# Northern Nevada Plumbers \& Pipefitters Variable Defined Benefit Plan 

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Paul Graf and Brian Harper

## Background

## Retirement Planning Challenges

Providing retirement benefits and saving for future retirement is challenging


You don't know how
long you will live


You don't know the
value of your Plan's
assets in the future


You don't know how
reliable contributions will be to fund benefits


You don't know how much things will cost in the future

## Background

## Current Retirement Program

U.A. Local 350 members currently participate in two retirement plans


## Background

## Current Retirement Program

## Plumbers \& Pipefitters National Pension Fund

- Traditional pension plan - provides lifetime income in retirement
- Low benefit accrual rate due to large amount of unfunded liability
- Benefits are not protected from inflation
- Benefit accruals are capped at 2,100 hours per year



## Endangered Status Plan

750 funded


## Background

## Current Retirement Program

## U.A. Local 350 Retirement Plan - 401(k) Plan

- Traditional 401(k) plan
- Allows members to save additional money for retirement
- \$0.75 / hour employer contribution
- Employee elective deferrals of \$0 to \$8 per hour, in \$1 increments
- Benefits are typically paid as a lump sum payout at retirement


Retiree is responsible for investment risk and longevity risk

## New Variable Defined Benefit Plan



## New Variable Defined Benefit Plan

## Variable DB Plan



Benefits that adjust every year No cap on annual benefit accruals

Transition benefits


Stays fully funded in all markets


Minimizes
withdrawal liability


Stabilizes contributions


Keeps pace with inflation

## New Variable Defined Benefit Plan

## Earning Benefits Under the Variable DB Plan



## Key Provisions <br> Variable Defined Benefit Plan

## Plan Provision

| Benefit Accrual | - Hours based benefit accrual with "Save and Restore" provision. 1,500 hours $=1$ benefit credit |
| :---: | :---: |
| Hurdle Rate | - $5.0 \%$ |
| Annual Benefit Increase Cap | - 8.0\% (excess used to fund Save and Restore reserve) |
| Vesting Requirement | - 5 year cliff (750 hours = 1 year of vesting service); or age 65 \& active |
| Early Retirement | - Normal retirement age $=65$ <br> - Eligible for early retirement at age 55 with 5 years of service. <br> - Unreduced benefits available at age 62 , must retire from active service <br> - Rule of 85 (age + service $=85+$ ): <br> > Unreduced benefits available at age 60, must retire from active service |

- Temporary transition in place for 10 years

Transition Benefits - Larger benefit accruals provide for eligible group during 10 year transition period

- Must be age 50+ and have 10+ years of service on August 1, 2019 to be eligible


## Key Provisions

## Variable Defined Benefit Plan

| Ongoing Benefit Formula |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - Standard Benefit Accrual rate $=\$ 63^{*}$ per benefit credit (subject to Transition Provisions) <br> - Benefit is paid monthly at NRA (age 65) <br> - 1,500 hours worked $=1$ benefit credit <br> - 75 hours worked $=0.05$ benefit credits <br> - No cap on benefit credits earned in a plan year |  |  |
| Transition Benefit Provisions |  |  |
| Age and Service at Transition | Benefit Accrual Rate First 10 Years | Benefit Accrual Rate Starting Year 11 |
| Age 55+ \& 10+ Yrs of Svc | \$81* | \$63* |
| Age 50-54.9 \& 10+ Yrs of Svc | \$72* | \$63* |
| Less than 10 Yrs of Svc | \$54* | \$63* |

*Benefit accrual rates shown above are based on a pension contribution rate of $\$ 3.00$ per hour. Benefit accrual rates will be pro-rated for contribution rates different than $\$ 3.00$ per hour.

## Annual Benefit Accruals Variable Defined Benefit Plan

Hours worked: Varies
Employee contribution: \$3.00/hr.
Accrual rate: \$63.00/mo.

| Hours |  | Credit | Hours |  | Credit | Hours |  | Credit |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 74 | 0 | 675 | 749 | 0.45 | 1350 | - 1424 | 0.90 |
| 75 | 149 | 0.05 | 750 | - 824 | 0.50 | 1425 | - 1499 | 0.95 |
| 150 | 224 | 0.10 | 825 | - 899 | 0.55 | 1500 | - 1574 | 1.00 |
| 225 | 299 | 0.15 | 900 | - 974 | 0.60 | 1575 | - 1649 | 1.05 |
| 300 | 374 | 0.20 | 975 | - 1049 | 0.65 | 1650 | - 1724 | 1.10 |
| 375 | 449 | 0.25 | 1050 | - 1124 | 0.70 | 1725 | - 1799 | 1.15 |
| 450 | - 524 | 0.30 | 1125 | - 1199 | 0.75 | 1800 | - 1874 | 1.20 |
| 525 | - 599 | 0.35 | 1200 | - 1274 | 0.80 | 1875 | - 1949 | 1.25 |
| 600 | - 674 | 0.40 | 1275 | - 1349 | 0.85 | 1950 | - 2024 | 1.30 |


|  | Accrual Rate | Hours Worked | Benefit Credit | Benefit Earned in Year |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year 1 | $\$ 63.00 / \mathrm{mo}$ | 750 | 0.50 | $\$ 63.00 \times 0.50=\$ 31.50 / \mathrm{mo}$. |
| Year 2 | $\$ 63.00 / \mathrm{mo}$. | 1,150 | 0.75 | $\$ 63.00 \times 0.75=\$ 47.25 / \mathrm{mo}$. |
| Year 3 | $\$ 63.00 / \mathrm{mo}$. | 1,500 | 1.0 | $\$ 63.00 \times 1.0=\$ 63.00 / \mathrm{mo}$. |
| Year 4 | $\$ 63.00 / \mathrm{mo}$. | 1,750 | 1.15 | $\$ 63.00 \times 1.15=\$ 72.45 / \mathrm{mo}$. |
| Year 5 | $\$ 63.00 / \mathrm{mo}$. | 1,950 | 1.30 | $\$ 63.00 \times 1.30=\$ 81.90 / \mathrm{mo}$. |

Annual Benefit Adjustments

## Variable Defined Benefit Plan

Benefit adjustments shown below due to investment returns are simplified for presentation purposes.
Actual adjustments will be slightly different.

Hours worked: 1,500/yr. (= 1 benefit credit)
Employee contribution: \$3.00/hr.
Accrual rate: \$63.00/mo.
Hurdle rate: 5.00\%

| Year | BOY <br> Benefit | Benefit <br> Accrual | Prior Yr. <br> Inv. Return | Excess <br> Return | EOY Benefit <br> (Pre-adjustment) | EOY Benefit <br> (Post-adjustment) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | $\$ 0$ | $\$ 63.00$ | $5 \%$ | $0 \%$ | $\$ 63.00$ | $\$ 63.00 \times 1.00=$ <br> $\$ 63.00$ |
| 2 | $\$ 63.00$ | $\$ 63.00$ | $8 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $\$ 63.00+\$ 63.00=$ <br> $\$ 126.00$ | $\$ 126.00 \times 1.03=$ <br> $\$ 129.78$ |
| 3 | $\$ 129.78$ | $\$ 63.00$ | $10 \%$ | $5 \%$ | $\$ 129.78+\$ 63.00=$ <br> $\$ 192.78$ | $\$ 192.78 \times 1.05=$ <br> $\$ 202.42$ |
| 4 | $\$ 202.42$ | $\$ 63.00$ | $15 \%$ | $8 \%{ }^{*}$ | $\$ 202.42+\$ 63.00=$ <br> $\$ 265.42$ | $\$ 265.42 \times 1.08=$ <br> $\$ 286.65$ |
| 5 | $\$ 286.65$ | $\$ 63.00$ | $7 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $\$ 286.65+\$ 63.00=$ <br> $\$ 349.65$ | $\$ 349.65 \times 1.02=$ <br> $\$ 356.64$ |

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## Variable Defined Benefit Plan



## Save and Restore Provision

## Variable Defined Benefit Plan

## Save and Restore Provision



- Save and Restore provision is designed to prevent benefits from decreasing in a down market
- A "rainy day fund" is established to temporarily restore benefits when investment returns fall short of $5 \%$
- Rainy day fund has two sources of funding:

1. Small portion of hourly contributions made to the Plan
2. Excess investment returns when the plan's assets perform exceptionally well

Save and Restore Provision Variable Defined Benefit Plan

## Active Participant

Hours worked: 1,500/yr. (= 1 benefit credit)
Employee contribution: \$3.00/hr.
Accrual rate: $\$ 63.00 / \mathrm{mo}$.
Hurdle rate: 5.00\%

| Year | BOY <br> Benefit | Benefit <br> Accrual | Prior Yr. <br> Inv. Return | Excess <br> Return | EOY Benefit <br> (Pre-adjustment) | EOY Benefit <br> (Post-adjustment) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | $\$ 0$ | $\$ 63.00$ | $5 \%$ | $0 \%$ | $\$ 63.00$ | $\$ 63.00 \times 1.00=$ <br> $\$ 63.00$ |
| 2 | $\$ 63.00$ | $\$ 63.00$ | $8 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $\$ 63.00+\$ 63.00=$ <br> $\$ 126.00$ | $\$ 126.00 \times 1.03=$ <br> $\$ 129.78$ |
| 3 | $\$ 129.78$ | $\$ 63.00$ | $2 \%$ | $-3 \%$ | $\$ 129.78+\$ 63.00=$ <br> $\$ 192.78$ | $\$ 192.78 \times 0.97=$ <br> $\$ 187.00$ |

Using the rainy day fund, benefit after Year 3 is restored to $\$ 192.78$

| 4 | $\$ 187.00$ | $\$ 63.00$ | $17 \%$ | $8 \%^{*}$ | $\$ 187.00+\$ 63.00=$ <br> $\$ 250.00$ | $\$ 250.00 \times 1.08=$ <br> $\$ 270.00$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :--- | :--- |
| 5 | $\$ 270.00$ | $\$ 63.00$ | $7 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $\$ 270.00+\$ 63.00=$ <br> $\$ 333.00$ | $\$ 333.00 \times 1.02=$ <br> $\$ 339.66$ |

Save and Restore Provision Variable Defined Benefit Plan

Benefit adjustments shown below due to investment returns are simplified for presentation purposes.
Actual adjustments will be slightly different.

| Year | BOY Benefit | Prior Yr. Inv. <br> Return | Excess <br> Return | Benefit <br> (Post-adjustment) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :--- |
| 1 | $\$ 2,000.00$ | $5 \%$ | $0 \%$ | $\$ 2,000.00$ |
| 2 | $\$ 2,000.00$ | $8 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $\$ 2,000.00 \times 1.03=\$ 2,060.00$ |
| 3 | $\$ 2,060.00$ | $10 \%$ | $5 \%$ | $\$ 2,060.00 \times 1.05=\$ 2,163.00$ |
| 4 | $\$ 2,163.00$ | $-2 \%$ | $-7 \%$ | $\$ 2,163.00 \times 0.93=\$ 2,011.59$ |
| 5 | Using the rainy day fund, benefit after Year 4 | is restored to $\$ 2,163.00$ |  |  |
|  | $\$ 2,011.59$ | $16 \%$ | $8 \% *$ | $\$ 2,011.59 \times 1.08=\$ 2,172.52$ |

* The 8\% annual cap applies


## Personalized Benefit Statements

## Variable Defined Benefit Plan



## Personalized Benefit Statements

 Variable Defined Benefit Plan
## How the New Variable DB Plan Works

You will earn a benefit each year based on covered hours worked with U.A. Local 350 and the hourly contribution rate being made on your behalf. The total benefit is payable as a monthly annuity in retirement.

Once benefits are earned, they are adjusted to reflect the Plan's actual investment performance compared to the
pre-established hurdle rate of $5 \%$. Your accumulated benefits will therefore change from year to year increasing in years when the return on plan assets is higher than $5 \%$ and decreasing in years when the return on plan assets is lower than $5 \%$.
The plan aims to protect benefits from decreasing during a market downturn by using a rainy-day fund. This rainy-day
fund will be financed from two main sources. First a portion of plan contributions will feed the fund annually. Second, we limit the increase the annual benefit adjustment to $8 \%$. This means when investment returns exceed the hurdie rate by more than $8 \%$, the excess return will be
carved off and added to the rainy-day fund. This rainy-day fund is used to carved off and added to the rainy-day fund. This rainy-day fund is used to returns fall short of the $5 \%$ hurdle and benefits would otherwise go down.

> Benefit Accruals and Transition Benefits

Under the Variable DB Plan, participants will earn Variable Benefit Accruals based on hours worked and the hourly contribution rate paid into the plan. It will take 1,500 hours to earn a full Benefit and the hourly contribution rate paid into the plan. It will take 1,500 hours to earn a f Credit, partial Benefit Credits are granted for each 75 -hour increment worked. There work, the bigger the benefit you will earn.
For an hourly contribution rate of $\$ 3.00$, the Standard Benefit accrual for each Benefit Credit in the future (i.e. 1,500 hours) is scheduled to be a monthly retirement benefit of $\$ 63.00$ (accruals will also be adjusted on a prorated basis if hourly contribution rates are different than $\$ 3.00$ ). If your hours for a year are different than 1,500 hours, you may earn more or less than the $\$ 63.00$ benefit for the year.
As an example, if you were to work at least 1,875 hours but less than 1,950 hours in a year, you would earn 1.25 Benefit Credits for the year. At the Standard Benefit accrual, this would then result in a monthly retirement benefit of $\$ 78.75$ for that year's work ( $\$ 78.75=\$ 63.00 \times 1.25$ ).
The Standard Benefit accrual is not scheduled to apply at first. This is because older workers will have fewer years to accrue benefits under this plan compared to younger workers. There will be less time for their Variable Benefit Accruals to grow, and the benefits they receive through the National Pla may not be sufficient to meet their needs throughout retirement.

To help level the playing field, the Trustees decided to implement a temporary transition period for the first 10 years of the Variable DB plan. During this transition period, active participants will accrue benefits at different rates depending on their age and service as of August 1,2019 , the first day of the new plan. After the first 10 years, begi.
at the same, Standard Benefit accrual.

With this 10 -year transition period, younger workers-who have many more years to accrue benefits and realize the impact of investment return adjustments on their Variable DB retirement benefit-are helping those nearing retirement get the most out of the new plan.

| As of August 1, 2019, we have calculated your age as |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| \# |  |
| We have calculated your years of service with U.A. Local 350 as |  |
| \# |  |
| Based on your age and year of service with Local 350, as of August 1, 2019, you |  |
| do not qualify for the higher Transition benefit accruals. |  |
| Based on this, your Benefit Accrual Rate will be |  |
| \$54.00 |  |
| for the first 10 years of the new Variable DB Plan, and move to the Standard Benefit Accrual rate of $\$ 63.00$ starting in year 11 , or August $1,2029$. |  |
| *Benefit accrual rates shown above are bosed on a pension contribution rate of $\$ 3.00$ per hour. Benefit accrual rotes will be prorated for contribution rotes different than $\$ 3.00$ per hour. |  |

## Personalized Benefit Statements Variable Defined Benefit Plan

## How the New Variable DB Plan Will Work for You

## Your Personallzed Benefit Prolection with Different Long-term Returns

The chart below shows your projected monthly benefit amounts through age 85 , if you work until age 62 , then retire. The projection is based on the assumptions listed here, including:

Your current age and number of years of service as of August 1, 2019 Assumed contribution rate of $\$ 3.00 /$ hour
A projection of your future hours worked under the plan at 1,900 hours per year
An accrual rate of $\$ 54.00 / \mathrm{mo}$. for the first 10 years and the Standard Accrual Rate of $\$ 63 / \mathrm{mo}$. thereafter per benefit credit
Ane of 62 as your retiremnnal benefít increase cap of $8 \%$
work more or less per year than we've assumed, it could change your proje or if you plan to


The benefit you will receive through the Variable DB Plan will vary depending on the plan's actual investment returns, both before and after your retirement date - the higher the returns, the higher
 neither of which are included in these projections.

## KeyFeatures of Your Personalized Benefit Prolections

## Variable Benefits Based on Performance:

Each year, your Variable benefit amount will change based on the prior year's investment return. If returns are good and exceed the $5 \%$ hurdie rate, your bene fit will go up. In years when investment returns are particularly high, the benefit increases are capped at $8 \%$. This means when investment the Save and Restore reserve; a rainy-day fund that is intended to provide protection from benefit decreases when returns are low. If returns are less than the $5 \%$ hurdle rate, your Variable benefit amount would decline. However, if we have sufficient assets in the Save and Restore reserve, your
plan is set up to allow the Variable benefit to be temporarily restored to it's previous high level plan is set up to allow the Variable benefit to be temporarily restored to it's previous high le, benefits will go down - however, we believe the funding is set at a high enough level that the hance of the Save and Restore reserve running dry is unlikely.

## Personalized Benefit Prolection With "Save and Restore" Feature

The following chart shows a projection of your benefit using actual historical returns. It assumes we have the same pattern of investment returns beginning after Aug. 1,2019 that occurred in the U.S. tarting in 1955. Aside from the investment returns, the projected benefits shown below are based on the same data and assumptions outlined for the previous projection.

Your projected benefit amount each year is the total of the dark blue and (if the Save and Restore
 benefit would continue to grow over time. And, the rainy-day fund would restore your benefit so th


> To create the pattern on investment returns based on historical returns between 1955 and 2018 , we assumed the plan's assets are invested in a $65 \%$ stock/35\% bond portfolio, using: - Stocks - the S+P 500 Index - Bonds - from 1980 to 2018 the Barclays Aggregate Bond Index and from $1955-1979$ a mix of $40 \%$ 3-Month Treasury Bills and $60 \% 10$-Year Treasury Bonds.

## Variable DB Restoration:

The Variable DB benefit includes a "Save and Restore" feature that protects benefits from decreasing during a market downturn by using a rainy-day fund to secure benefits. While not guaranteed, the rainy-day fund is intended to be used to restore benefits when the plan

## Keeping Pace with Inflation

 The value of the underlyying pension benefit you earn under the new Variable DB Plan willincrease or decrease based on the Plan's investment returns. Monthly benefit amounts are adjusted annually based on the plan's investment performance compared to a $5 \%$ hurdle rate
established by Plan Trustees. We anticipate the Plan's assets will be able to earn more than this hurdle rate per year, on average. As a result, benefit amounts are expected to increase over time, which helps keep pace with inflation, rather than remaining at a fixed amount each year

## Personalized Benefit Statements Variable Defined Benefit Plan



## FAOs

## Will this plan replacemy current retirement plans?

No. You will continue to earn benefits through the Plumbers \& Pipefitters National ension Fund and the U.A. Local 350 Retirement Plan. If approved, the new Variable DB Plan will provide you with an additional layer of lifetime retirement benefits.

When does the plan go intoeffect?
Subject to member approval, the plan is scheduled to go into effect on Aug. 1, 2019 You would start to earn benefits in this new plan for hours worked on and after that date. Once approved, no action is needed on your part to take advantage of this plan.

When dol become $100 \%$ vested in my benefit?
Similar to the National Pension Fund, you need 5 years of vesting service to be $100 \%$ vested in your benefit. You will earn a year of vesting service for any plan year during which you work at least 750 hours. In addition, your years of past service with U.A. ocal 350 as of August 1,2019 will count towards vesting service in the Variable DB Plan.

Is therea minimum number of hours I need to work each year to earn a benefit? Yes. You need to work at least 75 hours of covered employment to earn a benefit each year. This is lower than the 150 hour requirement under the National Pension Fund. The more hours you work during the year, the more benefits you will earn.

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## Personalized Benefit Statements

## Variable Defined Benefit Plan





[^0]:    * The 8\% annual cap applies

