

From: Barone, Valerie <Valerie.Barone@cityofconcord.org>
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2022 11:27 AM
To: Borenstein, Dan (dborenstein@bayareanewsgroup.com)
<dborenstein@bayareanewsgroup.com>
Cc: Reid, Karan <Karan.Reid@cityofconcord.org>; Marstall, Kevin
<Kevin.Marstall@cityofconcord.org>
Subject: EBT Editorial Board Follow Up questions

Dan,

Here is the additional information you requested.

Roadway PCI

PCI, stands for Pavement Condition Index, and every year jurisdictions turn in data to MTC (Metropolitan Transportation Commission) which publishes PCI by jurisdiction. PCI is a three year rolling average. With the support of the voters through the passage of Measure V, the Council and staff developed a plan that stops the decline in PCI that has been occurring over the past 12 years and begins improving it. It is a slow, year after year process.

- Concord's current PCI as reported by MTC is 58, which puts us in the "At Risk" category.
- Concord's PCI after the next two-year Capital Budget is completed is projected to increase the three-year average to 59.
- PCI after the next five-years of investment according to the adopted 5-year roadway investment plan, is projected to increase the three-year average to 62, moving Concord's rating into "Fair" and out of "At Risk."
- The City will develop a new five year plan well before we complete the current five-year plan, as continued strong investment in roadways will be needed to see continuing improvement.
- Meanings of the PCI numbers?
 - Excellent (PCI= 100–90)
 - Very Good (PCI= 80–89)
 - Good (PCI=70–79)
 - Fair (PCI= 60–69)
 - At Risk (PCI=50–59)
 - Poor (PCI=25–49)
 - Failed (PCI=0–24)

Crime Stats

Here is a link to our crime stats:

<https://www.cityofconcord.org/1013/Crime-Statistics>

They are posted on line. Please note that the federally mandated reporting methodology changed last year, so you can't compare years prior to 2021 to this year's (2022) data. Prior to 2021 jurisdictions used UCR data, now we are mandated to use NIBRS. They record and count crime differently.

You can look at the 2021 summary and the 2022 summary and compare, as they are both NIBRS. Although be careful as the 2022 data is not a full year yet.

CCRS

- The CCRS Plan was frozen in 1993 (meaning no one could be added to the plan); plan assets were transferred to CalPERS in 1999 (The City needed a state law change to transfer assets.)
- Concord's ADC (Actuarial Determined Contribution) for FY 22/23: \$2.375M;
- The City makes additional payments when it can. To date these additional contributions total \$19.6M (\$17.0M through 2018, plus \$2.6M one-time at Mid-Year in March 2022, and \$1.4M ongoing starting FY22/23 (meaning the Council has directed staff to budget \$1.4 M above the ADC as an on-going practice until the plan is fully funded); *the \$1.4M is not included in the \$19.6M total as the City hasn't yet set it aside, but will do so before the fiscal year closes.*)
- Number of members in CCRS: 213 as of June 30, 2020
- Number of members yet to retire: 23 as of June 30, 2020
- The City will obtain a new actuarial report for our CCRS liability this year, so the numbers will be updated before the end of the fiscal year.

Measure V

Measure V Appropriations

FY 2022-23

Support for General Fund Operations/Support to essential services	\$12,172,000
Economic Development	\$100,000
Building Maintenance Funding	\$828,000
1 FTE Code Enforcement Officer	\$150,000
CORE/MHET Contracts	\$660,000
Roadway Maintenance Debt Service	\$7,500,000
Parks/Median Maintenance	\$1,850,000
Local Match funding for Infrastructure/Roadway Grants, Support to Roadway/Paving projects, Parks Maintenance/Building funding	\$8,000,000
Total Appropriations	\$31,260,000

I believe this responds to all of your follow up questions.

Thanks,

Valerie

Valerie Barone, City Manager

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From: Barone, Valerie
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2022 12:45 PM
To: Daniel Borenstein <dborenstein@bayareanewsgroup.com>
Subject: RE: EBT Editorial Board Follow Up questions

Dan,

Social security is a complicated issue. The bottom line is should it be viewed as: (1) a benefit or (2) a cost with no, or not enough, benefit to offset its cost.

All Concord employees participate in social security. including our sworn officers.

Very few cities in Contra Costa County participate in social security for their employees.

The City has explored getting out of social security in the past, as it has a cost to the City and our employees, but there is no way for the City to stop participating in social security at this point. This was a decision made decades ago and the federal government will allow no changes.

Attached is a SSA document called EN-05-10051.pdf that provides a little more information:

My understanding at this point, and I'm still learning myself, is that some employees (employee groups) view participation in social security as a negative for two main reasons: (1) It reduces their take home pay; and (2) Because Concord employees receive a CalPERS pension their Social Security benefit is reduced when compared to those that do not receive a public pension, but their cost for participating is not reduced. (Italic language that follows is taken from SSN document EN-05-10051 attached) *There are two parts of the law that may affect your Social Security benefit amount if you receive a retirement or disability public pension not covered by us. One part, called the Windfall Elimination Provision, affects the way we calculate your Social Security retirement or disability benefits. The other, the Government Pension Offset, affects the Social Security benefit amount you get as a spouse, widow, or widower. For more information read Windfall Elimination Provision (Publication No. 05-10045) or visit www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10045.pdf and Government Pension Offset (Publication 05-10007) or visit www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10007.pdf.*

The e-mail I sent earlier included a link to crime data.

I can follow up on any other questions but it won't be today, as I'm in meetings for the rest of the day.

Valerie

Valerie Barone, City Manager

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From: Daniel Borenstein <dborenstein@bayareanewsgroup.com>
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Cc: Reid, Karan <Karan.Reid@cityofconcord.org>; Marstall, Kevin <Kevin.Marstall@cityofconcord.org>
Subject: Re: EBT Editorial Board Follow Up questions

Valerie,

Thank you very much.

Please see the other question I sent you re: crime trend stats.

Also, a question came up pertaining to PD paying into Social Security. Supposedly Concord is an outlier on this? I don't understand the issue or its history. Can you fill me in?

Thank you very much.

Dan

Daniel Borenstein

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How State and Local Government Employees are Covered by Social Security and Medicare

The work you do for a state or local government agency is covered by Social Security in certain cases. Unlike workers in the private sector, not all state and local employees are covered by Social Security. Some only have their public pension coverage, some only have Social Security coverage, and other government employees have both a public pension and Social Security coverage.

At one time, Social Security didn't include any of these employees. Over the years, the law changed. Most employees have Social Security protection, because their states have special agreements with us called "Section 218 agreements." Congress passed a law in July 1991 extending Social Security on a mandatory basis to most state and local employees. These are employees not covered by an agreement or a Social Security equivalent public pension system.

Except for workers specifically excluded by law, employees hired after March 31, 1986, also have Medicare protection. State and local governments may also get Medicare coverage for certain workers. These are workers not covered by Social Security who have been continuously employed by the same governmental employer since before April 1, 1986.

Workers covered by a Section 218 agreement automatically have both Social Security and Medicare.

State and local government employees who are covered by Social Security and Medicare pay into these programs. They have the same rights as workers in the private sector.

State Social Security Administrators

Each state has a designated official, called the State Social Security Administrator, who is responsible for the state's Section 218 agreement. The Administrator can provide information and answer questions about Social Security and Medicare coverage under the agreement. You can find contact information for the administrator in your state by visiting the website, www.ncsssa.org/statessadminmenu.html.

Why your Social Security coverage is important

Social Security is more than a retirement program. Social Security benefits can help support your family when you die and can provide monthly benefits when you retire or if you

have a qualifying disability. Your employment under Social Security helps you and your family qualify for those benefits. We base these benefit amounts on the earnings reported to us. Therefore, make sure your earnings record is correct.

If you have a personal *my* Social Security account, you can get your *Social Security Statement (Statement)* online. Your online *Statement* gives you estimates for retirement, disability, and survivor benefits that you and your family may be eligible for. It also shows your most recent earnings history. You should use your personal account to check your earnings record carefully and make sure it shows the correct amount you earned each year. If you don't have a personal *my* Social Security account, create one at www.ssa.gov/myaccount.

There are two parts of the law that may affect your Social Security benefit amount if you receive a retirement or disability public pension not covered by us. One part, called the Windfall Elimination Provision, affects the way we calculate your Social Security retirement or disability benefits. The other, the Government Pension Offset, affects the Social Security benefit amount you get as a spouse, widow, or widower. For more information read *Windfall Elimination Provision (Publication No. 05-10045)* or visit www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10045.pdf and *Government Pension Offset (Publication 05-10007)* or visit www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10007.pdf.

Contacting Us

The most convenient way to do business with us is to visit www.ssa.gov to get information and use our online services. There are several things you can do online: apply for benefits; start or complete your request for an original or replacement Social Security card; get useful information; find publications; and get answers to frequently asked questions.

Or, you can call us toll-free at **1-800-772-1213** or at **1-800-325-0778** (TTY) if you're deaf or hard of hearing. We can answer your call from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., weekdays. We provide free interpreter services upon request. For quicker access to a representative, try calling early in the day (between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. local time) or later in the day. **We are less busy later in the week (Wednesday to Friday) and later in the month.** You can also use our automated services via telephone, 24 hours a day, so you do not need to speak with a representative.



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Social Security Administration

Publication No. 05-10051

July 2022 (June 2017 editions may be used)

How State and Local Government Employees are Covered by Social Security and Medicare
Produced and published at U.S. taxpayer expense