





# Milestones

REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE MBTA RETIREMENT FUND

# Interim Executive Director's Message



The Trustees and Staff of the MBTA Retirement Fund express their sincere hopes and wishes that you and your families remain safe

and healthy during these unprecedented times. With the arrival of Spring and the rollout of effective vaccines, hopefully the worst of the pandemic is behind us. A year ago in March, like most other businesses, the Fund was suddenly forced to close its doors to the public. Staff was required to adopt creative ways to serve you remotely, safely and effectively from their homes and the office. It is incredible to reflect on the number of changes the Fund made to accomplish

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this important transition during that short period of time.

The Fund continues to operate in a hybrid manner to keep you and our staff safe while delivering quality service through the conclusion of this global pandemic. The latest operational modifications are posted on the Fund's website, and are continuously updated as needed. For example, retirement consultations continue to be conducted through secure tele- and video-conferencing.

We are best judged by how we meet life's obstacles and challenges. The Fund's steady, determined efforts over the past year have shown that we have learned from the adversity posed by the pandemic and met our mission to deliver the benefits you have earned to help you secure your financial future. Many of the changes made necessary by the pandemic, particularly those requiring the swift adoption of leading technologies, will remain available to enhance and protect your service experience into the future.

On the financial front, the Fund's 2019 Comprehensive Annual Financial

Report (CAFR) was recognized by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for the fourth consecutive year with the GFOA's Certificate of Achievement award for Excellence in Financial Reporting. The rigorous GFOA Certificate program is designed to encourage and recognize financial reporting efforts by pension funds that go beyond the minimum requirements of GAAP and produce financial reports "that evidence the spirit of transparency and full disclosure." The 2019 CAFR is located on the Fund's website within the "About Us" - Annual Report section. Fund management will submit its 2020 CAFR upon completion of the annual audit performed by KPMG, LLC.

### 2020 Market Update

The past year was extremely volatile with numerous highs and lows in the stock market but the Fund's investment performance remained strong despite a year full of uncertainty and surprises. In March 2020, the Federal Reserve slashed interest rates to zero and pledged to keep them low until the end of 2023. During the

Continued on next page

#### **Interim Executive Director's Message (cont'd)**

stimulus packages and the presidential campaign drew our attention. All the equity markets. Yet, despite the economic recession and bear market influence of the coronavirus, 2020 was a record year for the equity markets.

In the third quarter, markets became more stable with the announcement of COVID-19 vaccines and the conclusion of the elections. Stocks remained strong in the month of December and although the virus continued to surge, the market ended 2020 on a record high. For the year, the S&P 500 rose

#### Board

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#### Interim-Executive Director

John P. Barry

#### Retirement Fund Staff

Michael S. Baryski Robert M. Biga Jacquelyn E. Carey Maura E. Corso Sagine Gay Siobhán M. Keeney Catherine M. McGahan

Patrick D. O'Rourke Dominique S. Sye

months that followed, the pandemic 18.40%, the NASDAQ gained over intensified, government lockdowns 43%, and the Barclays U.S. Aggregate grew more severe, debates raged over Index increased 7.51%, the MSCI EAFE returned 7.82%, and the MSCI All Country World Index returned of this influenced performance in 16.25%. Despite the challenging times and volatile financial markets the vear, market boosted the net value of the Fund's portfolio significantly, as discussed further below.

> This past year challenged several assumptions about the economy, stock market, and even transformed the way we live today. Although the economic outlook has remained steady during the first quarter of 2021, recovery continues to be uncertain due to high unemployment rates and other factors. The MBTA Retirement Board and Staff will continue to safeguard and monitor your retirement assets. As the year advances, we will provide periodic updates on investment performance and operational changes. Further, we encourage you to visit the Fund's website (www.mbtarf.com) for more detailed information on the Fund's operations, reports, and other important materials.

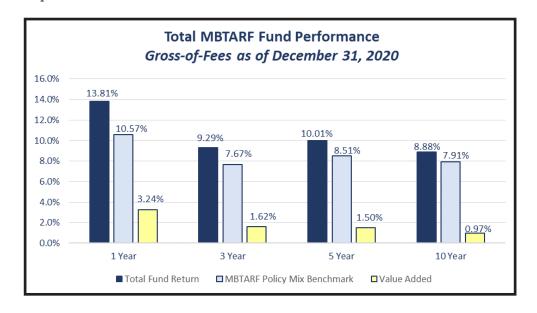
### **MBTARF Investment Performance for Periods** Ended December 31, 2020i

Based on preliminary results, the Fund is pleased to report that its investment portfolio achieved a 13.81% gross-offees investment return in 2020. The approximate market value of the Fund was \$1.747 billion as of year-end, which is an increase of \$133 million from the Fund's December 2019 asset value. For the three-year period, the Fund's annualized return of 9.29% exceeded its policy index and ranked in the top 16th percentile among Public Defined Benefit Funds for funds whose assets total greater than \$1 billion. For the five-years ending in December 2020, the Fund generated an annualized return of 10.01%, outperforming its policy index by 150 basis points. For the ten-year period, the Fund returned 8.88%, exceeding its policy benchmark by 97 basis points.

Yours Respectfully,

John P. Barry

Interim-Executive Director



Results for periods ended December 31, 2020 are preliminary and are reported gross-of-fees.

## **Employee Profile:**

## Sagine Gay, Benefits Administrator & Administrative Assistant



MBTA Retirement Fund Benefits Administrator and Administrative Assistant Sagine Gay has been an MBTA commuter for the majority of

her life. Growing up "on the trolley" in Dorchester, riding to UMass Boston to pursue her Bachelor of Arts in English, and commuting from her home in Dorchester to the Fund's office in downtown Boston since 2018, the Red Line has been a consistent presence in her life.

Sagine joined the MBTA Retirement Fund as a Receptionist where she performed daily tasks of answering phones, distributing mail, updating responding records, and requests from MBTARF members to change their direct deposit, beneficiaries, or deductions. However, through her intrapersonal skills quickly became the face and voice of the Fund providing members direction and answers to their questions.

Unfortunately, in March of 2020, the pandemic shut down the Fund's office and normal daily interaction with its members came to a halt.

"When offices shut down abruptly, we quickly transitioned to working from home and continued to support members and retirees with their needs," says Sagine. During the early months of the pandemic, Sagine helped support Fund staff in transitioning to remote operations, calling back members who reached out to the Fund or left voicemails at the office. "In the beginning of the pandemic, our focus remained on serving members, which was conducted through tele- and videoconferences. "Although COVID-19 has changed our lives over the past year, it gave me the opportunity to share life experiences and stories with members that I otherwise may not have encountered."

Currently, Sagine splits her time between home and the office, coming in as needed to take care of hands-on tasks. As a Benefits Administrator and Administrative Assistant, she spends much of her time meeting with members, retirees, and payees in order to prepare benefit estimates, discuss benefit options, assist with retirement applications, or help with any other changes retirees need. She understands the importance of every member's question or request, no matter how trivial it may presume to be. "It is a pleasure to represent the Fund, mainly because of the daily interactions I have with members," says Sagine.

Outside of work, Sagine enjoys spending time with friends and family. She loves the outdoors and taking her dog Bruce for long walks. In the near future, Sagine plans on furthering her education; pursuing a master's degree.

"I'm grateful to all the MBTA employees who've been working for the past year to keep the system running safely so that front-line workers could get where they needed to be," said Sagine. "It's good to be back on the T."



## TRANSIT EMPLOYEES HEALTH & WELFARE FUND

#### RETIREE ANNUAL OPEN ENROLLMENT

**APRIL 7, 2021 – MAY 5, 2021** 

Changes effective July 1, 2021

#### **DENTAL INSURANCE: NEW DELTA DENTAL OF MA PLAN FOR RETIREES**

A packet of information, including the Retiree Enrollment Form, will be mailed to your home the week of March 29th which will include all the details of the new Delta Dental of MA plan and detailed instructions on how to enroll. You can also find all the information at www.transitemployeesfund.com. This plan is very comparable to the plan that the Active Employees have.....and may cost less than the GIC MetLife dental plan.

## PLEASE NOTE: IF YOU ARE CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN THE GIC METLIFE DENTAL PLAN...YOU MUST CANCEL YOUR METLIFE COVERAGE WITH GIC NO LATER THAN MAY 5, 2021. Cancellation will be effective 6/30/2021. To cancel your MetLife dental coverage:

- 1. Go to https://mygiclink.force.com/GenerateDocusignPage
- 2. You will be prompted to enter your email address, then enter your date of birth.
- 3. Choose Form RD (Retiree Dental) from the drop-down menu and select "Request"

If you have any issues, you may contact the GIC at 617-727-2310, email Benefits@mbta.com or call Benefits at 617-222-3244. According to the GIC, if you terminate your MetLife Retiree Dental coverage, you can NEVER re-enroll in the GIC MetLife Retiree Dental plan.

#### **VISION INSURANCE: EYEMED IS REPLACING DAVIS VISION**

EyeMed will be replacing Davis Vision effective July 1, 2021. You will now be able to get eye exams and lenses every 12 months under EyeMed's plan, instead of every 24 months. To find a participating provider, go to www.eyemed. com, click on "Find an eye doctor" at the top of the page, under Network, choose "Insight Network". Then, schedule your visit, and go in for care or eyewear. You don't need your ID card if you don't have it—just give them your name and date of birth. When you stay in-network, EyeMed will handle all the paperwork and the claims will be filed automatically. You will receive your EyeMed ID card in the mail during the month of June.

#### LIFE INSURANCE: NO CHANGES

Symetra will pay a benefit if you die while insured by this coverage. The death benefit will be paid to your beneficiary when proof of your death is received by Extensive Benefits. Your beneficiary will need to contact the Transit Employees Health & Welfare Fund Administrator (833-200-6282) in order to initiate the claim and receive the Beneficiary Insurance Claim packet. Retiree Life Insurance Amounts:

> Locals 104, 105, 264, 589, 600, 651, 717 & Steelworkers: \$10,000 All Other Locals: \$6,000

#### MEDICARE B REIMBURSEMENT PLAN: NO CHANGES

For 2021, Retirees and Spouses (if enrolled), will receive \$148.50 each, per month. This amount will change each January 1st based on the Social Security Administration's average Medicare B premium amount.

Go to www.transitemployeesfund.com for more information.

# **Congratulations**

#### **MBTA Retirees**

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS HAVE RETIRED ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2020.

Kenneth J. Abbott 125 Bus Transportation Bennett

Dina D. Allen 114 HRail Transp Blue Orient Hght

Yvonne M. Ball 126 Bus Transportation ChrltwnFels

**Robert Barclay** 449 Bus Maintenance Charlestown

Cindy L. Barnes 102 OCC Opers Control Center

Paul J. Bernard 125 Bus Transportation Bennett

John A. Bottiggi 129 Bus Transportation Lynn

Lewis N. Branzburg 123 Bus Transportation Cabot Albany

Robert F. Brennick 309 TFM Bldg & Station Maintenance

Gerald F. Buckley 113 HRail Transp Red JFK/UMASS

Lucero Cansino 102 OCC Opers Control Center

Christopher M. Carle 125 Bus Transportation Bennett

Wayne E. Cedres 433 Rail Maint OrangeWellington

**Rosemarie Cherry** 132 LRail Transp Green Reservoir

Cheryl A. Clancy 123 Bus Transportation Cabot Albany

Kevin F. Clifford 113 HRail Transp Red JFK/UMASS

Nancy E. Cotter 21 Budget Administration

Patrick J. Coughlan 128 Bus Transportation Quincy

Robert E. Crowley 454 Bus Maintenance Arborway

John A. Curley 123 Bus Transportation Cabot Albany

William J. Daley, Jr. 309 TFM Bldg & Station Maintenance

Kevin J. Darcv 138 Bus Transportation Southampton

**Keith Davis** 123 Bus Transportation Cabot Albany Franklin J. Dickie 309 TFM Bldg & Station Maintenance

Paul R. Domigan 129 Bus Transportation Lynn

Clara V. Drayton-Brandao 123 Bus Transportation Cabot Albany

Michael S. El Hage 351 MOW Rail Equipment

Joseph M. Fallon 454 Bus Maintenance Arborway

John C. Fiorino 309 TFM Bldg & Station Maintenance

John P. Flaherty 332 MOW Surface Lines

Elsa M. Geezil 113 HRail Transp Red JFK/UMASS

Neville P. Greaves 413 EVE Everett Main Repair -Rail

Joseph P. Griggs 413 EVE Everett Main Repair -Rail

Charlene L. Groom 113 HRail Transp Red JFK/UMASS

Richard J. Harrington 313 TFM Mechanical Maintenance

William G. Harrington 313 TFM Mechanical Maintenance

Michael G. Houde 125 Bus Transportation Bennett

William H. Hunt, Jr. 123 Bus Transportation Cabot Albany

Richard F. Jenkins 321 SCM Signals

Thomas J. Johnson, Jr. 113 HRail Transp Red JFK/UMASS

Kimo J. Jordan 113 HRail Transp Red JFK/UMASS

Sandra J. Keel 132 LRail Transp Green Reservoir

Patrick M. Kenney 139 OCC Trng Bus Charlestown

John M. Lebbossiere 123 Bus Transportation Cabot Albany

Paul F. Lebbossiere 313 TFM Mechanical Maintenance

Timothy E. Logan 132 LRail Transp Green Reservoir

Joseph F. Lynch, Jr. 132 LRail Transp Green Reservoir

Joseph F. Madden 123 Bus Transportation CabotAlbany

Krystal Marble-Nunez 128 Bus Transportation Quincy

Darren R. McCullough 129 Bus Transportation Lynn

Kathleen M. McNamara 125 Bus Transportation Bennett

Maria A. Mercado 113 HRail Transp Red JFK/UMASS

Steven R. Michalski 132 LRail Transp Green Reservoir

Norman W. Michaud 101 HRail Transp & Cust Office

James A. Mignosa 129 Bus Transportation Lynn

Arthur J. Minichiello 129 Bus Transportation Lynn

**Gaston Mintor** 138 Bus Transportation Southampton

Jaime Montezuma 126 Bus Transportation ChrltwnFels

Trung H. Nguyen 466 Rail Maint Green Riverside

Andrew J. Norton 125 Bus Transportation Bennett

Peter F. O'Donnell 105 Bus Maintenance Office

John G. Packard 128 Bus Transportation Quincy

Jean Y. Pamphile 125 Bus Transportation Bennett

Jorge Perez 413 EVE Everett Main Repair -Rail

LaVerne Pina 113 HRail Transp Red JFK/UMASS

Robert T. Porter 455 Bus Maintenance Cabot

Mark S. Raboin, Sr. 138 Bus Transportation Southampton

Jimmy D. Rodriguez 132 LRail Transp Green Reservoir

Willis S. Rose, Jr. 123 Bus Transportation Cabot Albany

# **Congratulations**

#### MBTA Retirees (cont'd)

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS HAVE RETIRED ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2020.

T'Jaie T. Santos

123 Bus Transportation Cabot Albany

Kimberly Shaw

122 Bus Transportation Arborway

Richard D. Sippel

125 Bus Transportation Bennett

Linda R. Stanley

102 OCC Opers Control Center

Edward A. Straughn

333 MOW Rapid Transit Lines

Lamont A. Taylor

126 Bus Transportation ChrltwnFels

Ryan O. Thompson

123 Bus Transportation Cabot Albany

James B. Torres

449 Bus Maintenance Charlestown

Susan M. Tracy

132 LRail Transp Green Reservoir

Quoc H. Tran

449 Bus Maintenance Charlestown

Kevin F. Vev

324 PSM Electrical Maintenance

Daniel G. Walker

132 LRail Transp Green Reservoir

Ralph W. Walton

456 Bus Maintenance Southampton

John A. Weinstein 332 MOW Surface Lines

Walter W. Whelan

432 Rail Maint Red Cabot

**Vonderay Wiggins** 

834 HRail CustomerService Orange

Richard C. Wilson

102 OCC Opers Control Center

Valerie A. Wood

321 SCM Signals

Robert D. Wuschke, Jr. 123 Bus Transportation CabotAlbany

Elayne W. Young

113 HRail Transp Red JFK/UMASS

Wallace Yung

113 HRail Transp Red JFK/UMASS

Robert T. Yurko, Jr.

434 Rail Maint Blue Orient Hghts

## In Memoriam

WE HAVE RECENTLY BEEN NOTIFIED THAT THE FOLLOWING MBTA RETIREES HAVE PASSED AWAY.

Jeffrey W. Adee

May 2020

Aldolfo Alcantara

May 2020

Dominic J. Alessi

November 2020

**Edward T. Armand** 

July 2020

Charles H. Batson

October 2020

Edward A. Beaver, Jr.

July 2020

Wilson Bell, Jr.

December 2020

Robert F. Berrigan

November 2020

Albert L. Bertrand

December 2020

Joseph Bethelmie

July 2020

John J. Blaauw

October 2020

Doreen A. Bokarvich

August 2020

Jean-Michel Bosquet

November 2020

Thomas L. Bowes

August 2020

Peter Bradlev

November 2020

Donald F. Bragdon

August 2020

William Brown, III

December 2020

James R. Cahill

September 2020

Marie F. Callanan

May 2020

Frank A. Cambria

May 2020

Joseph R. Cantella

July 2020

William J. Casey

June 2020

Robert A. Castignetti

July 2020

Nelson K. Chin

December 2020

Richard J. Cirrone

September 2020

George A. Clark July 2020

Anthony M. Cochrane

September 2020

John T. Connelly, Jr.

November 2020

Paul G. Cronin

July 2020

Thomas W. Daigle

September 2020

Roy W. Davis

November 2020

Bonnie V. Davis

November 2020

William Dawkins

November 2020

**Anthony DeAngelis** 

August 2020

Robert F. DeFilippo

October 2020

Ann P. DeMille

December 2020

James T. DeStefano

June 2020

Charles J. DiPerri, Jr.

November 2020

William J. Duncan, Jr.

April 2020

Daniel J. Dwan

September 2020

Joseph M. Edwards

May 2020

William J. Egan, Jr.

September 2020

Paul E. Ellsworth

June 2020

Robert C. Fantasia

September 2020

Robert W. Farquharson

December 2020

Eleanor P. Fiorello

August 2020

Allan P. Foote

November 2020

James G. Garner

June 2020

# In Memoriam (cont'd)

WE HAVE RECENTLY BEEN NOTIFIED THAT THE FOLLOWING MBTA RETIREES HAVE PASSED AWAY.

Salvatore R. Garofalo

June 2020

John P. Gillis, Sr.

July 2020

Craig A. Greene September 2020

Michael E. Greene

December 2020

Lewis Haynes Jr. November 2020

Ronald M. Helmar

May 2020

Edward D. Hennessy

May 2020

Michael Hill October 2020

Helen C. Hoffman

September 2020

Arthur J. Jaehnig

December 2020

Chester W. Jenkins, Jr.

July 2020

Sonny Jerome

June 2020

Beulah M. Jones

July 2020

Theodore F. Joyce

December 2020

Charles E. Keeler

July 2020

Philip J. Kelly

June 2020

Richard F. Kelly

August 2020

James M. Keneavy

August 2020

Edward T. Kennedy

July 2020

John J. Kenney, III

June 2020

Janis Knospins

November 2020

Robert L. LaClair

August 2020

Richard C. Leaman

June 2020

John F. Lynch

August 2020

Maureen P. MacDonald

October 2020

Kevin P. Mahoney

October 2020

Moses A. Manerson

December 2020

Patrick J. Mannion

September 2020

Robert J. McCann

October 2020

Gerald F. McCarthy

August 2020

Roy L. McCullough

May 2020

Joseph F. McGrady, III

September 2020

Carol M. McGrath

June 2020

John A. McKay

June 2020

Bertram F. McPherson

July 2020

**Edward McPherson** 

November 2020

Kevin F. McSheffrey, Sr.

December 2020

Patricia A. Mitchell

May 2020

Thomas L. Monahan

June 2020

**James Morris** 

July 2020

Richard G. Nickerson

May 2020

Joanne H. Norton

October 2020

Robert B. Norton, Jr.

December 2020

Thomas S. Novak

June 2020

Thomas M. O'Melia, Sr.

May 2020

Anthony P. Panciocco

October 2020

**Anthony Pennacchio** 

July 2020

Willie Penny

May 2020

Raymond A. Perry

October 2020

Paul V. Power, Jr.

December 2020

Joseph D. Rizzitano

December 2020

Henry P. Robison

May 2020

Thomas J. Rollins, Jr.

December 2020

Norma L. Rose

November 2020

Nicholas J. Sanson

December 2020

Judith A. Scott-Hammerquist

October 2020

Thomas L. Sculley, Jr.

December 2020

George R. Shanks

November 2020

Paul T. Shaw

July 2020

Francis X. Sheehan

September 2020

Harold Solletti

July 2020

William J. Stella

July 2020

David R. Stirling

October 2020

Austin A. Troy

June 2020

Sylvia M. Ware

April 2020

Elliott R. Whyte

June 2020

Ronald D. Wood

April 2020

John F. Woods

July 2020

Harry N. Wright

August 2020

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