



# Pension Press

The Newsletter of the Houston Municipal Employees Pension System



## Update from the Chairman

Sherry Mose  
Chairman

Dear Participants,

As summer transitions to fall, cooler temperatures arrive and the threat of hurricane season begins to lessen. Of course, Hurricane Beryl hit southeast Texas in early July, causing widespread flooding and damage, and extended power outages for the greater Houston area. Our City employees, many of whom were personally affected by Beryl, nonetheless continued their exemplary work on behalf of Houstonians. I salute them, and hope everyone is recovering from Beryl's surprisingly severe effects.

Recently, elections were held for three HMEPS Board of Trustee positions. Active Trustees Lenard Polk and Rhonda Smith, and Retiree Trustee Lonnie Vara were each re-elected to a new four-year term. I congratulate them on their victories, and look forward to our continued work together on behalf of our participants.

In August, Felix Chevalier joined the Board of Trustees as the new City Controller appointee, to serve a three-year term. I welcome Felix to the Board and look forward to working with him.

HMEPS continues to have excellent investment performance. As reported by a widely recognized public fund database, as of June 30, 2024, HMEPS ranks in the top 3% for the past 3-, 5-, 10- and 25-year periods, and has a 10-year annualized return of 8.94%. The System generated a return of 10.54% in the most recent fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. HMEPS's solid investment performance helps strengthen the fund and provide secure benefits and pensions for our participants.

I am excited to remind participants that the Fall Financial Retirement Educational Event (F.R.E.E.) for City of Houston employees and retirees

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### HMEPS WILL OBSERVE THE UPCOMING HOLIDAYS

- NOV 11** Veteran's Day
- NOV 28-29** Thanksgiving
- DEC 24-25** Christmas
- JAN 1** New Year's Day

## 2024 PENSION PAYMENT SCHEDULE: OCTOBER - DECEMBER

Direct Deposits (ACH) are deposited on the last business day of each month. If you receive a check, it is typically mailed to arrive by the last business day of the month. The ACH payment schedule for October – December 2024 is:

**October 31 • November 29 •  
December 31**

HMEPS NEEDS YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS TO KEEP YOU UPDATED ON PENSION MATTERS

VISIT [WWW.HMEPS.ORG](http://WWW.HMEPS.ORG)  
TO SIGN UP

## Update from the **Chairman** cont.

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will take place on October 11, 2024 at the Harris County Department of Education. This event includes speakers on retirement (HMEPS), deferred compensation, Social Security and Medicare. There will be a morning session that will be repeated in the afternoon. If you are not able to join us at the Fall F.R.E.E., make plans to attend the F.R.E.E. next spring!

Finally, in January the Texas Legislature will convene in Austin for its 89th Regular Session. Pre-filing of bills begins later this year. Our HMEPS staff will closely monitor pension-related legislation, and will keep you informed.

I wish you a happy and healthy fall, and thank you for the continued privilege of serving as your Chairman.



Sherry Mose

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## 2024 HMEPS BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTION RESULTS

The 2024 Trustee Election results are in! Lenard Polk was elected to Active Employee Trustee Position 3, Rhonda Smith was elected to Active Employee Trustee Position 4, and Lonnie Vara was elected to Retiree Trustee Position 7. We would like to congratulate Lenard, Rhonda and Lonnie on their re-election to the Board of Trustees.

The Trustee election was conducted under the independent administration of Election-America, Inc. and certified by the Board at the August 29, 2024 meeting.

Read more about your Trustees at [www.hmeps.org/hmeps-board.html](http://www.hmeps.org/hmeps-board.html).



Elected Trustees Lenard Polk, Rhonda Smith and Lonnie Vara, and Controller appointee Felix Chevalier take the Oath of Office administered by Karon Reed, HMEPS Administrative Assistant. *From left, Karon Reed, Felix Chevalier, Rhonda Smith, Lenard Polk and Lonnie Vara.*

# Retirements: 2024 First Quarter Retirements

<b><u>Admin &amp; Regulatory Affairs (ARA)</u></b> Wendy Brown Robert Tillery	<b><u>Fleet</u></b> Daniel Azzano Kimberly Blackshear Marcus Patrick	<b><u>Information Technology</u></b> Aida De Hoyos George Nicholson Walter Wilson	Pauline Broussard Vilita Cheng Christina Espinoza Barry Fosberg Muriel Hughes-Castle James Kindel
<b><u>Aviation Department</u></b> Christina Do Connie French Sonya Hunter-Reed Jeremiah Pleasant	<b><u>General Services</u></b> Marco Anguiano Stanley White	<b><u>Legal Department</u></b> Lisa Ketai	<b><u>Public Works &amp; Engineering</u></b> Stephen Campagna Anthony East Darlene Gonder Carol La Breche Elizabeth Orozco Mohammad Mike Pezeshki Raymond Ramdeo Esther Rocha Charles Singleton Carolyn Smith Stanley Trotter Yolanda Vasquez Alejandro Vega Tim Vu Xinwei Yan
<b><u>City Council</u></b> Karla Cisneros Felix Kubosh Sandra Strachan	<b><u>Health &amp; Human Services</u></b> Madeline Clark Brian Goldberg Tina Mayes-Sneed Celia Ramirez Cheryl Sheppard Lupita Thornton Jose Yanez	<b><u>Library Department</u></b> Sarah Bates Belinda Cox	
<b><u>Controller</u></b> Tophas Anderson Jacqueline Pope Beverly Riggans	<b><u>Housing &amp; Comm. Development</u></b> Diamantina Arita	<b><u>Mayor</u></b> Amanda Washington	<b><u>Solid Waste Management</u></b> Carolyn Wright
<b><u>Convention &amp; Entertainment</u></b> Stephany Bland Lisa Hargrove	<b><u>Human Resources Department</u></b> Terrence Ardis Karen Davis Marilyn J. Owens	<b><u>Municipal Courts #5</u></b> Youlanda Campbell	
<b><u>Department of Neighborhoods</u></b> Mayra Hypolite Malane Morris		<b><u>Parks &amp; Recreation</u></b> Larry Batiste Jose Buentello Larry Chenier Roy Johnson Debra Lathan Ruby Mathews David Rogers	
		<b><u>Police Department</u></b> Donna Blaha	

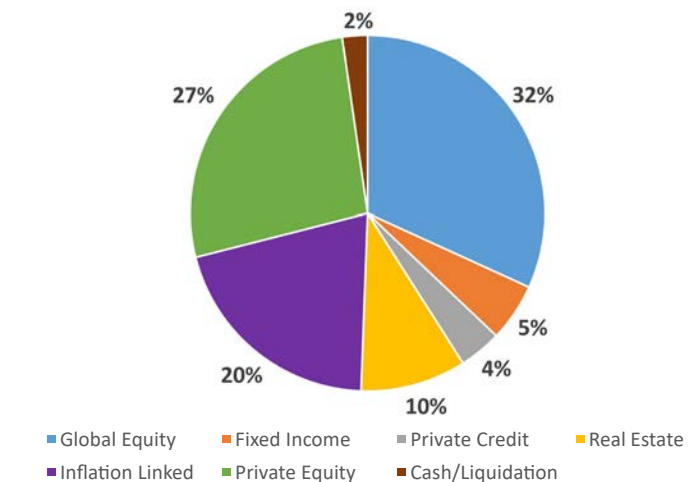
The Retirements section lists names and departments of those retiring participants who have indicated on their retirement applications that they wished to have an announcement of their retirement included.

## HMEPS Investment Update

### Market Value by Asset Class

	March 31, 2024	June 30, 2024
Global Equity	\$ 1,363,725,522	\$ 1,380,506,394
Fixed Income	226,962,177	229,134,286
Private Credit	162,056,041	168,039,643
Real Estate	417,889,988	418,002,829
Inflation Linked	825,117,453	886,874,308
Private Equity	1,160,254,192	1,157,622,492
Cash/Liquidation	141,070,385	99,598,811
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,297,075,758</b>	<b>\$ 4,339,778,762</b>

### Asset Allocation as of June 30, 2024



Presorted Standard  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Houston, TX  
Permit No. 7057

# Pension Press

Houston Municipal Employees Pension System



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## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### ELECTED AND APPOINTED TRUSTEES

Sherry Mose, *Chairman*  
Lenard Polk, *Vice Chairman*  
Rhonda Smith, *Secretary*  
Roderick J. Newman  
Roy W. Sanchez  
Lonnie Vara  
Carole Snyder, *Appointed*

### CITY APPOINTED TRUSTEES

Denise Castillo-Rhodes  
Felix Chevalier  
David Donnelly  
Adrian Patterson

## Pension Press

David L. Long,  
*Executive Director*

Thanks to the HMEPS staff for their contributions to the ongoing success of the *Pension Press*.



# HMEPS

HOUSTON MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES PENSION SYSTEM

## NEWSLETTER CONTENT

The material contained in this newsletter is intended to provide you with important information about your pension participation. The content cannot be taken as the basis of any contractual rights between HMEPS and its participants. If there is a question of interpretation, retirement laws are the final authority.