

Deferred Compensation Plan BOARD REPORT 12-14

Date: January 26, 2012
To: Board of Deferred Compensation Administration
From: Staff
Subject: Pensions & Investments East Coast Conference

*Board of Deferred
Compensation Administration
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Recommendation:

That the Board of Deferred Compensation Administration approve the necessary funding for up to one Board member and one staff to attend the Pensions & Investments 2012 Defined Contribution East Coast Conference March 11-13, 2012.

Discussion:

The City's Deferred Compensation Plan has been announced as a winner of the 2012 Eddy Awards, which are issued by Pensions & Investments magazine. The Eddy Awards recognize the best practices in Defined Contribution investment education. Staff submitted the Plan's Roth 457 introductory communication materials for the award. Within the industry the awards are highly coveted and among the most difficult to win. The City's materials were competing with both public sector as well as private sector plans.

Staff has been informed that the City has won an award but not been given specific information about which one; winners will be announced at the annual Pensions & Investments East Coast Defined Contribution Conference in Miami, Florida, which takes place March 11th through 13th, 2012. The City's Plan has won two prior Eddy awards, in 2001 and 2009. One staff member attended the 2001 conference; no Board members or staff were available to attend the 2009 conference.

Pensions & Investments sponsors two annual conferences, one on the East Coast and one on the West Coast. The West Coast conference typically takes place in the Fall, but details of that conference have not yet been released by Pensions & Investments.

The agenda for this year's East Coast Conference includes a number of topics that are current areas of interest for Board/staff: participant investment behavior, communications and social media, providing tools for participants to assess retirement outcomes, measuring success, and evaluating the success of defined contribution plans. Other valuable topics include a review of alternative investments, stable value alternatives, investment advice, best practices on fee transparency, retirement plan policy and target date funds.

Because the City has won an award, conference registration and certain other costs are waived. Remaining costs include hotel, airfare, and miscellaneous expenses. Staff estimates the per-person cost of attending the conference to be approximately \$1,524:

Estimated Expenses Per Attendee	Amount	
3-Night Stay @ \$269 per night w/13% hotel tax)	\$	874
Registration	\$	-
Transportation	\$	400
Meals & Incidentals	\$	250
Per Attendee Total-->	\$	1,524

Given the training benefits, and given the award presentation, staff believes that it would be valuable to have up to one Board member and one staff member attend. The Plan's annual training budget is \$55,187. Staff estimates that the cost of attending the annual NAGDCA Conference and certain additional business meetings (e.g. meetings of the California Defined Contribution Peer Network) will be in the range of approximately \$30-35,000. As a result, attendance for two individuals at this conference is within the Board's annual training budget. The Pensions & Investments West Coast Conference provides an additional training opportunity later in 2012. More information on that event will be provided at a future Board meeting.

Submitted by: _____
 Steven Montagna

Approved by: _____
 Alejandrina Basquez