

**Annual Funding Notice  
for  
Bricklayers Local No. 8 Pension Plan**

**Introduction**

This notice includes important information about the funding status of your multiemployer pension plan (the “Plan”). It also includes general information about the benefit payments guaranteed by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (“PBGC”), a federal insurance agency. All traditional pension plans (called “defined benefit pension plans”) must provide this notice every year regardless of their funding status. This notice does not mean that the Plan is terminating. It is provided for informational purposes and you are not required to respond in any way. This notice is required by federal law. This notice is for the plan year beginning May 1, 2023 and ending April 30, 2024 (“Plan Year”).

**How Well Funded Is Your Plan**

The law requires the administrator of the Plan to tell you how well the Plan is funded, using a measure called the “funded percentage.” This Plan divides its assets by its liabilities on the Valuation Date for the plan year to get this percentage. In general, the higher the percentage, the better funded the plan. The Plan’s funded percentage for the Plan Year and each of the two preceding plan years is shown in the chart below. The chart also states the value of the Plan’s assets and liabilities for the same period.

Plan Year	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Valuation Date	May 1, 2023	May 1, 2022	May 1, 2021
Funded Percentage	93.5%	91.1%	91.0%
Value of Assets	\$18,687,898	\$17,733,814	\$16,561,153
Value of Liabilities	\$19,988,296	\$19,464,287	\$18,194,694

**Year-End Fair Market Value of Assets**

The asset values in the chart above are measured as of the Valuation Date. They are also “actuarial values.” Actuarial values differ from market value in that they do not fluctuate daily based on changes in the stock or other markets. Actuarial values smooth out those fluctuations and can allow for more predictable levels of future contributions. Despite the fluctuations, market value tends to show a clearer picture of a plan’s funded status at a given point in time. The asset values in the chart below are market values and are measured on the last day of the Plan Year. The chart also includes the year-end value of the Plan’s assets for each of the two preceding plan years.

	<u>April 30, 2024</u>	<u>April 30, 2023</u>	<u>April 30, 2022</u>
Fair Market Value of Assets	\$18,922,000	\$17,782,216	\$17,459,080
	<i>(estimated)</i>		

**Endangered, Critical, or Critical and Declining Status**

Under federal pension law a plan generally is in “Endangered” status if its funded percentage is less than 80 percent. A plan is in “Critical” status if the percentage is less than 65 percent (other factors may also apply). A plan is in “Critical and Declining” status if it is in Critical status and is projected to become



insolvent (run out of money to pay benefits) within 15 years (or within 20 years if a special rule applies). If a pension plan enters Endangered status, the trustees of the plan are required to adopt a Funding Improvement Plan. Similarly, if a pension plan enters Critical status or Critical and Declining status, the trustees of the plan are required to adopt a Rehabilitation Plan. Funding Improvement and Rehabilitation Plans establish steps and benchmarks for pension plans to improve their funding status over a specified period of time. The plan sponsor of a plan in Critical and Declining status may apply for approval to amend the plan to reduce current and future payment obligations to participants and beneficiaries.

The Plan was not in endangered, critical, or critical and declining status in the Plan Year.

### **Participant Information**

The total number of participants in the plan as of the Plan's valuation date was 242. Of this number, 104 were active participants, 92 were retired, and 46 were separated from service and entitled to future benefits.

### **Funding & Investment Policies**

Every pension plan must have a procedure for establishing a funding policy to carry out plan objectives. A funding policy relates to the level of assets needed to pay for benefits promised under the plan currently and over the years. The funding policy of the Plan is to fund at least the ERISA minimum contribution.

Once money is contributed to the Plan, the money is invested by plan officials called fiduciaries. Specific investments are made in accordance with the Plan's investment policy. Generally speaking, an investment policy is a written statement that provides the fiduciaries who are responsible for plan investments with guidelines or general instructions concerning various types or categories of investment management decisions. The investment policy of the Plan is to maximize investment returns within prudent levels of risk through portfolio diversification across different classes of assets and a variety of asset management styles. With the assistance of an Investment Consultant, the trustees select professional Investment Managers and allocate the assets of the Plan to seek to achieve the stated investment objectives and to control risk. The Trustees establish reasonable guidelines for each asset class and investment account, specifying acceptable and/or prohibited investments, limit on asset and asset class exposures, risk constraints and investment return objectives. The Trustees have also adopted benchmarks for each Manager and each asset class and regularly monitor the performance of each manager as well as their compliance with the Investment Policy.

Under the Plan's investment policy, the Plan's assets were allocated among the following categories of investments, as of the end of the Plan Year. These allocations are percentages of total assets:

<u>Asset Allocations</u>	<u>Actual Percentage</u>	<u>Target</u>
1. US Equity	33.8%	33.0%
2. International Equity	22.4%	22.0%
3. Infrastructure	5.1%	5.0%
4. Real Estate	5.2%	7.0%
5. Defensive Equity	5.0%	5.0%
6. Fixed Income	27.1%	27.0%
7. Cash	1.4%	1.0%

### **Right to Request a Copy of the Annual Report**

A pension plan is required to file with the US Department of Labor an annual report called the Form 5500



that contains financial and other information about the plan. Copies of the annual report are available from the US Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration's Public Disclosure Room at 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room N-1513, Washington, DC 20210, or by calling 202.693.8673. For 2009 and subsequent plan years, you may obtain an electronic copy of the plan's annual report by going to [www.efast.dol.gov](http://www.efast.dol.gov) and using the Form 5500 search function. Or you may obtain a copy of the Plan's annual report by making a written request to the plan administrator. Individual information, such as the amount of your accrued benefit under the plan, is not contained in the annual report. If you are seeking information regarding your benefits under the plan, contact the plan administrator identified below under "Where To Get More Information."

### **Summary of Rules Governing Plans in Reorganization and Insolvent Plans**

Federal law has a number of special rules that apply to financially troubled multiemployer plans that become insolvent, either as ongoing plans or plans terminated by mass withdrawal. The plan administrator is required by law to include a summary of these rules in the annual funding notice. A plan is insolvent for a plan year if its available financial resources are not sufficient to pay benefits when due for that plan year. An insolvent plan must reduce benefit payments to the highest level that can be paid from the plan's available resources. If such resources are not enough to pay benefits at the level specified by law (see Benefit Payments Guaranteed by the PBGC, below), the plan must apply to the PBGC for financial assistance. The PBGC will loan the plan the amount necessary to pay benefits at the guaranteed level. Reduced benefits may be restored if the plan's financial condition improves.

A plan that becomes insolvent must provide prompt notice of its status to participants and beneficiaries, contributing employers, labor unions representing participants, and PBGC. In addition, participants and beneficiaries also must receive information regarding whether, and how, their benefits will be reduced or affected, including loss of a lump sum option.

### **Benefit Payments Guaranteed by the PBGC**

The maximum benefit that the PBGC guarantees is set by law. Only vested benefits are guaranteed. Specifically, the PBGC guarantees a monthly benefit payment equal to 100 percent of the first \$11 of the Plan's monthly benefit accrual rate, plus 75 percent of the next \$33 of the accrual rate, times each year of credited service. The PBGC's maximum guarantee, therefore, is \$35.75 per month times a participant's years of credited service.

*Example 1:* If a participant with 10 years of credited service has an accrued monthly benefit of \$500, the accrual rate for purposes of determining the PBGC guarantee would be determined by dividing the monthly benefit by the participant's years of service ( $\$500/10$ ), which equals \$50. The guaranteed amount for a \$50 monthly accrual rate is equal to the sum of \$11 plus  $\$24.75$  ( $.75 \times \$33$ ), or \$35.75. Thus, the participant's guaranteed monthly benefit is \$357.50 ( $\$35.75 \times 10$ ).

*Example 2:* If the participant in Example 1 has an accrued monthly benefit of \$200, the accrual rate for purposes of determining the guarantee would be \$20 (or  $\$200/10$ ). The guaranteed amount for a \$20 monthly accrual rate is equal to the sum of \$11 plus  $\$6.75$  ( $.75 \times \$9$ ), or \$17.75. Thus, the participant's guaranteed monthly benefit would be \$177.50 ( $\$17.75 \times 10$ ).

The PBGC guarantees pension benefits payable at normal retirement age and some early retirement benefits. In calculating a person's monthly payment, the PBGC will disregard any benefit increases that were made under the plan within 60 months before the earlier of the plan's termination or insolvency (or benefits that were in effect for less than 60 months at the time of termination or insolvency). Similarly, the



PBGC does not guarantee pre-retirement death benefits to a spouse or beneficiary (e.g., a qualified pre-retirement survivor annuity) if the participant dies after the plan terminates, benefits above the normal retirement benefit, disability benefits not in pay status, or non-pension benefits, such as health insurance, life insurance, death benefits, vacation pay, or severance pay.

### **Where to Get More Information**

For more information about this notice, you may contact:

Board of Trustees  
Bricklayers Local No 8 Pension Fund  
701 West State Street  
Ithaca, NY 14850.

For identification purposes, the official plan number is 001 and the plan sponsor's employer identification number or "EIN" is 16-1077912. For more information about the PBGC and benefit guarantees, go to PBGC's Web site, [www.pbgc.gov](http://www.pbgc.gov), or call PBGC toll-free at 1.800.400.7242 (TTY/TDD users may call the Federal relay service toll free at 1.800.877.8339 and ask to be connected to 1.800.400.7242).

