends at age 50 or later. The service requirement for entitlement to spousal benefits is 5 years of service with the benefit commencing when the employee would have reached age 55. The Plan also provides for retirement benefits in the event of total and permanent disability, as determined by the Board.

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Terminated vested participants or surviving spouses whose severance date occurs before the attainment of age 55 shall be eligible to elect a full single lump sum payment only in lieu of a monthly pension within 90 days of his or her severance date.

Plan benefits are integrated with Social Security benefits and are determined by a formula defined in the Plan document. The minimum normal benefit amount is calculated by multiplying the Plan participant's number of years of credited service times the amount of the participant's average final compensation times 1.5%. Employees with final income exceeding covered compensation receive an additional 0.45% times years of credited service times average final compensation in excess of covered compensation. The Plan also includes a benefit provision in the event a participant dies prior to the date the member quits, retires or is discharged. In general the participant's spouse or beneficiary will receive 50% of the participant's accrued benefit. The Plan document contains detailed provisions regarding Plan benefits.

Benefits paid by the Plan are adjusted annually by the change in the Consumer Price Index, subject to a minimum payment equal to the amount of the initial benefit and a maximum annual increase of 4.4% for employees retiring on or after September 1, 1995 and 5% for employees who retired before September 1, 1995. Changes in the Consumer Price Index in excess of the amount of the maximum annual adjustment are applied toward future adjustments.

The Board reserves the right to amend the Plan, including its benefit provisions; however, any amendment that substantially impairs the property rights of participants will not become effective until approved by two-thirds of the participants.

(d) Contributions

The Plan was established, and is sponsored and administered by the Board, under authority of Article X, Section 10.1.6 of the Charter of the City and County of Denver, Colorado. The Plan document provides for periodic Board contributions at actuarially determined amounts sufficient to accumulate the necessary assets to pay benefits when due. The Board's funding policy during 2014 and in prior years provided for periodic Board contributions of at least the actuarial required contribution (ARC) sufficient to accumulate the necessary assets to pay benefits when due. On August 28, 2013, the Board adopted the Employees' Retirement Plan Funding Policy effective for 2015 and future years. The policy defines the objectives of the Board in funding the benefits to be paid by the Plan. In accordance with the policy the Board will base its contributions to the Plan on Actuarially Determined Contributions (ADC) calculated annually by an independent actuary, using agreed upon methods and assumptions developed by the Actuarial Standards Board and specified in the funding policy.

The Board made contributions totaling \$14.5 million during 2015 and 2014, in accordance with actuarial valuations performed as of January 1, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

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Prior to January 1, 1992, employees were required to contribute to the Plan. The Board amended the Plan to disallow further employee contributions and determined that all amounts previously contributed to the Plan by employees would be refunded, with interest at 5% per annum, upon termination or retirement. Payments of \$28,000 and \$66,400 were made in 2015 and 2014, respectively, for employees who had retired or were terminated during the respective year. As of December 31, 2015 and 2014, total remaining employee contributions including accrued interest was \$65,400 and \$84,700, respectively. These amounts are not accrued as liabilities in the accompanying financial statements.

(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Accounting

The Plan's financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting and in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles that apply to governmental accounting for defined benefit plans. Employer contributions are recognized when made, because there are no required due dates for contributions. Other additions are recognized when due. Benefits and refunds are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of the Plan document. Plan expenses, other than benefits and refunds are recognized on the accrual basis in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

(b) Plan Expenses

Certain expenses are paid from the assets of the Plan and are recorded as administrative expenses on the financial statements. These expenses include actuarial fees, auditing expenses, benefit payment processing fees, legal fees and other miscellaneous expenses.

Additionally, investment manager fees and investment consulting expenses are recorded as investment expenses.

(c) Fair Value of Investments

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) implemented statement 72, which addresses accounting and financial reporting issues related to fair value measurements. This Statement provides guidance for determining a fair value measurement for financial reporting purposes and provides guidance for applying fair value to certain investments and disclosures related to all fair value measurements. The Plan has adopted GASB statement 72 and categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The Plan has the following recurring fair value measurements as of December 31, 2015:

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**Investments and Derivative Instruments Measured at Fair Value
(\$ in thousands)**

| | 12/31/2015 | Fair Value Measurements Using | | |
|--|------------|--|--|---|
| | | Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1) | Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2) | Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3) |
| Investments by fair value level | | | | |
| Debt securities | | | | |
| Government bonds | \$ 4,363 | \$ - | \$ 4,363 | \$ - |
| Municipal/Provincial bonds | 998 | - | 998 | - |
| Corporate bonds | 9,844 | - | 9,844 | - |
| Fixed income funds | 14,607 | 14,607 | - | - |
| Total debt securities | 29,812 | 14,607 | 15,205 | - |
| Equity securities | | | | |
| Common stock | 24,403 | 24,403 | - | - |
| Preferred stock | 98 | 98 | - | - |
| Common stock funds | 63,654 | 63,654 | - | - |
| Total equity securities | 88,155 | 88,155 | - | - |
| Total investments by fair value level | \$ 117,967 | \$ 102,762 | \$ 15,205 | \$ - |
| Investments measured at the net asset value (NAV) | | | | |
| Common stock funds | 73,752 | | | |
| Other fixed income funds | 14,606 | | | |
| Real estate | 57,666 | | | |
| Hedge funds | 30,232 | | | |
| Private equity funds of funds | 914 | | | |
| Total investments measured at the NAV | 177,170 | | | |
| Total investments measured at fair value | \$ 295,137 | | | |

Equity securities classified in Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy are valued using prices quoted in active markets for those securities. Debt securities classified in Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy are valued based on evaluated prices using a matrix pricing technique. Matrix pricing is used to value securities based on the securities' relationship to benchmark quoted prices. Pricing for all securities was provided by a third party pricing vendor and developed in accordance with the provisions of GASB Statement No. 72. The valuation method for investments measured at the net asset value (NAV) per share (or its equivalent) is presented on the following table.

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Investments Measured at the NAV
(\$ in thousands)

| | Fair Value | Unfunded Commitments | Redemption Frequency (If Currently Eligible) | Redemption Notice Period |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|
| Common stock funds | \$ 73,752 | \$ - | Daily/Monthly | 1-14 days |
| Other fixed income funds | 14,606 | - | Daily/Monthly | 1-30 days |
| Real estate funds | 57,666 | 18,125 | Quarterly/None | 45-90 days |
| Hedge funds | 30,232 | - | Quarterly | 45-90 days |
| Private equity funds of funds | 914 | 11,066 | None | N/A |
| Total investments measured at the NAV | <u>\$ 177,170</u> | <u>\$ 29,191</u> | | |

Common stock funds

This fund category includes investments in three external investment pools that invest in publicly listed U.S. and international equities. Unitized external investment pools are reported at fair value based upon the NAV of shares/units held at year end, provided by fund administrators. The nonunitized external investment pool is reported at fair value based upon the net value of the Plan's ownership interest in partners' capital, as provided by the investment manager. Based on the valuation policies and procedures provided by investment managers, all investments contained in the pooled funds are valued in accordance with the authoritative guidance on fair value measurements and disclosures. Funds are available for withdrawal daily, with the exception of Vontobel Global Emerging Markets Fund, which provides monthly liquidity.

Other fixed income funds

This fund category includes investments in an external investment pool that primarily invests in U.S. fixed income securities. The external investment pool is reported at fair value based upon the net value of the Plan's ownership interest in partners' capital, as provided by the investment manager. Certain individual holdings contained in the fixed income funds are not traded in active markets and/or market quotes are not readily available. Based on the valuation policies and procedures provided by investment managers, all investments contained in the pooled funds are valued in accordance with the authoritative guidance on fair value measurements and disclosures. The majority of holdings are classified within Level 2 of the valuation hierarchy. The external investment pool provides monthly liquidity.

Real Estate funds

This fund category includes four open-end and one closed-end real estate fund and one that invests primarily in U.S. commercial real estate. Open-end funds are reported at fair value based upon the NAV of shares/units held at year end, provided by fund managers. The closed end fund, Harbert United States Real Estate Fund V, L.P., is reported at fair value based upon the net value of the Plan's ownership interest in partners' capital, as provided by the investment manager. Based on the valuation policies and procedures provided by investment managers, all investments contained in the

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real estate funds are valued in accordance with the authoritative guidance on fair value measurements and disclosures. Generally, individual holdings contained in the real estate funds are recorded at their estimated fair value using a combination of the income, cost and sales comparison methods. Managers use independent appraisers to determine the value of the holdings at least on an annual basis. The majority of holdings are classified within Level 3 of the valuation hierarchy. The individual real estate holding values do not necessarily represent the prices at which the real estate investments would be sold or repaid, since market prices of real estate investments can only be determined by negotiation between a willing buyer and seller. Amounts ultimately realized from each investment may vary materially from the fair values reflected in the manager statements.

Investments in the open-end real estate funds can be redeemed with the fund managers at of the end of a calendar quarter. Redemption requests are subject to certain restrictions and the availability of cash. Should redemption requests exceed such available cash, the funds prorate available cash among withdrawing investors according to the ratio of the requesting investor's units to the total units of all investors then requesting redemptions. Any redemption request that is not fully honored in any given quarter is deemed effective in following quarters until completed. The funds are not obligated to sell assets, borrow funds, alter investment or capital improvement plans or reduce reserves in order to honor redemption requests. The investment in the closed-end fund, which represent approximately 20.4 percent of the value of the investments in this type, cannot be redeemed. Distributions from the fund are received as the underlying investments of the funds are liquidated. It is expected that the underlying assets of the funds will be liquidated over the next 7 to 10 years.

Hedge funds

This fund category includes investments in two hedge funds that are multi-strategy funds pursuing a variety of absolute return strategies, investing in a wide range of financial instruments, including, but not limited to, long or short positions in U.S. or non-U.S. publicly traded or privately issued or negotiated common stocks, preferred stocks, stock warrants and rights, corporate or sovereign debt, bonds, notes or other debentures or debt participations, commodities, partnership interests, interests in investment companies, convertible securities, swaps, options (purchased or written), swaptions, futures contracts and other derivative instruments markets and relative value, as well as private investment funds (hedge fund of funds). The fair values of the investments in this category have been determined using the NAV per share of the investments, as provided by the investment managers. Based on the valuation policies and procedures provided by investment managers, all investments contained in hedge funds are valued in accordance with the authoritative guidance on fair value measurements and disclosures. The majority of holdings in Blackrock Appreciation IV Fund, which invests primarily in private investment funds, are not categorized in the fair market value hierarchy and are valued using NAV per share. The majority of holdings in Visium Global Fund are classified within Level 1 of the valuation hierarchy, with less than 1 % of the portfolios classified as Level 3. Investments in the funds in this type can be redeemed with the fund managers at of the end of a calendar quarter. However, Blackrock Appreciation Fund, which constitutes 83 percent of this type of investment, limits the amount that can be redeemed each quarter to 25% of the each investor's total investment.

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Private Equity Funds of Funds

This fund category includes investments in two private equity fund-of-funds which invest in private investment funds. Aberdeen U.S. Private Equity VI, L.P., which is a buyout fund-of-funds, offers a concentrated multi-manager approach with 14-16 private equity managers along with selective co-investments and secondary investments and focuses on small-to-medium sized companies. Horsley Bridge Venture XI, L.P., which is a venture fund-of-funds, is expected to invest in 15-20 established and emerging private equity managers providing seed and early stage exposure to the technology sector in the United States, Europe and Asia. Private equity funds are reported at fair value based upon the net value of the Plan's ownership interest in partners' capital, as provided by the investment managers. Based on the valuation policies and procedures provided by investment managers, all investments contained in private equity funds of funds are valued in accordance with the authoritative guidance on fair value measurements and disclosures. Fund of funds managers rely on the values reported by the underlying private equity managers to prepare the funds' financial reports. If audited capital values are not available, a combination of the roll forward method of valuation, independent auditor confirmation of valuation, and review of the unaudited values is used as an alternative valuation method.

The investment in the private equity funds of funds can never be redeemed. Distributions from each fund will be received as the underlying investments of the funds are liquidated. It is expected that the underlying assets of the funds will be liquidated over the next 12 to 15 years.

(d) *Income Taxes*

Pursuant to a determination letter received from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) dated June 11, 2014 for amendments enacted through June 27, 2012, the Plan is exempt from federal income taxes. Although the Plan has been subsequently amended, the Board is of the opinion that the Plan, as amended, meets the IRS requirements and, therefore, continues to be tax exempt.

(e) *Use of Estimates*

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires the Plan's management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, and changes therein, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities, and the actuarial values at the date of the financial statements. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

(3) *Investments*

(a) *Investment Policy*

The Plan's investment policy and any changes to the policy are adopted by the Board acting in its capacity as Trustee of the Plan. The most recent version of the policy was approved on October 8, 2014 and contains updated long-term asset allocation ranges.

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The primary objective of the Board's investment policy is to preserve the actuarial soundness of the Plan by achieving a long-term return of at least the actuarial return rate and to prudently manage the inherent investment risks that are related to the achievement of this goal. The Board recognizes that the investment objective is long term in nature, and that actual year-to-year returns achieved may be above or below the actuarially assumed rate of return.

Long-term asset allocation ranges are developed based on several factors including: the long-term investment goals of the Plan; the Board's tolerance for short-term losses; the Plan's liquidity needs; and any legal or regulatory requirements.

As of December 31, the Plan's long-term asset allocation ranges were as follows:

| Long Term Asset Allocation Ranges | | |
|--|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Asset segment | Allowable range | |
| | Years ended December 31 | |
| | 2015 | 2014 |
| Equities | 35%–70% | 35%–70% |
| Fixed Income | 10–50 | 10–50 |
| Alternative | 10–40 | 10–40 |

(b) Money-Weighted Rate of Return

For the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively, the annual money-weighted rate of return on Plan investments, net of investment expense, was 0.8% and 6.4%. The money-weighted rate of return considers the changing amounts actually invested during a period and weights the amount of pension plan investments by the proportion of time they are available to earn a return during that period. External cash flows are determined on a monthly basis and are assumed to occur at the end of each month. External cash inflows are netted with external cash outflows, resulting in a net external cash flow in each month. The money-weighted rate of return is calculated net of investment expenses.

(c) Custody and Management of Assets

During 2015 and 2014, the Northern Trust Company served as asset custodian for all Plan assets. The Board has elected to hire professional investment managers to invest the assets of the Plan on a fully discretionary basis, subject to the investment policy of the Board. Each manager is evaluated periodically against the appropriate benchmark for his/her asset class and style. Failure to achieve the desired result does not necessitate, nor does achievement of the desired result preclude, termination of investment managers.

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During 2015 and 2014, the Plan assets were managed by the following investment managers:

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Aberdeen Asset Management Inc. | Since August 2015 |
| Advisory Research Inc. | Since January 2012 |
| Babson Capital Management LLC | Since August 2013 |
| BlackRock Alternative Advisors | Since March 2012 |
| Denver Investment Advisors, LLC | Hired prior to 1978 |
| Dimensional Fund Advisors, LP | Since February 2008 |
| GAM Fund Management Limited | Terminated November 2015 |
| Harbert Management Corporation | Since July 2014 |
| Harding Loevner Funds, Inc. | Since August 2011 |
| Horsley Bridge Venture | Since July 2015 |
| JP Morgan Investment Management, Inc. | Since November 2005 |
| Northern Trust Investments, N.A. | Since July 2006 |
| Pacific Investment Management Company, LLC | Since July 2006 |
| Prudential Real Estate Investors | Since March 2006 |
| Fidelity Institutional Asset Management* | Since July 2011 |
| RREEF America LLC | Since January 2015 |
| UBS Realty Investors, LLC | Since May 1998 |
| Vanguard Group, Inc. | Since February 2012 |
| Visium Asset Management | Since November 2015 |
| Vontobel Asset Management, Inc. | Since February 2014 |
| Winslow Capital Management, LLC | Since August 2011 |

*Formerly Pyramis Global Advisors

(d) Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of a failure of the counterparty, the Plan will not be able to recover its investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. Investment securities are exposed to custodial credit risk if the securities are uninsured, are not registered in the name of the Plan, and are held by either the counterparty or the counterparty's trust department or agent but not in the Plan's name.

All securities are held in a bank trust account in the Plan's name by the Plan's custodian except for investments in mutual and commingled funds, and limited partnerships, which by their nature, may have an independent custodian for the fund assets. Investments in short-term investment funds and in a domestic equity index fund are held in a SEC-registered pooled fund managed by the fund's custodian bank. At December 31, 2015 and 2014, there were no deposits subject to custodial credit risk.

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(e) Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of the investment. Since the debt investment portfolio may contain holdings with prepayments and variable cash flows, an analysis of interest rate risk using the segmented time distribution method is presented in the schedule below:

Schedule of Interest Rate Risk – Segmented Time Distribution of Investment Maturities as of December 31, 2015

| Investment type | Fair value | Less than 1 year | 1 to 6 years | 6 to 10 years | 10+ years | Maturity not determined** |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| Asset-backed securities | \$ 797,730 | — | 762,170 | — | 35,560 | — |
| Corporate bonds | 8,735,331 | 460,042 | 4,100,997 | 2,761,128 | 1,413,164 | — |
| Government agencies | 14,606,703 | — | — | — | — | 14,606,703 |
| Government bonds | 3,785,555 | 1,074,741 | 427,359 | 494,893 | 1,788,562 | — |
| Government mortgage-backed securities | 577,472 | — | — | — | 577,472 | — |
| Municipal bonds | 997,851 | — | — | — | 997,851 | — |
| Nongovernment-backed C.M.O.'s | 311,337 | — | — | — | 311,337 | — |
| Short-term investments | 3,272,351 | — | — | — | — | 3,272,351 |
| Other fixed income | 14,606,476 | — | — | — | — | 14,606,476 |
| Total | <u>\$ 47,690,806</u> | <u>1,534,783</u> | <u>5,290,526</u> | <u>3,256,021</u> | <u>5,123,946</u> | <u>32,485,530</u> |

** Amounts represent investments in commingled funds. Maturities of individual securities held by the funds are not reported by the

(f) Concentration of Credit Risk

Concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss attributed to the magnitude of an investment in a single issuer. As of December 31, 2015, the Plan has no single issuer that exceeds 5% of total investments. Investments issued or explicitly guaranteed by the U.S. government and investments in diversified mutual funds, external investment pools, and other pooled investments are excluded.

(g) Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that an issuer or other counterparty to a debt instrument will not fulfill its obligations to the Plan. There are no Plan-wide policy limitations for credit risk exposures within the portfolio. Each portfolio is managed in accordance with an investment contract that is specific as to permissible credit quality ranges, the average credit quality of the overall portfolios, and issuer concentration.

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The quality ratings of investments in fixed income securities as described by Standard and Poor's and Moody's rating organization as of December 31, 2015 are listed below. For securities with split ratings, the lowest rating is shown.

Schedule of Credit Risk as of December 31, 2015

| Investment type | Quality rating | Fair value | Percentage of portfolio |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Asset-backed securities | AAA/Aaa | \$ 613,599 | 1.3% |
| | AA/Aa | 35,560 | 0.1 |
| | NR/NA ² | 148,571 | 0.3 |
| Corporate bonds | AA/Aa | 759,909 | 1.6 |
| | A/A | 2,649,082 | 5.6 |
| | BBB/Baa | 3,477,461 | 7.3 |
| | BB/Ba | 1,128,661 | 2.4 |
| | CCC/Caa | 72,900 | 0.1 |
| | NR/NA ² | 647,318 | 1.4 |
| | Government agencies | NR/NA ³ | 14,606,703 |
| Government bonds | NR/NA ¹ | 3,785,555 | 7.9 |
| Government mortgage-backed securities | AAA/Aaa | 114,366 | 0.2 |
| | NR/NA ¹ | 463,106 | 1.0 |
| Municipal bonds | AAA/Aaa | 194,500 | 0.4 |
| | AA/Aa | 332,994 | 0.7 |
| | A/A | 335,884 | 0.7 |
| | BBB/Baa | 134,473 | 0.3 |
| | Nongovernment-backed C.M.O.'s | NR/NA ³ | 311,337 |
| Short-term investments | NR/NA ³ | 3,272,351 | 6.9 |
| Other fixed income | NR/NA ² | 14,606,476 | 30.6 |
| Total fixed income securities | | <u>\$ 47,690,806</u> | <u>100.0%</u> |

¹ These ratings are implicitly or explicitly guaranteed by the U.S. government and currently a rating is not provided by the nationally recognized statistical rating organization. The agencies invested are in FHLMC and FNMA.

² NR/NA indicates the securities were either not able to be categorized into any other ratings or the rating was not available to the custodian.

³ NR/NA indicates the securities were either not able to be categorized into any other ratings or the rating was not available because the assets are held in a mutual fund.

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(h) Foreign Currency Risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that changes in exchange rates will adversely impact the fair value of an investment or a deposit. The Plan holds investments with foreign currency risk related to the following currencies: Euro, Japanese yen, British pound sterling, Swiss Franc, Hong Kong dollar, Australian dollar, Canadian dollar, Taiwan dollar, South Korean won, Indian rupee, Swedish krona, South African rand, Mexican peso, Brazilian real, Denmark krone, Malaysian ringgit, Singapore dollar, Thailand baht, Indonesian rupiah, Norwegian krone, Russian ruble, Polish zloty, Turkish lira, Chilean peso, Israeli shekel, Philippines peso, Hungarian forint, New Zealand dollar, Czech koruna, Colombian peso, Pakistani rupee, Cayman Islands dollar and various other European, Asian and African currencies.

The following table provides the Plan's maximum exposure to foreign currency risk in U.S. dollars as of December 31, 2015:

| Schedule of Assets in Foreign Currencies | | |
|---|---|---|
| | Dollar allocation invested in foreign currencies | Percentage of asset class invested in foreign currencies |
| Equities | | |
| Common stock-funds | \$ 43,152,599 | 30.1% |
| Other equities | 4,898,713 | 56.1 |
| Hedge funds | 7,244,907 | 24.0 |
| Total | \$ 55,296,219 | |

(i) Derivatives

Derivatives are financial instruments whose values depend upon, or are derived from, the value of something else, such as one or more underlying investments, indexes or currencies. Derivatives may be used both for hedging and to enhance returns. Derivatives may be traded on organized exchanges, or individually negotiated transactions with other parties, known as over-the-counter derivatives. Derivatives involve special risks and costs and may result in losses to the Plan. The successful use of derivatives requires sophisticated management, and, to the extent that derivatives are used, the Plan will depend on the investment managers and their advisors to analyze and manage derivatives transactions.

Certain commingled funds held by the Plan at the year-end were permitted through their individual investment guidelines to use derivative instruments, including forwards, futures, swaps, and options. Disclosures about derivative holdings of the commingled fund managers can be found in their respective audited financial statements. The Plan did not directly own any derivatives as of December 31, 2015 and 2014.

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(4) Commitments

As of December 31, 2015, the Plan was a party to four limited partnership agreements with real estate and private equity managers that have unfunded capital commitments. Failure by the Plan to fund a capital call is considered a default under the agreements and various penalties, as defined, may be imposed upon the Plan for such failure. The commitment period for all partnerships extends until the Plan's capital commitment is fulfilled, or the partnership's term is reached. At December 31, 2015, the Plan had remaining unfunded capital commitments of \$29.2 million. Subsequent to December 31, 2015 but prior to release of the financial statements \$15.9 million was called and paid resulting in a remaining unfunded amount of \$13.3 million.

(5) Net Pension Liability of Denver Water

The components of the net pension liability of Denver Water at December 31, 2015 and 2014 were as follows:

| | Years ended December 31, | |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------|
| | 2015 | 2014 |
| Total pension liability | \$ 371,430,910 | 348,593,869 |
| Plan net position restricted for pension | (298,574,600) | (302,339,000) |
| Denver Water's net pension liability | \$ 72,856,310 | 46,254,869 |
| Plan net position restricted for pension as a percentage of the total pension liability | 80.38% | 86.73% |

(a) Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of January 1, 2015 and January 1, 2014 with a measurement date of December 31 and calculated based on the discount rates and actuarial assumptions below.

| | December 31 | |
|---|--------------------|-------------|
| | 2015 | 2014 |
| Inflation | 2.75% | 3.00% |
| Salary increases: age-based rates from | 6.25 to 3.35 | — |
| Salary increases: credit-based rates from | — | 6.1 to 3.6 |
| Investment rate of return | 7.25 | 7.50 |

The mortality rates for year 2015 were based on the RP-2000 Combined Healthy Mortality Table, and projected to 2020 using Scale BB.

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The mortality rates for year 2014 were based on the RP-2000 Combined Healthy Mortality Table, blended 50% Blue Collar adjusted and 50% White Collar adjusted, and projected to 2021 using Scale AA.

The actuarial assumptions used in the January 1, 2015 valuation were based on an actuarial experience study for the period 2010-2014. The January 1, 2014 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period 2005 –2009

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. Best estimates of the annualized long-term geometric mean return for each major asset class included in the pension plan's target asset allocation as of December 31, 2015 and 2014 are summarized in the following table.

| | January 1, | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| | 2015 | 2014 |
| Asset class: | | |
| Domestic fixed income | 0.75% | 2.00% |
| International fixed income | (0.85) | — |
| Domestic equity | 5.10 | 4.20 |
| International equity | 5.00 | 4.20 |
| Private equity | 5.90 | — |
| Real estate | 3.75 | 3.70 |
| Commodities | 0.50 | — |
| Hedge funds | 3.00 | 2.70 |
| Public real assets | 3.75 | — |

(b) Discount Rate

The discount rate used in the 2015 actuarial valuation to measure the total pension liability was 7.25%. In the 2014 actuarial valuation, the discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.5%. The change in the discount rate assumption was the result of an actuarial review. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed contributions would be made at the current actuarially determined contribution rate. Based on these assumptions, the pension plan's net position restricted for pension was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current active and inactive plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

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(c) *Sensitivity of the Net Pension Liability to changes in the Discount Rate*

The following presents the net pension liability of the Plan, calculated using the discount rate of 7.25% and 7.5% for 2015 and 2014, respectively, as well as what the Plan's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower or 1 percentage point higher than the current rate.

| | 1% Decrease 6.25% | Current discount rate 7.25% | 1% Increase 8.25% |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 2015 | | | |
| Net pension liability | \$ 114,468,034 | 72,856,310 | 37,689,433 |
| 2014 | | | |
| Net pension liability | \$ 84,924,350 | 46,254,869 | 13,420,282 |

(6) **Related-Party Transactions**

An affiliate of the Plan's custodian, Northern Trust Investments, N.A., is an investment manager for the Plan, which managed \$51.0 million and \$55.4 million of the Plan's investments at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. For the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, the Plan incurred approximately \$26,600 and \$27,800, respectively, in management fees with this investment manager.

(7) **Plan Amendment**

Effective December 9, 2015, the Plan was revised to be consistent with Denver Water's practices and to comply with requirements of the Internal Revenue Code and IRS Regulations and Revenue Rulings. The revision deletes outdated references to use of leave at time of retirement and clarify that "compensation" for the purpose of calculating pension benefits does not include the value of accrued sick and vacation leave paid to employees upon retirement, permits investment of funds in group trusts, allows for electronic forms of communication, and states that disbursement calculations for members who contributed after-tax dollars will be made in compliance with IRS Notice 2014-54.

The Plan was amended on August 13, 2014, with the effective date of May 1, 2013, to define "spouse" to include Colorado civil unions wherever federal tax law defines "spouse" to include a person of the same sex.

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Required Supplementary Information

Schedule of Changes in Net Pension Liability and Related Ratios

(Unaudited)

| | 2015 | 2014 | 2013 | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
|--|---------------|--------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Total pension liability: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Service cost | \$ 6,756,642 | 6,071,395 | 6,046,257 | | | | | | | |
| Interest on total pension liability | 25,820,051 | 25,043,773 | 24,051,100 | | | | | | | |
| Effect of plan changes | — | — | — | | | | | | | |
| Effect of assumption changes or inputs | 10,152,400 | — | — | | | | | | | |
| Effect of economic/demographic (gains) or losses | 801,448 | — | 2,037,171 | | | | | | | |
| Benefit payments | (20,693,500) | (20,365,600) | (17,850,600) | | | | | | | |
| Net change in total pension liability | 22,837,041 | 10,749,568 | 14,283,928 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total pension liability, beginning | 348,593,869 | 337,844,301 | 323,560,373 | | | | | | | |
| Total pension liability, ending (a) | 371,430,910 | 348,593,869 | 337,844,301 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Plan fiduciary net position: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Employer contributions | 14,500,000 | 14,500,000 | 15,000,000 | | | | | | | |
| Member contributions | — | — | — | | | | | | | |
| Investment income net of investment expenses | 2,473,300 | 18,523,200 | 39,023,000 | | | | | | | |
| Benefit payments | (20,693,500) | (20,365,600) | (17,850,600) | | | | | | | |
| Administrative expenses | (44,200) | (144,000) | (115,500) | | | | | | | |
| Net change in plan fiduciary net position | (3,764,400) | 12,513,600 | 36,056,900 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Fiduciary net position, beginning | 302,339,000 | 289,825,400 | 253,768,500 | | | | | | | |
| Fiduciary net position, ending (b) | 298,574,600 | 302,339,000 | 289,825,400 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Net pension liability, ending = (a) – (b) | \$ 72,856,310 | 46,254,869 | 48,018,901 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Plan fiduciary net position as a% of total pension liability | 80.38% | 86.73% | 85.79% | | | | | | | |
| Covered payroll | \$ 75,990,457 | 71,847,268 | 71,940,163 | 71,172,362 | 69,926,961 | 70,372,085 | 65,721,304 | 60,346,577 | 58,578,510 | 57,224,980 |
| Plan's net pension liability as a% of covered payroll | 95.88% | 64.38% | 66.75% | | | | | | | |

See accompanying independent auditors' report.

This schedule is intended to show 10 years of information. Additional years will be displayed when they become available.

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Required Supplementary Information

Schedule of Employer Contributions

Year ended December 31, 2015

(Unaudited)

| Year ended December 31 | Actuarially determined contribution | Actual employer contribution | Contribution deficiency (excess) | Covered payroll | Contribution as a% of covered payroll |
|------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| 2006 | \$ 8,268,755 | 8,269,119 | (364) | 57,224,980 | 14.45 |
| 2007 | 6,981,523 | 7,277,159 | (295,636) | 58,578,510 | 12.42 |
| 2008 | 7,233,450 | 7,590,475 | (357,025) | 60,346,577 | 12.58 |
| 2009 | 11,871,976 | 14,500,000 | (2,628,024) | 65,721,304 | 22.06 |
| 2010 | 12,638,827 | 12,638,800 | 27 | 70,372,085 | 17.96 |
| 2011 | 12,414,279 | 15,400,000 | (2,985,721) | 69,926,961 | 22.02 |
| 2012 | 12,256,238 | 14,300,000 | (2,043,762) | 71,172,362 | 20.09 |
| 2013 | 11,957,548 | 15,000,000 | (3,042,452) | 71,940,163 | 20.85 |
| 2014 | 13,532,013 | 14,500,000 | (967,987) | 71,847,268 | 20.18 |
| 2015 | 14,067,795 | 14,500,000 | (432,205) | 75,990,457 | 19.08 |

See accompanying independent auditors' report.

Notes to Schedule:

Valuation date:

Actuarially determined contribution rates are calculated as of January 1

Methods and assumptions used to determine contribution rates:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Actuarial cost method | Entry age normal |
| Amortization method | Level dollar |
| Amortization period | Layered |
| Amortization period at 01/01/2014 | 15 years |
| Asset valuation method | 3-year smoothed market |
| Inflation | 2.75 |
| Salary increases | Age-based rates from 6.25% to 3.35% |
| Investment rate of return | 7.25%, net of pension plan investment expenses, including inflation |
| Cost of living adjustments | 3.00% |
| Retirement age | Experience-based table of rates that are specific to the type of eligibility condition |
| Turnover | Table of rates graded by years of service |
| Mortality | Healthy Lives: RP-2000 Combined Healthy Mortality Table projected to 2020 using Scale BB. Disabled Lives: RP-2000 Combined Healthy Mortality Table, set forward 3 years, and projected to 2020 using Scale BB. |

**EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT PLAN
OF THE
DENVER BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS**

Required Supplementary Information

Schedule of Investment Returns

(Unaudited)

| Fiscal year ending December 31, | Net money- weighted rate of return |
|--|---|
| 2006 | N/A |
| 2007 | N/A |
| 2008 | N/A |
| 2009 | N/A |
| 2010 | N/A |
| 2011 | N/A |
| 2012 | N/A |
| 2013 | 15.35% |
| 2014 | 6.44% |
| 2015 | 0.81% |

See accompanying independent auditors' report.

This schedule is intended to show 10 years of information. Additional years will be displayed when they become available.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER
FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS
BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN
ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

The Board of Water Commissioners, City and County of Denver, Colorado
Employees' Retirement Plan of the Denver Board of Water Commissioners
Denver, Colorado

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of fiduciary net position, and the related statements of changes in fiduciary net position of the Employees' Retirement Plan of the Denver Board of Water Commissioners, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Plan's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated April 28, 2016.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Plan's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Plan's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Plan's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Plan's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Broomfield, Colorado
April 28, 2016