



THE COUNTY OF COOK



Cook County Pension Briefing



Overview



Overview of the Pension Fund

The County Employees' and Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Cook County was established in 1926

It is administered in accordance with 40 ILCS 5/9-101 (Article 9) and is considered a separate unit of government

The Fund is a defined benefit pension plan that provide retirement, survivor, health, disability, and death benefits

There are two sources of contributions outlined in Article 9 – active employees and the employer

- Most employees contribute 8.5% of pensionable salary; however, members of the County Sheriff Dept. contribute 9.0%
- The Employer contributes 1.54x the contributions of employees

The Pension Board is made up of:

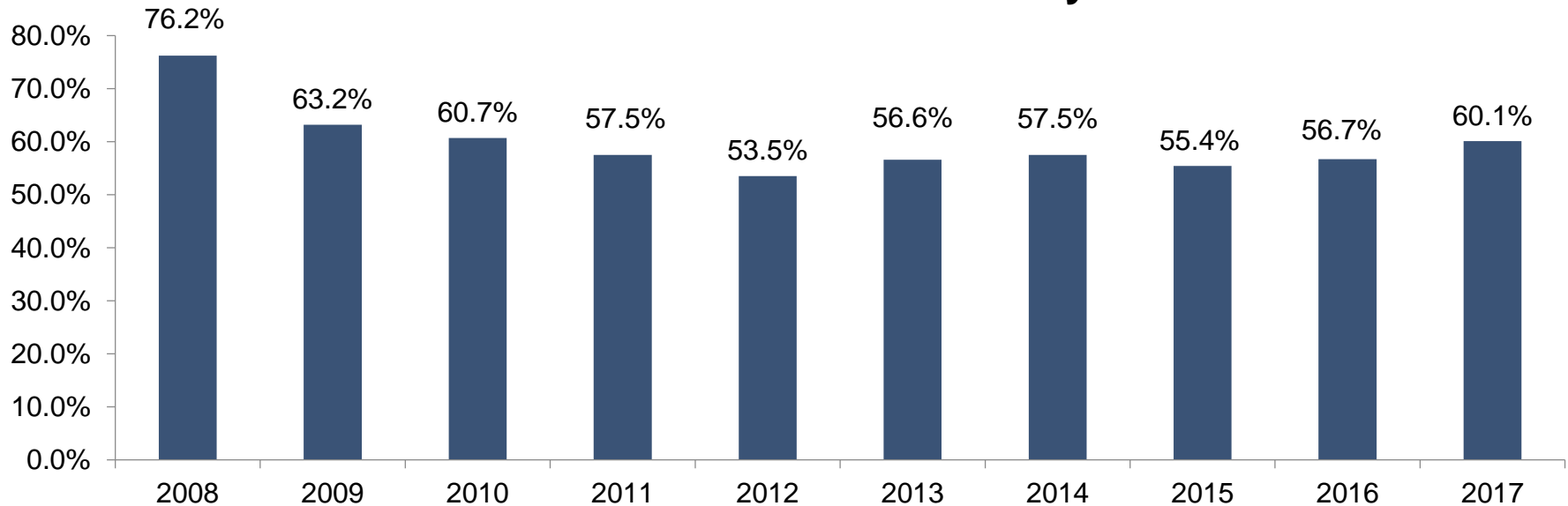
- **4** – members elected by Cook County and Forest Preserve active employees
- **3** – members elected by Cook County and Forest Preserve annuitants
- **2** – ex officio members appointed by the Comptroller of Cook County and Treasurer of Cook County

Demographics & Funded Ratio History



Cook County Pension Fund		
	2016	2017
Active Employees	20,969	20,349
Average Age	47.40	47.70
Average Salary	\$75,361	\$77,030
Retirees	15,222	15,488
Survivors	2,687	2,729
Average Age	71.9	72.1
Average Annuity	38,817	40,435
Annuity Benefits Paid	\$672.2M	\$713.5M

10-Year Funded Ratio History



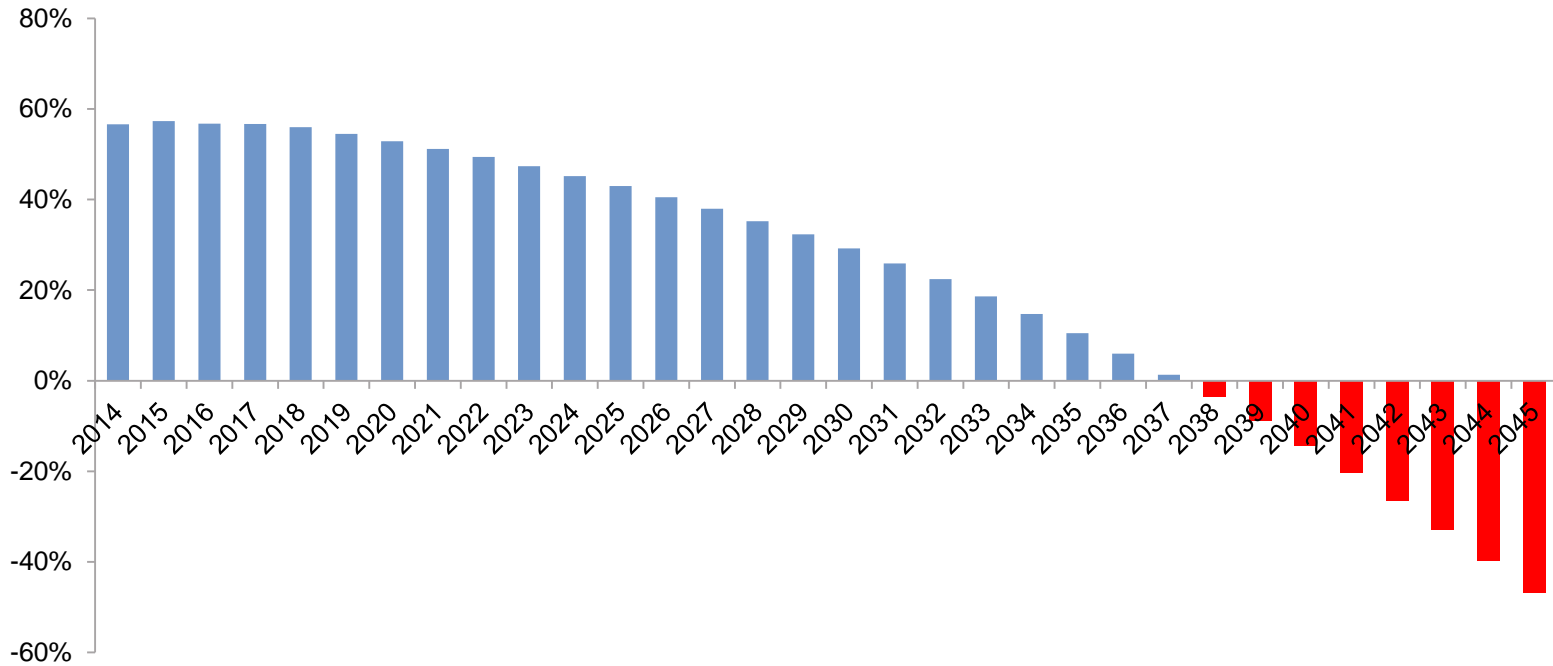


Historical Background



Pension Fund Status in 2014

Projected Funded Ratio*

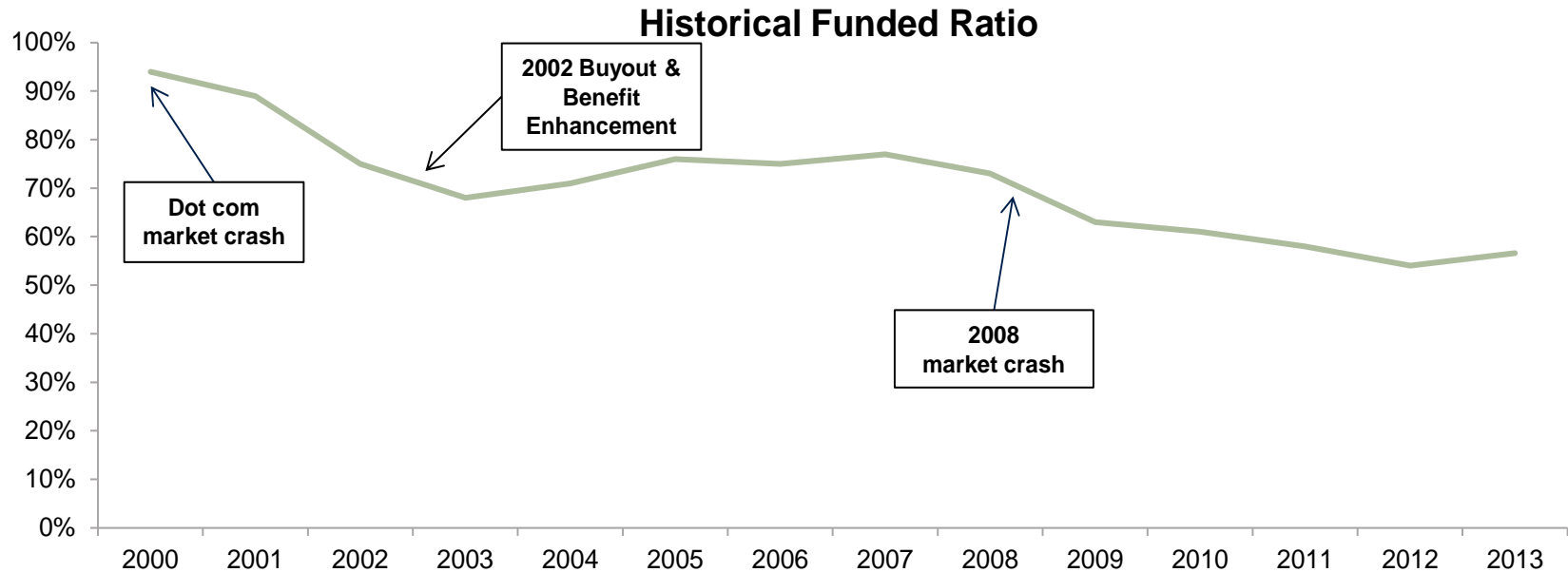


*Actuarial assumptions include an assumed 7.5% investment rate of return

- Funded ratio was 56.6% as of 12/31/2013
- Fund projected to reach insolvency in 2038



Historical Review



How did we get here?

- Benefit enhancements and early retirement programs enacted repeatedly since the County statutory maximum employer match of employee contributions of 154% was set in 1984
- Two market crashes in the past decade also caused significant shortfall in funded levels
- County has always budgeted for the statutory maximum contribution
- Lack of Actuarially based funding further exacerbates the issue as no automatic adjustments were in place when market crashes occurred or benefits were increased



Historical Review

- Under the Pension Code, in 1984 County maximum not to exceed contribution was last changed to equal 154% of Employee Contributions
- Repeated benefit enhancements have occurred since 1984

Action	Year
Reduced retirement age by 5 years (to 65 from 60) for unreduced benefits w/10 years of service	1985
Reduced minimum pension collection age by 5 years (from 55 to 50)	1986
Provided an early retirement incentive program	1992
COLA changed from simple to compounded	1997
Provided an early retirement incentive program	1997
Increase of accrual rate from 2.2% to 2.4%	2002
Last early retirement incentive program	2002



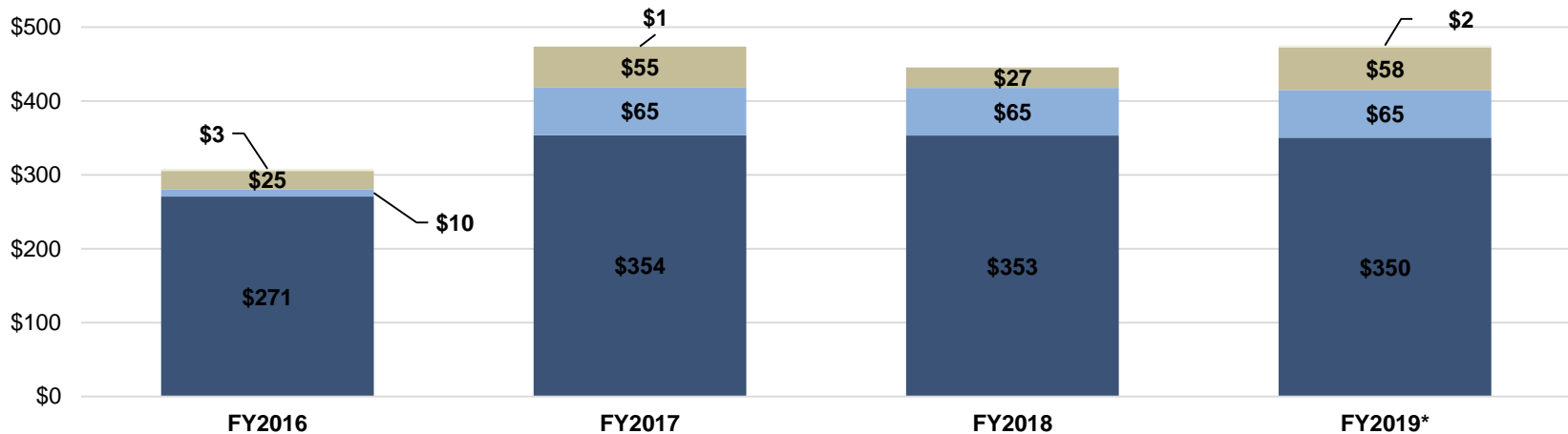
The Pension Fund Today

Sales Tax Increase in 2015



Increased Sales Tax funding allowed the County to address legacy liabilities and critical transportation infrastructure needs

	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019*
Value of 1% Increase	\$308	\$474	\$445	\$475



■ Additional Pension Appropriation ■ Increased Transportation Funding ■ Increased Legacy Debt Service Costs ■ Pay-Go Capital Equipment Purchases

- The County Board approved a 1% increase effective January 1, 2016 to help fund:
 - Additional Appropriation to address the Pension Fund's liabilities
 - Increased Transportation Funding by stopping Motor Fuel Tax diversion
 - Increased debt service costs
 - Pay Go Capital equipment purchases



Addressing Pension Fund Liabilities

- The County has an Intergovernmental Agreement (“IGA”) with the Pension Fund each year which provides for a supplemental payment in addition to the statutorily required maximum
- Since 2016, the County has made supplemental payments:

Fiscal Year	Planned Supplemental Payment (\$ millions)	Supplemental Payments Paid (\$ millions)
2016	\$270.50	\$270.50
2017	\$353.80	\$353.80
2018	\$353.40	\$353.40
2019	\$320.30	\$50.00

- The primary drivers of the decrease in the contribution amount from FY18 to FY19 are:
 - i. Assumption changes from the Experience study performed in February 2018
 - ii. Investment returns during 2017
- The IGA calls for the Pension Fund to provide an actuarial based funding request for 2019

The Pension Fund agrees that during Fiscal Year 2018 it will provide a calculation of additional funds calculated by its independent actuary on the basis of the amount needed to amortize the Fund’s Pension Liability on a 30-year basis starting in 2017 and concluding in 2047, with said amortization payments reflecting an annual escalation factor of two-percent, and reflecting a discount rate for all liabilities consistent with the assumed investment rate of return on fund assets and five-year smoothing of the value of actuarial assets... the Pension Fund would provide a calculation that anticipates layered amortization of any further actuarial losses in a period of thirty years, reflecting a similar two-percent escalation factor for future layers.

Pension Fund Actuarial Valuation



Comparative Summary of Key Actuarial Valuation

Summary of Member Data	Actuarial Valuation as of	
	December 31, 2017	December 31, 2016
Number of Members Included in the Valuation		
Active Members	20,349	20,969
Retirees and Beneficiaries	18,217	17,909
Inactive Members	14,624	14,005
Total	53,190	52,883
Annual Payroll (Average)	\$ 77,030	\$ 75,361
Annual Benefit Payments		
Retirees and Beneficiaries (Average)	\$ 40,435	\$ 38,817
Investment Returns		
Fair Value (Rate of Return)	15.4%	7.7%
Actuarial Value (Rate of Return)	8.1%	7.3%
Summary of Assets and Liabilities		
Total Actuarial Accrued Liability	\$ 16,889,499,622	\$ 16,726,457,108
Actuarial Value of Assets	10,148,203,834	9,488,223,349
Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability	6,741,295,828	7,238,233,759
Funded Ratio	60.09%	56.73%
Employer Actuarial Required Contribution		
Fiscal Year Ending	December 31, 2019	December 31, 2018
Employer Normal Cost	\$ 124,120,345	\$ 121,508,759
Amortization of Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (Surplus)	519,313,094	570,111,811
Employer Actuarial Required Contribution	643,433,439	691,620,570
Actual/Statutory Contribution	\$ 208,169,383	\$ 205,707,791
Supplemental Contribution	\$ TBD	\$ 353,436,000
Amount by which employer contributions are expected to fall short of the actuarially determined contribution	\$435,264,056	\$132,476,779
Required tax multiple for employer contribution to meet actuarially determined contribution	4.76	5.18
Solvency Date	2042	2038

Pension Funding improved to 60.09% in 2017, up from 56.73% in 2016

Funded ratio of the Pension Fund increased by 3.36% due to:

- i. Strong investment performance in 2017
- ii. Supplemental contribution made by the County allowed the Pension Fund to keep assets invested

¹ The average annual benefit payments for retirees only is \$44,105 as of December 31, 2017 and \$42,439 as of December 31, 2016

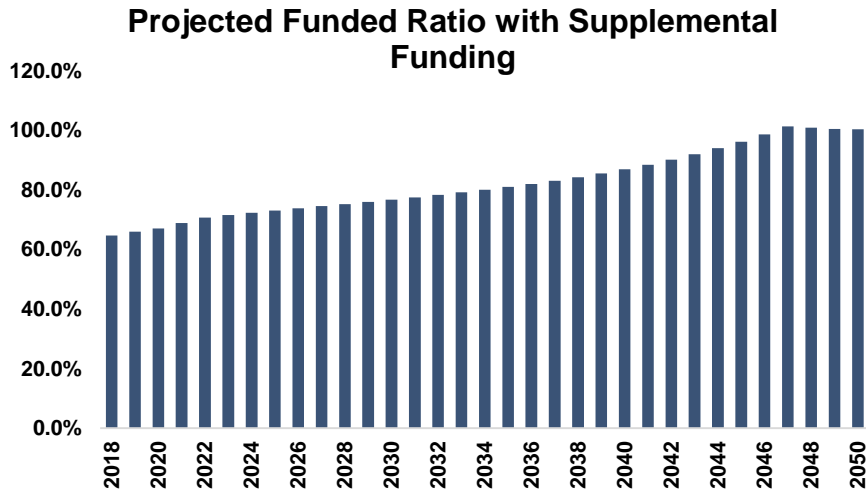
² Rate of return determined by investment consultant.



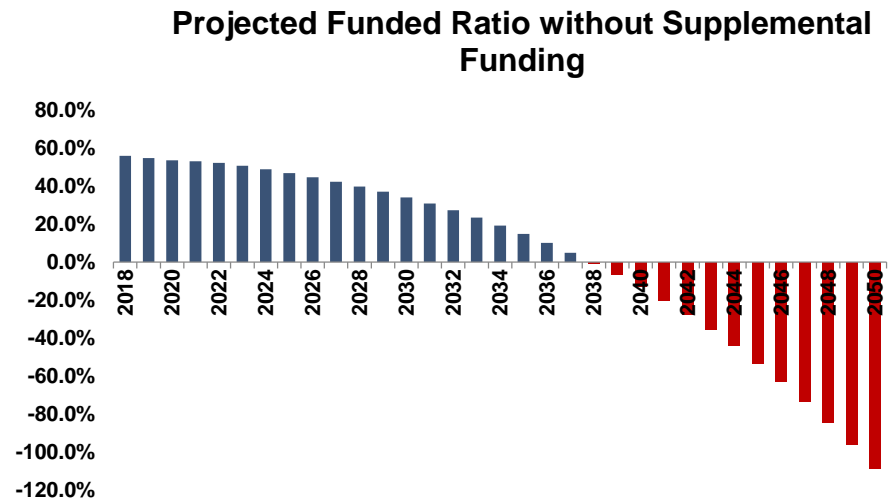
Addressing Pension Fund Liabilities

Pension Fund's funded ratio increased to 60.1% in just 2 years; without supplemental funding the ratio would be 56.1%

- The IGA payments as of January 2019 total, over a billion dollars, allowing the Pension Fund to keep its assets invested and take advantage of strong market performance



On track to achieve 100% by 2047



Insolvency by 2038

- The FY19 budget includes \$350.3M, of which there is \$30M earmarked for stabilization funds



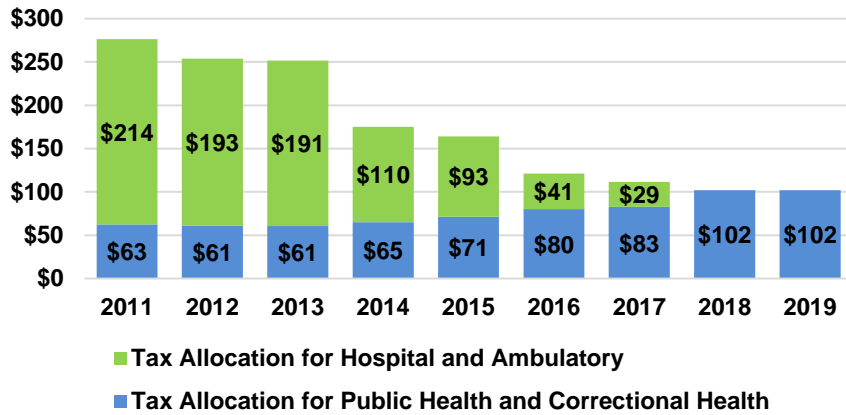
Why Pension Costs Matter?



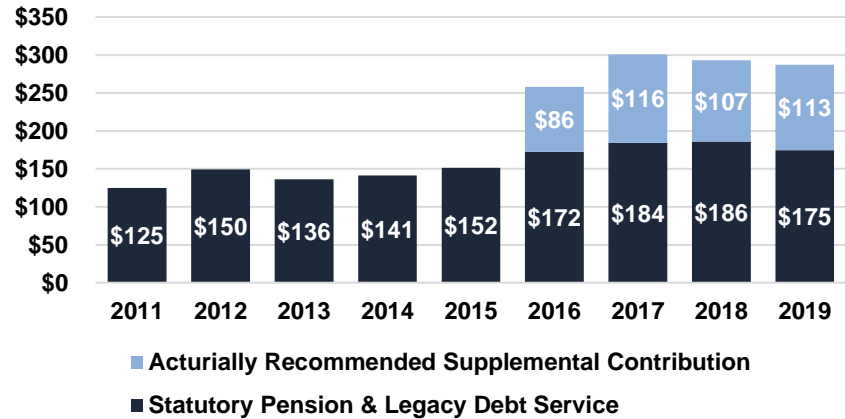
County Health Fund Allocation

CCHHS Operating Tax Allocations has declined by 63% since 2011, while they continue to provide over half a billion dollars in uncompensated care

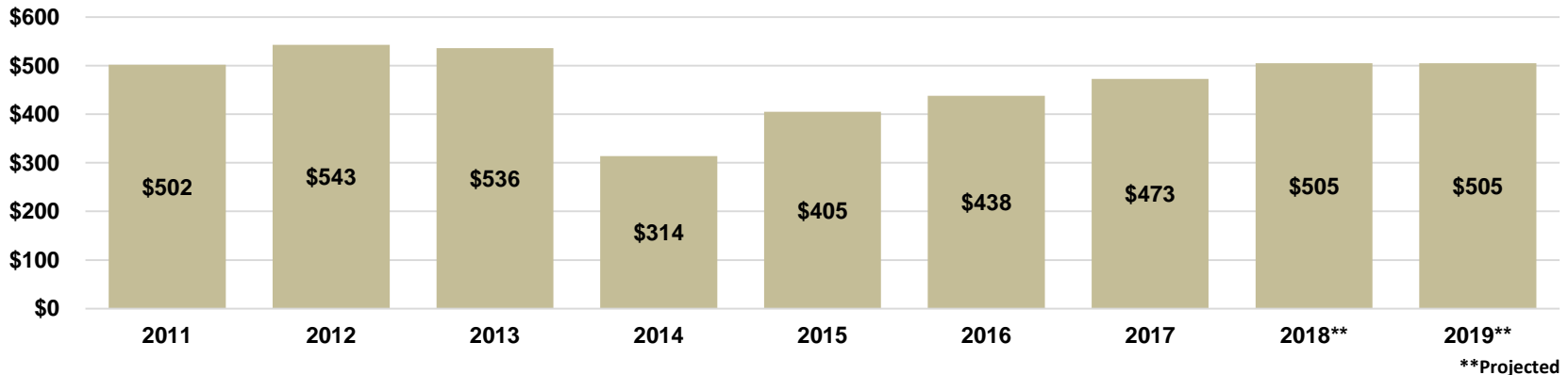
Direct Operating Tax Allocation



Legacy Liability Tax Allocation



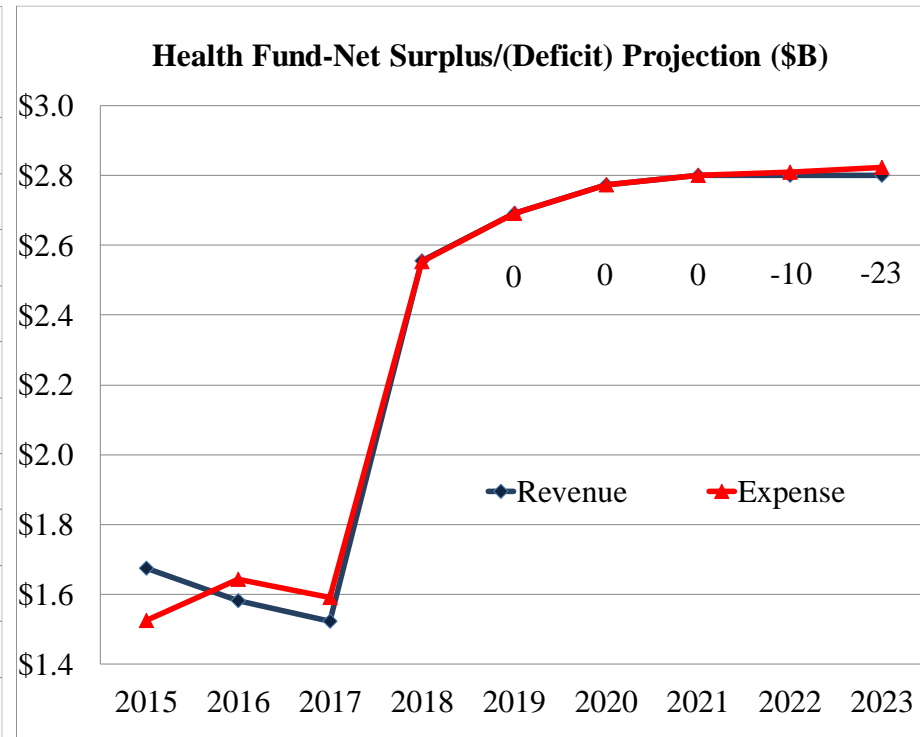
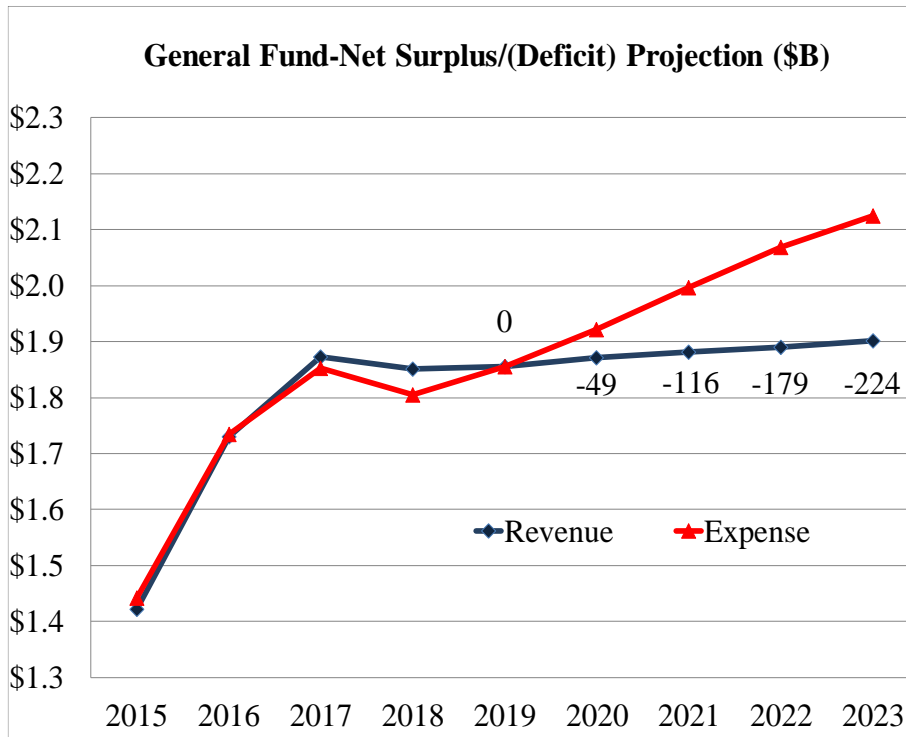
Uncompensated Care provided by CCHHS





Long-Term Fiscal Planning

By implementing structural budgetary solutions, the County's five year forecasted deficits continue to shrink



Projections based upon data submitted for FY2019 budget:

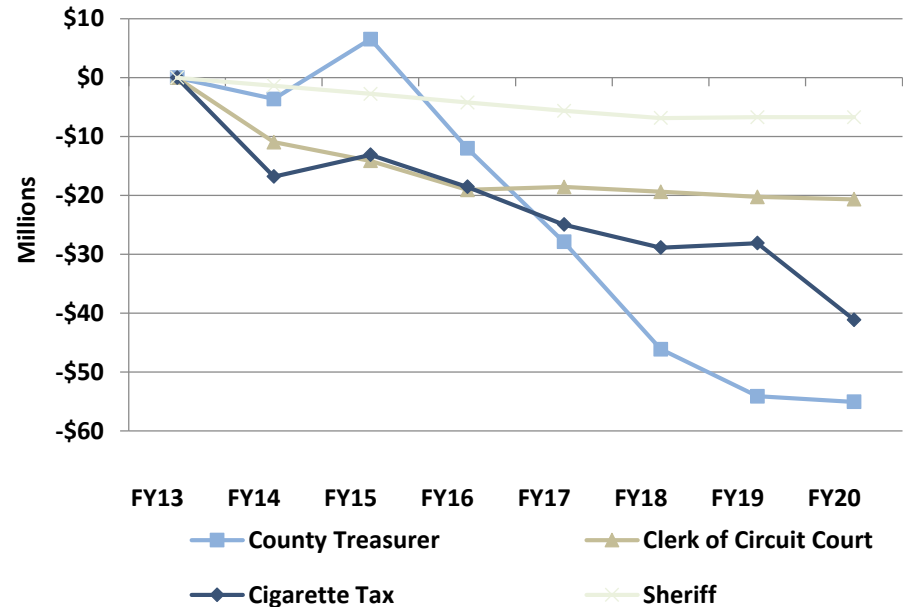
- General Fund projected FY20 deficit: \$49 million
- Health Fund projected FY20 deficit: \$0 million
- **Total projected deficit FY20: \$49 million**



Structural Concerns

While expenditure growth has been moderated to inflationary levels, a number of County revenues do not keep pace with inflation

FY19 Projected Revenues	Amount	%
Declining	\$366,610,496	15.0%
Failing to keep pace with inflation	\$767,917,106	31.3%
Growing with economy	\$1,145,091,591	46.7%
Other Growth/Decline patterns	\$171,032,158	7.0%
Grand Total*	\$2,450,651,351	100.0%



- Cook County's base property tax levy has not increased in over 20 years
- Most local governments increase their levies annually by the rate of natural growth
- If Cook County took natural growth over the last 20 years, the base levy would be \$1.18B



Questions?