

February 2012

### **April Pension Check Will Reflect COLA Increase**

If you began receiving pension benefits in December 2011 or earlier, you'll find that the amount of your April 2012 pension check will go up. The increase is a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) that takes place every year if there is an increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). This benefit, not found in most pension plans, helps protect your retirement income from inflation. Your pension plan provides an automatic COLA equal to 75 percent of the change in the CPI, with a maximum of 3 percent in any given year.

**This year's COLA increase is 2.20 percent.** So, if your monthly pension has been \$900, it will increase to \$919.80 in April.

### **Increases Since 1987 Total 68.05%**

Since going into effect in April 1987, the COLA has provided a cumulative increase in pension benefits of 68.05 percent. If you started receiving a pension in 1986, you have received the full benefit of this cumulative increase.