



A PROGRAM BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

# JOSH MANDEL

Treasurer of Ohio

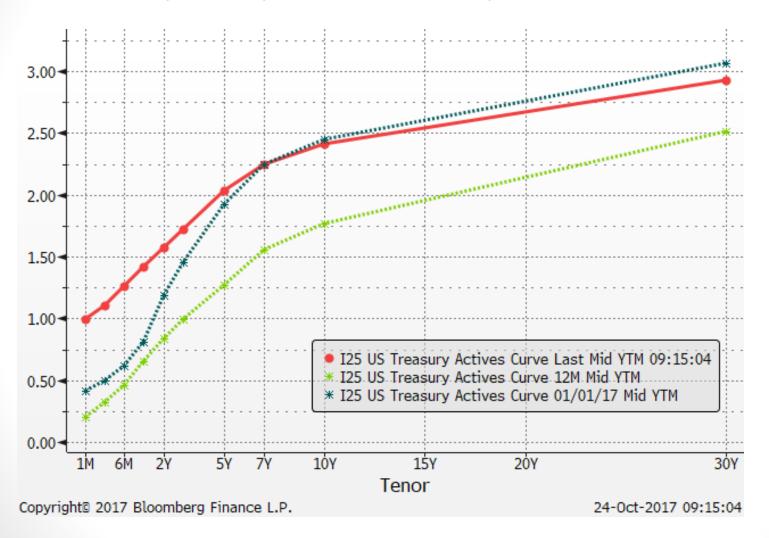
# General Session & Market Update

## Presenters

- JD Pisula, Director of Investments
- Office of Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel
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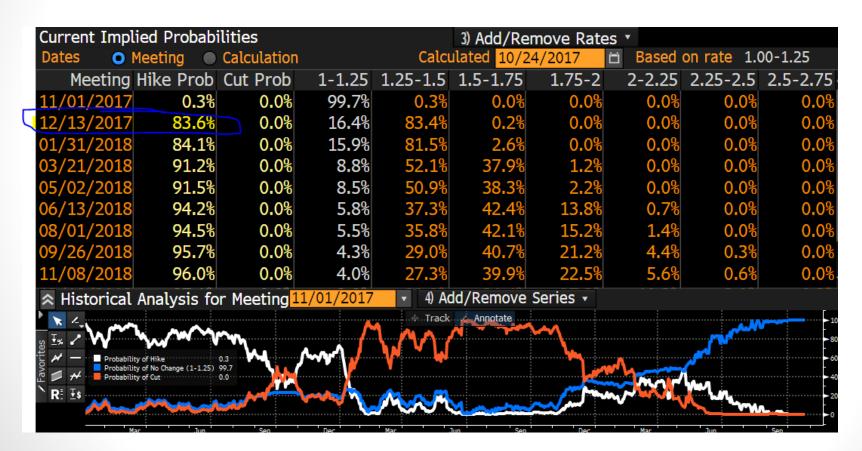
## Interest Rate Environment

Over the last year, the yield curve has shift upward. YTD has flattened.



## December Rate Hike?

- The Fed Funds implied probability of a rate increase in December >80%
- Fed vs. market expectations on rates are not aligned for 2018 & 2019



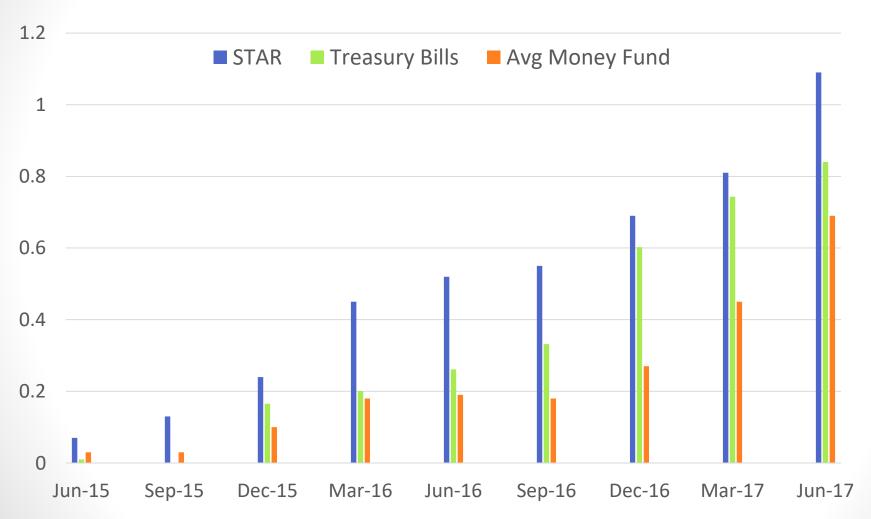
Source: Bloomberg 10/24/17

## STAR Ohio outlook

- Expect yields in STAR Ohio to continue to increase
  - Economists predicting multiple rate hikes in 2018
  - President Trump to pick next Fed chair soon
    - Will next Fed chair be a hawk or dove? This will influence pace of rate hikes
- STAR Plus rates should keep pace with government funds

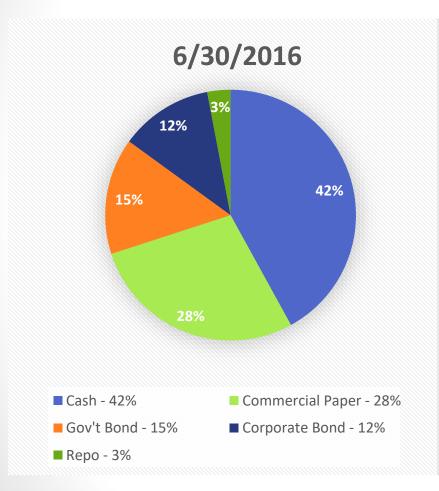
# **Yield Comparison**

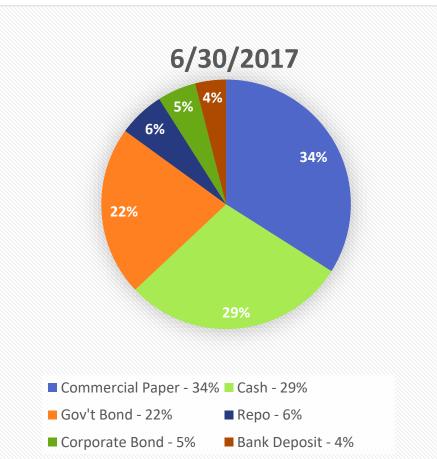
STAR Ohio vs. Treasury vs. Avg Money Fund



# Over \$9 billion in Deposits

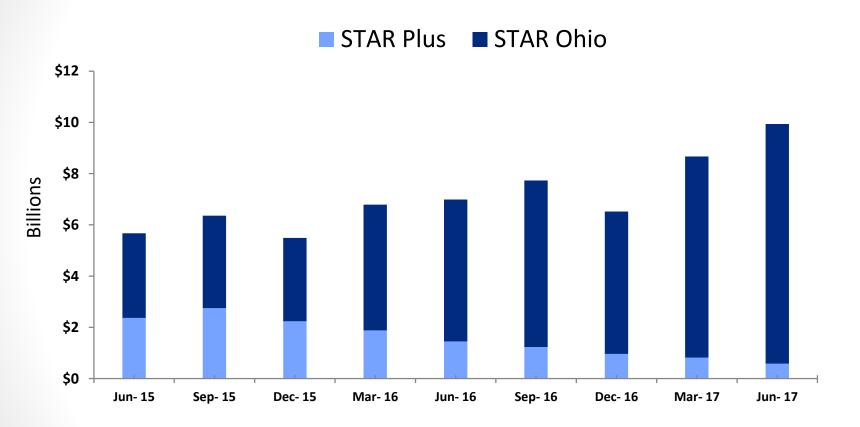
## Composition





# **Program Assets**

#### Star Ohio vs Star Plus



## Federal Reserve Outlook

## **Near Term Policy Outlook**

- Fed expected to raise rates in 18 months
- One more rate hike likely in 2017

## **Longer Term Policy Outlook**

- Janet Yellen and Board of Governors service TBD
- Further rate increases with expanding economy
- Balance sheet unwind

# **Driving Forces Behind Fed Policy**

#### U.S. economy is betting on the consumer

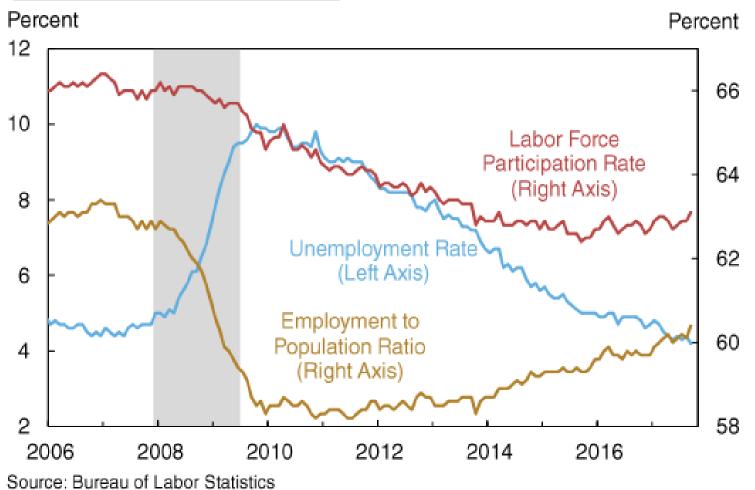
- The labor market is nearing full employment (unemployment ~ 4.00%)
- Personal earnings and consumption growth holding up
- GDP growing at a moderate pace (2.00% target being achieved)

#### **Geopolitical Concerns**

- Protectionism
- Trade War
- Real War

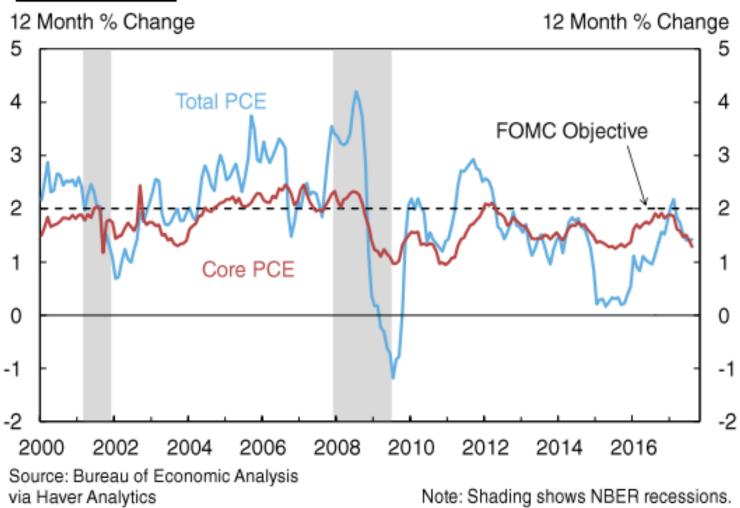
## **Labor Market Indicators**

via Haver Analytics

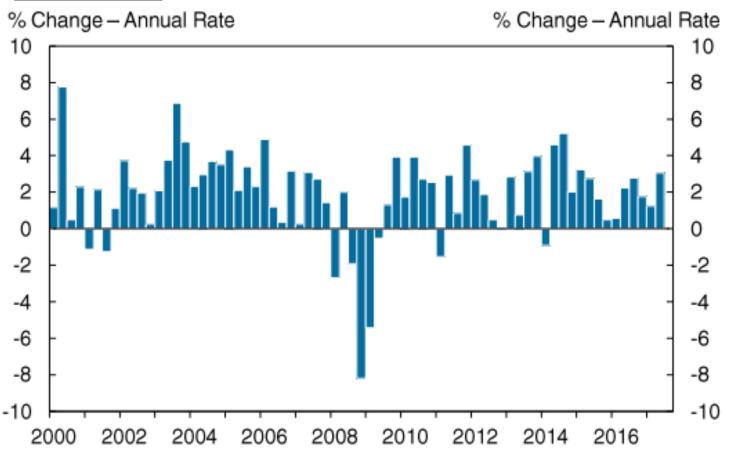


Note: Shading shows NBER recessions.

## **PCE Deflator**

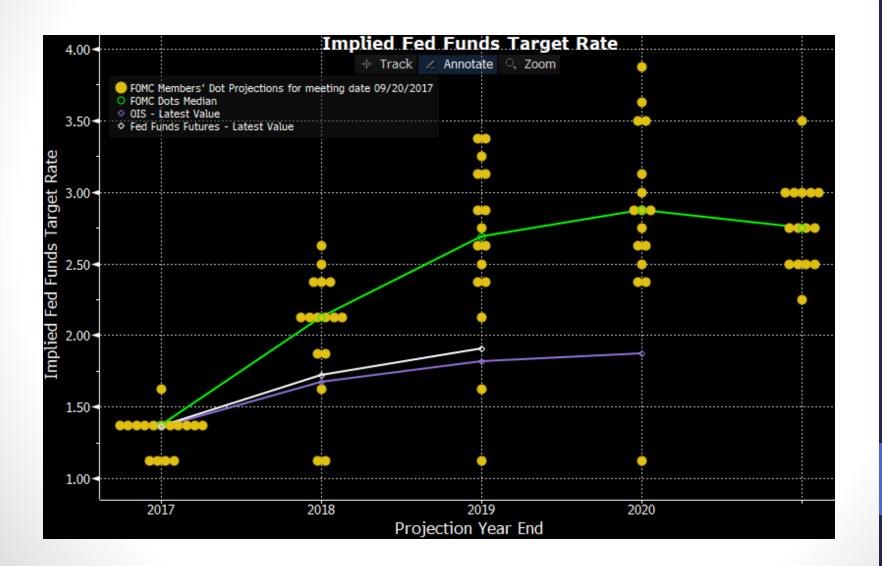


## **GDP Growth**



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis via Haver Analytics

## Pace of rate hikes



# "Soft" vs. "Hard" data

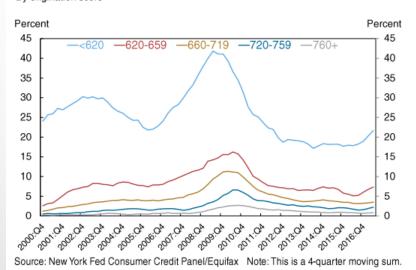
Spread between "soft" consumer-sentiment and "hard" economic data



## Other factors

- Student loan delinquencies continue to rise
- Subprime auto loans growth
- Credit card balance delinquencies
- "Two economies"?

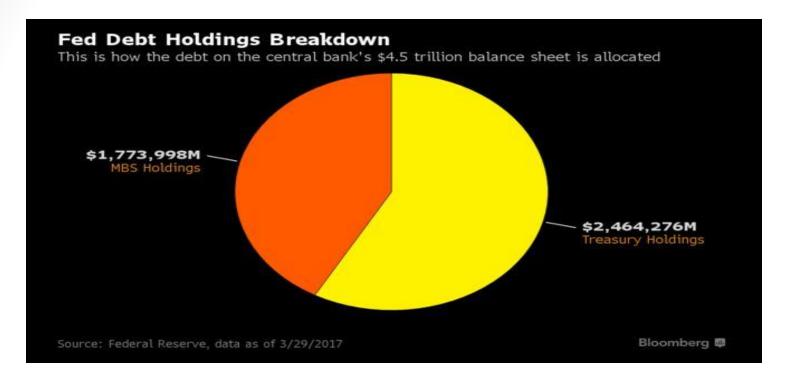
## <u>Credit Card Balances: Flow into Serious Delinquency</u> By origination score



#### Uptick in delinquency transitions for cards

- The flow into 90+ day delinquency for credit cards rates have increased for three consecutive quarters after several years of stability.
- The increase is primarily notable in borrowers with credit scores under 660; prime borrowers have been mostly unaffected.
- This increase is unusual given the low unemployment rate and generally strong economy. The recent loosening in underwriting may account for some of the difference as the composition of borrowers has somewhat shifted.

# Fed Balance Sheet Unwinding



	Months 1-3	Months 4-6	Months 7-9	Months 10-12	Terminal Cap
U.S. Treasuries	6	12	18	24	30
Agency Debt and MBS	4	8	12	16	20

Source: Federal Open Market Committee.

## Fed Chair Candidates

Jerome Powell

**Current Fed Governor** 

**Janet Yellen** 

**Current Fed** 

Advisor Chairwoman Economics Probability of 6% 55% 2% 22% 14% Appointment Impact on Moderately **Positive** Best **Positive** Worst **Equities** Negative Impact on Rates Dovish Dovish Dovish Hawkish Hawkish Current Fed Chair / Current Fed Gov / Former Fed Career in Banking Strengths **Taylor Rule** Predictable Predictable Governor Work Focused on Lack of Monetary Too Hawkish / No **Pro Regulation Taylor Rule** Weaknesses **Policy Experience** "Fed Put" Regulation

**Gary Cohn** 

**Chief Economic** 

**Kevin Warsh** 

Former Fed Governor

Source: PredictIt via Bloomberg

**John Taylor** 

Stanford Professor of

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# **Investing in Rising Rate Environment**

#### Be Opportunistic

- Interest rate volatility will create moments of opportunity
- Keep cash on hand, but be willing to put it to work

#### **Be Disciplined**

- Following a laddered or barbell strategy will keep portfolio balanced
- Investing regularly will be smartest in the long run

#### Be Flexible

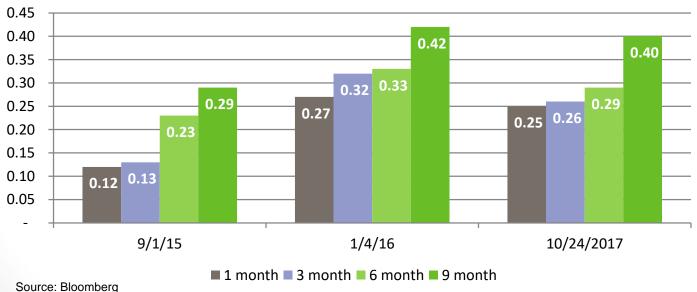
- Keep your paradigm adaptable to a changing environment
- New products and programs will come into favor while others will fade

# Commercial Paper

#### Spreads Have Widened

- Money market reform resulted in changes to prime funds
- As a result, over \$900B in assets moved to government funds
- Commercial paper is a large component of prime funds
- Decreased demand resulted in increased commercial paper yields

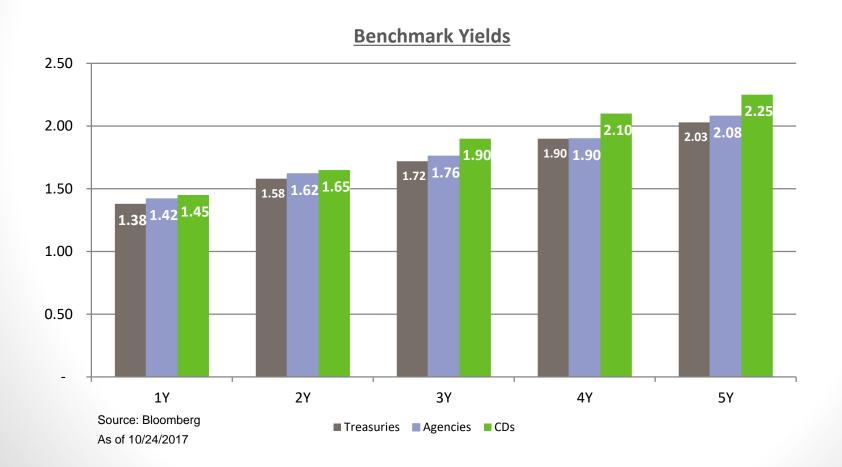
#### Commercial Paper (A1/P1) vs. Agency Discount Notes



# **Certificates of Deposit**

### CD Yields are Highest Amongst Other Bullet Options

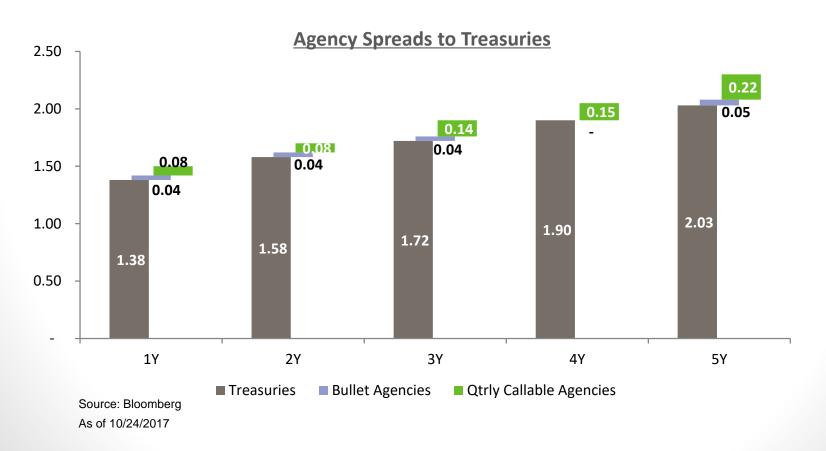
- As agency spreads have narrowed, CD spreads have maintained
- Negotiable CD rates are 15-30 bps higher than 2–5 year agency bullets



# Callable Agency Bonds

#### **Provides Yield Enhancement Over Bullets**

- Callables can achieve incremental yield compared to noncallable agencies
- Required liquidity is an important factor when deciding to add callable agency bonds to a portfolio.



## That's all folks!

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