PLAN AHEAD FOR 2015
RETIREMENT HEALTHCARE BENEFITS

In May 2013, you received a letter informing you that, in light of the evolving landscape of national healthcare and challenges faced by Chicago taxpayers, changes to the City of Chicago’s retiree healthcare benefits would be implemented starting in 2014. The relevant information regarding these changes for 2015, as well as expanded healthcare options, is summarized here and further described in the documents provided in this mailing.

For City retirees who retired prior to August 23, 1989, in 2015 and beyond, the City will continue to substantially subsidize your health benefits at the same level that it does today. In short, the City will provide a healthcare plan with a contribution from the City of up to 55% of the cost of that plan for your lifetime.

For City retirees who retired on or after August 23, 1989, in 2015, the City will provide a subsidy towards the cost of your health benefits if you have at least 10 years of City service, but there will be some changes to that subsidy. It is important to note that the 2015 healthcare plan will include*:

- No increase in the co-pays, deductibles, or out-of-pocket cost other than the same small percentage increases that occurred annually in the prior plan.
- Blue Cross Blue Shield PPO network and prescription coverage.
- Additional lower cost network and plan options for non-Medicare eligible retirees.
- Generous Medicare supplemental coverage for Medicare recipients, including prescription drugs.
- The additional City premium subsidy available to low-income retirees at or below 250% of the Federal Poverty Level.

For 2015, the City is offering four plan options (the current plan and three new plan options) for retirees who are not Medicare eligible. These four plan options will allow non-Medicare eligible retirees to select a plan that best meets their needs for access to providers, out-of-pocket expense and premium cost. See the enclosed materials for descriptions of the new plan options and enrollment information.

For 2015, the City will continue to provide those who are Medicare eligible the same plan that is offered today.

With the changes taking place in the national healthcare market, we will assist both Medicare and non-Medicare eligible retirees in obtaining the information needed to navigate their available healthcare options.

Please note – State law, which was supported by the City, provides for a pension fund subsidy for a City of Chicago Retiree Medical Plan of $95 per month for non-Medicare eligible retirees and $65 per month for retirees eligible for Medicare through 2016, saving retirees thousands of dollars in healthcare costs.

*The Plan Document defines and controls the terms of the benefits provided.
The City will continue to provide you relevant updates on retiree healthcare going forward.

For information about plan changes, call 1-877-299-5111 or visit www.cityofchicago.org/benefits