

Employees' Retirement System 2026 Proposed Executive Budget

Mission: Administer the plan as provided under the city charter, as a fiduciary pursuant to state and federal requirements as an IRS-qualified retirement plan and trust, maintain member and beneficiary records, pay the benefits to which members and beneficiaries are entitled, communicate with and council members and beneficiaries, and invest and manage the funds of the trust in a prudent and vigilant manner.



City
of
Milwaukee



2026 Budget Summary



Expenditures	2025 Adopted Budget	2026 Proposed Budget	Amount Change	Percent Change
Employer's Pension Contribution	177,996,815	193,885,382	15,888,567	8.9%
Employer's Pension Contribution - WRS	5,195,594	10,300,000	5,104,406	98.2%
Non-City Employers Normal Cost Increase	6,840,826	5,731,724	-1,109,102	-16.2%
Administration	24,526,723	24,635,860	109,137	0.4%
Social Security Tax	23,000,000	26,000,000	3,000,000	13.0%
Deferred Compensation Plan	543,377	543,377	0	0.0%
Firemen's Pension Fund	\$18,000	\$15,000	-3,000	-17%
TOTAL	\$238,121,335	\$261,111,343	22,990,008	9.7%

2026 Budget Summary



Revenues	2025 Adopted Budget	2026 Proposed Budget	Amount Change	Percent Change
Local Sales Tax	\$141,263,053	\$156,537,456	\$15,274,403	11%
Property Tax Levy	69,189,392	76,771,645	7,582,253	11%
Charges for Service ERS	24,526,723	24,635,860	109,137	0%
Fringe Benefits Pensions	2,420,790	2,423,005	2,215	0%
Charges for Service Deferred Compensation	543,377	543,377	0	0%
Misc. Employees' Retirement System	178,000	200,000	22,000	12%
TOTAL	\$238,121,335	\$261,111,343	22,990,008	9.7%

On-going Challenges

1. Increasing annual pension obligations
2. Increasing WRS costs
3. Increased annual volatility due to Act 12

Estimated Employer Contributions – City of Milwaukee				
2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
\$177,996,815	\$193,885,382	\$197,354,798	\$216,325,216	\$211,921,313