

**Financial Statements** 

June 30, 2024 and 2023

(With Independent Auditors' Report Thereon)

**Financial Statements** 

June 30, 2024 and 2023

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## **Independent Auditor's Report**

The Council Supplemental Annuity Collective Trust of New Jersey:

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the State of New Jersey Supplemental Annuity Collective Trust (the Trust) as of and for the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Trust's basic financial statements for the years then ended as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the fiduciary net position of the Trust as of June 30, 2024 and 2023, and the changes in fiduciary net position for the years then ended in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

## 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 Trust 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.

#### Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, 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.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

#### 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 Trust'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.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

Management has omitted management's discussion and analysis that U.S. generally accepted accounting principles require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.



Short Hills, New Jersey March 26, 2025

# Statements of Fiduciary Net Position

# June 30, 2024 and 2023

	_	2024	2023
Assets:			
Cash	\$	166,788	515,055
Receivables:			
Member contributions		546,521	548,680
Accrued interest and dividends	-	242,930	247,731
Total receivables	_	789,451	796,411
Investments, at fair value:			
Cash Management Fund		3,185,197	2,521,869
Domestic equities	_	333,682,021	286,055,238
Total investments	_	336,867,218	288,577,107
Total assets	_	337,823,457	289,888,573
Liabilities:			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses		947,415	237,028
Retirement benefits payable	-	369,296	309,541
Total liabilities	_	1,316,711	546,569
Net position:			
Restricted for pensions	\$ _	336,506,746	289,342,004

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Statements of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position

June 30, 2024 and 2023

	_	2024	2023
Additions:			
Contributions:			
Members	\$	7,899,099	7,710,911
Investment income:			
Net increase in fair value of investments		64,648,032	43,412,346
Interest and Dividends	_	4,822,203	4,549,153
Total investment income	_	69,470,235	47,961,499
Total additions	_	77,369,334	55,672,410
Deductions:			
Benefits	_	30,204,592	24,308,550
Total deductions		30,204,592	24,308,550
Change in net position		47,164,742	31,363,860
Net position restricted for pensions – beginning of year	_	289,342,004	257,978,144
Net position restricted for pensions – end of year	\$ _	336,506,746	289,342,004

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2024 and 2023

## (1) Description of the Trust

#### (a) Organization

The State of New Jersey, Department of Treasury, Division of Pensions and Benefits (the Division) was created and exists pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:18A to oversee and administer the pension trust and other postemployment benefit plans sponsored by the State of New Jersey (the State), including the State of New Jersey Supplemental Annuity Collective Trust (the Trust).

The Trust, a multiple-employer defined contribution pension plan, was established by Chapter 123, P.L. 1963 and amended by Chapter 90, P.L. 1965 and is available to active members of several stateadministered retirement systems to provide specific benefits to supplement the guaranteed benefits that are provided by their basic retirement system. Membership totaled 2,925 and 2,889 as of June 30, 2024 and 2023, respectively. The Trust is included along with other state-administered pension trust and agency funds in the financial statements of the State of New Jersey. There are two active plans within the Trust; the Regular Supplemental Annuity Plan that applies to all eligible employees and does not reduce the participant's taxable compensation, and the Tax Sheltered Supplemental Annuity Plan that pertains to eligible employees of public education institutions and reduces the participant's taxable income.

# (b) Contributions

Participants contribute through payroll deductions and may contribute from 1% to 100% of their base salary, as defined. Contributions are voluntary and may be suspended at the beginning of any quarter. Contributions under the Tax Sheltered Supplemental Annuity Plan are subject to Federal law limitations and qualify for tax-sheltered treatment permitted under Section 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). Participants do not direct the investment of their contributions, however all investments are pooled and managed by the Division of Investment, Department of Treasury, State of New Jersey (Division of Investment). Participants are always fully vested for the accumulated units in their accounts.

There are no employer or nonemployer entities that are required to contribute to the Trust.

# (c) Benefits

Upon retirement, a participant receives a life annuity benefit or may elect to receive a benefit paid as a single cash payment or various forms of monthly annuity payments with a beneficiary provision based on the value of the participant's account in the month of retirement. Upon the death of a participant, the designated beneficiary may elect to receive a lump sum equal to the account value or an annuity under any of the settlement options, which a retiree could elect under the Trust. Upon termination of employment and withdrawal from the basic retirement systems, a participant must also withdraw his/her account under the Trust as a lump-sum settlement.

Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2024 and 2023

#### (2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### (a) Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The accompanying financial statements were prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governmental organizations. In doing so, the Trust adheres to reporting requirements established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

The accrual basis of accounting is used for measuring financial position and changes in net position of the Trust. Under this method, contributions are recorded in the accounting period in which they are collected from the member, and deductions are recorded at the time the liabilities are due and payable in accordance with the terms of the Trust. The Trust is accounted for using an economic resources measurement focus.

#### (b) Investments

The State of New Jersey, Department of the Treasury, Division of Investment (Division of Investment) manages and invests certain assets of various divisions, agencies and employees of the State of New Jersey in various groups of funds, which includes the Trust.

In addition, the Division of Investment manages the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund (CMF), which is available on a voluntary basis for investment by State and certain non-State participants. CMF is considered to be an investment trust fund as defined in GASB Statement No. 31, *Certain Investments and External Investment Pools*. Units of ownership in CMF may be purchased or redeemed on any given business day (excluding State holidays) at the unit cost or value of \$1.00. Participant shares are valued on a fair value basis. For additional information about CMF, refer to the audited financial statements, which can be obtained at https://www.nj.gov/treasury/doinvest/cmf/CMF%20Financial%20Statements%20FY24.pdf

Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade or investment date basis. Interest and dividend income and any related receivables are recorded on the accrual basis, with dividends accruing on the ex-dividend date. Net increase in the fair value of investments includes the net realized and unrealized gains or losses on investments.

#### (c) Income Tax Status

The Trust is an eligible plan as described in the IRC Section 401(a).

#### (d) Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, as well as the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2024 and 2023

#### (3) Summary of Custodial and Credit Risk

The Trust's investments as of June 30, 2024 and 2023 consist of domestic equity securities and an interest in the Cash Management Fund. The Cash Management Fund is not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book entry form held by the Trust, and is unrated. The Cash Management Fund is a short-term cash fund, managed by the Division of Investment and open to state and certain non-state participants.

The Trust can only invest in equity securities denominated in U.S. dollars that are traded on a securities exchange in the United States or over-the-counter market. Not more than 10% of the fair value of the fund can be invested in the equity of any one issuer and affiliated entities. The total amount of shares directly purchased or acquired of any one exchange traded fund shall not exceed 5% of the total shares outstanding of such fund. The total amount of a particular class of stock directly purchased or acquired of any one entity shall not exceed 5% of that class of stock outstanding.

Custodial credit risk, as it relates to investments, is the risk that in the event of the failure of the custodian, the Trust will not be able to recover the value of investments that are in the possession of the third party. The Trust's investment securities are not exposed to custodial credit risk as they are held in a segregated trust account in the name of the Trust with the custodian.

#### (4) Fair Value Measurement

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between independent market participants at the measurement date. Inputs refer broadly to the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability, including assumptions about risk. Inputs may be observable or unobservable. Observable inputs are inputs that reflect the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability developed based on market data obtained from sources independent of the reporting entity. Unobservable inputs are inputs that reflect the reporting entity's own assumptions about the assumptions market participants would use in formation available in the circumstances. The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are as follows:

Level 1 – Quoted or published prices are available in active markets for identical investments as of the reporting date.

Level 2 – Pricing inputs are other than quoted or published prices in active markets, which are either directly or indirectly observable as of the reporting date, and fair value is determined through the use of models or other valuation methodologies.

Level 3 – Pricing inputs are unobservable for the investment and inputs into the determination of fair value require significant management judgment or estimation, including assumptions about risk.

Investments are reported at fair value as follows:

• Domestic equity securities are valued using closing sales prices reported on recognized securities exchanges on which the securities are principally traded. These securities are classified as Level 1 in the fair value hierarchy.

Notes to Financial Statements

June 30, 2024 and 2023

The Cash Management Fund is considered a local government investment pool and does not meet the leveling definitions as described above, therefore is excluded from the fair value hierarchy.

# (5) Contingencies

The Trust is a party to various legal actions arising in the ordinary course of its operations. While it is not feasible to predict the ultimate outcome of these actions, it is the opinion of management that the resolution of these matters will not have a material adverse effect on the Trust's financial statements.