

TMRS E-bulletin

FOR CITIES

September TMRS Board Meeting, Last Chance for Annual Seminar, Online Beneficiary Changes, Reminders for Cities

- [September Meeting of the TMRS Board of Trustees](#)
- [Last Chance to Sign up for the 2017 Annual Training Seminar!](#)
- [Remaining Training Events for 2017](#)
- [Reminder – File Your Plan Change Ordinances with TMRS](#)
- [Members Can Now Name Beneficiaries in MyTMRS®](#)
- [Reminder: Application and Retirement Date](#)
- [Main Street for Cities](#)
- [Coming Soon: TMRS Website Upgrade!](#)

September Meeting of the TMRS Board of Trustees

The TMRS Board of Trustees met on September 21 2017, in Austin. The Board:

- Approved filing proposed amendments to Chapter 127 of the TMRS Rules with the Texas Register for publication, to ensure continued compliance with the Internal Revenue Code.
- Made appointments in the Group Class of the Advisory Committee on Benefit Design for the Government Finance Officers Association of Texas: Casey Srader as representative and Keith Dagen as alternate representative
- Approved amendments to the [Legacy Securitized Guidelines](#) for two non-core fixed income managers
- Approved an allocation of \$50 million in the [Private Equity portfolio](#) to Dunes Point Capital Fund II L.P., pending successful negotiation of investment agreements
- Heard the annual review of the [Absolute Return](#) asset class
- Heard a review of [investment performance](#) for the quarter ending June 30, 2017 from RVK, Inc.
- Heard a report on activities of the TMRS [Information Resources](#) Department

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be October 25, 2017 at the Gaylord Texas Resort and Convention Center in Grapevine, Texas.

[Back to top](#)

Last Chance to Sign up for the 2017 Annual Training Seminar!

The [TMRS Annual Training Seminar](#), October 25-27, takes place at the Gaylord Texan Resort and Convention Center in Grapevine, Texas. This year's theme, "Strong by Design," reflects TMRS' proven approach to plan design, benefit funding, and customer service.

We have a great lineup of speakers, including Dr. Janet Lapp, internationally renowned speaker on leadership development, and Chad Hymas, a widely recognized speaker on team building and overcoming challenges. The program begins the afternoon of October 25, with an "Introduction to TMRS" session for correspondents and new cities, and continues through noon on October 27. See the [agenda](#) for details.

[Registration](#), including all sessions and meals, is only \$125 and may be made online. The deadline for hotel reservation at the TMRS group rate has passed. However, seminar registration is still open to those would like to attend.

Remaining Training Events for 2017

Regional Pre-Retirement Conferences

Two free half-day events for employees (and their spouses) who are considering retirement are planned in November. City Correspondents in the Temple region received an invitation to forward to employees describing the conference and pointing them to online registration. City Correspondents in the Grapevine region will receive an invitation email to distribute to employees approximately one month before the conference.

- **Temple | October 12** | [Register Online](#) with EventBrite!
- **Grapevine | November 15** | [Register Online](#) with EventBrite!

City Correspondent Certification Course (CCCC) | December 5 - 6

If you haven't been to a TMRS City Correspondent Certification Course, there's one more chance this year — December 5-6, at the TMRS Building in **Austin**. The Certification Course provides the most comprehensive approach to learning about the administration of TMRS retirement benefits. Small class sizes and direct interaction with TMRS staff give attendees a thorough overview of everything a City Correspondent needs to know to administer the program. The course fee is \$50, which includes materials, breakfast both days, and lunch on December 5. [Register online through Eventbrite](#). Within the Eventbrite invitation is a link to the block of rooms at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel; if you need a hotel room for December 4 and 5, book by November 13.

[Back to top](#)

Reminder – File Your Plan Change Ordinances with TMRS

Don't forget to send in any ordinances affecting your city's TMRS plan to our office before the end of the year. If your city is adopting or has adopted an ordinance changing TMRS provisions (such as Annuity Increases, Updated Service Credits, or Stat Max actions), to be effective January 1, 2018, send TMRS a copy of the ordinance right away! By law, these changes must be transmitted to TMRS before the ordinance's effective date. The last date of acceptance is December 31, 2017. If you have already sent in your ordinance and have not received an acknowledgment from TMRS, please call or email LaShelle Ruiz at 800-924-8677 or lruiz@tmrs.com.

Members Can Now Name Beneficiaries in MyTMRS®

Many TMRS members can now choose a primary beneficiary, alternate beneficiaries, and a beneficiary for their Supplemental Death Benefit online through their MyTMRS account. What this means to city administrators is that, after you enroll a new member, instead of providing a beneficiary form, you need to encourage the employee to [sign up for a MyTMRS account](#) and designate their own beneficiary or beneficiaries.

Since the roll out of the online beneficiary tool in July, over 4,500 beneficiary selections have been made through MyTMRS! Thank you for helping us get the word out to your employees. A [new video on beneficiary selection](#) is available on the TMRS website.

(Note that TMRS members who require spousal consent for their beneficiary choice – for example, a vested married employee who wants to name someone other than their spouse as primary beneficiary – will still require a paper form and notarization of the spouse's signature.)

[Back to top](#)

Reminder: Application and Retirement Date

A Service Retirement Application must be received in the TMRS office by the effective date of retirement but no more than 90 days before the effective date. **Remember, retiring from TMRS and city notification of the employee's intent to retire are separate processes. The employee may check with their city's personnel office for the requirements.**

The TMRS effective retirement date must be the last day of a calendar month. The first benefit payment will be made at the end of the month following the effective retirement date, if we have received all the necessary retirement papers.

Main Street for Cities

The current issue of Main Street, TMRS' printed publication for cities, was mailed September 5. A digital copy can be found on our website [here](#). The Fall 2017 issue covers many topics, including TMRS' national recognition in a public pension study covering communication practices and a summary of the 85th Legislative Session. Stories included in the issue are:

- TMRS Recognized for Communication Practices

- New Online Feature – Beneficiary Designation
- 85th Legislative Summary
- Address Change Reminder
- Salute to Board Member Roy Rodriguez
- Comprehensive Annual Financial Report Available Online
- Overview of Investments
- Calendar of Events

[Back to top](#)

Coming Soon: TMRS Website Upgrade!

Early in October when you visit the TMRS website (www.tmr.com) you'll experience a new look and feel. The fresh, clean site design is more user-friendly and "responsive" (sizable to different devices, such as smart phones and tablets). In addition, we have made the site more ADA-compliant – easier for users with visual or auditory impairments to navigate the information posted on the pages. Other improvements include multiple ways to access content, and content pages grouped by audience (Retirees, Members, Cities, Public). Each page encourages users to take advantage of resources and information on MyTMRS and the City Portal. We hope you enjoy navigating the new site!

NOTE • Previously issued e-bulletins are posted in the [E-Bulletin section](#) under the City Services tab on the TMRS website.



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