

# **Lansing Board of Water and Light Defined Benefit Plan and Trust for Employees' Pensions**

Financial Statements and  
Required Supplementary Information

June 30, 2023 and 2022

# Lansing Board of Water and Light Defined Benefit Plan and Trust for Employees' Pensions

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## **Independent Auditors' Report**

To the Honorable Mayor, Members of the City Council, and Commissioners of the  
Lansing Board of Water and Light

### **Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Lansing Board of Water and Light Defined Benefit Plan and Trust for Employees' Pensions (the Plan), a fiduciary fund of the Lansing Board of Water & Light, as of and for the years ended June 30, 2023 and 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the fiduciary net position of the Plan as of June 30, 2023 and 2022 and the respective changes in fiduciary net position for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### **Emphasis of Matter**

As discussed in Note 1 to the financial statements, the Plan is presenting only the financial statements of the Plan and do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the Lansing Board of Water and Light, as of June 30, 2023 and 2022, and the changes in financial position, or, where applicable, its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

### **Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; and for 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' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 Plan's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

### **Required Supplementary Information**

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the required supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents be presented to supplement the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the 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 financial statements and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the 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.

*Baker Tilly US, LLP*

Madison, Wisconsin  
September 22, 2023

# Lansing Board of Water and Light Defined Benefit Plan and Trust for Employees' Pensions

Management's Discussion and Analysis  
June 30, 2023 and 2022  
(Unaudited)

## Using this Annual Report

The annual report consists of two parts: (1) Management's Discussion and Analysis (this section) and (2) the financial statements. The financial statements include notes that explain information in the statements and provide more detail.

## Condensed Financial Information

The table below compares key financial information in a condensed format between the current year and the prior two years:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
<b>Assets:</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 778,163	\$ 1,308,877	\$ 1,401,780
Mutual funds	31,282,941	30,178,912	37,143,930
Common collective funds	13,544,502	14,578,119	19,776,148
Real estate fund investment	3,932,003	4,093,767	3,334,160
Trade receivable due from broker	-	500,000	20,550
Interest and dividend receivables	1,100	1,171	1,964
	<u>\$ 49,538,709</u>	<u>\$ 50,660,846</u>	<u>\$ 61,678,532</u>
Total assets held in trust			
Liabilities, accrued liabilities	\$ 15,476	\$ 2,072	\$ 20,433
Net position restricted for pension	<u>49,523,233</u>	<u>50,658,774</u>	<u>61,658,099</u>
	<u>\$ 49,538,709</u>	<u>\$ 50,660,846</u>	<u>\$ 61,678,532</u>
Total liabilities and net position			
<b>Changes in net position:</b>			
Net investment income (loss)	\$ 4,133,847	\$ (5,398,557)	\$ 11,852,724
Benefits payments	(5,142,408)	(5,466,158)	(5,658,372)
Administrative fees	(126,978)	(134,610)	(123,148)
	<u>\$ (1,135,539)</u>	<u>\$ (10,999,325)</u>	<u>\$ 6,071,204</u>
Net change in net position			

## Investment Results

The fiscal year ended June 30, 2023 saw a net investment gain of \$4.1 million. The fiscal year 2022 had a net investment loss of (\$5.4) million, fiscal year 2021 had a net investment gain of \$11.9 million. We believe this performance is consistent with the experience of similarly situated employee benefit funds.

The Lansing Board of Water & Light's ("BWL") actuarially determined contribution (ADC) as determined by the BWL's actuary was \$0 in fiscal year 2023, 2022 and 2021, therefore no employer contributions were required.

The discount rate was 6.5% in fiscal year 2021, 6.0% in fiscal year 2022 and 2023.

# Lansing Board of Water and Light Defined Benefit Plan and Trust for Employees' Pensions

Management's Discussion and Analysis  
June 30, 2023 and 2022  
(Unaudited)

## Investment Objectives and Asset Allocation

The Lansing Board of Water and Light Defined Benefit Plan and Trust for Employees' Pensions (Plan) assets shall be invested in accordance with sound investment practices that emphasize long-term investment fundamentals. In establishing the investment objectives of the Plan, the BWL has considered the time horizon available for investment, the nature of the Plan's cash flows and liabilities and other factors that affect the Plan's risk tolerance.

The investment of Plan assets is intended to result in moderate, long-term capital appreciation through moderate risk-taking. The Plan's overall investment objective is to earn an average, annual return of 6.0% over five-year rolling periods. Achievement of this objective is likely to result in stable contribution rates and ensure its ability to pay retirement benefits for all plan participants.

Consistent with the advice of the investment advisor, the BWL has selected the following target asset allocation strategy:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Asset Allocation</u>
Core bonds	20 %
Multi-sector	10
Liquid absolute return fixed income	10
U.S. large cap equity	25
U.S. small/mid cap equity	10
Non-U.S. Equity	20
Core real estate	5
	<hr/>
Total	100 %

## Future Events

The Plan is currently overfunded, with a funded ratio (fiduciary net position divided by total pension liability) of 111%. This funding level results in an actuarially determined contribution of \$0 for fiscal year 2024. As a result, the BWL does not expect to make contributions to the trust in fiscal year 2024.

The Plan expects to make an annual withdrawal of approximately \$5,000,000 to cover participant benefits in fiscal year 2024.

## Contacting the Plan's Management

The financial report is intended to provide a general overview of the Plan's finances and to demonstrate accountability for the funds it administers. Questions about this report should be submitted to Lansing Board of Water & Light Defined Benefit Plan and Trust for Employees' Pensions, Attn: Retirement Plan Committee, P.O. Box 13007, Lansing, Michigan 48901-3007.

**Lansing Board of Water and Light  
Defined Benefit Plan and Trust for Employees' Pensions**

Statements of Plan Fiduciary Net Position  
June 30, 2023 and 2022

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 778,163	\$ 1,308,877
Investments at fair value:		
Mutual funds, bonds	18,695,086	24,919,695
Mutual funds, equities	12,587,855	5,259,217
Common collective funds	13,544,502	14,578,119
Real estate fund investment	3,932,003	4,093,767
Total investments at fair value	<u>48,759,446</u>	<u>48,850,798</u>
Trade receivable, due from broker	-	500,000
Receivable, investment interest receivable	1,100	1,171
Total receivables	<u>1,100</u>	<u>501,171</u>
 Total assets	 49,538,709	 50,660,846
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Trade payable, due to broker/other	<u>15,476</u>	<u>2,072</u>
 Net position restricted for pensions	 <u>\$ 49,523,233</u>	 <u>\$ 50,658,774</u>

See notes to financial statements

**Lansing Board of Water and Light  
Defined Benefit Plan and Trust for Employees' Pensions**

Statements of Changes in Plan Fiduciary Net Position  
Years Ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
<b>Additions</b>		
Investment income:		
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	\$ 2,662,472	\$ -
Interest and dividend income	1,471,375	2,102,005
	<u>4,133,847</u>	<u>2,102,005</u>
Total investment income		
	<u>4,133,847</u>	<u>2,102,005</u>
<b>Deductions</b>		
Net depreciation in fair value of investments	-	7,500,562
Retiree benefits paid	5,142,408	5,466,158
Administrative expenses	126,980	134,610
	<u>5,269,388</u>	<u>13,101,330</u>
Total deductions		
	<u>5,269,388</u>	<u>13,101,330</u>
Net increase (decrease) in net position	(1,135,541)	(10,999,325)
<b>Net Position Restricted for Pensions</b>		
Beginning	<u>50,658,774</u>	<u>61,658,099</u>
Ending	<u>\$ 49,523,233</u>	<u>\$ 50,658,774</u>

See notes to financial statements



# Lansing Board of Water and Light Defined Benefit Plan and Trust for Employees' Pensions

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Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2023 and 2022

## 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

### Reporting Entity

The Lansing Board of Water & Light (BWL) sponsors the Lansing Board of Water and Light Defined Benefit Plan and Trust for Employees' Pensions (Plan), which is a noncontributory single-employer defined benefit, public employee retirement system established and administered by the BWL under Section 5-203.10 of the City Charter. A participant's interest shall be fully vested when the participant has been credited with seven years of vesting service. The Plan was established in 1939 and has been amended several times, with the latest amendment effective July 1, 2010. Participants should refer to the Plan Document for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

### Accounting and Reporting Principles

The Plan follows accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applicable to governmental units. Accounting and financial reporting pronouncements are promulgated by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

### Basis of Accounting

Fiduciary funds use the economic resources measurement focus and the full accrual basis of accounting. Revenue is recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Employer contributions to the Plan are recognized when due pursuant to legal requirements. Benefits and refunds are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of the Plan.

### Report Presentation

This report includes the fund-based statements of the Plan.

**Investment Valuation and Income Recognition** – Investments are reported at fair value. Securities traded on a national or international exchange are valued at the last reported sales prices. Investments that do not have an established market are reported at estimated fair value.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis.

Appreciation or depreciation of investments is calculated based on the beginning of year fair value of investments.

### Expenses

Substantially all Plan expenses are paid by the Plan.

### Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

### Regulatory Status

The Plan is not subject to the reporting requirements of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) as it has been established for the benefit of a governmental unit.

# Lansing Board of Water and Light Defined Benefit Plan and Trust for Employees' Pensions

Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2023 and 2022

## 2. Plan Description

### Plan Administration

The BWL administers the Plan – a noncontributory single-employer defined benefit pension plan for employees of the BWL. The benefit terms were established by the BWL and may be amended by future BWL actions.

Management of the Plan is vested in the BWL Board of Commissioners, which consists of eight members appointed by the mayor of the City of Lansing, Michigan. Board members have by resolution delegated administrative and investment duties to the BWL's Retirement Plan Committee (RPC).

### Plan Membership

At February 28, 2023 and February 28, 2022 (the most recent actuarial valuation for funding purposes), Plan membership consisted of the following:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Inactive Plan members or beneficiaries currently receiving benefits	265	284
Inactive Plan members entitled to but not yet receiving benefits	1	2
Active Plan members	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>
Total	<u>269</u>	<u>289</u>

The Plan, by resolution of the Board of Commissioners, was closed to employees hired subsequent to December 31, 1996, and a defined contribution retirement savings plan was established for employees hired after December 31, 1996. Effective December 1, 1997, all active participants in this Plan were required to make an irrevocable choice to either remain in this Plan (defined benefit) or move to the newly established defined contribution plan. Those participants who elected to move to the defined contribution plan received lump-sum distributions from this Plan that were rolled into their accounts in the newly established defined contribution plan. Of the 760 employees who were required to make this election, 602 elected to convert their retirement benefits to the newly established defined contribution plan. As a result of this action, effective December 1, 1997, the Board of Commissioners transferred \$75,116,470 to the newly established defined contribution plan, reflecting the Plan participants' accumulated benefits as of said date.

### Benefits Provided

The Plan provides retirement, early retirement, disability, termination and death benefits. The Plan provides for an annual benefit upon normal retirement age equal to the product of the employee's pension service credit (service credited on an elapsed time basis) multiplied by a percentage equal to 1.80% of the employee's annual pay (base pay plus bonus received during the year in which the base pay was the highest within the last ten years of employment), paid in equal monthly installments.

# Lansing Board of Water and Light Defined Benefit Plan and Trust for Employees' Pensions

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Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2023 and 2022

Payments will either be nonincreasing or increase only as follows: (a) by an annual percentage increase that does not exceed the annual percentage increase in a cost-of-living index that is based on prices of all items and issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics; (b) to the extent of the reduction in the amount of the employee's payments to provide for a survivor benefit upon death, but only if the beneficiary whose life was being used to determine the distribution period described in Section 9 of the Plan document dies or is no longer the employee's beneficiary pursuant to a qualified domestic relations order within the meaning of Internal Revenue Code Section 414(p); (c) to provide cash refunds of employee contributions upon the employee's death; or (d) to pay increased benefits that result from a Plan amendment.

## Contributions

Article 9, Section 24 of the State of Michigan constitution requires that financial benefits arising on account of employee service rendered in each year be funded during that year. Accordingly, the BWL retains an independent, external actuary to determine the annual contribution. The actuarially determined contribution is the estimated amount necessary to finance the costs of benefits earned by plan members during the year, with an additional amount to finance any unfunded accrued liability. There was no contribution required for the years ended June 30, 2023 and 2022. Plan documents do not require participant contributions.

## Plan Termination

Although the BWL has not expressed any intent to terminate the Plan, the BWL has the right to do so at any time. If the Plan is terminated, each employee who has a pension benefit under the Plan will be fully vested in that benefit. Those benefits shall be calculated on Plan termination as though each person had elected to receive his or her accrued benefit as a lump sum amount, although no employee would be required to accept his or her Plan termination distribution in the form of a lump sum. The lump sum amount to be paid to each individual in any of the forms permitted by the Plan would be calculated in accordance with the Plan document. On termination of the Plan, each employee would have recourse toward satisfaction of his or her nonforfeitable benefit from the Plan assets and from the general assets of the BWL and its successor, if any.

The Plan is also authorized by Michigan Public Act 314 of 1965, as amended, to invest in certain reverse repurchase agreements, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, collective investment funds, diversified investment companies, annuity investment contracts, mortgages, real estate, debt or equity of certain small businesses, certain state and local government obligations and certain other specified investment vehicles.

## 3. Cash and Cash Equivalents, Investments and Fair Value Disclosure

The Plan's deposits and investment policies are in accordance with PA 196 of 1997; the Plan has authorized the investments according to Michigan PA 314 of 1965, as amended. Deposits in each local and area bank are insured by the FDIC in the amount of \$250,000 for time and savings accounts (including NOW accounts) and \$250,000 for demand deposit accounts (interest bearing and noninterest bearing).

### Custodial Credit Risk of Bank Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the Plan's deposits may not be returned to it. The Plan requires that financial institutions must meet minimum criteria to offer adequate safety to the Plan. At June 30, 2023 and 2022, the BWL had \$254,761 and \$0, respectively, of bank deposits that were uninsured and uncollateralized. The Plan evaluates each financial institution with which it deposits funds and only those institutions meeting minimum established criteria are used as depositories.

# Lansing Board of Water and Light Defined Benefit Plan and Trust for Employees' Pensions

Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2023 and 2022

## Custodial Credit Risk of Investments

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the Plan will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The Plan does not have a policy for custodial credit risk. At year end, all investments of the Plan were held in the name of the Plan and are therefore not subject to custodial credit risk.

## Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of investments. The Plan's investment policy does not restrict investment maturities, other than commercial paper, which can only be purchased with maturities 270 days or less.

At June 30, 2023, the average maturities of investments are as follows:

Investment	Fair Value	Less Than 1 Year
Mutual funds, bonds	\$ 18,695,086	\$ 18,695,086
Common collective funds	13,544,502	13,544,502
Total	\$ 32,239,588	\$ 32,239,588

At June 30, 2022, the average maturities of investments are as follows:

Investment	Fair Value	Less Than 1 Year
Mutual funds, bonds	\$ 24,919,695	\$ 24,919,695
Common collective funds	14,578,119	14,578,119
Total	\$ 39,497,814	\$ 39,497,814

## Credit Risk

State law limits investments in commercial paper to the top two ratings issued by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations. The Plan has no investment policy that would further limit its investment choices. As of June 30, 2023, the credit quality ratings of investments subject to credit risk are as follows:

Investment	Fair Value	Rating	Rating Organization
Mutual funds, bonds	\$ 18,695,086	Not rated	Not rated
Common collective funds	13,544,502	Not rated	Not rated

As of June 30, 2022, the credit quality ratings of investments subject to credit risk are as follows:

Investment	Fair Value	Rating	Rating Organization
Mutual funds, bonds	\$ 24,919,695	Not rated	Not rated
Common collective funds	14,578,119	Not rated	Not rated

# Lansing Board of Water and Light Defined Benefit Plan and Trust for Employees' Pensions

Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2023 and 2022

## Concentration of Credit Risk

Concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss attributed to the magnitude of a government's investment in a single issuer. The Plan has no investments subject to concentration of credit risk as of June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2022.

## 4. 401(h) Account

Effective July 1, 1999, the Plan was amended to include a medical-benefit component, in addition to the normal retirement benefits, to fund a portion of the postretirement obligations for certain retirees and their beneficiaries in accordance with Section 401(h) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). A separate account has been established and maintained in the Plan for the net assets related to the medical-benefit component 401(h) account. In accordance with IRC Section 401(h), the Plan's investments in the 401(h) account may not be used for, or diverted to, any purpose other than providing health benefits for retirees and their beneficiaries. Employer contributions or qualified transfers to the 401(h) account are determined annually and are at the discretion of the Plan sponsor. At June 30, 2023 and 2022, there were no excess Plan assets available for transfer.

## 5. Tax Status

The Plan obtained, from the Internal Revenue Service, a determination letter dated November 4, 2011. The letter affirmed that the Plan complied with the requirements of Internal Revenue Code section 401(a). The Plan continues to operate as a qualified plan.

## 6. Plan Investments – Policy and Rate of Return

*Investment Policy* – The Plan's policy in regard to the allocation of invested assets is established and may be amended by the BWL by a majority vote of its members. It is the policy of the board to pursue an investment strategy that manages risk through the prudent diversification of the portfolio across a broad selection of distinct asset classes. The Plan's investment policy discourages the use of cash equivalents, except for liquidity purposes and aims to refrain from dramatically shifting asset class allocations over short time spans. The following was the BWL's adopted asset allocation policy as of June 30, 2023 and 2022:

Asset Class	2023 Target Allocation	2022 Target Allocation
Global fixed income	40 %	40 %
U.S. equities	35	35
Non-U.S. equities	20	20
Commercial real estate	5	5

*Rate of Return* – For the year ended June 30, 2023, the annual money-weighted rate of return on plan investments, net of plan investment expense, was 8.59%. For the year ended June 30, 2022, the annual money-weighted rate of return on plan investments, net of plan investment expense, was -9.18%. The money-weighted rate of return expresses investment performance, net of investment expense, adjusted for the changing amounts actually invested.

# Lansing Board of Water and Light Defined Benefit Plan and Trust for Employees' Pensions

Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2023 and 2022

## 7. Net Pension Asset of the BWL

The components of the net pension asset of the BWL at June 30, 2023 and 2022 were as follows (in thousands):

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Total pension liability	\$ 44,514	\$ 47,887
Plan fiduciary net position	<u>49,523</u>	<u>50,659</u>
Plan's net pension asset	<u>\$ (5,009)</u>	<u>\$ (2,772)</u>
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	111.25 %	105.79 %

*Actuarial Assumptions* – The June 30, 2023 total pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of February 28, 2023, which used updated procedures to roll forward the estimated liability to June 30, 2023. The June 30, 2022 total pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of February 28, 2022, which used updated procedures to roll forward the estimated liability to June 30, 2022. The total pension liability is determined by the Plan's independent actuary and is that amount that results from applying actuarial assumptions to adjust the total pension liability to reflect the time value of money (through discounts for interest) and the probability of payment (by means of decrements such as for death, disability, withdrawal or retirement) between the valuation date and the expected date of payment. Benassist Retirement Consulting, LLC was the actuary for the February 28, 2023 and February 28, 2022 valuations, respectively. The inflation rate used was 2.25% for the February 28, 2023 and February 28, 2022 valuations. Salary increase used was 3.5% for both the February 28, 2023 and February 28, 2022 valuations, respectively. The most recent experience review was completed in 2014. Since the Plan only covered 17 active participants in fiscal year 2014, assumptions like termination, retirement and disability have an immaterial impact on the results and have not been changed.

The mortality table was based on the PUB-2010 General Mortality Table, Male and Female, projected generationally using the MP-2021 projection scale for the June 30, 2023 valuation. The June 30, 2022 valuation used the PUB-2010 General Mortality Table, Male and Female, projected generationally using the MP-2019 projection scale.

*Discount Rate* – The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 6.0% for June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2022. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate in both years assumed that BWL contributions will be made at rates equal to the actuarially determined contribution rates.

*Projected Cash Flows Section* – Based on those assumptions, the Plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current active and inactive employees. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on Plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

# Lansing Board of Water and Light Defined Benefit Plan and Trust for Employees' Pensions

Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2023 and 2022

The long-term expected rate of return on 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 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 arithmetic real rates of return as of June 30, 2023 and 2022 for each major asset class included in the Plan's target asset allocation, as disclosed in Note 6, are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	2023 Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return	2022 Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Core bonds	2.58 %	2.58 %
Multi-sector	3.54	3.53
Liquid absolute return	3.25	3.25
U.S. large cap equity	7.17	7.13
U.S. small/mid cap equity	8.61	8.53
Non-U.S. equity	8.29	8.22
Core real estate	6.54	6.60

*Sensitivity of the Net Pension Asset to Changes in the Discount Rate* - The following presents the net pension asset of the BWL at June 30, 2023, calculated using the discount rate of 6.00%, as well as what the BWL's net pension asset would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (5.00%) or 1-percentage-point higher (7.00%) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (5.00%)	Current Discount Rate (6.00%)	1% Increase (7.00%)
Net pension liability (asset) of the BWL	\$ (836,993)	\$ (5,009,098)	\$ (7,108,925)

The following presents the net pension asset of the BWL at June 30, 2022, calculated using the discount rate of 6.00%, as well as what the BWL's net pension asset would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (5.00%) or 1-percentage-point higher (7.00%) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (5.00%)	Current Discount Rate (6.00%)	1% Increase (7.00%)
Net pension liability (asset) of the BWL	\$ 1,749,379	\$ (2,772,080)	\$ (5,093,794)

## 8. Fair Value Measurements

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). The three Levels of the fair value hierarchy under authoritative guidance are described as follows:

Level 1 - Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted market prices for identical assets in active markets that the Plan has the ability to access.

## Lansing Board of Water and Light Defined Benefit Plan and Trust for Employees' Pensions

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Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2023 and 2022

Level 2 - Inputs to the valuation methodology include:

- quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
- quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets;
- inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability;
- inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means; and
- if the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

Level 3 - Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

The asset's or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques maximize the use of relevant observables and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

The following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at June 30, 2023 and 2022:

*Real estate fund investment:* Valued by a certified independent appraiser and an internal expert group. There is also another level of verification by an independent valuation advisor to audit and review both the external and internal valuations performed.

*Mutual and common collective funds:* Valued at the daily closing price as reported by the fund. Mutual and common collective funds held by the Plan are open-end mutual and common collective funds that are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These funds are required to publish their daily fair value and to transact at that price. The mutual and common collective funds held by the Plan are deemed to be actively traded.

The preceding methods may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, while the Plan believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.



# Lansing Board of Water and Light Defined Benefit Plan and Trust for Employees' Pensions

Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2023 and 2022

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets at fair value as of June 30, 2023 and 2022:

Investment Type	2023			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Mutual funds, bonds	\$ -	\$ 18,695,086	\$ -	\$ 18,695,086
Common collective funds	-	13,544,502	-	13,544,502
Real estate fund investment	3,932,003	-	-	3,932,003
Mutual funds, equity	12,587,855	-	-	12,587,855
Total	\$ 16,519,858	\$ 32,239,588	\$ -	\$ 48,759,446

  

Investment Type	2022			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Mutual funds, bonds	\$ -	\$ 24,919,695	\$ -	\$ 24,919,695
Common collective funds	-	14,578,119	-	14,578,119
Real estate fund investment	4,093,767	-	-	4,093,767
Mutual funds, equity	5,259,217	-	-	5,259,217
Total	\$ 9,352,984	\$ 39,497,814	\$ -	\$ 48,850,798

## 9. Risks and Uncertainties

The total pension liability is reported based on certain assumptions pertaining to interest rates, inflation rates and employee demographics, all of which are subject to change. Due to uncertainties inherent in the estimations and assumptions process, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in these estimates and assumptions in the near term would be material to the financial statements.

In addition, the Plan invests in various investment securities. Investment securities are exposed to various risks such as interest rate, market and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the Statement of Plan Fiduciary Net Position.

## 10. Subsequent Events

The Plan has evaluated subsequent events occurring through September 22, 2023, the date that the Plan's financial statements were approved and available to be issued, for events requiring recording or disclosure in the Plan's financial statements. There are no subsequent events warranting disclosures.

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

**Lansing Board of Water and Light  
Defined Benefit Plan and Trust for Employees' Pensions**

Required Supplementary Information (Unaudited)

Schedule of Changes in the BWL's

Net Pension Asset and Related Ratios

Last Ten Fiscal Years

(In Thousands)

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
<b>Total Pension Liability</b>										
Service cost	\$ 29	\$ 26	\$ 26	\$ 42	\$ 60	\$ 50	\$ 113	\$ 223	\$ 274	\$ 349
Interest	2,721	2,974	3,212	3,566	3,691	4,031	4,317	4,625	4,919	4,751
Changes in benefit terms	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Differences between expected and actual experience	(981)	179	(968)	(919)	(743)	(230)	(383)	299	(1,093)	964
Changes in assumptions	-	1,730	(366)	1,555	1,210	1,419	(857)	(1,468)	-	4,538
Benefit payments, including refunds	(5,142)	(5,466)	(5,658)	(5,872)	(6,143)	(6,414)	(7,473)	(7,896)	(8,046)	(8,541)
<b>Net Change in Total Pension Liability</b>	(3,373)	(557)	(3,754)	(1,628)	(1,925)	(1,144)	(4,283)	(4,217)	(3,946)	2,061
<b>Total Pension Liability, Beginning</b>	47,887	48,444	52,198	53,826	55,751	56,895	61,178	65,395	69,341	67,280
<b>Total Pension Liability, Ending</b>	44,514	47,887	48,444	52,198	53,826	55,751	56,895	61,178	65,395	69,341
<b>Plan Net Position</b>										
Contributions, employer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Contributions, member	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net investment income	4,134	(5,399)	11,853	1,658	4,381	3,112	8,272	47	1,771	14,243
Administrative expenses	(127)	(134)	(123)	(145)	(183)	(255)	(317)	(388)	(576)	(596)
Benefit payments, including refunds	(5,142)	(5,466)	(5,658)	(5,872)	(6,143)	(6,414)	(7,473)	(7,896)	(8,045)	(8,541)
Other	-	-	-	(477)	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net change in Net Position Held in Trust</b>	(1,136)	(10,999)	6,072	(4,836)	(1,945)	(3,557)	482	(8,237)	(6,850)	5,106
<b>Net Position Restricted for Pensions, Beginning</b>	50,659	61,658	55,586	60,422	62,367	65,924	65,442	73,679	80,529	75,424
<b>Net Position Restricted for Pensions, Ending</b>	49,523	50,659	61,658	55,586	60,422	62,367	65,924	65,442	73,679	80,530
<b>BWL Net Pension Asset, Ending</b>	\$ (5,009)	\$ (2,772)	\$ (13,214)	\$ (3,388)	\$ (6,596)	\$ (6,616)	\$ (9,029)	\$ (4,264)	\$ (8,284)	\$ (11,189)
<b>Plan Net Position as a % of Total Pension Liability</b>	111%	106%	127%	106%	112%	112%	116%	107%	113%	116%
<b>Covered Employee Payroll</b>	\$ 248	\$ 238	\$ 237	\$ 240	\$ 406	\$ 603	\$ 586	\$ 772	\$ 1,018	\$ 1,225
<b>BWL's Net Pension Asset as a % of Covered Employee Payroll</b>	(2,020%)	(1,165%)	(5,576%)	(1,412%)	(1,625%)	(1,097%)	(1,541%)	(552%)	(814%)	(913%)

See notes to required supplementary information

**Lansing Board of Water and Light  
Defined Benefit Plan and Trust for Employees' Pensions**

Required Supplementary Information (Unaudited)

Schedule of Employer Contributions

Last Ten Fiscal Years

(In Thousands)

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Actuarially determined contribution	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Contributions in relation to the actuarially determined contribution	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Contribution Deficiency (Excess)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Covered Employee Payroll</b>	\$ 248	\$ 238	\$ 237	\$ 240	\$ 406	\$ 603	\$ 586	\$ 772	\$ 1,018	\$ 1,225
<b>Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll</b>	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

See notes to required supplementary information

## Lansing Board of Water and Light Defined Benefit Plan and Trust for Employees' Pensions

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Notes to Required Supplementary Information (Unaudited)  
June 30, 2023 and 2022

Actuarial valuation information relative to the determination of contributions:

Valuation date June 30, 2023, based on roll-forward of February 28, 2023 valuation

Methods and assumptions used to determine contribution rates:

Actuarial cost method	Entry age method
Amortization method	Level dollar over a 15-year period
Remaining amortization period	15 years
Asset valuation method	Market value of the assets
Inflation	2.25%
Salary increases	3.5% per year
Investment rate of return	6.0% per year compounded annually
Mortality	PUB-2010 General Mortality Table with MP-2021 Improvement Scale

Actuarial valuation information relative to the determination of contributions:

Valuation date June 30, 2022, based on roll-forward of February 28, 2022 valuation

Methods and assumptions used to determine contribution rates:

Actuarial cost method	Entry age method
Amortization method	Level dollar over a 15-year period
Remaining amortization period	15 years
Asset valuation method	Market value of the assets
Inflation	2.25%
Salary increases	3.5% per year
Investment rate of return	6.0% per year compounded annually
Mortality	PUB-2010 General Mortality Table with MP-2021 Improvement Scale

# Lansing Board of Water and Light Defined Benefit Plan and Trust for Employees' Pensions

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Notes to Required Supplementary Information (Unaudited)  
June 30, 2023 and 2022

## Significant Changes

### June 30, 2023

- *Difference Between Actual and Expected Experience* - The \$981K actuarial gain on the Total Pension Liability for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023 is primarily attributable to participant deaths.
- *Assumption Change* - None.

### June 30, 2022

- *Difference Between Actual and Expected Experience* - The \$179K actuarial gain on the Total Pension Liability for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022 is primarily attributable to the difference between actual experience and demographic assumptions.
- *Assumption Change* - The plan experienced a \$1.73MM actuarial loss due to the change in the mortality improvement scale and the decrease in the discount rate from 6.50% to 6.00%. Updating the mortality improvement scale to the MP-2021 scale resulted in a \$120K actuarial loss and decreasing the discount rate resulted in a \$1.61MM actuarial loss. The combination of these two changes resulted in an overall actuarial loss of \$1.73MM.

### June 30, 2021

- *Difference Between Actual and Expected Experience* - The \$968K actuarial gain on the Total Pension Liability for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 is primarily attributable to participant deaths.
- *Assumption Change* - The plan experienced a \$366K actuarial gain due to the change in the mortality improvement scale.

### June 30, 2020

- *Difference Between Actual and Expected Experience* - The \$.92MM actuarial gain on the Total Pension Liability for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 is primarily attributable to participant deaths.
- *Assumption Change* - The plan experienced a \$1.55MM actuarial loss due to the change in the mortality improvement scale and decrease in the discount rate from 7.00% to 6.50%. Updating the mortality improvement scale to the MP-2019 scale resulted in a \$.22MM actuarial gain and decreasing the discount rate resulted in a \$1.77MM actuarial loss. The combination of these two changes resulted in an overall actuarial loss of \$1.55MM.

### June 30, 2019

- *Difference Between Actual and Expected Experience* - The \$.74MM gain on the Total Pension Liability for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019 is primarily attributable to participant deaths.
- *Assumption Change* - The plan experienced a \$1.21MM loss due to the change of the mortality assumption from the RP-2014 Total Dataset Mortality adjusted to 2006 and projected generationally using the MP-2017 improvement scale to the PUB-2010 General Employees Mortality, projected generationally using the MP-2018 improvement scale.

## Lansing Board of Water and Light Defined Benefit Plan and Trust for Employees' Pensions

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Notes to Required Supplementary Information (Unaudited)

June 30, 2023 and 2022

### June 30, 2018

- *Difference Between Actual and Expected Experience* - The \$230,000 gain on the Total Pension Liability for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018 is primarily attributable to participant deaths.
- *Assumption Change* - Assumptions for the discount rate and expected return on assets were decreased from 7.50% to 7.00% to reflect the expected long term rate of return on the trust.

### June 30, 2017

- *Difference Between Actual and Expected Experience* - The \$383,000 gain on the Total Pension Liability for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017 is primarily attributable to participant deaths.
- *Assumption Change* - The plan experienced a \$.86MM gain due to the change of the mortality assumption from the RP-2014 table projected generationally with Scale MP-2014 with MP-2016 Improvement Scale.

### June 30, 2016

- *Difference Between Actual and Expected Experience* - The \$299,000 loss on the Total Pension Liability for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016 is primarily attributable to participant deaths.
- *Assumption Change* - The plan experienced a \$1.47MM gain due to the change of the mortality assumption from the RP-2014 table projected generationally with Scale MP-2014 with MP-2015 Improvement Scale.

### June 30, 2015

- *Difference Between Actual and Expected Experience* - The \$1.01MM gain on the Total Pension Liability for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015 is primarily attributable to participant deaths.
- *Assumption Change* – There were no impacts associated with assumption changes.

### June 30, 2014

- *Difference Between Actual and Expected Experience* - The \$964,000 loss on the Total Pension Liability for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014 is primarily attributable to participant deaths.
- *Assumption Change* - The plan experienced a \$4.54MM loss due to the change of the mortality assumption from the RP2000CH table projected to 2018 with Scale AA to the RP-2014 table projected generationally with Scale MP-2014.

**Lansing Board of Water and Light**

**Defined Benefit Plan and Trust for Employees' Pensions**

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Required Supplementary Information (Unaudited)

Schedule of Investment Returns

Last Ten Fiscal Years

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Annual money-weighted rate of return net of investment expense	9%	(9.18%)	22.42%	2.90%	7.39%	4.97%	12.10%	(0.49%)	2%	19%

*See notes to required supplementary information*