

General Retirement System City of Detroit Newsletter

BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Vice Chairperson Lori Cetlinski

General Retirement System board member Cetlinski has been on the board since 2013, acts as the Vice Chair, and has a focus area on information technology. Here is her take on new systems, leadership, and the future of the retirement system.

WHAT DO YOU FEEL IS YOUR GREATEST CONTRIBUTION WITH YOUR TIME ON THE BOARD?

I aim to serve in many ways but especially by providing a different point of view. I work as an advocate to minimize negative impact to current and future retirees and ensure we're on track and in compliance with all set guidelines. My experience and knowledge have shown value in implementing new systems, and transitioning to offer paperless services. I was a member of the team which advised on selection of the most secure and effective member services software, as well as picking the right project management team for implementation.



TELL US MORE ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF THE PAPERLESS PROGRAM:

The self-service portion will benefit current and future retirees by putting you in control of your information. Users can see information 24/7 and make updates at any time. There will be less need to make a phone calls or appear in person to conduct business. Users will be able to look up info at their convenience to keep their beneficiary information current, request retirement estimates, maintain their current address and other options. Please keep in mind it is extremely important to update any new mailing address.

WHY IS IT CRITICAL FOR CURRENT CITY EMPLOYEES TO PLAN FOR RETIREMENT NOW?

Our benefits are fairly generous, but everyone needs to start planning in advance. Contribute voluntarily from day one, if possible. Make sure to fund the level you need to be comfortable for you to retire.

HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO STEP UP INTO LEADERSHIP ROLES?

It is important to have a broad representation of constituents to support different kinds of employees, from maintenance to technical IT. Individuals from different backgrounds learn in varying ways, and when the board has a good balance of union and non-union reps we can create a more well-rounded communication plan. I encourage more participation. It's not always easy, but it is a great experience.

WHO INSPIRES YOU MOST?

City employees. We are impressive. City employees persevere even though we do not always have the right tools. We succeed with the resources available. We've endured hardship. We came to the city for stability, took a risk that the positions may not have the best salary, but knew there is a payoff that will be achieved in the future.

HOW DO YOU AIM TO IMPACT GRSD DURING THE LAST SIX MONTHS OF YOUR TERM?

Pushing toward implementing the new systems. Planning ahead of the guidelines set through 2023 to maintain the best investments for the pension system. I am seeking to remain a trustee on the board, beyond my current term that runs through this June. I look forward to representing my fellow employees in the future.

IS YOUR INFO UP TO DATE?

It is critically important to have your complete contact information on file with the Retirement System Office at all times. Maintain current and accurate beneficiary info on file for both the death benefit and the annuity savings fund. Beneficiaries can be whoever the member so chooses. Complete actions online, 24/7:

- Update address, telephone, or email address.
- Access direct deposit information.
- Complete tax information.

Further instructions to access your account on WebPay are available [here](#).

IMPORTANT DATES

General Retirement System board meetings start at 10 am. Employee's Benefit Plan meetings are held monthly on the third Wednesday, indicated with a *. Investment committee meetings are held at Noon. All are held in the Retirement Systems conference room.

02/06: Board Meeting	03/25: Investment Committee Meeting	05/06: Investment Committee Meeting
02/11: Investment Committee Meeting	04/03: Board Meeting	05/15: Board Meeting*
02/20: Board Meeting*	04/17: Board Meeting*	06/05: Board Meeting
03/06: Board Meeting	05/01: Board Meeting	06/19: Board Meeting*
03/20: Board Meeting*		

ACTIVE EMPLOYEES

PRESENTATION FOR DEPT. DIVISIONS

Department divisions can now request a presentation from GRSD to discuss basic benefits available, eligibility requirements, and get answers to questions. If interested, please contact Gail A. Oxendine, GRSD Assistant Executive Director, at goxendine@rscd.org.

MEMBERS, HAVE A QUESTION?

Contact us via our website. Submit the form at our [contact us link](#).