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# **Mid-America Pension Fund**

# Mid-America Supplemental Monthly Annuity (SMA) Fund

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JOSEPH J. BURKE, Administrator BARBARA CHAPIN, Assistant Administrator

## **IRON WORKERS MID-AMERICA PENSION PLAN**

### Dear Participant:

The Iron Workers Mid-America Pension Plan earned a return of approximately 7.5% in 2016. While this return was on target for 2016, the Plan has still not recovered from the investment losses in prior years.

The good news is that in 2017 the Plan will continue to be in the "green zone", as defined by the Pension Protection Act of 2006, with a funded percentage of **80.5%**. Additionally, the Trustees are working with their actuary and investment professionals to improve the funding level. This means avoiding the "yellow zone" (formally called "endangered") and "red zone" (formally called "critical").

To improve the funding level, the Trustees required a contribution increase of \$0.25 per hour effective in 2017 when your Local allocated its wage package. These allocations have already occurred. The contribution increase will be applied to the Percent of Contribution (POC) benefit, which means you will receive a benefit accrual corresponding to the increase.

If a Local that is currently participating in the POC benefit does not increase its contribution rate by \$0.25 by its allocation date, the Plan will reduce that Local's contribution rate currently allocated to the benefit by \$0.25 and reallocate that amount as a Supplemental Contribution. If a Local that is not currently participating in the POC benefit does not increase its contribution rate by \$0.25 by its allocation date, the Plan will reduce that Local's future basic accrual rate. In both cases, participants in these Locals will earn lower future benefits.

Please keep this announcement in a safe place for your records along with your Summary Plan Description (SPD).

#### **Example of POC Benefit Change**

Suppose John's Local Union is currently allocating \$3.25 per hour toward the POC benefit. In addition, \$2.25 per hour is currently allocated as Supplemental Contributions. If John's Local Union allocates an additional \$0.25 per hour to the Plan at its 2017 wage and benefits allocation, then \$3.50 per hour (the original \$3.25 plus \$0.25 of new contributions) will be allocated toward his POC benefit.

How does this affect his pension? Before the change, suppose John worked 1,600 hours at the \$3.25 per hour contribution rate. His monthly benefit accrual under the POC benefit for 2017 would have been \$52.00 (1% accrual rate x 1,600 hours x \$3.25 per hour).

However, after the change and assuming all the hours were worked after the change, his monthly benefit accrual under the POC benefit for 2017 will be \$56.00 (1% accrual rate x 1,600 hours x \$3.50 per hour). This represents a 7.7% increase to his future benefit accrual.

Of course, your Local Union can allocate more than \$0.25 per hour if it chooses. However, the minimum required amount is \$0.25 per hour.

#### Summary

The purpose of the Pension Plan is to provide the best possible retirement income to union ironworkers and their families. It is the goal of the Trustees that these Plan changes help to ensure that this goal is achieved now and in the future.

If you have any questions concerning this Plan change or how it may apply to your benefit, please contact the Pension Department at the Fund Office at 708/474-9902 or 800/232-8029, Extension 2.

Sincerely,

The Board of Trustees of the Iron Workers Mid-America Pension Plan

This announcement serves as a Summary of Material Modifications (SMM) for the Iron Workers Mid-America Pension Plan (EIN 36-6488227/PN 001). Full details are contained in the documents that establish the Plan provisions. If there is a discrepancy between the wording here and the documents that establish the Plan, the document language will govern. Please keep this SMM with your Summary Plan Description (SPD) for future reference.