

ten. The reduction provided by this subsection cannot reduce the maximum benefit below ten percent of the limit determined without regard to this subsection. The reduction provided for in this subsection shall not be applicable to pre-retirement disability benefits paid pursuant to section 54-33, or pre-retirement death benefits paid pursuant to section 54-32.

(g) *Participation in other defined benefit plans.* The limit of this section with respect to any member who at any time has been a member in any other defined benefit plan as defined in Code Section 414(j) maintained by the city shall apply as if the total benefits payable under all city defined benefit plans in which the member has been a member were payable from one plan.

(h) *Ten thousand dollar limit; less than ten years of service.* Notwithstanding anything in this section 54-39, the retirement benefit payable with respect to a member shall be deemed not to exceed the limit set forth in this subsection (h) of section 54-39 if the benefits payable, with respect to such member under this system and under all other qualified defined benefit pension plans to which the city contributes, do not exceed \$10,000.00 for the applicable limitation year or for any prior limitation year, and the city has not at any time maintained a qualified defined contribution plan in which the member participated; provided, however, that if the member has completed less than ten years of credited service with the city, the limit under this subsection (h) of section 54-39 shall be a reduced limit equal to \$10,000.00 multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of the member's years of credited service and the denominator of which is ten.

(i) *Reduction of benefits.* Reduction of benefits and/or contributions to all plans, where required, shall be accomplished by first reducing the member's benefit under any defined benefit plans in which member participated, such reduction to be made first with respect to the plan in which member most recently accrued benefits and thereafter in such priority as shall be determined by the board and the plan administrator of such other plans, and next, by reducing or allocating excess forfeitures for defined contribution plans

in which the member participated, such reduction to be made first with respect to the plan in which member most recently accrued benefits and thereafter in such priority as shall be established by the board and the plan administrator for such other plans provided, however, that necessary reductions may be made in a different manner and priority pursuant to the agreement of the board and the plan administrator of all other plans covering such member.

(j) *Service credit purchase limits.*

(1) Effective for permissive service credit contributions made in limitation years beginning after December 31, 1997, if a member makes one or more contributions to purchase permissive service credit under the system, as allowed in sections 54-50 and 54-51, then the requirements of this section will be treated as met only if:

- a. The requirements of Code Section 415(b) are met, determined by treating the accrued benefit derived from all such contributions as an annual benefit for purposes of Code Section 415(b), or
- b. The requirements of Code Section 415(c) are met, determined by treating all such contributions as annual additions for purposes of Code Section 415(c).

For purposes of applying subparagraph (j)(1)a., the system will not fail to meet the reduced limit under Code Section 415(b)(2)(C) solely by reason of this subparagraph, and for purposes of applying subparagraph (j)(1)b. the system will not fail to meet the percentage limitation under Section 415(c)(1)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code solely by reason of this subparagraph.

- (2) For purposes of this subsection the term "permissive service credit" means service credit:
  - a. Recognized by the system for purposes of calculating a member's benefit under the plan;

- b. Which such member has not received under the plan; and
- c. Which such member may receive only by making a voluntary additional contribution, in an amount determined under the system, which does not exceed the amount necessary to fund the benefit attributable to such service credit.

Effective for permissive service credit contributions made in limitation years beginning after December 31, 1997, such term may, if otherwise provided by the system, include service credit for periods for which there is no performance of service, and, notwithstanding clause (j)(2)b., may include service credited in order to provide an increased benefit for service credit which a member is receiving under the system.

(k) *Contribution limits.*

- (1) For purposes of applying the Code Section 415(c) limits which are incorporated by reference and for purposes of this subsection (k), only and for no other purpose, the definition of compensation where applicable will be compensation actually paid or made available during a limitation year, except as noted below and as permitted by Treasury Regulations Section 1.415(c)-2, or successor regulations. Unless another definition of compensation that is permitted by Treasury Regulations Section 1.415(c)-2, or successor regulation, is specified by the system, compensation will be defined as wages within the meaning of Code Section 3401(a) and all other payments of compensation to an employee by an employer for which the employer is required to furnish the employee a written statement under Code Sections 6041(d), 6051(a)(3) and 6052 and will be determined without regard to any rules under Code Section 3401(a) that limit the remuneration included in wages based on the nature or location of the employ-

ment or the services performed (such as the exception for agricultural labor in Code Section 3401(a)(2).

- a. However, for limitation years beginning after December 31, 1997, compensation will also include amounts that would otherwise be included in compensation but for an election under Code Sections 125(a), 402(e)(3), 402(h)(1)(B), 402(k), or 457(b). For limitation years beginning after December 31, 2000, compensation will also include any elective amounts that are not includible in the gross income of the employee by reason of Code Section 132(f)(4).
- b. For limitation years beginning on and after January 1, 2007, compensation for the limitation year will also include compensation paid by the later of two and one-half months after an employee's severance from employment or the end of the limitation year that includes the date of the employee's severance from employment if:
  - 1. The payment is regular compensation for services during the employee's regular working hours, or compensation for services outside the employee's regular working hours (such as overtime or shift differential), commissions, bonuses or other similar payments, and, absent a severance from employment, the payments would have been paid to the employee while the employee continued in employment with the employer; or
  - 2. The payment is for unused accrued bona fide sick, vacation or other leave that the employee would have been able to use if employment had continued.

- c. Back pay, within the meaning of Treasury Regulations Section 1.415(c)-2(g)(8), shall be treated as compensation for the limitation year to which the back pay relates to the extent the back pay represents wages and compensation that would otherwise be included under this definition.
- (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the board may modify a request by a member to make a contribution to the system if the amount of the contribution would exceed the limits provided in Code Section 415 by using the following methods:
    - a. If the law requires a lump sum payment for the purchase of service credit, the board may establish a periodic payment deduction plan for the member to avoid a contribution in excess of the limits under Code Section 415(c) or 415(n).
    - b. If payment pursuant to subparagraph (k)(2)a. will not avoid a contribution in excess of the limits imposed by Code Section 415(c), the board may either reduce the member's contribution to an amount within the limits of that section or refuse the member's contribution.
  - (3) If the annual additions for any member for a limitation year exceed the limitation under Section 415(c) of the Code, the excess annual addition will be corrected as permitted under the Employee Plans Compliance Resolution System (or similar IRS correction program).
  - (4) For limitation years beginning on or after January 1, 2009, a member's compensation for purposes of this subsection (k) shall not exceed the annual limit under Section 401(a)(17) of the code.
    - (1) *Additional limitation on pension benefits.* Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary:
      - (1) The normal retirement benefit or pension payable to a retiree who becomes a member of the system and who has not previously participated in such system, on or after January 1, 1980, shall not exceed 100 percent of his average final compensation. However, nothing contained in this section shall apply to supplemental retirement benefits or to pension increases attributable to cost-of-living increases or adjustments.
    - (2) No member of the system shall be allowed to receive a retirement benefit or pension which is in part or in whole based upon any service with respect to which the member is already receiving, or will receive in the future, a retirement benefit or pension from a different employer's retirement system or plan. This restriction does not apply to social security benefits or federal benefits under Chapter 1223, Title 10, U.S. Code.
      - (m) *Effect of direct rollover on 415(b) limit.* If the plan accepts a direct rollover of an employee's or former employee's benefit from a defined contribution plan qualified under Code Section 401(a) which is maintained by the employer, any annuity resulting from the rollover amount that is determined using a more favorable actuarial basis than required under Code Section 417(e) shall be included in the annual benefit for purposes of the limit under Code Section 415(b). (Ord. No. 11-33, § 1, 10-27-11; Ord. No. 13-65, § 3, 9-26-13; Ord. No. 17-01, § 8, 4-13-17)

#### **Sec. 54-40. Minimum distribution of benefits.**

##### *(a) General rules.*

- (1) *Effective date.* Effective as of January 1, 1989, the plan will pay all benefits in accordance with a good faith interpretation of the requirements of Internal Revenue Code Section 401(a)(9) and the regulations in effect under that section, as applicable to a governmental plan within the meaning of Internal Revenue Code Section 414(d). Effective on and after January 1, 2003, the plan is also subject to the specific provisions contained in this section. The provisions of this

section will apply for purposes of determining required minimum distributions for calendar years beginning with the 2003 calendar year.

- (2) *Precedence.* The requirements of this section will take precedence over any inconsistent provisions of the plan.
- (3) *TEFRA section 242(b)(2) elections.* Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section other than this subsection (a)(3), distributions may be made under a designation made before January 1, 1984, in accordance with section 242(b)(2) of the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act (TEFRA) and the provisions of the plan that related to section 242(b)(2) of TEFRA.

(b) *Time and manner of distribution.*

- (1) *Required beginning date.* The member's entire interest will be distributed, or begin to be distributed, to the member no later than the member's required beginning date. For a member who attains age 70½ prior to January 1, 2020, the member's required beginning date is April 1 of the calendar year following the later of (i) the calendar year in which the member attains age 70½ or (ii) the calendar year in which the member terminates employment with the city. For a member who attains age 70½ on or after January 1, 2020, the member's required beginning date is April 1 of the calendar year following the later of (i) the calendar year in which the member attains age 72 or (ii) the calendar year in which the member terminates employment with the city.
- (2) *Death of member before distributions begin.* If the member dies before distributions begin, the member's entire interest will be distributed, or begin to be distributed no later than as follows:
  - a. If the member's surviving spouse is the member's sole designated beneficiary, then distributions to the surviving spouse will begin by

December 31 of the calendar year immediately following the calendar year in which the member died, or by a date on or before December 31 of the calendar year in which the member would have attained age 70½, (or age 72 for a member who would have attained age 70½ after December 31, 2019) if later, as the surviving spouse elects.

- b. If the member's surviving spouse is not the member's sole designated beneficiary, then, distributions to the designated beneficiary will begin by December 31 of the calendar year immediately following the calendar year in which the member died.
- c. If there is no designated beneficiary as of September 30 of the year following the year of the member's death, the member's entire interest will be distributed by December 31 of the calendar year containing the fifth anniversary of the member's death.
- d. If the member's surviving spouse is the member's sole designated beneficiary and the surviving spouse dies after the member but before distributions to the surviving spouse begin, this subsection (b)(2), other than subsection (b)(2)a., will apply as if the surviving spouse were the member.

For purposes of this subsection (b)(2), distributions are considered to begin on the member's required beginning date or, if subsection (b)(2)d. applies, the date of distributions are required to begin to the surviving spouse under subsection (b)(2)a. If annuity payments irrevocably commence to the member before the member's required beginning date (or to the member's surviving spouse before the date distributions are required to begin to the surviving spouse under subsection

(b)(2)a. the date distributions are considered to begin is the date distributions actually commence.

- (3) *Death after distributions begin.* If the member dies after the required distribution of benefits has begun, the remaining portion of the member's interest must be distributed at least as rapidly as under the method of distribution before the member's death.
  - (4) *Form of distribution.* Unless the member's interest is distributed in the form of an annuity purchased from an insurance company or in a single sum on or before the required beginning date, as of the first distribution calendar year distributions will be made in accordance with this section. If the member's interest is distributed in the form of an annuity purchased from an insurance company, distributions thereunder will be made in accordance with the requirements of section 401(a)(9) of the code and treasury regulations. Any part of the member's interest which is in the form of an individual account described in section 414(k) of the code will be distributed in a manner satisfying the requirements of section 401(a)(9) of the code and treasury regulations that apply to individual accounts.
- (c) *Determination of amount to be distributed each year.*
- (1) *General requirements.* If the member's interest is paid in the form of annuity distributions under the plan, payments under the annuity will satisfy the following requirements:
    - a. The annuity distributions will be paid in periodic payments made at intervals not longer than one year.
    - b. The member's entire interest must be distributed pursuant to section 54-31, section 54-32, section 54-34 or section 54-35 (as applicable) and in any event over a period equal to or less than the member's life or the lives of the member and a designated

beneficiary, or over a period not extending beyond the life expectancy of the member or of the member and a designated beneficiary. The life expectancy of the member, the member's spouse, or the member's beneficiary may not be recalculated after the initial determination for purposes of determining benefits.

- (2) *Amount required to be distributed by required beginning date.* The amount that must be distributed on or before the member's required beginning date (or, if the member dies before distributions begin, the date distributions are required to begin under section 54-32 is the payment that is required for one payment interval. The second payment need not be made until the end of the next payment interval even if that payment interval ends in the next calendar year. Payment intervals are the periods for which payments are received, e.g., monthly. All of the member's benefit accruals as of the last day of the first distribution calendar year will be included in the calculation of the amount of the annuity payments for payment intervals ending on or after the member's required beginning date.
  - (3) *Additional accruals after first distribution calendar year.* Any additional benefits accruing to the member in a calendar year after the first distribution calendar year will be distributed beginning with the first payment interval ending in the calendar year immediately following the calendar year in which such amount accrues.
- (d) *General distribution rules.*
- (1) The amount of an annuity paid to a member's beneficiary may not exceed the maximum determined under the incidental death benefit requirement of Internal Revenue Code Section 401(a)(9)(G), and effective for any annuity commencing on or after January 1,



2008, the minimum distribution incidental benefit rule under Treasury Regulation Section 1.401(a)(9)-6, Q&A-2.

- (2) The death and disability benefits provided by the plan are limited by the incidental benefit rule set forth in Internal Revenue Code Section 401(a)(9)(G) and Treasury Regulation Section 1.401-1(b)(1)(I) or any successor regulation thereto. As a result, the total death or disability benefits payable may not exceed 25 percent of the cost for all of the members' benefits received from the retirement system.

(e) *Definitions.*

- (1) *Designated beneficiary.* The individual who is designated as the beneficiary under the plan and is the designated beneficiary under section 401(a)(9) of the code and section 1.401(a)(9)-1, Q&A-4, of the treasury regulations.
- (2) *Distribution calendar year.* A calendar year for which a minimum distribution is required. For distributions beginning before the member's death, the first distribution calendar year is the calendar year immediately preceding the calendar year which contains the member's required beginning date. For distributions beginning after the member's death, the first distribution calendar year is the calendar year in which distributions are required to begin pursuant to section 54-32.

(Ord. No. 11-33, § 1, 10-27-11; Ord. No. 21-10, § 4, 4-22-21)

**Sec. 54-41. Miscellaneous provisions.**

(a) *Interest of members in system.* All assets of the fund are held in trust, and at no time prior to the satisfaction of all liabilities under the system with respect to retirees and members and their spouses or beneficiaries, shall any part of the corpus or income of the fund be used for or diverted to any purpose other than for their exclusive benefit.

(b) *No reduction of accrued benefits.* No amendment or ordinance shall be adopted by the city commission which shall have the effect of reducing the then vested accrued benefits of members or a member's beneficiaries.

(c) *Qualification of system.* It is intended that the system will constitute a qualified public pension plan under the applicable provisions of the Code for a qualified plan under code section 401(a) and a governmental plan under code section 414(d), as now in effect or hereafter amended. Any modification or amendment of the system may be made retroactively, if necessary or appropriate, to qualify or maintain the system as a plan meeting the requirements of the applicable provisions of the Code as now in effect or hereafter amended, or any other applicable provisions of the U.S. federal tax laws, as now in effect or hereafter amended or adopted, and the regulations issued thereunder.

(d) *Use of forfeitures.* Forfeitures arising from terminations of service of members shall serve only to reduce future city contributions.

(e) *Prohibited transactions.* Effective as of January 1, 1989, a board may not engage in a transaction prohibited by Internal Revenue Code Section 503(b).

(f) *USERRA.* Effective December 12, 1994, notwithstanding any other provision of this system, contributions, benefits and service credit with respect to qualified military service are governed by Internal Revenue Code Section 414(u) and the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994, as amended. To the extent that the definition of "credited service" sets forth contribution requirements that are more favorable to the member than the minimum compliance requirements, the more favorable provisions shall apply.

(g) *Vesting.*

- (1) Member will be 100 percent vested in all benefits upon attainment of the plan's age and service requirements for the plan's normal retirement benefit; and
- (2) A member will be 100 percent vested in all accrued benefits, to the extent funded,

if the plan is terminated or experiences a complete discontinuance of employer contributions.

(h) In those circumstances where a written election or consent is not required by the plan or the Internal Revenue Code, an oral, electronic, or telephonic form in lieu of or in addition to a written form may be prescribed by the board. However, where applicable, the board shall comply with Treas. Reg. § 1.401(a)-21.

(i) *Missing benefit recipients.* The system shall follow the procedures outlined in the IRS Employee Plans Compliance Resolution System (EPCRS) Program and other applicable IRS guidance to locate any missing individuals to whom a full unreduced benefit payment is due and if, at the conclusion of such efforts, the individual cannot be located, the existing procedure of cancelling payments otherwise due (provided that, if the individual is later located, the benefits due shall be paid) will apply.

(Ord. No. 11-33, § 1, 10-27-11; Ord. No. 19-09, § 2, 2-14-19)

#### **Sec. 54-42. Repeal or termination of system.**

(a) This article establishing the system and fund, and subsequent ordinances pertaining to said system and fund, may be modified, terminated, or amended, in whole or in part; provided that if this or any subsequent ordinance shall be amended or repealed in its application to any person benefiting hereunder, the amount of benefits which at the time of any such alteration, amendment, or repeal shall have accrued to the member or beneficiary shall not be affected thereby, except to the extent that the assets of the fund may be determined to be inadequate.

(b) If this article shall be repealed, or if contributions to the system are discontinued or if there is a transfer, merger or consolidation of government units, services or functions as provided in F.S. ch. 121, the board shall continue to administer the system in accordance with the provisions of this article, for the sole benefit of the then members, any beneficiaries then receiving retirement allowances, and any future persons entitled to receive benefits under one of the

options provided for in this article who are designated by any of said members. In the event of repeal, discontinuance of contributions, or transfer, merger or consolidation of government units, services or functions, there shall be full vesting (100 percent) of benefits accrued to date of repeal and the assets of the system shall be allocated in an equitable manner to provide benefits on a proportionate basis to the persons so entitled in accordance with the provisions thereof.

(c) The following shall be the order of priority for purposes of allocating the assets of the system as of the date of repeal of this article, or if contributions to the system are discontinued with the date of such discontinuation being determined by the board.

- (1) Apportionment shall first be made in respect of each retiree receiving a retirement or disability benefit hereunder on such date, each person receiving a benefit on such date on account of a retired or disabled (but since deceased) member, and each member who has, by such date, become eligible for normal retirement but has not yet retired, an amount which is

