

**BOARD IS CONSIDERING REAL ESTATE PURCHASE &
POSSIBLY NEW MCERA HEADQUARTERS BUILDING**

The MCERA's office is located at 3199 M Street in Merced and has been located there for 20 years. The MCERA Board is considering a new headquarters building. The new location under consideration is located at 690 W. 19th Street in downtown Merced.

The MCERA Board considered renovations on the current building and quickly realized there may be more economically feasible options. A search began to identify what options were available in the City of Merced, and outlying areas for existing office buildings. The commercial real estate inventory in the Merced area is very low, meaning existing and new office space is hard to come by. The Board also considered accessibility by members, staff, consultants and the public.

The MCERA Board ultimately decided on a vacant lot located at the corner of 19th and N Streets in downtown Merced; adjacent to both the UC Merced and Merced College downtown centers. MCERA has completed their due diligence on the lot and anticipates closing escrow at the end of October.

However, there is much work and analysis remaining. According to MCERA Plan Administrator, Kristie Santos, "The MCERA Board is a Fiduciary Board and therefore they must take their time and do the proper analysis to ensure this is a solid investment for the Fund. MCERA is a long term investor and this could potentially be our building for 20+ years. Additionally, we want to ensure the new building is accessible to all members of the public, not just MCERA members."

The next steps will be to complete a financial analysis and determine the feasibility of construction. The Board will be considering a building between 7,000 square feet (single story) to up to 15,500 square feet (two story). The Board will also consider parking, local regulations, and potential "green" energy efficiencies of a new building. The Board and Staff will regularly update our active and retired members as MCERA considers this investment.

MCERA Bulletin

MCERA Board of Retirement

Ryan Paskin, Chair
Scott Johnston, Vice Chair
Al Peterson, Secretary
Karen Adams
Janey Cabral
Darlene Ingersoll
David Ness
Scott Silveira
Jason Goins
Michael Rhodes

Board of Retirement Meetings

Meetings are generally held at 8:15 a.m. on the second and fourth Thursday of each month in the MCERA Board Room.

MCERA Staff

Kristie Santos, Plan Administrator
Mark Harman, Manager of Finance and Investments
Martha Sanchez, Manager of Benefits & Administration
Sheri Villagrana, Benefits Analyst
Brenda Mojica, Benefits Analyst
Adriana Valdez, Accountant
Michelle Lee, Office Assistant

MCERA Board Meetings

October 10
 October 24
 November 21*
 December 12*

* Combined Admin & Investment Meetings

MCERA BOARD ELECTIONS

The MCERA Board of Retirement held elections for Seat 2 (elected by general members) and Seat 7 and 7A (elected by safety members). MCERA is happy to announce the reelection of Darlene Ingersoll as the Seat 2 representative and Jason Goins as the Seat 7 representative, as well as Kalisa Rochester as the Seat 7A representative. The new board terms will begin January 1, 2020.

STAFF UPDATE

MCERA is happy to introduce **Martha Sanchez** as our new manager over Benefits & Administration. Martha is new to Merced County but not new to public service. She comes to us with over 20 years of service to Stanislaus County Workforce Development, most recently as the Program Manager III over Business Services. Martha has lived in the Central Valley for most of her life and loves serving the community. *Welcome Martha!*

MEMBERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

Each year, MCERA staff reviews our membership data to send to our Actuary for calculating our member and employer contribution rates. Some interesting statistical data on our membership as of June 30, 2018:

- ⇒ Age of Oldest Retiree **100 years old**
- ⇒ Age of Oldest Active Member **75 years old**
- ⇒ Age of Youngest Active Member **20 years old**
- ⇒ Average Current Active Age **43 years old**
- ⇒ Most Service Credit for active member **38.45 years**

Contact Us

3199 M Street
 Merced, CA 95348
 209-726-2724 Phone
 209-725-3637 Fax

mcera@countyofmerced.com Email

www.mcera.merced.ca.us Website