

April 8, 2025

Members of the Operating Engineers' Pension Plan

Re: Tariff Disruption – Impacts on OEPP

Brothers and Sisters,

In light of the recent tariff announcements and the resulting market volatility, I'm writing to you as Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Operating Engineers' Pension Plan. We want to reassure you that the Pension Plan remains stable and in a strong funded position.

First and foremost, the Trustees manage the Pension Plan with one clear priority: *benefit security*. We maintain sufficient assets to fully fund your earned pensions—plus a healthy cushion of excess assets designed to help the Plan withstand market disruptions. Our investment strategy is conservative by design. While this means we may not fully capitalize on stock market booms, it also means our Plan holds strong through market crises—just as it did during the Global Financial Crisis (2008–2009) and the COVID-19 downturn (2020).

Currently, less than 5% of the Plan's assets are invested in public equities—compared to approximately 50% in many other pension plans. Even when including similar investment types (private credit and private equity), our total exposure to market-sensitive assets is around 25%. The remaining 75% is invested in highly reliable or comparatively stable assets, such as government bonds, corporate bonds, mortgages, infrastructure equity, and real estate.

We understand that the recent tariff measures pose real challenges for workers and businesses—whether short-term or more prolonged. While no investment portfolio is completely immune to these impacts, our Plan entered this period with a strong cushion and is well-positioned to come through with that strength largely intact.

Please rest assured that the Trustees, along with the Administrator, advisors and actuaries, are closely monitoring the situation and its effects on the Plan's portfolio. We remain committed to managing the Pension Plan responsibly, with your retirement security as our guiding principle.

The Trustees have consistently taken a prudent, long-term approach to protecting your benefits. That legacy of conservative governance has enabled us to weather even the worst economic storms. While we remain vigilant in facing this new challenge, we are confident that, once again, we will *Rise Above*.

In Solidarity,

Bryan Railton

Chair, Operating Engineers' Pension Plan

Lee Riggs

Administrator, Pension & Benefits Plans



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