

# Alaska Ironworkers Trust Funds

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Administered by  
Labor Trust Services, Inc.

OCTOBER 26, 2017

**TO: ALL PARTICIPANTS, BENEFICIARIES, LOCAL UNIONS, CONTRIBUTING EMPLOYERS, PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION AND SECRETARY OF LABOR**

EBSA/PUBLIC DISCLOSURE  
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## Notice of Critical and Declining Status For Alaska Ironworkers Pension Plan

The purpose of this notice is to inform you that on September 28, 2017 the plan actuary certified to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, and also to the plan sponsor, the Board of Trustees, that the Alaska Ironworkers Pension Plan (the "Plan") is in critical and declining status for the plan year beginning July 1, 2017. Federal law requires that you receive this notice.

A similar notice was provided at this time last year, with notification of the Plan's critical status in 2016. The Trustees have decided to pursue benefit suspensions under the Multiemployer Pension Relief Act of 2014 in an attempt to save the Plan. As of the date of this notice, the application to suspend benefits that was submitted March 30, 2017 has been withdrawn and the suspensions you were notified about in April will not take effect. The trust plans to resubmit an application, with smaller suspensions, on an expedited timeline in the near future. Please see the attached cover letter for more information on the original submission and resubmission.

### Critical and Declining Status

The Plan is considered to be in critical and declining status because it has funding or liquidity problems, or both. More specifically, the actuary has determined that the funded percentage of the Plan is 65% or less, and over the next four plan years, the Plan is projected to have an accumulated funding deficiency. There is a projected funding deficiency for the current plan year. This means that contributions coming into the Plan are not expected to be sufficient to meet minimum contribution requirements as provided by the federal government.

The above puts the Plan in critical status. The Plan is in critical and declining status because it meets the criteria for critical status and is projected to be insolvent within 15 years. The Plan is projected to become insolvent during the plan year ending June 30, 2032.

The Trustees of the Plan remain committed to providing the best and most secure benefits possible under the conditions. The Fund's investment portfolio remains well diversified and is positioned to maximize the time until insolvency.

### Rehabilitation Plan and the Reduction of Benefits

Federal law requires pension plans in critical status to adopt a Rehabilitation Plan aimed at restoring the financial health of the Plan. The law permits pension plans to reduce, or even eliminate, benefits called "adjustable benefits" as part of a Rehabilitation Plan.

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On September 10, 2010, you were notified that the Plan reduced or eliminated adjustable benefits. The reduction of adjustable benefits does not reduce the level of a participant's basic benefit payable at normal retirement. In addition, the reductions only applied to participants and beneficiaries whose benefit commencement date is on or after November 1, 2010.

Benefits already in pay status as of October 31, 2010 were not affected. Also, the Plan is not permitted to pay lump sum benefits (or any other payment in excess of the monthly amount paid under a single life annuity) while it is in critical status.

### **Adjustable Benefits**

All adjustable benefits have been eliminated from the Plan.

### **Additional Rehabilitation Plan Contributions**

The Bargaining Parties have incorporated the Rehabilitation Plan into the collective bargaining agreement and employers are making additional contributions as defined by the Rehabilitation Plan. The Rehabilitation Plan was amended in 2014 with a modification to the additional contribution requirement.

### **Where to Get More Information**

For more information about this Notice, you may contact the Plan's Administrative Office:

Address: 375 W. 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 200  
P.O. Box 93870  
Anchorage, AK 99509-3870

Telephone: 1-800-325-6532

You have a right to receive a copy of the Rehabilitation Plan from the Plan.