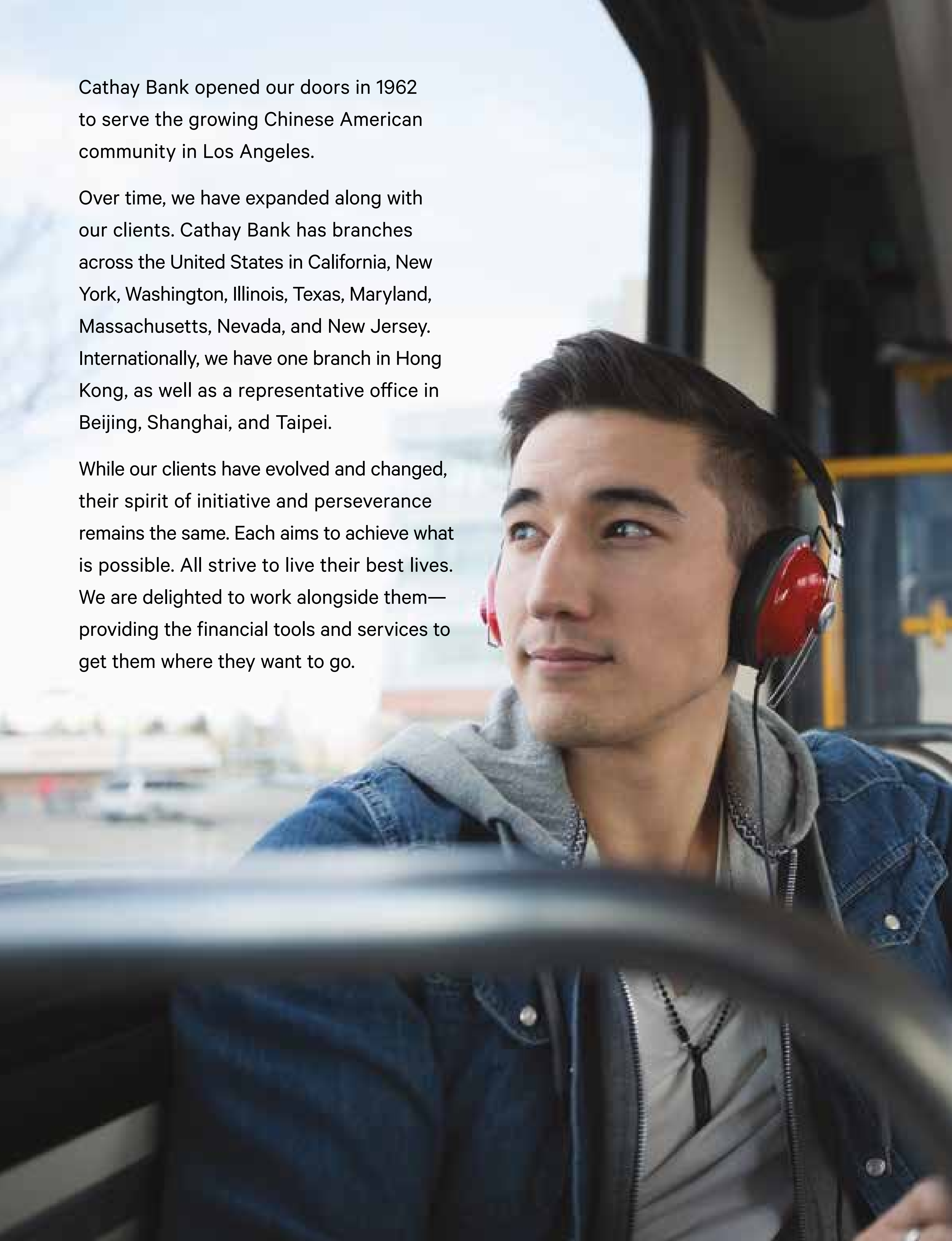
Cathay General Bancorp

Banking Reimagined

2021 Annual Report



Cathay Bank opened our doors in 1962 to serve the growing Chinese American community in Los Angeles.

Over time, we have expanded along with our clients. Cathay Bank has branches across the United States in California, New York, Washington, Illinois, Texas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, and New Jersey. Internationally, we have one branch in Hong Kong, as well as a representative office in Beijing, Shanghai, and Taipei.

While our clients have evolved and changed, their spirit of initiative and perseverance remains the same. Each aims to achieve what is possible. All strive to live their best lives. We are delighted to work alongside them—providing the financial tools and services to get them where they want to go.

Banking **Reimagined**

The world is a dynamic place. Change is constant. To stay ahead, we challenge conventional wisdom and tap into the power of imagination, investing in new ways to positively affect our communities and our clients, and to navigate the competitive landscape in which we operate.

We seek to make financial products more engaging, create new touchpoints and adapt to the rapidly evolving needs of our clients. We emphasize relationships over the sale of commoditized products. We seek to create critical mass in the most advantageous markets and make greater use of digital platforms, as we continue to reimagine banking and build the Cathay Bank of tomorrow.

Dear **Fellow Stockholders,**

We are pleased to report a record net income of $298.3 million and earnings of $3.80 per diluted share for the year ended December 31, 2021. Cathay General Bancorp has surpassed $20 billion in assets this year, marking a pivotal milestone in our long history.

Gross loans increased by $698.1 million, or 4.5% for the year, to $16.3 billion as of December 31, 2021. This was primarily due to an increase of $588.2 million, or 7.8%, in commercial mortgage loans and an increase of $296.0 million, or 11.4%, in commercial loans that excludes Paycheck Protection Program loans. Total deposits grew by $1.9 billion, or 12.1%, to $18.1 billion as of December 31, 2021. Total assets increased by $1.8 billion to $20.9 billion as of the year ended 2021.

As of December 31, 2021, our Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio of 12.8%, total risk-based capital of 14.41%, and Tier 1 leverage capital ratio of 10.40% calculated under the Basel III capital rules all continue to place the Company in the "well capitalized" category for regulatory purposes.

In the fourth quarter of 2021, we increased our dividend to $0.34 per share, or $1.36 per share annually, our sixth increase in five years. In August 2021, we completed a $75 million share repurchase and in September adopted a new $125 million share repurchase program. The Company purchased 3,986,057 shares at an average cost of $41.92 per share throughout the course of 2021.

"We achieved these results in a complex and challenging environment, a year of crosscurrents and contrast."

We achieved these results in a complex and challenging environment, a year of crosscurrents and contrast. Vaccines brought hope and progress to the fight against the COVID pandemic, but fear of disruption lingered in the wake of new variants. The American economy registered employment gains and a sharp growth in GDP, but also experienced the worst inflation in nearly 40 years.

Despite the crosscurrents, we attained a healthy loan growth and exercised prudence in cost of funds management. Net charge-offs were $17.6 million or just 0.11% of loans outstanding. Deposits grew 12.1%, from $16.1 billion to $18.1 billion.

Much credit goes to our team members, who, in the face of many challenges, persevered in the work of meeting client needs, whether remotely or through in-person access with safety protocols. Their dedication is our greatest asset.

Cathay General Bancorp made news in 2021 with the purchase of HSBC's West Coast mass retail market consumer banking business and retail business banking business. As a result of the acquisition completion on February 7, 2022, Cathay Bank added 10 more branches to its California network, with seven in Northern

California and three in the Los Angeles area. We expect that the new branches will contribute to our future growth, while adding $575 million in low-cost deposits and $644 million in residential mortgages.

We continued to make progress in enhancing client experience by expanding digital banking service options, such as digital account opening and a range of digital transaction and payment options for individual and business clients.

We are well aware that competition in the financial services space continues to intensify. In response, we continue to emphasize the importance of achieving customer experience excellence, providing multi-channel banking convenience, and applying technology to improve operational efficiency. At the same time, we are mindful of operating in an uncertain and volatile economic environment; we will apply the many lessons that we have learned in our rich banking history to take advantage of opportunities while safeguarding our assets.

As we celebrate our 60th anniversary and on behalf of the board and management, we wish to thank you, our shareholders, for your continuing support and encouragement.

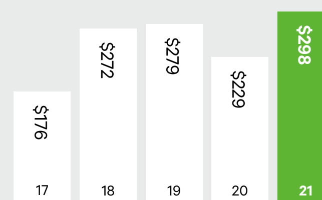
Sincerely,

Dunson K. Cheng
Executive Chairman of the Board

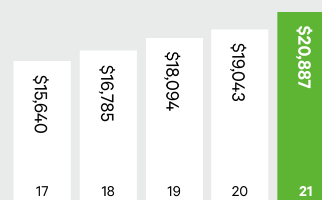
Chang M. Liu
President and Chief Executive Officer

Financial **Highlights**

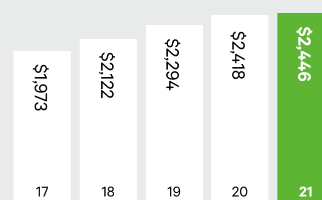
(dollars in thousands, except per share data)	2021	2020	Increase/(Decrease) Amount	Percentage
For the Year				
Net income	**$ 298,304**	$ 228,860	**$ 69,444**	**30.3 %**
Net income per common share	**3.80**	2.87	**0.93**	**32.4 %**
Cash dividends paid per common share	**1.27**	1.24	**0.03**	**2.4 %**
At Year-End				
Investment securities	**$ 1,127,309**	$ 1,036,550	**$ 90,759**	**8.8 %**
Loans, net	**16,202,001**	15,475,364	**726,637**	**4.7 %**
Assets	**20,886,723**	19,043,134	**1,843,589**	**9.7 %**
Deposits	**18,058,843**	16,109,401	**1,949,442**	**12.1 %**
Stockholders' equity	**2,446,250**	2,418,144	**28,106**	**1.2 %**
Book value per common share	**32.29**	30.41	**1.88**	**6.2 %**
Profitability Ratios				
Return on average assets	**1.52 %**	1.22 %		
Return on average stockholders' equity	**12.11 %**	9.70 %		
Capital Ratios				
Tier 1 capital ratio	**12.80 %**	13.53 %		
Total capital ratio	**14.41 %**	15.47 %		
Leverage ratio	**10.40 %**	10.94 %		



Net Income (in millions)



Assets (in millions)



Stockholders' Equity (in millions)

Environment and **Sustainability**

▼ Cathay Bank takes sustainability seriously, with a special focus on ways to promote energy efficiency and reduce our carbon footprint.

We have launched sustainability initiatives throughout our business operations and continue to seek out ways to reduce our carbon footprint.

Encouraging Green Transportation With these objectives in mind, we encourage employee rideshare and the use of public transportation or zero-emission vehicles through incentive programs. We practice a hybrid work-from-home model and advocate the use of teleconference or video conference to reduce the need for business travel.

Using Natural Resources Wisely We achieve lower energy consumption through the use of LED lighting around our offices and branches. We make a conscientious effort to put in electric vehicle charging stations at our facilities to support the use of zero-emission vehicles. We installed a solar power system at our corporate center in suburban Los Angeles that generates an average of 500,000 kilowatts of electricity annually and allows us to substantially reduce the amount of electricity we draw from the local utility. We installed water-saving restroom fixtures that allow us to save an estimated 600,000 gallons of water annually.

We will continue to seek to create value for stakeholders that can be sustained into the future.

"We will continue to seek to create value for stakeholders that can be sustained into the future."

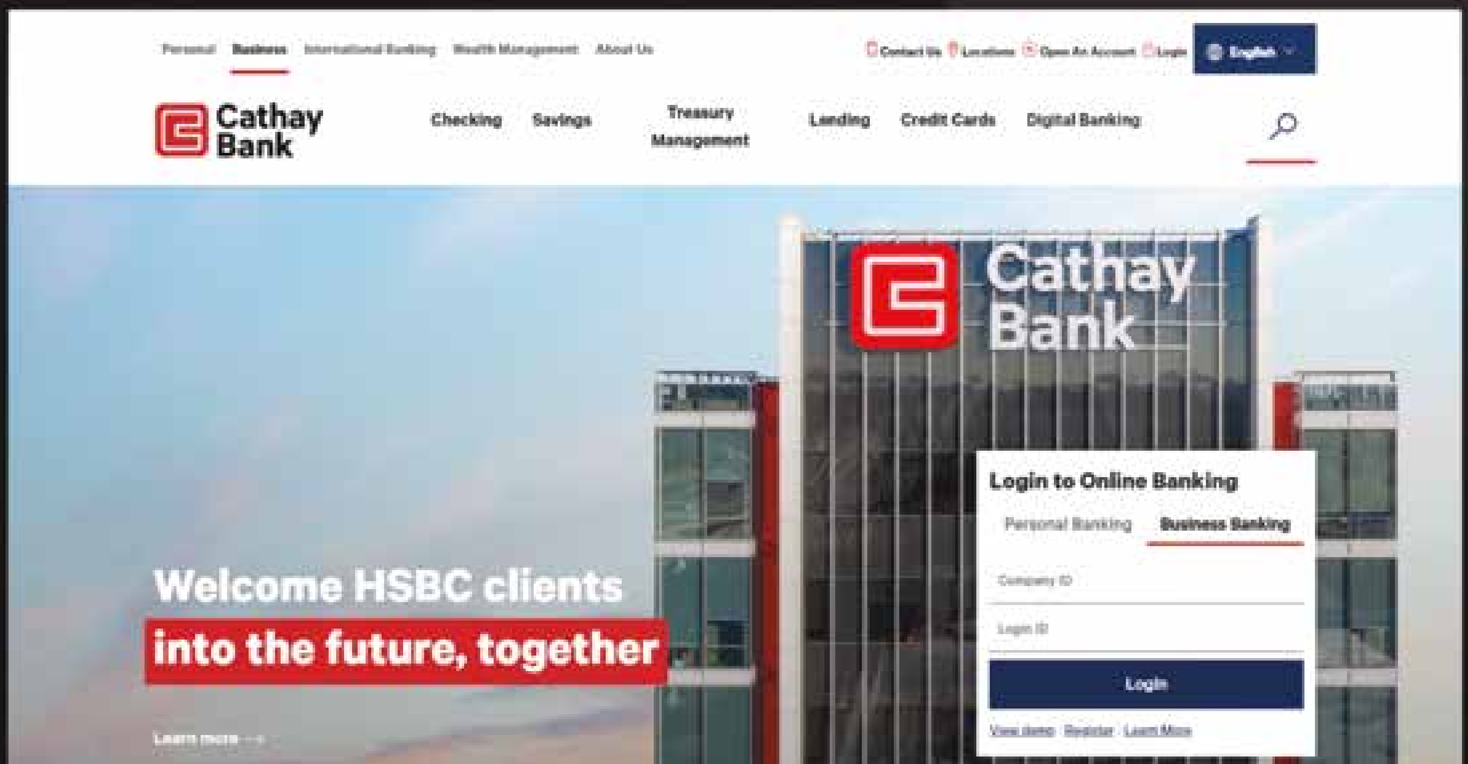
Acquisition and **Expansion**

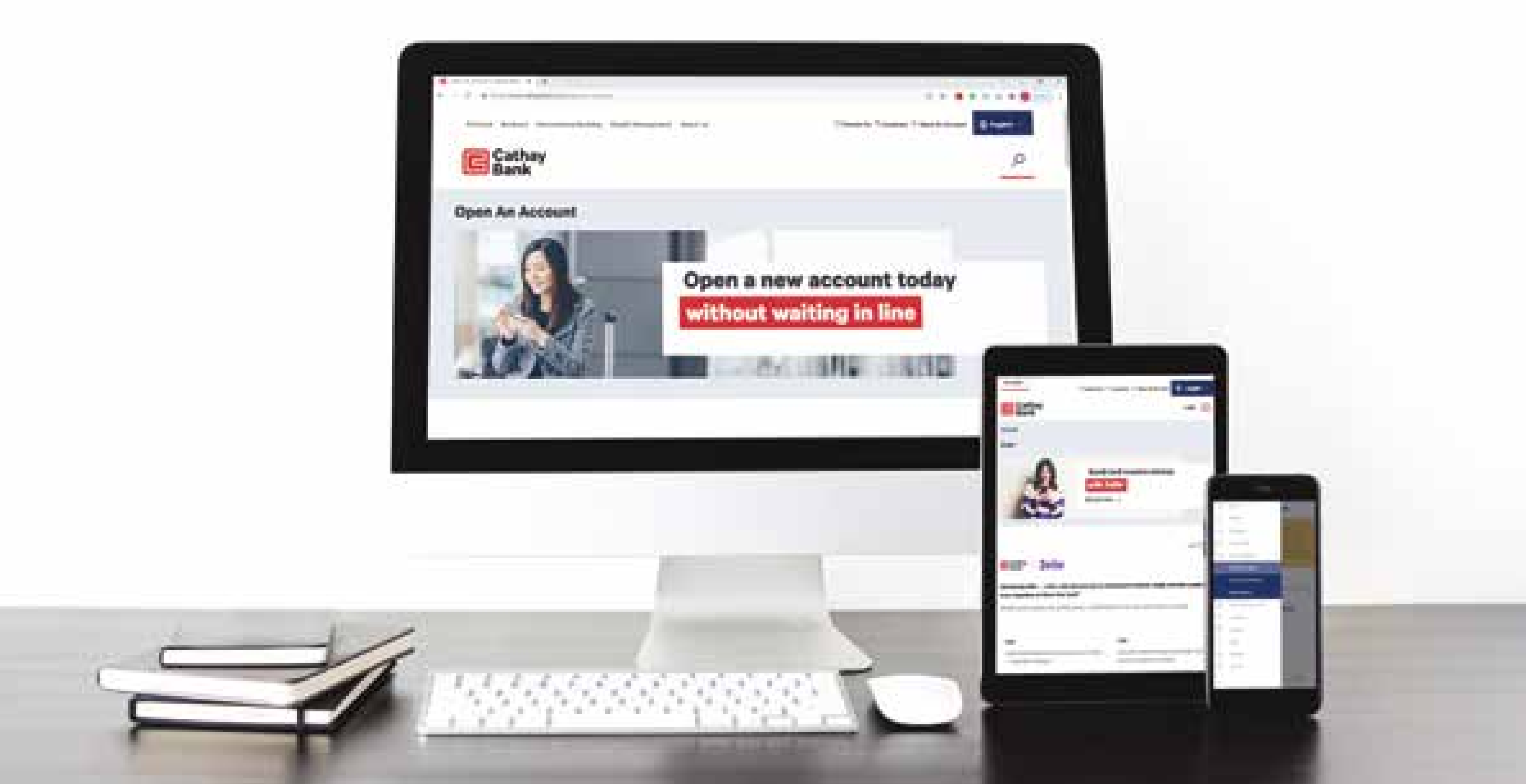
Our acquisition of 10 West Coast branches and additional loans and deposits from HSBC, announced in May 2021 and completed in February 2022, has improved our market position in Southern California and the Bay Area and has strengthened our ability to manage our cost of funds going forward.

Disciplined Approach We took a disciplined approach to the acquisition, handpicking branches we knew would complement our network. As a result, we acquired three new branches in Southern California and seven in Northern California, where tech and biotech businesses are spurring strong growth. At closing, the acquired deposits totaled $575 million, while the residential mortgage portfolio totaled $644 million.

> "We took a disciplined approach to the acquisition, handpicking branches we knew would complement our network."

▼ Cathay Bank welcomes new clients and the opportunity to provide our distinctive Cathay brand of service and execution.





▲ Choice and convenience are magnified by a digital banking platform that allows clients to use different devices to do banking when they want and where they want.

New Touchpoints, **More Engagement**

Cathay Bank continues to expand its digital platform with newly launched and enhanced tools, providing convenience and value-adding services to clients.

Online Banking Cathay's Online Consumer Banking platform offers a unified client experience in four languages—English, Traditional Chinese, Simplified Chinese, and Spanish—that can be accessed across different mobile devices such as smart phones and tablets, in addition to desktop or laptop computers. Clients can manage their accounts at their fingertips, whether the task is viewing balances and transactions, using bill pay, depositing checks with mobile deposit by a click of a phone camera, requesting new checks, placing a stop payment, or even sending domestic wires—a new feature we added in 2021.

Consumer clients may also use Zelle®, a fast, safe and easy way to send and receive money using only an email address or a U.S. mobile phone number without having to disclose account numbers.[1]

An added feature on the online consumer banking platform includes a financial management component. This allows clients to integrate information from multiple accounts, track spending and transactions and create budgets, to help better manage their finances.

Digital Account Opening Personal accounts at Cathay may now be opened digitally, without the need to visit a branch or wait in line. This applies to a wide range of personal accounts, including checking, interest checking, money market accounts, savings and CD accounts.

FX Online Portal Designed for business and consumer clients with foreign exchange needs, Cathay's FX Online allows clients to monitor and track their foreign currency accounts in a more convenient and secure way.

More Options, New Touchpoints We continue to expand the range of options available, creating more choices and additional ways of engagement. We are committed to making banking more convenient and to the creation of new features and touchpoints.

"We continue to expand the range of options available, creating more choices and additional ways of engagement."

1. Zelle® and the Zelle® related marks are wholly owned by Early Warning Services, LLC and are used herein under license.

Legacy and **Giving Back to Our Community**

Since our founding, we have been an integral part of the communities where we operate. Key elements of giving back in 2021 included employee volunteer efforts of 160 team members and 1,500 hours and through $2.4 million in donations to 228 grantees.

Driving Financial Literacy Our $100,000 grant to Operation Hope provided credit and money management, budgeting, debt reduction workshops, and coaching to help low- and moderate-income (LMI) individuals be financially self-sufficient.

Junior Achievement (JA) of Southern California received a $90,000 grant to deliver online, virtual JA programs that provide financial education to K-12 students from LMI families in Los Angeles and Orange counties.

We collaborated with Asian Pacific Community Fund to provide the Cathay Bank Foundation scholarship (20 per year) to low-income, first year college students attending four-year colleges or universities starting in the fall of 2021.

Stepping Up in the Face of the Pandemic To address the hardship created by the pandemic, Chinatown Service Center in Los Angeles received $120,000 to provide post-pandemic technical assistance to small businesses and financial education and payment assistance to LMI individuals; maintain its hot meals program; expand its COVID-19 testing capability, and provide COVID-19 vaccines in Chinatown and surrounding communities.

Koreatown Youth and Community Center and Little Tokyo Service Center Community Development Corporation each received grants to extend assistance during the pandemic and for financial education among their families, adults, and youth.

> **"Our goal is to foster a more inclusive culture through investment in diversity education, planting seeds to change perceptions toward Asians for future generations."**

▲ Cathay Bank believes in the equality of all people, treating them with fairness, empathy and acceptance. By giving back to our community, and with our substantial philanthropy, we hope to make a difference.

We continued to support Foothill Family with funds to provide community-based mental health and early childhood development services to LMI children and families, and City of Hope to develop better treatments, screening methods, prevention, strategies, and survivorship care related to breast and gynecological cancers.

Helping Businesses Survive and Thrive California Reinvestment Coalition (CRC) received a $100,000 grant to provide grants and capacity building resources for emerging BIPOC-led (black, indigenous, and people of color) nonprofit community-based organizations to finance impacted LMI small businesses, microenterprises, affordable housing, and other community-led investments, and to provide ongoing support to CRC's mission to provide financial capability to LMI families.

Diversity and Inclusion We believe in the equality of all people, treating them with fairness, empathy and acceptance. Cathay Bank pledged $1 million to the Cathay Bank Foundation to curb racial injustice and support organizations that work to promote diverse communities. Our goal is to foster a more inclusive culture through investment in diversity education, planting seeds to change perceptions toward Asians for future generations. The funds support nonprofit organizations with a history of effective public advocacy, including Stop AAPI Hate, the AAPI Equity Alliance, Chinese for Affirmative Action, the Asian American Education Project, Asian Americans Advancing Justice, and 10 other community organizations and advocacy groups, to work toward the initiative.

Corporate **Information**

Board of Directors

Dunson K. Cheng
Executive Chairman of the Board of Cathay General Bancorp and Cathay Bank

Peter Wu
Vice Chairman of the Board of Cathay General Bancorp and Cathay Bank

Anthony M. Tang
Vice Chairman of the Board of Cathay General Bancorp and Cathay Bank

Nelson Chung
Lead Independent Director of Cathay General Bancorp and President of Pacific Communities Builder, Inc.

Chang M. Liu
President and Chief Executive Officer of Cathay General Bancorp and Cathay Bank

Kelly L. Chan
VP of Finance, Phoenix Bakery Inc., and Certified Public Accountant

Felix S. Fernandez
Retired Banker

Maan-Huei Hung
General Counsel of AHMC Healthcare Inc.

Jane Jelenko
Retired Financial Services Partner of KPMG LLP

Joseph C.H. Poon
President of Edward Properties, LLC

Richard Sun
President of SSS Development, Inc.

Shally Wang*
Retired, Former General Manager of IBM Greater China Group

Director Emeritus

Michael M.Y. Chang

Patrick S. D. Lee

Ting Y. Liu

***Shally Wang** is the newest member of the Board of Directors of Cathay General Bancorp and Cathay Bank. Ms. Wang served in various capacities at IBM Greater China Group for 34 years, leading key business units under global business services, information technology services, financial services, industry solutions and key industry clients. With a systems engineering background, she was responsible for building organization competency across IBM Greater China Group in project management, application development methodology, enterprise systems architecture and governance, and banking industry solutions and business operations. Ms. Wang retired in 2017 as the General Manager of IBM Greater China Group. She currently serves as a Group Senior Advisor for Digital China Information Service Company, a leading information technology company in China that focuses on digital transformation in the banking sector. Ms. Wang has been a frequent keynote speaker on issues involving the banking and technology sectors at the annual China Banking Show.

Cathay General Bancorp

Dunson K. Cheng
Executive Chairman of the Board

Peter Wu
Vice Chairman of the Board

Anthony M. Tang
Vice Chairman of the Board

Chang M. Liu
President and Chief Executive Officer

Heng W. Chen
Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Treasurer

May K. Chan
Senior Vice President, General Counsel, and Secretary

Cathay Bank Executive Officers

Dunson K. Cheng
Executive Chairman of the Board

Chang M. Liu
President and Chief Executive Officer

Heng W. Chen
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Kim R. Bingham
Executive Vice President and Chief Risk Officer

Mark H. Lee
Executive Vice President and Chief Credit Officer

Other Executive Vice Presidents

Jim Haney
Executive Vice President and Chief Lending Officer

Thomas Lo
Executive Vice President, Director of Commercial and International Banking

Kirk Malmrose
Executive Vice President, Director of Corporate Commercial Real Estate and Construction Lending

Allen Peng
Executive Vice President and Chief Retail Administrator

Veronica Tsang
Executive Vice President and Chief Retail Administrator

Marisa Marquisepe
Executive Vice President and Director of Financial Crimes Risk Management

Robert Romero
Executive Vice President and Chief Information Officer

Cathay General
Bancorp
Form 10-K
2021 Annual Report

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UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 10-K

☒ **ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**
For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021

☐ **TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

Commission file number 001-31830

Cathay General Bancorp

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware	**95-4274680**
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)	*(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)*
777 North Broadway, **Los Angeles, California**	**90012**
(Address of principal executive offices)	*(Zip Code)*

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (213) 625-4700

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, $0.01 par value	CATY	NASDAQ Global Select Market

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Act. Yes ☐ No ☒

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit such files). Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company or an emerging growth company. See definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company" and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer ☒	Accelerated filer ☐
Non-accelerated filer ☐	Smaller reporting company☐
Emerging growth company☐	

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has filed a report on and attestation to its management's assessment of the effectiveness of its internal control over financial reporting under Section 404(b) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act (15 U.S.C. 7262(b)) by the registered public accounting firm that prepared or issued its audit report. ☒

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). Yes ☐ No ☒

The aggregate market value of the voting stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant, computed by reference to the price at which the common equity was last sold as of the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter (June 30, 2021) was $2,932,760,332. This value is estimated solely for the purposes of this cover page. The market value of shares held by registrant's directors, executive officers, and Employee Stock Ownership Plan have been excluded because they may be considered to be affiliates of the registrant.

As of February 15, 2022, the registrant had outstanding 75,286,834 shares of its common stock.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of registrant's definitive proxy statement relating to registrant's 2022 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which will be filed within 120 days of the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021, are incorporated by reference in this Form 10-K in response to Part III, Items 10 through 14 of this Form 10-K.

Auditor Name: KPMG LLP   Auditor Location: Los Angeles, California   Auditor Firm ID: 185

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CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP

2021 ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART I		2
Item 1.	Business	2
Executive Officers of the Registrant		10
Item 1A.	Risk Factors	28
Item 1B.	Unresolved Staff Comments	53
Item 2.	Properties	53
Item 3.	Legal Proceedings	53
Item 4.	Mine Safety Disclosures	53
PART II		54
Item 5.	Market for Registrant’s Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities	54
Item 6.	[Reserved]	56
Item 7.	Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	56
Item 7A.	Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk.	88
Item 8.	Financial Statements and Supplementary Data	93
Item 9.	Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure	93
Item 9A.	Controls and Procedures	93
Item 9B.	Other Information	96
PART III		96
Item 10.	Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance	96
Item 11.	Executive Compensation	96
Item 12.	Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters	96
Item 13.	Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence	97
Item 14.	Principal Accounting Fees and Services	97
PART IV		97
Item 15.	Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules	97
SIGNATURES		103

Forward-Looking Statements

In this Annual Report on Form 10-K, the term "Bancorp" refers to Cathay General Bancorp and the term "Bank" refers to Cathay Bank. The terms "Company," "we," "us," and "our" refer to Bancorp and its subsidiaries, including the Bank, collectively. The statements in this report include forward-looking statements within the meaning of the applicable provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 regarding management's beliefs, projections, and assumptions concerning future results and events. We intend such forward-looking statements to be covered by the safe harbor provision for forward-looking statements in these provisions. All statements other than statements of historical fact are "forward-looking statements" for purposes of federal and state securities laws, including statements about anticipated future operating and financial performance, financial position and liquidity, growth opportunities and growth rates, growth plans, acquisition and divestiture opportunities, business prospects, strategic alternatives, business strategies, financial expectations, regulatory and competitive outlook, investment and expenditure plans, financing needs and availability, and other similar forecasts and statements of expectation and statements of assumptions underlying any of the foregoing. Words such as "aims," "anticipates," "believes," "can," "could," "estimates," "expects," "hopes," "intends," "may," "plans," "projects," "seeks," "shall," "should," "will," "predicts," "potential," "continue," "possible," "optimistic," and variations of these words and similar expressions are intended to identify these forward-looking statements.

Forward-looking statements by us are based on estimates, beliefs, projections, and assumptions of management and are not guarantees of future performance. Management's expectations and assumptions, and the continued validity of the forward-looking statements, are subject to change due to a broad range of factors affecting the U.S. and global economies, regulatory environment and the equity, debt, currency and other financial markets, as well as factors specific to Bancorp and its subsidiaries, including Cathay Bank. Factors that could cause changes in the expectations or assumptions on which forward-looking statements are based cannot be foreseen with certainty and include the factors described under the headings "Risk Factors Summary" and "Risk Factors" and elsewhere in this Form 10-K, including under "Management's Discussion and Analysis," and Bancorp's other reports and filings filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") from time to time. Actual results in any future period may also vary from the past results discussed in this report. Given these risks and uncertainties, readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any forward-looking statements. Any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date on which it is made, and, except as required by law, we undertake no obligation to update or review any forward-looking statement to reflect circumstances, developments or events occurring after the date on which the statement is made or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

PART I

Item 1. Business

Business of Bancorp

Overview

Cathay General Bancorp (the "Bancorp" on a parent-only basis, and the "Company," "we," "us" or "our" on a consolidated basis) is a corporation that was organized in 1990 under the laws of the State of Delaware. The Bancorp is the holding company of Cathay Bank, a California state-chartered commercial bank ("Cathay Bank" or the "Bank"), ten limited partnerships investing in affordable housing investments in which the Bank is the sole limited partner, and GBC Venture Capital, Inc. The Bancorp also own 100% of the common stock of five statutory business trusts created for the purpose of issuing capital securities.

Our principal place of business is located at 777 North Broadway, Los Angeles, California 90012, and our telephone number at that location is (213) 625-4700. Certain of our administrative offices are located at 9650 Flair Drive, El Monte, California 91731. Our common stock is traded on the NASDAQ Global Select Market, and our trading symbol is "CATY".

The Bancorp is regulated as a bank holding company by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System ("Federal Reserve"). Cathay Bank is regulated as a California commercial bank by the California Department of Financial Protection and Innovation ("DFPI") and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC").

At December 31, 2021, we had $20.9 billion in total consolidated assets, $16.2 billion in net loans, $18.1 billion in deposits, and $2.4 billion in shareholders' equity.

Subsidiaries of Bancorp

In addition to Cathay Bank, the Bancorp has the following subsidiaries:

Cathay Capital Trust I, Cathay Statutory Trust I, Cathay Capital Trust II, Cathay Capital Trust III and Cathay Capital Trust IV. The Bancorp established Cathay Capital Trust I in June 2003, Cathay Statutory Trust I in September 2003, Cathay Capital Trust II in December 2003, Cathay Capital Trust III in March 2007, and Cathay Capital Trust IV in May 2007 (collectively, the "Trusts") as wholly-owned subsidiaries. The Trusts are statutory business trusts. The Trusts issued capital securities representing undivided preferred beneficial interests in the assets of the Trusts. The Trusts exist for the purpose of issuing the capital securities and investing the proceeds thereof, together with proceeds from the purchase of the common securities of the Trusts by the Bancorp, in a certain series of securities issued by us, with similar terms to the relevant series of securities issued by each of the Trusts, which we refer to as "Junior Subordinated Notes." The Bancorp guarantees, on a limited basis, payments of distributions on the capital securities of the Trusts and payments on redemption of the capital securities of the Trusts. The Bancorp is the owner of all the beneficial interests represented by the common securities of the Trusts. The purpose of issuing the capital securities was to provide the Company with a cost-effective means of obtaining capital. Because the Bancorp is not the primary beneficiary of the Trusts, the financial statements of the Trusts are not included in our Consolidated Financial Statements.

GBC Venture Capital, Inc. The business purpose of GBC Venture Capital, Inc. is to hold equity interests (such as options or warrants) received as part of business relationships and to make equity investments in companies and limited partnerships subject to applicable regulatory restrictions.

Competition

The Bancorp's primary business is to act as the holding company for the Bank. Accordingly, the Bancorp faces the same competitive pressures as those expected by the Bank. For a discussion of those risks, see "Business of the Bank — Competition" below under this Item 1.

Employees

Due to the limited nature of the Bancorp's activities as a bank holding company, the Bancorp currently does not employ any persons other than the Bancorp's management, which includes the Chief Executive Officer and President, Executive Chairman, the Chief Financial Officer, the Secretary and General Counsel, and the Assistant Secretary. See also "Business of the Bank — *Employees*" below under this Item 1. In the future, the Bancorp may become an operating company or may engage in such other activities or acquire such other businesses as may be permitted by applicable law.

Business of the Bank

General

Cathay Bank was incorporated under the laws of the State of California on August 22, 1961, is licensed by the DFPI, and commenced operations as a California state-chartered bank on April 19, 1962. Cathay Bank is an insured bank under the Federal Deposit Insurance Act by the FDIC, but it is not a member of the Federal Reserve.

The Bank's head office is located in the Chinatown area of Los Angeles, at 777 North Broadway, Los Angeles, California 90012. As of December 31, 2021, the Bank has branch offices in Southern California (24 branches), Northern California (13 branches), New York (10 branches), Washington (four branches), Illinois (two branches), Texas (two branches), Maryland (one branch), Massachusetts (one branch), Nevada (one branch), New Jersey (one branch), and Hong Kong (one branch) and a representative office in Beijing, Shanghai, and Taipei. Deposit accounts at the Hong Kong branch are not insured by the FDIC. Each branch has loan approval rights subject to the branch manager's authorized lending limits. Current activities of the Beijing, Shanghai, and Taipei representative offices are limited to coordinating the transportation of documents to the Bank's head office and performing liaison services.

Our primary market area is defined by the CRA delineation, which includes the contiguous areas surrounding each of the Bank's branch offices. It is the Bank's policy to reach out and actively offer services to low and moderate income groups in the delineated branch service areas. Many of the Bank's employees speak both English and one or more Chinese dialects or Vietnamese, and are thus able to serve the Bank's English, Chinese and Vietnamese speaking customers.

As a commercial bank, the Bank accepts checking, savings, and time deposits, and makes commercial, real estate, personal, home improvement, and other installment and term loans. From time to time, the Bank invests available funds in other interest-earning assets, such as U.S. Treasury securities, U.S. government agency securities, state and municipal securities, mortgage-backed securities, asset-backed securities, corporate bonds, and other security investments. The Bank also provides letters of credit, wire transfers, forward currency spot and forward contracts, traveler's checks, safe deposit, night deposit, Social Security payment deposit, collection, bank-by-mail, drive-up and walk-up windows, automatic teller machines ("ATM"), Internet banking services, treasury management services, and other customary banking services.

The Bank primarily services individuals, professionals, and small to medium-sized businesses in the local markets in which its branches are located and provides commercial mortgage loans, commercial loans, U.S. Small Business Administration ("SBA") loans, residential mortgage loans, real estate construction loans, home equity lines of credit, and installment loans to individuals for, household and other consumer expenditures.

Through its Cathay Wealth Management business unit, the Bank provides its customers with a range of investment products and services, such as stocks, bonds, mutual funds, insurance, annuities, and advisory services. As of December 31, 2021, all securities and insurance products provided by Cathay Wealth Management are offered by, and all financial consultants are registered with, Cetera Investment Services LLC, a registered securities broker/dealer and licensed insurance agency and member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority and Security Investor Protection Corporation. Cetera Investment Services LLC and Cathay Bank are independent entities. The securities and insurance products offered by Cetera Investment Services LLC are not insured by the FDIC.

Securities

The Bank's securities portfolio is managed in accordance with a written investment policy which addresses strategies, types, and levels of allowable investments, and which is reviewed and approved by our Board of Directors on an annual basis.

Our investment portfolio is managed to meet our liquidity needs through proceeds from scheduled maturities and is also utilized for pledging requirements for deposits of state and local subdivisions, securities sold under repurchase agreements, and Federal Home Loan Bank ("FHLB") advances. The portfolio is comprised of U.S. government securities, mortgage-backed securities, collateralized mortgage obligations, corporate debt instruments, and mutual funds.

Information concerning the carrying value, maturity distribution, and yield analysis of the Company's securities portfolio as well as a summary of the amortized cost and estimated fair value of the Bank's securities by contractual maturity is included in Part II — Item 7 — "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," and in Note 3 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Loans

The Bank's Board of Directors and senior management establish, review, and modify the Bank's lending policies. These policies include (as applicable) an evaluation of a potential borrower's financial condition, ability to repay the loan, character, secondary repayment sources (such as guaranties), quality and availability of collateral, capital, leverage capacity and regulatory guidelines, market conditions for the borrower's business or project, and prevailing economic trends and conditions. Loan originations are obtained through a variety of sources, including existing customers, walk-in customers, referrals from brokers or existing customers, and advertising. While loan applications are accepted at all branches, the Bank's centralized document department supervises the application process including documentation of loans, review of appraisals, and credit reports.

Commercial Mortgage Loans. Commercial mortgage loans (also known as CRE loans) are typically secured by first deeds of trust on commercial properties. Our commercial mortgage portfolio includes primarily commercial retail properties, shopping centers, and owner-occupied industrial facilities, and, secondarily, office buildings, multiple-unit apartments, hotels, and multi-tenanted industrial properties.

The Bank also makes medium-term commercial mortgage loans which are generally secured by commercial or industrial buildings where the borrower uses the property for business purposes or derives income from tenants.

Commercial Loans. The Bank provides financial services to diverse commercial and professional businesses in its market areas. Commercial loans consist primarily of short-term loans (normally with a maturity of up to one year) to support general business purposes, or to provide working capital to businesses in the form of lines of credit to finance trade. The Bank continues to focus primarily on commercial lending to small-to-medium size businesses within the Bank's geographic market areas. The Bank participates or syndicates loans, typically more than $25.0 million in principal amount, with other financial institutions to limit its credit exposure. Commercial loan pricing is generally at a rate tied to the prime rate, as quoted in *The Wall Street Journal*, or the Bank's reference rate.

SBA Loans. The Bank originates SBA loans under the national "preferred lender" status. Preferred lender status is granted to a lender that has made a certain number of SBA loans and which, in the opinion of the SBA, has staff qualified and experienced in small business loans. As a preferred lender, the Bank's SBA Lending Group has the authority to issue, on behalf of the SBA, the SBA guaranty on loans under the 7(a) program which may result in shortening the time it takes to process a loan. The 7(a) program is the SBA's primary loan program, and which can be used for financing of a variety of general business purposes such as acquisition of land, buildings, equipment and inventory and working capital needs of eligible businesses generally over a 5-25-year term. In addition, under this program, the SBA delegates loan underwriting, closing, and most servicing and liquidation authority and responsibility to selected lenders.

The Bank utilizes both the 504 program, which is focused on long-term financing of buildings and other long-term fixed assets, and the 7(a) program. The collateral position in the SBA loans is enhanced by the SBA guaranty in the case of 7(a) loans, and by lower loan-to-value ratios under the 504 program. The Bank has sold, and may in the future sell, the guaranteed portion of certain of its SBA 7(a) loans in the secondary market. SBA loan pricing is generally at a rate tied to the prime rate, as quoted in *The Wall Street Journal*.

Residential Mortgage Loans. The Bank originates single-family-residential mortgage loans. The single-family-residential mortgage loans are comprised of conforming, non-conforming, and jumbo residential mortgage loans, and are secured by first or subordinate liens on single (one-to-four) family residential properties. The Bank's products include a fixed-rate residential mortgage loan and an adjustable-rate residential mortgage loan. Mortgage loans are underwritten in accordance with the Bank's and regulatory guidelines, on the basis of the borrower's financial capabilities, an independent appraisal of the value of the property, historical loan quality, and other factors deemed relevant by the Bank's underwriting personnel. The Bank generally retains all mortgage loans it originates in its portfolio. As such, the Bank was not impacted by the rule pertaining to risk retention implementing the risk retention requirements of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Dodd-Frank Act"), since the Bank does not securitize any of the loans it originates in its portfolio.

Real Estate Construction Loans. The Bank's real estate construction loan activity focuses on providing short-term loans to individuals and developers, primarily for the construction of multi-unit projects. Residential real estate construction loans are typically secured by first deeds of trust and guarantees of the borrower. The economic viability of the projects, borrower's credit worthiness, and borrower's and contractor's experience are primary considerations in the loan underwriting decision. The Bank utilizes approved independent licensed appraisers and monitors projects during the construction phase through construction inspections and a disbursement program tied to the percentage of completion of each project. The Bank also occasionally makes unimproved property loans to borrowers who intend to construct a single-family residence on their lots generally within twelve months. In addition, the Bank makes commercial real estate construction loans to high net worth clients with adequate liquidity for construction of office and warehouse properties. Such loans are typically secured by first deeds of trust and are guaranteed by the borrower.

Home Equity Lines of Credit. The Bank offers variable-rate home equity lines of credit that are secured by the borrower's home. The pricing on the variable-rate home equity line of credit is generally at a rate tied to the prime rate, as quoted in *The Wall Street Journal*, or the Bank's reference rate. Borrowers may use this line of credit for home improvement financing, debt consolidation and other personal uses.

Installment Loans. Installment loans tend to be fixed rate and longer-term (one-to-six year maturities). These loans are funded primarily for the purpose of financing the purchase of automobiles and other personal uses of the borrower.

Distribution and Maturity of Loans. Information concerning types, distribution, and maturity of loans is included in Part II — Item 7 — "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," and in Note 4 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Financing of Tax-Advantaged Projects. We invest in and/or finance certain tax-advantaged projects promoting affordable housing and renewable energy sources. Our investments in these projects are designed to generate a return primarily through the realization of federal and state income tax credits, and other tax benefits, over specified time periods. For regulatory purposes, these investments are deemed loan-equivalent transactions and are made under the power of banks to make loans.

Asset Quality

The Bank's lending and credit policies require management to regularly review the Bank's loan portfolio so that the Bank can monitor the quality of its assets. If during the ordinary course of business, management becomes aware that a borrower may not be able to meet the contractual payment obligations under a loan, then such policies require that the loan be supervised more closely with consideration given to, among other things, placing the loan on non-accrual status, requiring additional allowance for loan losses, and (if appropriate) charging-off a part or all of the loan.

Under the Bank's current policies, a loan will generally be placed on a non-accrual status if interest or principal is past due 90 days or more, or in cases where management deems the full collection of principal and interest unlikely. When a loan is placed on non-accrual status, previously accrued but unpaid interest is reversed and charged against current income, and subsequent payments received are generally first applied towards the outstanding principal balance of the loan. Depending on the circumstances, management may elect to continue the accrual of interest on certain past due loans if partial payment is received or the loan is well-collateralized, and in the process of collection. The loan is generally returned to accrual status when the borrower has brought the past due principal and interest payments current and, in the opinion of management, the borrower has demonstrated the ability to make future payments of principal and interest as scheduled. A non-accrual loan may also be returned to accrual status if all principal and interest contractually due are reasonably assured of repayment within a reasonable period and there has been a sustained period of payment performance, generally six months.

Information concerning non-performing loans, restructured loans, allowance for credit losses, loans charged-off, loan recoveries, and other real estate owned is included in Part II — Item 7 — "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," and in Note 4 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Deposits

The Bank offers a variety of deposit products in order to meet its customers' needs. As of December 31, 2021, the Bank offered passbook accounts, checking accounts, money market deposit accounts, certificates of deposit, individual retirement accounts, and public funds deposits. These products are priced generally to promote growth of deposits in a safe and sound manner.

The Bank's deposits are generally obtained from residents within its geographic market area. The Bank utilizes traditional marketing methods to attract new customers and deposits, by offering a wide variety of products and services and utilizing various forms of advertising media. From time to time, the Bank may offer special deposit promotions. Information concerning types of deposit accounts, average deposits and rates, and maturity of time deposits is included in Part II — Item 7 — "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," and in Note 7 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Borrowings

Borrowings from time to time include securities sold under agreements to repurchase, the purchase of federal funds, funds obtained as advances from the FHLB, borrowing from other financial institutions, and the issuance of Junior Subordinated Notes. Information concerning the types, amounts, and maturity of borrowings is included in in Part II — Item 7 — "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," and in Note 8 and Note 9 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Return on Equity and Assets

Information concerning the return on average assets, return on average stockholders' equity, the average equity to assets ratio and the dividend payout ratio is included in Part II — Item 7 — "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations."

Interest Rates and Differentials

Information concerning the interest-earning asset mix, average interest-earning assets, average interest-bearing liabilities, and the yields on interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities is included in Part II — Item 7 — "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations."

Analysis of Changes in Net Interest Income

An analysis of changes in net interest income due to changes in rate and volume is included in Part II — Item 7 — "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations."

Commitments and Letters of Credit

Information concerning the Bank's outstanding loan commitments and letters of credit is included in Note 12 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Subsidiaries of Cathay Bank

Cathay Holdings LLC ("CHLLC") was incorporated in December 2007. The purpose of this subsidiary is to hold other real estate owned in the state of Texas that was transferred from the Bank. As of December 31, 2021, CHLLC owned properties with a carrying value of $301 thousand.

Competition

We face substantial competition for deposits, loans and other banking services, as well as for acquisition, opportunities, from the numerous banks and financial institutions that operate in our market areas. We also compete for loans and deposits, as well as other banking services, such as payment services, with savings and loan associations, savings banks, brokerage houses, insurance companies, mortgage companies, credit unions, credit card companies and other financial and non-financial institutions and entities.

In California, one larger Chinese-American bank competes for loans and deposits with the Bank and at least two super-regional banks compete with the Bank for deposits. In addition, there are many other banks that target the Chinese-American communities in both Southern and Northern California. Banks from the Pacific Rim countries, such as Taiwan, Hong Kong, and China, also continue to open branches in the Los Angeles area, thus increasing competition in the Bank's primary markets. See discussion below in Part I — Item 1A — "Risk Factors."

To compete with other financial institutions in our primary service areas, the Bank relies principally upon personal contacts by our officers, directors, employees, and stockholders, our long established relationships with the Chinese-American communities, the Bank's responsiveness to customer needs, local promotional activities, availability and pricing of loan and deposit products, extended hours on weekdays, Saturday banking in certain locations, Internet banking, an Internet website (*www.cathaybank.com),* and other specialized services. The content of our website is not incorporated into and is not part of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

If a proposed loan exceeds the Bank's internal lending limits, the Bank has, in the past, and may in the future, arrange the loan on a participation or syndication basis with correspondent banks. The Bank also assists customers requiring other services not offered by the Bank to obtain these services from its correspondent banks.

Human Capital Resources

Our employees are vital to our success. Our goal is to ensure that we have the right talent, in the right place, at the right time. To achieve this level of value creation, we believe we must strive to find, develop and keep a world-class workforce. We invest in our employees by providing quality training and learning opportunities, promoting inclusion and diversity, and upholding a high standard of ethics and respect for human rights.

As of December 31, 2021, Cathay Bank employed approximately 1,156 regular full-time equivalent employees, of whom 1,116 were located in the United States and 40 were located in China, Hong Kong and Taiwan. Of the total number of employees, 638 are banking officers. None of the employees are represented by a union.

Diversity and Inclusion

Inclusion and diversity are the cultural hallmarks of Cathay Bank. We benefit from the diversity of our staff offering a multiplicity of viewpoints, backgrounds and experiences, in service of our clients and the commercial and financial industries in which we work.

Our staff comprise of a diverse mixture of different genders, races, ethnic backgrounds, religions, sexual orientations, cultures and primary languages. Our commitment to diversity enables us to draw from a remarkable wealth of talent to recruit and retain the best employees to provide innovative solutions for our customers' banking needs. The Bank is continuing its efforts to expand gender diversity on the Bank's Board, and senior management.

In 2021, 83% of our employees are of Asian descent, 11% are non-Asian minorities, and 6% are Caucasian. At the manager-level, 77% are of Asian descent, 12% are of non-Asian minorities, and 11% are Caucasian. 57% of our management-level positions are held by woman, and 66% of our employees are women. Our 12-member Board of Directors consists of 11 members of minority descent and a quarter of the Board seats are held by women.

Our commitment to diversity and inclusion extends to our community. We invest in affordable housing and renewable energy projects; in addition, we offer community checking and various affordable home ownership and loan programs serving the underbanked, and routinely engage in collaboration with local nonprofit organizations working together to build and cultivate lives in low-income communities. We also promote diversity and inclusion among our supplier base, through the Cathay Bank Vendor Diversity Program. The program promotes the use of suppliers owned by minority, women, and small businesses, to help contribute to long-term economic sustainability in our communities.

Grow, Engage and Elevate

The Bank believes that its future success is highly dependent upon its continued ability to attract qualified employees. As part of our efforts to attract and motivate employees, we offer competitive rewards, compensation and benefits, including healthcare and 401(k) benefits, parental and family leave, holiday and paid time off, and tuition assistance.

Recruiting the best and brightest is just the beginning. Cathay Bank's goal is to provide every employee with a robust platform that allows each individual to truly grow, engage and elevate to their full potential. We believe every individual is integral to our success, we strive to provide an engaging environment coupled with training and development opportunities throughout one's career.

Employee Learning and Development

Committed to the belief that every employee is integral to the Bank's success, we offer employees numerous opportunities for both personal and professional development. From the Emerging Leadership programs to interoffice transfer opportunities to a database of online training courses, Cathay Bank provides employees with the tools they need to succeed.

Cathay Bank's skill-building programs are aligned around a common set of objectives and framework focused on compliance, technical, professional and management development. For example, our Emerging Leadership I program for newly promoted supervisors and managers and our Emerging Leadership II – Senior Cohort Program for the senior management, both are designed to help employees to gain a clear and in-depth assessment of the current state of their work and be more effective in their current and future roles. There is an expectation that every employee has a development goal as a part of individual performance objectives.

Employee Health and Pandemic Response

Cathay Bank manages organizational and personal health to gain insight into employees' experiences, levels of workplace satisfaction, and feelings of engagement with the Bank. We have organized the Cathay Well-Being program since 2014, encouraging employees to participate in healthy habit challenges and Bank wide exercise plans in order to qualify for additional discounts on medical premiums. As of December 31, 2021, we have 73% of our employees participating in the Well-Being program.

Cathay Bank's top priority during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic remains protecting the health and safety of our employees and their families, customers and community. The Bank continues to maintain workplace flexibility such as working remotely where possible to reduce the number of people who are in the office each day. We have also introduced the Cathay Bank Pandemic Landing Page on the Bank's intranet to allow employees easy access all the latest COVID-19 news and resources within and outside of Cathay Bank. Cathay Bank is keeping its bank branches open consistent with local laws and regulations and continuing to provide essential banking services to customers. In the interest of public health, all bank branches are utilizing the minimum number of people to safely execute tasks and following enhanced safety and health protocols—including screenings, social distancing, and use of personal protective equipment.

Executive Officers of the Registrant

The table below sets forth the names, ages, and positions at the Bancorp and the Bank of all executive officers of the Company as of February 15, 2022.

Name	Age	Present Position and Principal Occupation During the Past Five Years
Dunson K. Cheng.....................	77	Executive Chairman of the Boards of Directors of the Bancorp and the Bank since October 2016; Director of the Bancorp since 1990; Director of the Bank since 1982; Chairman of the Boards of Directors of the Bancorp and the Bank from 1994 to September 2016; President of the Bank from 1985 to March 2015; President and Chief Executive Officer of the Bancorp from 1990 to September 2016.
Chang M. Liu...........................	55	President and Chief Executive Officer, and Director of the Bancorp since October 2020; Chief Executive Officer of the Bank since October 2020; Director of the Bank since October 2019; President of the Bank from October 2019 to September 2020; Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the Bank from February 2019 to September 2019; Executive Vice President and Chief Lending Officer of the Bank from 2016 to 2019; Senior Vice President and Deputy Chief Lending Officer of the Bank from 2015 to 2016; Senior Vice President and Assistant Chief Lending Officer of the Bank from 2014 to 2015; Chief Lending Officer at Banc of California (formerly known as Pacific Trust Bank) from 2011 to 2014
Heng W. Chen	69	Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Treasurer of the Bancorp since 2003; Executive Vice President of the Bank since 2003; Chief Financial Officer of the Bank since 2004.
Kim R. Bingham......................	65	Chief Risk Officer of the Bank since 2014; Executive Vice President of the Bank since 2004; Chief Credit Officer of the Bank from 2004 to 2013.
Mark H. Lee.............................	59	Executive Vice President and Chief Credit Officer of the Bank since December 2017; Executive Vice President and Special Advisor to the Office of the President of the Bank from April 2017 to December 2017; Senior Executive Vice President and Head of Corporate Banking of Bank of Hope (formerly known as BBCN Bank) from 2016 to 2017; Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Credit Officer of BBCN Bank (formerly known as Nara Bank) from 2009 to 2016; and Senior Vice President and Deputy Chief Credit Officer of East West Bank from 2007 to 2009.

Available Information

We invite you to visit our website at www.cathaygeneralbancorp.com, to access free of charge the Bancorp's Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports, all of which are made available as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with or furnish it to the SEC. The content of our website is not incorporated into and is not part of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. In addition, you can write to us to obtain a free copy of any of those reports at Cathay General Bancorp, 9650 Flair Drive, El Monte, California 91731, Attn: Investor Relations. The SEC also maintains a website that contains the reports, proxy and information statements and other information we file with or furnish to them. The address of the site is http://www.sec.gov.

Regulation and Supervision

General

The Bancorp and its bank and non-bank subsidiaries are subject to extensive regulation under federal and state statutes and regulations that, among other things, may affect our cost of doing business and financial performance, limit permissible activities and expansion or impact the competitive balance between us and other financial services providers. These statutes and regulations are intended primarily for the protection of depositors and the FDIC's Deposit Insurance Fund, and secondarily for the stability of the U.S. banking system and are not intended for the benefit of stockholders of financial institutions.

The following discussion of certain statutes and regulations to which the Bancorp and the Bank are subject is a summary and does not purport to be complete nor does it address all applicable statutes and regulations. This discussion is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full statutes and regulations.

Bank Holding Company and Bank Regulation

The Bancorp is a bank holding company within the meaning of the Bank Holding Company Act and is registered as such with the Federal Reserve. The Bancorp is also a bank holding company within the meaning of Section 3700 of the California Financial Code. Therefore, the Bancorp and any of its subsidiaries are subject to examination by, and may be required to file reports with, the DFPI. DFPI approvals are also required for bank holding companies to acquire control of banks. As a California commercial bank, the deposits of which are insured by the FDIC, the Bank is subject to regulation, supervision, and regular examination by the DFPI and by the FDIC, as the Bank's primary federal regulator, and must additionally comply with certain applicable regulations of the Federal Reserve.

The wide range of requirements and restrictions contained in federal and state banking laws include:

- Requirements that bank holding companies and banks file periodic reports.

- Requirements that bank holding companies and banks meet or exceed minimum capital requirements (see "Capital Adequacy Requirements" below).

- Requirements that bank holding companies serve as a source of financial and managerial strength for their banking subsidiaries. In addition, the regulatory agencies have "prompt corrective action" authority to limit activities and require a limited guaranty of a required bank capital restoration plan by a bank holding company if the capital of a bank subsidiary falls below capital levels required by the regulators. (See "Source of Strength" and "Prompt Corrective Action Provisions" below.)

- Limitations on dividends payable to Bancorp stockholders. The Bancorp's ability to pay dividends is subject to legal and regulatory restrictions. A substantial portion of the Bancorp's funds to pay dividends or to pay principal and interest on our debt obligations is derived from dividends paid by the Bank. (See "Dividends" below)

- Limitations on dividends payable by bank subsidiaries. These dividends are subject to various legal and regulatory restrictions. The federal banking agencies have indicated that paying dividends that deplete a depositary institution's capital base to an inadequate level would be an unsafe and unsound banking practice. Moreover, the federal agencies have issued policy statements that provide that bank holding companies and insured banks should generally only pay dividends out of current operating earnings. (See "Dividends" below)

- Safety and soundness requirements. Banks must be operated in a safe and sound manner and meet standards applicable to internal controls, information systems, internal audit, loan documentation, credit underwriting, interest rate exposure, asset growth, and compensation, as well as other operational and management standards. These safety and soundness requirements give bank regulatory agencies significant latitude in exercising their supervisory authority and the authority to initiate informal or formal enforcement actions.

- Requirements for notice, application and approval, or non-objection of acquisitions and certain other activities conducted directly or in subsidiaries of the Bancorp or the Bank.

- Compliance with the Community Reinvestment Act. The CRA requires that banks help meet the credit needs in their communities, including the availability of credit to low and moderate income individuals. If the Bank fails to adequately serve its communities, restrictions may be imposed, including denials of applications for branches, for adding subsidiaries or affiliate companies, for engaging in new activities or for the merger with or purchase of other financial institutions. In its last reported examination by the FDIC in June 2019, the Bank received a CRA rating of "Satisfactory."

- Compliance with the Bank Secrecy Act, the USA Patriot Act, and other anti-money laundering laws ("AML"), and the regulations of the U.S. Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control ("OFAC"). (See "Anti-Money Laundering and OFAC Regulations" below.)

- Limitations on the amount of loans to one borrower and its affiliates and to executive officers and directors.

- Limitations on transactions with affiliates.

- Restrictions on the nature and amount of any investments in, and the ability to underwrite, certain securities.

- Requirements for opening of intra- and interstate branches.

- Compliance with truth in lending and other consumer protection and disclosure laws to ensure equal access to credit and to protect consumers in credit transactions. (See "Operations, Consumer and Privacy Compliance Laws" below.)

- Compliance with provisions of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act of 1999 ("GLB Act") and other federal and state laws dealing with privacy for nonpublic personal information of customers. The federal bank regulators have adopted rules limiting the ability of banks and other financial institutions to disclose non-public information about consumers to unaffiliated third parties. These limitations require disclosure of privacy policies to consumers and, in some circumstances, allow consumers to prevent disclosure of certain personal information to an unaffiliated third party. These regulations affect how consumer information is transmitted through diversified financial companies and conveyed to outside vendors.

Specific federal and state laws and regulations which are applicable to banks regulate, among other things, the scope of their business, their investments, their reserves against deposits, the timing of the availability of deposited funds, their activities relating to dividends, the nature and amount of and collateral for certain loans, servicing and foreclosing on loans, borrowings, capital requirements, certain check-clearing activities, branching, and mergers and acquisitions. California banks are also subject to statutes and regulations including Federal Reserve Regulation O and Federal Reserve Act Sections 23A and 23B and Regulation W, which restrict or limit loans or extensions of credit to "insiders," including officers, directors, and principal shareholders, and affiliates, and purchases of assets from affiliates, including parent bank holding companies, except pursuant to certain exceptions and only on terms and conditions at least as favorable to those prevailing for comparable transactions with unaffiliated parties. The Dodd-Frank Act expanded definitions and restrictions on transactions with affiliates and insiders under Sections 23A and 23B, and also lending limits for derivative transactions, repurchase agreements and securities lending, and borrowing transactions.

The Bank operates branches and/or loan production offices in California, New York, Washington, Illinois, Texas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, and New Jersey. While the DFPI remains the Bank's primary state regulator, the Bank's operations in these jurisdictions are subject to examination and supervision by local bank regulators, and transactions with customers in those jurisdictions are subject to local laws, including consumer protection laws. The Bank also operates a branch in Hong Kong and a representative office in Beijing, Shanghai, and Taipei. The operations of these foreign offices and branches (and limits on the scope of their activities) are subject to local law and regulatory authorities in addition to regulation and supervision by the DFPI and the Federal Reserve.

The Dodd-Frank Act and the Growth Act

The Dodd-Frank Act financial reform legislation, adopted in July 2010, significantly revised and expanded the rulemaking, supervisory and enforcement authority of the federal bank regulatory agencies by implementing the following changes, among others:

- capital standards that, among other things, increase capital requirements and eliminate the treatment of trust preferred securities as Tier 1 regulatory capital for bank holding companies with assets of $15.0 billion or more (our assets exceed the $15.0 billion threshold and, as a result, our outstanding junior subordinated notes no longer qualify as Tier 1 capital for regulatory reporting purposes);
- restrictions on banking entities from engaging in proprietary trading, as well as having investments in, sponsoring, and maintaining relationships with hedge funds and private equity funds (commonly referred to as the "Volcker Rule");
- the establishment of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau ("CFPB") responsible for consumer protection in the financial services industry and to examine financial institutions with $10.0 billion or more in assets, such as the Company, for compliance with regulations promulgated by the CFPB;
- additional risk management and other enhanced prudential standards for larger bank holding companies;
- limitations on interchange fees charged for debit card transactions;
- the revisions in the deposit insurance assessment base for FDIC insurance and the permanent increase in coverage to $250 thousand;
- the permissibility of paying interest on business checking accounts;
- the removal of barriers to interstate branching;
- required disclosure and shareholder advisory votes on executive compensation; and
- the establishment of new minimum mortgage underwriting standards for residential mortgages.

On May 24, 2018, the Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act (the "Growth Act") was signed into law. Among other relief, the Growth Act:

- raises the asset threshold for annual company-run stress tests required under the Dodd-Frank Act from $10.0 billion to $100.0 billion;
- raises the enhanced prudential supervision threshold for bank holding companies from $50.0 billion to $250.0 billion in total consolidated assets and the asset threshold for risk committee requirements for publicly traded bank holding companies from $10.0 billion to $50.0 billion; and
- implements other changes that may help reduce regulatory burden for the Company and other mid-sized financial institutions, such as (i) prohibiting federal banking regulators from imposing higher capital standards on High Volatility Commercial Real Estate exposures unless they are for acquisition, development or construction; (ii) requiring amendments to the Liquidity Coverage Ratio Rule to treat all qualifying investment-grade, liquid and readily-marketable municipal securities as level 2B liquid assets, making them potentially more attractive alternative investments; (iv) directing the CFPB to provide guidance on certain disclosure requirements for mortgage assumption transactions and construction-to-permanent home loans; and (iv) not requiring appraisals for certain transactions in rural areas valued at less than $400 thousand.

On October 15, 2019, the FDIC adopted a final rule that revised the FDIC's requirements for stress testing by FDIC supervised institutions, such as the Bank, to conform with the Growth Act by raising the minimum threshold for applicability from $10.0 billion to $250.0 billion. The final rule became effective on November 25, 2019. Notwithstanding these amendments to the stress testing requirements, the federal banking agencies indicated through interagency guidance that the capital planning and risk management practices of institutions with total assets less than $100.0 billion would continue to be reviewed through the regular supervisory process.

Notwithstanding the regulatory relief provided for mid-size financial institutions such as the Company that has resulted from the Growth Act, many provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act and its implementing regulations remain in place and will continue to result in additional operating and compliance costs that could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operation. In addition to the Growth Act, various pending bills in Congress may offer some regulatory relief for mid-sized banking organizations of our size. We are uncertain about the scope, nature and timing of any regulatory relief, and its effect on us.

Capital Adequacy Requirements

Bank holding companies and banks are subject to various regulatory capital requirements administered by state and federal banking agencies. Capital adequacy guidelines and, additionally for banks, prompt corrective action regulations (see "Prompt Corrective Action Provisions" below), involve quantitative measures of assets, liabilities, and certain off-balance sheet items calculated under regulatory accounting practices. Capital amounts and classifications are also subject to qualitative judgments by regulators about components, risk weighting, and other factors. The risk-based capital guidelines for bank holding companies and banks require capital ratios that vary based on the perceived degree of risk associated with a banking organization's operations for both transactions reported on the balance sheet as assets, such as loans, and those recorded as off-balance sheet items, such as commitments, letters of credit and recourse arrangements. The risk-based capital ratio is determined by classifying assets and certain off-balance sheet financial instruments into weighted categories, with higher levels of capital being required for those categories perceived as representing greater risks and dividing its qualifying capital by its total risk-adjusted assets and off-balance sheet items. Bank holding companies and banks engaged in significant trading activity may also be subject to the market risk capital guidelines and be required to incorporate additional market and interest rate risk components into their risk-based capital standards.

The federal bank regulatory agencies adopted final regulations in July 2013, which revised their risk-based and leverage capital requirements for banking organizations to meet requirements of the Dodd-Frank Act and to implement Basel III international agreements reached by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision.

The following are among the requirements under the Basel III Capital Rules that became effective on January 1, 2015:

- An increase in the minimum Tier 1 capital ratio from 4.00% to 6.00% of risk-weighted assets.
- A required 4.50% of risk-weighted assets ratio is established for "common equity Tier 1" as a subset of Tier 1 capital limited to common equity.
- A minimum non-risk-based leverage ratio is set at 4.00% eliminating a 3.00% exception for higher rated banks.
- Changes in the permitted composition of Tier 1 capital to exclude trust preferred securities (other than certain grandfathered trust preferred securities issued), mortgage servicing rights and certain deferred tax assets and include unrealized gains and losses on available for sale debt and equity securities.
- An additional capital conservation buffer of 2.5% of risk weighted assets over each of the required capital ratios must be met to avoid limitations in the ability of the Bank to pay dividends, repurchase shares or pay discretionary bonuses.
- The risk-weights of certain assets for purposes of calculating the risk-based capital ratios are changed for high volatility commercial real estate acquisition, development and construction loans, certain past due non-residential mortgage loans and certain mortgage-backed and other securities exposures.
- An additional "countercyclical capital buffer" is required for larger and more complex institutions.

Under the Basel III Capital Rules, after taking into account the capital conservation buffer, the Bancorp and the Bank must maintain the following minimum ratios: (i) a Tier 1 leverage ratio of 4.0%, (ii) a common equity Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio of 4.5%, plus the capital conservation buffer, effectively resulting in a minimum common equity Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio of 7.0%, (iii) a Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio of 6.0%, plus the capital conservation buffer, effectively resulting in a minimum common equity Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio of 8.5%, and (iv) a total risk-based capital ratio of 8.0%, plus the capital conservation buffer, effectively resulting in a minimum total risk-based capital ratio of 10.5%. To be considered "well capitalized," a bank holding company or bank must have the following minimum ratios: (i) a Tier 1 leverage ratio of 5.0%, (ii) a common equity Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio of 6.5%, (iii) a Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio of 8.0%, and (iv) a total risk-based capital ratio of 10.0%.

Failure to meet statutorily mandated capital guidelines or more restrictive ratios separately established for a financial institution could subject a bank or bank holding company to a variety of enforcement remedies, including issuance of a capital directive, the termination of deposit insurance by the FDIC, a prohibition on accepting or renewing brokered deposits, limitations on the rates of interest that the institution may pay on its deposits and other restrictions on its business. Significant additional restrictions can be imposed on FDIC-insured depository institutions that fail to meet applicable capital requirements under the regulatory agencies' prompt corrective action authority.

At December 31, 2021, (i) the Bancorp's and the Bank's common equity Tier 1 capital ratios were 12.80% and 13.32%, respectively; (ii) their total risk-based capital ratios were 14.41% and 14.21% respectively; (iii) their Tier 1 risk-based capital ratios were, 12.80% and 13.32% respectively; and (iv) their leverage capital ratios were, respectively, 10.40% and 10.82% respectively all of which exceeded the minimum percentage requirements to be deemed "well-capitalized" for regulatory purposes.

Bank regulators may also continue their past policies of expecting banks to maintain additional capital beyond the requirements of the Basel III Capital Rules. The federal banking agencies may also require banks and bank holding companies subject to enforcement actions to maintain capital ratios in excess of the minimum ratios otherwise required to be deemed "well-capitalized. The implementation of the Basel III Capital Rules or more stringent requirements to maintain higher levels of capital or to maintain higher levels of liquid assets could adversely impact the Bancorp's net income and return on equity, restrict the ability of the Bank and/or the Bancorp to pay dividends or executive bonuses and require the raising of additional capital.

In December 2017, the Basel Committee published “Basel IV” standards to finalize the Basel III regulatory reforms. According to the Basel Committee, Basel IV is intended to, among other things, reduce variability in risk weighted assets by implementing a standardized approach for operation risk and credit risk to replace model-based approaches for certain categories of risk weighted assets, and by reducing the scope of model-based parameters and implementing exposure-level parameter floors where model-based approaches remain available. Under the Basel framework, these standards will generally be effective on January 1, 2023, with an aggregate output floor phasing in through January 1, 2028. The impact of Basel IV on us will depend on the manner in which it is implemented by the federal bank regulators.

Prompt Corrective Action Provisions

The Federal Deposit Insurance Act (the “FDI Act”) requires the federal bank regulatory agencies to take “prompt corrective action” with respect to a depository institution if that institution does not meet certain capital adequacy standards, including requiring the prompt submission of an acceptable capital restoration plan. Depending on the bank’s capital ratios, the agencies’ regulations define five categories in which an insured depository institution will be placed: well-capitalized, adequately capitalized, undercapitalized, significantly undercapitalized, and critically undercapitalized. At each successive lower capital category, an insured bank is subject to more restrictions, including restrictions on the bank's activities, operational practices or the ability to pay dividends. Based upon its capital levels, a bank that is classified as well-capitalized, adequately capitalized, or undercapitalized may be treated as though it were in the next lower capital category if the appropriate federal banking agency, after notice and opportunity for hearing, determines that an unsafe or unsound condition, or an unsafe or unsound practice, warrants such treatment. A bank’s capital category is determined solely for the purpose of applying the prompt corrective action regulations and the capital category may not constitute an accurate representation of the bank’s overall financial condition or prospects for other purposes.

The FDI Act generally prohibits a depository institution from making any capital distributions (including payment of a dividend) or paying any management fee to its parent holding company, if the depository institution would thereafter be “undercapitalized.” “Undercapitalized” institutions are subject to growth limitations and are required to submit capital restoration plans. If a depository institution fails to submit an acceptable plan, it is treated as if it is “significantly undercapitalized.” “Significantly undercapitalized” depository institutions may be subject to a number of requirements and restrictions, including orders to sell sufficient voting stock to become “adequately capitalized,” requirements to reduce total assets, and cessation of receipt of deposits from correspondent banks. “Critically undercapitalized” institutions are subject to the appointment of a receiver or conservator. The capital classification of a bank holding company and a bank affects the frequency of regulatory examinations, the bank holding company’s and the bank’s ability to engage in certain activities and the deposit insurance premium paid by the bank.

As of December 31, 2021, the Bancorp and the Bank met all requirements to be considered well-capitalized under the Basel III Capital Rules.

Volcker Rule

In December 2013, the federal bank regulatory agencies adopted final rules that implement a part of the Dodd-Frank Act commonly referred to as the "Volcker Rule." In the fall of 2019, the federal banking regulatory agencies adopted revised rules to simplify and tailor the Volcker Rules. The revised rules became effective on January 1, 2020, with a compliance date of January 1, 2021. The revised rules continue to restrict banking entities subject to the Volcker Rule, including the Bancorp and the Bank and its subsidiaries, from engaging in activities that are considered proprietary trading and from sponsoring or investing in certain entities, including hedge or private equity funds that are considered "covered funds," subject to certain exceptions. The revised rules provide regulatory relief by tailoring application of the Volcker Rule based on the level of trading assets and liabilities, simplifying certain standards and requirements, and reducing compliance burden. Effective October 1, 2020, the amendments to the Volcker Rule modified the provisions for certain existing covered fund exclusions, including loan securitizations and public welfare and small business funds, and added certain additional covered fund exclusions, including credit funds and venture capital funds. The Federal Reserve granted an extension until July 21, 2022, of the conformance period for the Bancorp to divest ownership in certain legacy investment funds that are prohibited under the rule. In June 2020, the federal agencies adopted new regulations that exempted venture capital funds from the definition of "covered funds" under the Volcker Rule, so the Bancorp's remaining venture capital funds can be held indefinitely.

We believe that the Volcker Rule will not require any material changes in our operations or business or security holdings.

CFPB Actions

The Dodd-Frank Act provided for the creation of the CFPB as an independent entity within the Federal Reserve with broad rulemaking, supervisory, and enforcement authority over consumer financial products and services, including deposit products, residential mortgages, home-equity loans and credit cards. The CFPB's functions include investigating consumer complaints, conducting market research, rulemaking, supervising and examining bank consumer transactions, and enforcing rules related to consumer financial products and services. CFPB regulations and guidance apply to all financial institutions and banks with $10.0 billion or more in assets, which are also subject to examination by the CFPB. As the Bank has more than $10.0 billion in assets, it is examined for compliance with CFPB regulation by the CFPB in addition to examinations of the Bank by the FDIC and the DFPI.

The CFPB has enforcement authority over unfair, deceptive or abusive act and practices ("UDAAP"). UDAAP is considered one of the most far reaching new enforcement tools at the disposal of the CFPB and covers all consumer and small business financial products or services such as deposit and lending products or services such as overdraft programs and third-party payroll card vendors. It is a wide-ranging regulatory net that potentially picks up the gaps not included in other consumer laws, rules and regulations. Violations of UDAAP can be found in many areas and can include advertising and marketing materials, the order of processing and paying items in a checking account or the design of client overdraft programs. The scope of coverage includes not only direct interactions with clients and prospects but also actions by third-party service providers. The Dodd-Frank Act does not prevent states from adopting stricter consumer protection standards. State regulation of financial products and potential enforcement actions could also adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Additionally, in 2014, the CFPB adopted revisions to Regulation Z, which implement the Truth in Lending Act, pursuant to the Dodd-Frank Act, and apply to all consumer mortgages (except home equity lines of credit, timeshare plans, reverse mortgages, or temporary loans). The revisions mandate specific underwriting criteria for home loans in order for creditors to make a reasonable, good faith determination of a consumer's ability to repay and establish certain protections from liability under this requirement for "qualified mortgages" meeting certain standards. In particular, it will prevent banks from making "no doc" and "low doc" home loans, as the rules require that banks determine a consumer's ability to pay based in part on verified and documented information. We do originate certain "low doc" loans that meet specific underwriting criteria. Given the small volume of such loans, we do not believe that this regulation will have a significant impact on our operations.

Risk Committee Framework

Pursuant to Federal Reserve Board regulations promulgated under authority of the Dodd-Frank Act, as originally adopted, as a publicly traded bank holding company with $10.0 billion in assets, we were required and have established and maintained a risk committee responsible for enterprise-wide risk management practices, comprised of an independent chairman and at least one risk management expert. We expect to maintain our risk committee, although we are no longer required to have a risk committee under the Growth Act unless and until we reach $50.0 billion in assets. The risk committee approves and periodically reviews the risk-management policies of the Bancorp's global operations and oversees the operations of its risk-management framework. The bank holding company's risk-management framework must be commensurate with its structure, risk profile, complexity, activities and size. At a minimum, the framework must include policies and procedures establishing risk-management governance and providing for adequate risk-control infrastructure for the bank holding company's operations. In addition, the framework must include processes and systems to monitor compliance with the foregoing policies and procedures, including processes and systems designed to identify and report risk-management risks and deficiencies; ensure effective implementation of actions to address emerging risks and risk-management deficiencies; designate managerial and staff responsibility for risk management; ensure the independence of the risk-management function; and integrate risk-management and associated controls with management goals and the management compensation structure.

Interchange Fees

Under the Durbin Amendment to the Dodd-Frank Act, the Federal Reserve adopted rules establishing standards for assessing whether the interchange fees that may be charged with respect to certain electronic debit transactions are "reasonable and proportional" to the costs incurred by issuers for processing such transactions.

Interchange fees, or "swipe" fees, are charges that merchants pay to us and other card-issuing banks for processing electronic payment transactions. Under the final rules, the maximum permissible interchange fee is equal to no more than 21 cents plus 5 basis points of the transaction value for many types of debit interchange transactions. The Federal Reserve also adopted a rule to allow a debit card issuer to recover 1 cent per transaction for fraud prevention purposes if the issuer complies with certain fraud-related requirements required by the Federal Reserve. The Federal Reserve also has rules governing routing and exclusivity that require issuers to offer two unaffiliated networks for routing transactions on each debit or prepaid product.

Anti-Money Laundering and OFAC Regulations

A major focus of governmental policy on financial institutions in recent years has been aimed at combating money laundering and terrorist financing through AML and OFAC regulations. AML laws and regulations, including the Bank Secrecy Act and the U.S.A. Patriot Act, require us to assist U.S. government agencies in detecting and preventing money laundering and other illegal acts by maintaining policies, procedures and controls designed to detect and report money laundering, terrorist financing, and other suspicious activity. The AML program must include, at a minimum, a designated compliance officer, written policies, procedures and internal controls, training of appropriate personnel and independent testing of the program, and a customer identification program.

OFAC administers and enforces economic and trade sanctions against targeted foreign countries and regimes, under authority of various laws, including designated foreign countries, nationals and others. OFAC publishes lists of specially designated targets and countries. We and our bank are responsible for, among other things, blocking accounts of, and transactions with, such targets and countries, prohibiting unlicensed trade and financial transactions with them and reporting blocked transactions after their occurrence.

Regulatory authorities routinely examine financial institutions for compliance with these obligations, and any failure by us to maintain and implement adequate programs to combat money laundering and terrorist financing, or to comply with all of the relevant laws or regulations, could have serious legal and reputational consequences, including causing applicable bank regulatory authorities not to approve merger or acquisition transactions when regulatory approval is required or to prohibit such transactions even if approval is not required. Regulatory authorities have imposed cease and desist orders and civil money penalties against institutions found to be violating these obligations.

Additional Restrictions on Bancorp and Bank Activities

Subject to prior notice or Federal Reserve approval, bank holding companies may generally engage in, or acquire shares of companies engaged in, activities determined by the Federal Reserve to be so closely related to banking or managing or controlling banks as to be a proper incident thereto. Bank holding companies which elect and retain "financial holding company" status pursuant to the GLB Act may engage in these nonbanking activities and broader securities, insurance, merchant banking and other activities that are determined to be "financial in nature" or are incidental or complementary to activities that are financial in nature without prior Federal Reserve approval. Pursuant to the GLB Act and the Dodd-Frank Act, in order to elect and retain financial holding company status, a bank holding company and all depository institution subsidiaries of a bank holding company must be well capitalized and well managed, and, except in limited circumstances, depository subsidiaries must be in satisfactory compliance with the CRA. Failure to sustain compliance with these requirements or correct any non-compliance within a fixed time period could lead to divestiture of subsidiary banks or require all activities to conform to those permissible for a bank holding company. The Bancorp has not elected financial holding company status and does not believe it has engaged in any activities determined by the Federal Reserve to be financial in nature or incidental or complementary to activities that are financial in nature, which would, in the absence of financial holding company status, require notice or Federal Reserve approval.

Pursuant to the FDI Act and the California Financial Code, California state chartered commercial banks may generally engage in any activity permissible for national banks. Therefore, the Bank may form subsidiaries to engage in the many so-called "closely related to banking" or "nonbanking" activities commonly conducted by national banks in operating subsidiaries or subsidiaries of bank holding companies. Further, pursuant to the GLB Act, California banks may conduct certain "financial" activities in a subsidiary to the same extent as a national bank, provided the bank is and remains "well-capitalized," "well-managed" and in satisfactory compliance with the CRA. The Bank currently has no financial subsidiaries.

Source of Strength

Federal Reserve policy and federal law require bank holding companies to act as a source of financial and managerial strength to their subsidiary banks. Under this requirement, Bancorp is expected to commit resources to support the Bank, including at times when Bancorp may not be in a financial position to provide such resources, and it may not be in Bancorp's, or Bancorp's stockholders' or creditors', best interests to do so. In addition, any capital loans Bancorp makes to the Bank are subordinate in right of payment to depositors and to certain other indebtedness of the Bank. In the event of Bancorp's bankruptcy, any commitment by Bancorp to a federal bank regulatory agency to maintain the capital of the Bank will be assumed by the bankruptcy trustee and entitled to priority of payment.

Enforcement Authority

The federal and California regulatory structure gives the bank regulatory agencies extensive discretion in connection with their supervisory and enforcement activities and examination policies, including policies with respect to the classification of assets and the establishment of adequate loan loss reserves for regulatory purposes. The regulatory agencies have adopted guidelines to assist in identifying and addressing potential safety and soundness concerns before an institution's capital becomes impaired. The guidelines establish operational and managerial standards generally relating to: (i) internal controls, information systems, and internal audit systems; (ii) loan documentation; (iii) credit underwriting; (iv) interest-rate exposure; (v) asset growth and asset quality; (vi) loan concentration; and (vii) compensation, fees, and benefits. Further, the regulatory agencies have adopted safety and soundness guidelines for asset quality and for evaluating and monitoring earnings to ensure that earnings are sufficient for the maintenance of adequate capital and reserves.

The federal and California regulatory structure subjects the Bancorp and the Bank to regular examination by their respective regulatory agencies, which results in examination reports and ratings that, although not publicly available, can affect the conduct and growth of our businesses. These examinations consider not only compliance with applicable laws and regulations, but also capital levels, asset quality and risk, management ability and performance, earnings, liquidity, and various other factors. If, as a result of an examination, the DFPI or the FDIC should determine that the financial condition, capital resources, asset quality, earnings prospects, management, liquidity, or other aspects of the Bank's operations are unsatisfactory or that the Bank or its management is violating or has violated any law or regulation, the DFPI and the FDIC have residual authority to:

- Require affirmative action to correct any conditions resulting from any violation or practice;
- Direct an increase in capital and the maintenance of higher specific minimum capital ratios, which may preclude the Bank from being deemed "well-capitalized" and restrict its ability to accept certain brokered deposits, among other things;
- Restrict the Bank's growth geographically, by products and services, or by mergers and acquisitions;
- Issue, or require the Bank to enter into, informal or formal enforcement actions, including required Board resolutions, memoranda of understanding, written agreements and consent or cease and desist orders or prompt corrective action orders to take corrective action and cease unsafe and unsound practices;
- Require prior approval of senior executive officer or director changes, remove officers and directors, and assess civil monetary penalties; and
- Terminate FDIC insurance, revoke the Bank's charter, take possession of, close and liquidate the Bank, or appoint the FDIC as receiver.

The Federal Reserve has similar enforcement authority over bank holding companies and commonly takes parallel action in conjunction with actions taken by a subsidiary bank's regulators.

In the exercise of their supervisory and examination authority, the regulatory agencies have recently emphasized corporate governance, stress testing, enterprise risk management and other board responsibilities; anti-money laundering compliance and enhanced high-risk customer due diligence; vendor management; cyber security and fair lending and other consumer compliance obligations.

Deposit Insurance

The FDIC is an independent federal agency that insures deposits, up to prescribed statutory limits, of federally insured banks and savings institutions and safeguards the safety and soundness of the banking and savings industries. The FDIC insures our customer deposits through the Deposit Insurance Fund (the "DIF") up to prescribed limits of $250 thousand for each depositor pursuant to the Dodd-Frank Act. The amount of FDIC assessments paid by each DIF member institution is based on its relative risk of default as measured by regulatory capital ratios and other supervisory factors. As an institution with $10.0 billion or more in assets, the FDIC uses a performance score and a loss-severity score to calculate an initial assessment rate for the Bank. In calculating these scores, the FDIC uses the Bank's capital level and regulatory supervisory ratings and certain financial measures to assess the Bank's ability to withstand asset-related stress and funding-related stress. The FDIC also has the ability to make discretionary adjustments to the total score based upon significant risk factors that are not adequately captured in the calculations. In addition to ordinary assessments described above, the FDIC has the ability to impose special assessments in certain instances.

All FDIC-insured institutions are also required to pay assessments to the FDIC to fund interest payments on bonds issued by the Financing Corporation ("FICO"), an agency of the federal government established to recapitalize the predecessor to the DIF. These assessments will continue until the FICO bonds mature in 2017 through 2019.

Pursuant to the Dodd-Frank Act, the FDIC has established 2.0% as the designated reserve ratio (DRR), that is, the ratio of the DIF to insured deposits. The FDIC adopted a plan under which it met the statutory minimum DRR of 1.35% (formerly 1.15%) before September 30, 2020, the deadline imposed by the Dodd-Frank Act. According to the FDIC, the DRR reached 1.36% of total deposits as of September 30, 2018.

We are generally unable to control the amount of assessments that we are required to pay for FDIC insurance. If there are additional bank or financial institution failures or if the FDIC otherwise determines, we may be required to pay even higher FDIC assessments than the recently increased levels. These increases in FDIC insurance assessments may have a material and adverse effect on our earnings and could have a material adverse effect on the value of, or market for, our common stock.

Under the FDI Act, the FDIC may terminate deposit insurance upon a finding that the institution has engaged in unsafe and unsound practices, is in an unsafe or unsound condition to continue operations, or has violated any applicable law, regulation, rule, order or condition imposed by the FDIC.

Dividends

Holders of the Bancorp's common stock are entitled to receive dividends as and when declared by the board of directors out of funds legally available therefore under the laws of the State of Delaware. Delaware corporations such as the Bancorp may make distributions to their stockholders out of their surplus, or in case there is no surplus, out of their net profits for the fiscal year in which the dividend is declared and/or the preceding fiscal year. However, dividends may not be paid out of a corporation's net profits if, after the payment of the dividend, the corporation's capital would be less than the capital represented by the issued and outstanding stock of all classes having a preference upon the distribution of assets.

It is the Federal Reserve's policy that bank holding companies should generally pay dividends on common stock only out of income available over the past year, and only if prospective earnings retention is consistent with the organization's expected future needs and financial condition. It is also the Federal Reserve's policy that bank holding companies should not maintain dividend levels that undermine their ability to be a source of strength to their banking subsidiaries. The Federal Reserve also discourages dividend policy payment ratios that are at maximum allowable levels unless both asset quality and capital are very strong.

The terms of our Junior Subordinated Notes also limit our ability to pay dividends on our common stock. If we are not current on our payment of interest on our Junior Subordinated Notes, we may not pay dividends on our common stock. The amount of future dividends by the Bancorp will depend on our earnings, financial condition, capital requirements and other factors, and will be determined by our board of directors in accordance with the capital management and dividend policy.

The Bank is a legal entity that is separate and distinct from its holding company. The Bancorp is dependent on the performance of the Bank for funds which may be received as dividends from the Bank for use in the operation of the Bancorp and the ability of the Bancorp to pay dividends to stockholders. Future cash dividends by the Bank will also depend upon management's assessment of future capital requirements, contractual restrictions, and other factors. The Basel III Capital Rules restrict dividends by the Bank if the capital conservation buffer is not achieved.

The power of the board of directors of the Bank to declare cash dividends to the Bancorp is subject to California law, which restricts the amount available for cash dividends to the lesser of a bank's retained earnings or net income for its last three fiscal years (less any distributions to stockholders made during such period). Where the above test is not met, cash dividends may still be paid, with the prior approval of the DFPI, in an amount not exceeding the greatest of (i) retained earnings of the Bank; (ii) the net income of the Bank for its last fiscal year; or (iii) the net income of the Bank for its current fiscal year. Future cash dividends by the Bank will also depend upon management's assessment of future capital requirements, contractual restrictions, and other factors.

Operations, Consumer and Privacy Compliance Laws

The Bank must comply with numerous federal and state anti-money laundering and consumer protection statutes and implementing regulations, including the USA Patriot Act, the Bank Secrecy Act, the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act, the CRA, the Fair Credit Reporting Act, as amended by the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act, the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, the Truth in Lending Act, the Fair Housing Act, the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act, the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act, the National Flood Insurance Act, the California Homeowner Bill of Rights and various federal and state privacy protection laws. The Bank and the Company are also subject to federal and state laws prohibiting unfair or fraudulent business practices, untrue or misleading advertising, and unfair competition. Some of these laws are further discussed below:

The Equal Credit Opportunity Act ("ECOA") generally prohibits discrimination in any credit transaction, whether for consumer or business purposes, on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, age, receipt of income from public assistance programs, or good faith exercise of any rights under the Consumer Credit Protection Act.

The Truth in Lending Act ("TILA") is designed to ensure that credit terms are disclosed in a meaningful way so that consumers may compare credit terms more readily and knowledgeably. As a result of the TILA, all creditors must use the same credit terminology to express rates and payments, including the annual percentage rate, the finance charge, the amount financed, the total of payments and the payment schedule, among other things.

The Fair Housing Act ("FH Act") regulates many practices, including making it unlawful for any lender to discriminate in its housing-related lending activities against any person because of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, handicap or familial status. A number of lending practices have been found by the courts to be, or may be considered, illegal under the FH Act, including some that are not specifically mentioned in the FH Act itself.

The Home Mortgage Disclosure Act ("HMDA") grew out of public concern over credit shortages in certain urban neighborhoods and provides public information that will help show whether financial institutions are serving the housing credit needs of the neighborhoods and communities in which they are located. The HMDA also includes a "fair lending" aspect that requires the collection and disclosure of data about applicant and borrower characteristics as a way of identifying possible discriminatory lending patterns and enforcing anti-discrimination statutes.

Finally, the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act (“RESPA”) requires lenders to provide borrowers with disclosures regarding the nature and cost of real estate settlements. Also, RESPA prohibits certain abusive practices, such as kickbacks, and places limitations on the amount of escrow accounts. Penalties under the above laws may include fines, reimbursements and other civil money penalties.

Due to heightened regulatory concern related to compliance with the CRA, TILA, FH Act, ECOA, HMDA and RESPA generally, the Bank may incur additional compliance costs or be required to expend additional funds for investments in its local community.

The Federal Reserve and other bank regulatory agencies also have adopted guidelines for safeguarding confidential, personal customer information. These guidelines require financial institutions to create, implement and maintain a comprehensive written information security program designed to ensure the security and confidentiality of customer information, protect against any anticipated threats or hazards to the security or integrity of such information and protect against unauthorized access to or use of such information that could result in substantial harm or inconvenience to any customer. Financial institutions are also required to implement policies and procedures regarding the disclosure of nonpublic personal information about consumers to non-affiliated third parties. In general, financial institutions must provide explanations to consumers on policies and procedures regarding the disclosure of such nonpublic personal information and, except as otherwise required by law, prohibits disclosing such information. The Bank has adopted a customer information security and privacy program to comply with such requirements.

Operations, consumer and privacy compliance laws and regulations also mandate certain disclosure and reporting requirements and regulate the manner in which financial institutions must deal with customers when taking deposits, making loans, collecting loans, and providing other services. Failure to comply with these laws and regulations can subject the Bank to lawsuits and penalties, including enforcement actions, injunctions, fines or criminal penalties, punitive damages to consumers, and the loss of certain contractual rights.

In addition, privacy and data protection are areas of increasing state legislative focus, and several states have recently enacted consumer privacy laws that impose compliance obligations with respect to personal information. For example, the California Consumer Privacy Act of 2018 (the “CCPA”), which became effective on January 1, 2020, applies to for-profit businesses that conduct business in California and meet certain revenue or data collection thresholds. The CCPA gives consumers the right to request disclosure of information collected about them, and whether that information has been sold or shared with others, the right to request deletion of personal information (subject to certain exceptions), the right to opt out of the sale of the consumer’s personal information, and the right not to be discriminated against for exercising these rights. The CCPA contains several exemptions, including for information that is collected, processed, sold or disclosed pursuant to the GLB Act. In November 2020, California voters approved the California Privacy Rights Act (“CPRA”), a ballot measure that amends and supplements the CCPA by creating the California Privacy Protection Agency, a watchdog privacy agency to be appointed shortly after the CPRA’s enactment. The CPRA also modifies the CCPA by expanding both the scope of businesses covered by the law and certain rights relating to personal information and its use, collection, and disclosure by covered businesses.

In May 2018, the European Union ("EU") adopted a comprehensive general data privacy regulation ("GDPR") that, among other things, implements greater review of data processing activities and higher fines and sanctions for non-compliance with data protection legislation. The GDPR also extends the territory of EU privacy rules to non-EU organizations that offer goods or services to or monitor EU citizen behaviors and sets forth compliance obligations and penalties for non-compliance. We believe the applicability of the GDPR to us is minimal since we do not offer good or services to EU residents or monitor their behaviors. Other foreign, federal, state or local governments, including in states and countries which we do business, may try to implement similar or other privacy legislation, which, among other effects, could result in different privacy standards for different geographical regions, restrict our ability to do business and increase our costs of doing business.

Cybersecurity

Federal regulators have issued multiple statements regarding cybersecurity and that financial institutions need to design multiple layers of security controls to establish lines of defense and to ensure that their risk management processes also address the risk posed by compromised customer credentials, including security measures to reliably authenticate customers accessing internet-based services of the financial institution. In addition, a financial institution's management is expected to maintain sufficient business continuity planning processes to ensure the rapid recovery, resumption and maintenance of the institution's operations in the event of a cyber-attack. A financial institution is also expected to develop appropriate processes to enable recovery of data and business operations and address rebuilding network capabilities and restoring data if the institution or its critical service providers fall victim to a cyber-attack. If we fail to observe the regulatory guidance, we could be subject to various regulatory sanctions, including financial penalties.

State regulators have also been increasingly active in implementing privacy and cybersecurity standards and regulations. Recently, several states, notably including California where our banking business is concentrated, have adopted laws and/or regulations requiring certain financial institutions to implement cybersecurity programs and providing detailed requirements with respect to these programs, including data encryption requirements. Many such states (including California) have also recently implemented or modified their data breach notification and data privacy requirements. We expect this trend of state-level activity in those areas to continue, and we continue to monitor relevant legislative and regulatory developments in California where most of our customers are located.

In the ordinary course of business, we rely on electronic communications and information systems to conduct our operations and to store sensitive data. We employ a layered, defensive approach that leverages people, processes and technology to manage and maintain cybersecurity controls. We employ a variety of preventative and detective tools to monitor, block, and provide alerts regarding suspicious activity, as well as to report on any suspected advanced persistent threats. Notwithstanding the strength of our defensive measures, the threat from cyber-attacks is severe, attacks are sophisticated and increasing in volume, and attackers respond rapidly to changes in defensive measures. While to date we have not detected a significant compromise, significant data loss or any material financial losses related to cybersecurity attacks, our systems and those of our customers and third-party service providers are under constant threat and it is possible that we could experience a significant event in the future. Risks and exposures related to cybersecurity attacks are expected to remain high for the foreseeable future due to the rapidly evolving nature and sophistication of these threats, as well as due to the expanding use of Internet banking, mobile banking and other technology-based products and services by us and our customers. See Item 1A. Risk Factors for a further discussion of risks related to cybersecurity.

Environmental Regulations

In the course of the Bank's business, the Bank may foreclose and take title to real estate and could be subject to environmental liabilities with respect to these properties. The Bank may be held liable to a governmental entity or to third parties for property damage, personal injury, investigation and clean-up costs incurred by these parties in connection with environmental contamination or may be required to investigate or clear up hazardous or toxic substances, or chemical releases at a property. The costs associated with investigation or remediation activities could be substantial. See Item 1A. Risk Factors for a further discussion of risks related to environmental regulations and liabilities.

Federal Home Loan Bank System

The Bank is a member of the FHLB of San Francisco. Among other benefits, each FHLB serves as a reserve or central bank for its members within its assigned region. Each FHLB is financed primarily from the sale of consolidated obligations of the FHLB system. Each FHLB makes available loans or advances to its members in compliance with the policies and procedures established by the board of directors of the individual FHLB. Each member of the FHLB of San Francisco is required to own stock in an amount equal to the greater of (i) a membership stock requirement with an initial cap of $15.0 million (100% of "membership asset value" as defined), or (ii) an activity based stock requirement (based on a percentage of outstanding advances). There can be no assurance that the FHLB will pay dividends at the same rate it has paid in the past, or that it will pay any dividends in the future.

Impact of Monetary Policies

The earnings and growth of the Bank are largely dependent on its ability to maintain a favorable differential or spread between the yield on its interest-earning assets and the rates paid on its deposits and other interest-bearing liabilities. As a result, the Bank's performance is influenced by general economic conditions, both domestic and foreign, the monetary and fiscal policies of the federal government, and the policies of the regulatory agencies. The Federal Reserve implements national monetary policies (with objectives such as seeking to curb inflation and combat recession) by its open-market operations in U.S. government securities, by adjusting the required level of reserves for financial institutions subject to its reserve requirements, and by varying the discount rate applicable to borrowings by banks from the Federal Reserve Banks. The actions of the Federal Reserve in these areas influence the growth of bank loans, investments and deposits, and also affect interest rates charged on loans and deposits. The nature and impact of any future changes in monetary policies cannot be predicted.

Securities and Corporate Governance

The Bancorp is subject to the disclosure and regulatory requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, both as administered by the SEC. As a company listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market, the Company is subject to NASDAQ listing standards for listed companies. The Bancorp is also subject to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act, and other federal and state laws and regulations which address, among other matters, required executive certification of financial presentations, corporate governance requirements for board and its audit and compensation committees and their members, and disclosure of controls and procedures and internal control over financial reporting, auditing and accounting, executive compensation, and enhanced and timely disclosure of corporate information. NASDAQ has also adopted corporate governance rules, which are intended to allow stockholders and investors to more easily and efficiently monitor the performance of companies and their directors. Under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, management and the Bancorp's independent registered public accounting firm are required to assess the effectiveness of the Bancorp's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2021. These assessments are included in Part II — Item 9A — "Controls and Procedures."

Federal Banking Agency Compensation Guidelines

Guidelines adopted by the federal banking agencies pursuant to the FDI Act prohibit excessive compensation as an unsafe and unsound practice and describe compensation as excessive when the amounts paid are unreasonable or disproportionate to the services performed by an executive officer, employee, director or principal stockholder. Federal banking agencies have also issued comprehensive guidance on incentive compensation policies intended to ensure that the incentive compensation policies of banking organizations do not undermine the safety and soundness of such organizations by encouraging excessive risk-taking.

In addition, the Dodd-Frank Act requires the federal bank regulatory agencies and the SEC to establish joint regulations or guidelines prohibiting certain incentive-based payment arrangements. These regulators must establish regulations or guidelines requiring enhanced disclosure to regulators of incentive-based compensation arrangements. The agencies proposed such regulations in April 2011, but the regulations have not been finalized. In April 2016, the agencies published a notice of proposed rulemaking further revising the incentive-based compensation standards originally proposed in 2011. Similar to the 2011 proposed rule, the 2016 proposed rule would prohibit financial institutions with at least $1.0 billion in consolidated assets from establishing or maintaining incentive-based compensation arrangements that encourage inappropriate risk by providing any executive officer, employee, director or principal shareholder who is a covered person with excessive compensation, fees or benefits or that could lead to material financial loss to the covered institution. It cannot be predicted whether, or in what form, any such proposed compensation rules may be enacted.

The scope, content and application of the U.S. banking regulators' policies on incentive compensation continue to evolve. Depending upon the outcome of the rule making process, the application of any final compensation-related regulations to us could require us to revise our compensation strategy, increase our administrative costs and adversely affect our ability to recruit and retain qualified employees.

The Federal Reserve will review, as part of the regular, risk-focused examination process, the incentive compensation arrangements of banking organizations, such as us, that are not "large, complex banking organizations." These reviews will be tailored to each organization based on the scope and complexity of the organization's activities and the prevalence of incentive compensation arrangements. The findings of the supervisory initiatives will be included in reports of examination. Deficiencies will be incorporated into the organization's supervisory ratings, which can affect the organization's ability to make acquisitions and take other actions. Enforcement actions may be taken against a banking organization if its incentive compensation arrangements, or related risk management control or governance processes, pose a risk to the organization's safety and soundness and the organization is not taking prompt and effective measures to correct the deficiencies.

Audit Requirements

The Bank is required to have an annual independent audit, alone or as a part of the Bancorp's audit, and to prepare all financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP"). The Bank and the Bancorp are also each required to have an audit committee comprised entirely of independent directors. As required by NASDAQ, the Bancorp has certified that its audit committee has adopted formal written charters and meets the requisite number of directors, independence, and other qualification standards. As such, among other requirements, the Bancorp must maintain an audit committee that includes members with banking or related financial management expertise, has access to its own outside counsel, and does not include members who are large customers of the Bank. In addition, because the Bank has more than $3.0 billion in total assets, it is subject to the FDIC requirements for audit committees of large institutions.

Regulation of Non-Bank Subsidiaries

Non-bank subsidiaries are subject to additional or separate regulation and supervision by other state, federal and self-regulatory bodies. Additionally, any foreign-based subsidiaries would also be subject to foreign laws and regulations.

Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017

On December 22, 2017, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 (“Tax Reform Act”) was signed into law. The Tax Reform Act included a number of provisions that impact us, including the following:

- Tax Rate. The Tax Reform Act replaces the corporate tax rates applicable under prior law, which imposed a maximum tax rate of 35%, with a reduced 21% tax rate for 2018. Although the reduced tax rate generally should be favorable to us by resulting in lower tax expense in future periods, it decreased the value of our existing deferred tax assets as of December 31, 2017.

- FDIC Insurance Premiums. The Tax Reform Act prohibits taxpayers with consolidated assets over $50.0 billion from deducting any FDIC insurance premiums and prohibits taxpayers with consolidated assets between $10.0 and $50.0 billion from deducting the portion of their FDIC premiums equal to the ratio, expressed as a percentage, that (i) the taxpayer’s total consolidated assets over $10.0 billion, as of the close of the taxable year, bears to (ii) $40.0 billion.

- Employee Compensation. A “publicly held company” is not permitted to deduct compensation in excess of $1.0 million per year paid to certain employees. The Tax Reform Act eliminates certain exceptions to the $1.0 million limit applicable under prior law related to performance-based compensation, such as equity grants and cash bonuses that are paid only on the attainment of performance goals. As a result, our ability to deduct certain compensation paid to our most highly compensated employees is limited.

- Business Asset Expensing. The Tax Reform Act allows taxpayers to expense immediately the entire cost (instead of only 50%, as under prior law) of certain depreciable tangible property and real property improvements acquired and placed in service after September 27, 2017 and before January 1, 2023 (with an additional year for certain property). This 100% “bonus” depreciation is phased out proportionately for property placed in service on or after January 1, 2023, and before January 1, 2027 (with an additional year for certain property).

- Limitations on Deductions. The Tax Reform Act limits deductions for state and local taxes, including property taxes, to $10 thousand per household, and limits mortgage interest deduction to mortgages of $750 thousand or less. Such limitations may reduce housing demand and prices, particularly in California and other high-tax, high-cost metro areas, which may reduce the demand for our residential mortgage loans and adversely affect our business and financial condition.

CARES Act and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (“CARES”) Act and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (the “CAA”) was signed into law on March 27, 2020, and December 27, 2020, respectively. Among other things, the CARES Act and the CAA include the following provisions impacting financial institutions like the Company:

- As permitted by the CARES Act, and as extended by the CAA, we have chosen to adopt the Current Expected Credit Losses ("CECL") methodology for estimated credit losses as of January 1, 2021.

- As permitted by the CARES Act, and as extended by the CAA, we have elected to suspend requirements under GAAP for loan modifications related to the COVID-19 pandemic (for loans that were not more than 30 days past due as of December 31, 2019) that would otherwise be categorized as a troubled debt restructuring (“TDR”), including impairment for accounting purposes, until the earlier of 60 days after the termination date of the national emergency or January 1, 2022.

- The Bank participates as a lender under the SBA’s Paycheck Protection Program (the “PPP”) authorized by the CARES Act and extended by the CAA. The PPP provides for SBA-guaranteed business loans that may be eligible for loan forgiveness if borrowers, among other requirements, maintain their staff and payroll and if loans amounts are used to cover payroll, mortgage interest, rents and utilities payments.

- A borrower of a federally-backed mortgage loan (VA, FHA, USDA, Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae) experiencing financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic may request forbearance from paying the borrower's mortgage for up to 180 days, subject to extension for an additional 180-day period upon the request of the borrower. The CARES Act and many states, including California, also have moratoriums on certain foreclosure actions.

Pending Legislation and Future Initiatives

Certain pending legislation, and future initiatives that may be proposed or introduced before Congress, the California Legislature, and other governmental bodies, if enacted, may further alter the structure, regulation, and competitive relationship among financial institutions and may subject us to increased supervision and disclosure and reporting requirements. In addition, the various bank regulatory agencies often adopt new rules and regulations and policies to implement and enforce existing legislation. It cannot be predicted whether, or in what form, any such legislation or regulatory changes in policy may be enacted or the extent to which the business of the Bank would be affected thereby. The outcome of examinations, any litigation, or any investigations initiated by state or federal authorities also may result in necessary changes in our operations and increased compliance costs.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

Ownership of our common stock involves certain risks. The risks and uncertainties described below are not the only ones we face. Understanding these risks is important to understanding any statement in this Annual Report on Form 10K. You should carefully read and consider the risks and uncertainties described below together with all of the other information included or incorporated by reference in this Annual Report on Form 10K, including under the heading "Management's Discussion and Analysis". Further, to the extent that any of the information in this report, or in other reports we file with the SEC, constitutes forward-looking statements, the risk factors below are cautionary statements identifying important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in any forward-looking statements made by us or on our behalf. See "Forward-Looking Statements". The risks described below are not the only ones facing our business. Additional risks that management is not aware of or focused on or that management currently deems immaterial may also impair our business operations. This Annual Report on Form 10K is qualified in its entirety by these risk factors.

If any of the following risks actually occur, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially and adversely affected. If this were to happen, the value of our common stock could significantly decline, and you could lose some or all of your investment.

Risk Factors Summary

The following is a summary of the material risks that we believe could adversely affect our business, operations and financial results. These risks are discussed more fully below and include, but are not limited to:

Market and Economic Risks

- *The COVID-19 pandemic has caused a significant global economic disruption, which has, and is expected to continue to, adversely affect our business and results of operations.*

- *Unfavorable or uncertain economic and market conditions, including in California and the other markets in which we operate, can adversely affect our industry and business.*

- *Our loan portfolio is largely secured by real estate, and a downturn in the real estate market may adversely affect our results of operations.*

- *Adverse conditions in Asia and elsewhere could adversely affect our business.*

- *The soundness of other financial institutions could adversely affect us.*

Credit, Interest Rate and Liquidity Risks

- *We may be required to make additional provisions for loan losses and charge off additional loans in the future, which could adversely affect our results of operations.*

- *The allowance for credit losses is an estimate of probable credit losses. Actual credit losses in excess of the estimate could adversely affect our results of operations and capital.*

- *Our business is subject to interest rate risk, and fluctuations in interest rates could reduce our net interest income and adversely affect our business.*

- *Inflation and deflation may adversely affect our financial performance.*

- *Liquidity risk could impair our ability to fund operations and jeopardize our financial condition.*

- *If the Company's goodwill were determined to be impaired, it would result in a charge against earnings and thus a reduction in stockholders' equity.*

Operational Risks

- *We may incur significant losses as a result of ineffective risk management processes and strategies.*

- *Concentration of risk increases the potential for significant losses.*

- *COVID-19 could have negative effects on our commercial real estate ("CRE') and other loans, including loans to hotels/motels, restaurants and the retail industry, which are dependent for repayment on the successful operation and management of the CRE, the strength of the CRE industry broadly and other factors outside of the borrower's control.*

- *Our commercial loan, CRE loan and construction loan portfolios expose us to risks that may be greater than the risks related to our other loans.*

- *Our investments and/or financings in certain tax-advantaged projects may not generate returns as anticipated and may have an adverse impact on our financial results.*

- *Our use of appraisals in deciding whether to make a loan on or secured by real property does not ensure the value of the real property collateral.*

- *Our use of third-party vendors and our other ongoing third party business relationships are subject to increasing regulatory requirements and attention.*

- *Our deposit insurance premiums could increase in the future, which could have a material adverse impact on future earnings and financial condition.*

- *As we expand our business outside of California markets, including through acquisitions, we may encounter additional risks that could adversely affect our business and earnings.*

- *We face substantial competition from our competitors.*

- *We are dependent on key personnel and the loss of one or more of those key personnel may materially and adversely affect our prospects.*

- *Natural disasters, geopolitical events, public health crises and other catastrophic events beyond our control could adversely affect us.*

- *Governmental and societal responses to climate change could adversely affect our business and performance, including indirectly through impacts on our customers.*

Information, Information Technology and Privacy Risks

- *We depend on the accuracy and completeness of information about customers.*

- *Our information systems may experience failures, interruptions, or breaches in security, which could have a material and adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and the value of our common stock.*

- *Our need to continue to adapt our information technology systems to allow us to provide new and expanded service could present operational issues, require significant capital spending, and disrupt our business.*

- *Managing reputational risk is important to attracting and maintaining customers, investors, and employees.*

- *Regulations relating to privacy, information security and data protection could increase our costs, affect or limit how we collect and use personal information and adversely affect our business opportunities.*

Regulatory, Compliance and Legal Risks

- *The banking industry is highly regulated, and the regulatory framework, together with any future legislative or regulatory changes, could limit or restrict our activities, hamper our ability to increase our assets and earnings, and materially and adversely affect our profitability.*

- *We are subject to stringent risk-based capital and leverage requirements, including those adopted by the Federal Reserve ("the Basel III Capital Rules").*

- *We may become subject to supervisory action by bank supervisory authorities that could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and the value of our common stock.*

- *We face a risk of noncompliance and enforcement action with the Bank Secrecy Act and other anti-money laundering statutes and regulations.*

- *We are subject to the Community Reinvestment Act (the "CRA), fair lending and other laws and regulations, and our failure to comply with these laws and regulations could lead to material penalties.*

- *Reforms to and uncertainty regarding LIBOR may adversely affect our business.*

- *Governmental monetary policies and intervention to stabilize the U.S. financial system may affect our business and are beyond our control.*

- *Adverse results in legal proceedings could adversely affect our business and financial condition.*

- *Liabilities from environmental regulations could adversely affect our business and financial condition.*

- *Changes in accounting standards or tax laws and regulations could adversely affect our financial results.*

Risks Related to Ownership of Our Common Stock

- *The price of our common stock may fluctuate significantly, and this may make it difficult for a holder to sell shares of common stock at times or at prices such holder finds attractive.*

- *An investment in our common stock is not an insured deposit.*

- *Statutory and regulatory restrictions on dividends and other distributions from the Bank may adversely impact us by limiting the amount of distributions the Bancorp may receive. Statutory and contractual restrictions (including our outstanding debt securities) and our regulators may also restrict the Bancorp's ability to pay dividends.*

- *The issuance of preferred stock could adversely affect holders of common stock.*

- *Our outstanding debt securities restrict our ability to pay dividends on our common stock.*

- *Certain provisions of our charter and bylaws could make acquiring our Company more difficult.*

- *Our outstanding debt securities restrict our ability to pay dividends on our common stock.*

- *We may need to raise additional capital, which may dilute the interests of holders of our common stock or otherwise have an adverse effect on their investment.*

Market and Economic Risks

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused a significant global economic disruption, which has, and is expected to continue to, adversely affect our business and results of operations.

Global health and economic concerns relating to the COVID-19 pandemic and government actions taken to reduce the spread of the virus have had a material adverse impact on the macroeconomic environment, and the pandemic has significantly increased economic uncertainty. The pandemic has resulted in federal, state and local authorities, including those who govern the markets in which we operate, implementing numerous measures to try to contain the virus. Such measures have included travel bans and restrictions, curfews, quarantines, shelter in place or total lock-down orders and business limitations and shutdowns. Such measures have significantly contributed to rising unemployment and negatively impacted consumer and business spending. The United States government has taken steps to attempt to mitigate some of the more severe anticipated economic effects of the virus, including the passage of the CARES Act and the CAA, and vaccination programs are on-going. There can be no assurance, however, that such steps will be effective or achieve their desired results in the near future.

The pandemic has adversely impacted and is likely to continue to adversely impact our workforce and operations and the operations of our customers and business partners. In particular, we may experience financial losses due to a number of operational factors impacting us or our customers or business partners, including but not limited to the following:

- Our business is dependent upon the willingness and ability of our customers to conduct banking and other financial transactions. The spread of COVID-19 could disrupt the business, activities, and operations of our customers, cause a decline in demand for our products and services, including loans and deposits which may result in a significant decrease in business and would negatively impact our liquidity position, and our growth strategy.

- Our financial results could also be impacted due to an inability of our customers to meet their loan commitments due to job losses or other losses associated with impacts of the disease, and could also result in increased risk of delinquencies, defaults, foreclosures, declining collateral values and the ability of our borrowers to repay their loans resulting in losses to our Bank.

- Based on a review of the appropriateness of the allowance for loan losses at December 31, 2021, we recorded a reversal for credit losses of $16.0 million in the year ended December 31, 2021, primarily a result of the economic improvements of the global economy as economies recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. While we took steps to incorporate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the economic forecast and other factors utilized to determine our allowance for loan losses, if the economic forecast or other factors worsen relative to the assumptions we utilized, our allowance for loan losses will increase accordingly in future periods.

- Market interest rates have declined significantly. We expect that these reductions in interest rates, especially if prolonged, could adversely affect our net interest income, margins and our profitability. Our assets and liabilities may be significantly impacted by changes in interest rates.

- The COVID-19 pandemic restrictions have created significant volatility and disruption in the financial markets, and these conditions may require us to recognize an elevated level of other than temporary impairments on investment securities in our portfolio as issues of these securities are negatively impacted by the economic slowdown. Declines in fair value of investment securities in our portfolio could also reduce the unrealized gains reported as part of our consolidated comprehensive income (loss).

- We are required to comply with minimum capital and leverage requirements. Our capital strategy is primarily to maintain capital levels through the COVID-19 pandemic, and our Board of Directors could determine, as appropriate, to reduce or forego dividends in order to maintain and/or strengthen our capital and liquidity position.

- Current and future governmental action may temporarily require us to conduct business related to foreclosures, repossessions, payments, deferrals and other customer-related transactions differently.

- The pandemic creates heightened risks of cyber and payment fraud, as cyber criminals try to take advantage of the disruption and increased online activity brought about by the pandemic.

Although we have established a pandemic response plan and procedures, our workforce has been, is, and may continue to be impacted by COVID-19. We are taking precautions to protect the safety and well-being of our employees and customers, but no assurance can be given that our actions will be adequate or appropriate, nor can we predict the level of disruption which will occur to our employees' ability to provide customer support and service. The spread could also negatively impact availability of key personnel and employee productivity, as well as the business and operations of third-party service providers who perform critical services for us, which could adversely impact our ability to deliver products and services to our customers.

These and other factors may exist for an extended period of time and may continue to adversely affect our business, financial condition and operations even after the COVID-19 pandemic has subsided. The extent to which the pandemic impacts our business, financial condition and operations will depend on future developments, which are highly uncertain and are difficult to predict, including, but not limited to, the pandemic's duration and severity, the actions to contain it or treat its impact (including the speed and effectiveness of vaccination programs), and how quickly and to what extent normal economic and operating conditions can resume. Even after the pandemic has subsided, we may continue to experience materially adverse impacts to our business as a result of its economic impact, including the availability of credit, adverse impacts on our liquidity and any recession that has occurred or may occur in the future. Additionally, future outbreaks of COVID-19, or other viruses, may occur.

There are no comparable recent events that provide guidance as to the effect the spread of COVID-19 as a global pandemic may have, and, as a result, the ultimate impact of the pandemic is highly uncertain and subject to change. We do not yet know the full extent of the impacts on our business, our operations or the global economy as a whole. Therefore, the risk factors discussed in this Annual Report on Form 10-K could be heightened, changed or be added to in the future.

Unfavorable or uncertain economic and market conditions can adversely affect our industry and business.

Our financial performance generally, as well as the ability of borrowers to make loan payments, the value of the collateral securing those loans, and the demand for loans and our other products and services, are highly dependent upon the business and economic conditions in the markets in which we operate and in the United States as a whole. Unfavorable or uncertain economic and market conditions, including conditions triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic, could lead to credit quality concerns related to repayment ability and collateral protection as well as reduced demand for our products and services. The uncertainties triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic has slowed economic growth and business spending, increased financial market volatility, and opinions vary on when the U.S. economy will recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and the rate of economic growth following recovery. Uncertainties also have arisen as a result of increased tariffs and other changes to U.S. trade policies and reactions to such changes by China and other U.S. trading partners as further discussed below. In addition, economic growth in international markets also appears to be slowing, particularly in China and Europe, which also may impact the economy and financial markets here in the United States. While we have no banking operations in Europe, the impact of Great Britain's exit from the Europe Union on British and European businesses, financial markets, and related businesses in the United States could also adversely affect financial markets generally. Our business also could be adversely affected directly by the default of another institution or if the financial services industry experiences significant market-wide liquidity and credit problems.

Factors related to inflation, recession, unemployment, volatile interest rates, changes in tariffs and trade policies, international conflicts, real estate values, energy prices, state and local municipal budget deficits, consumer confidence level, government spending and any government shutdowns, the U.S. national debt, natural disasters, geopolitical events, public health crises (such as the COVID-19 pandemic) and other factors outside of our control also may assert economic pressures on consumers and businesses and adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations and stock price.

We may face the following risks, among others, in connection with these events:

- Unfavorable market conditions triggered by any of these events (including, but not limited to, the COVID-19 pandemic) result in a deterioration in the credit quality of our borrowers and the demand for our products and services, an increase in the number of loan delinquencies, defaults and charge-offs, additional provisions for loan losses, adverse asset values and an overall material adverse effect on the quality of our loan portfolio.

- Economic pressure on consumers and uncertainty regarding continuing economic improvement resulting from any of these events (including, but not limited to, the COVID-19 pandemic) may result in changes in consumer and business spending, borrowing and saving habits. Such conditions could have a material adverse effect on the credit quality of our loans or our business, financial condition or results of operations.

- The banking industry remains heavily regulated, and changes by Congress or federal regulatory agencies to the banking and financial institutions regulatory regime and heightened legal standards and regulatory requirements may continue to be adopted in the future. Compliance with such regulation may increase our costs and limit our ability to pursue business opportunities.

- The process we use to estimate losses inherent in our credit exposure requires difficult, subjective, and complex judgments, including qualitative factors that pertain to economic conditions and how these economic conditions might impair the ability of our borrowers to repay their loans. The level of uncertainty concerning economic conditions may adversely affect the accuracy of our estimates which may, in turn, impact the reliability of the process.

- The value of the portfolio of investment securities that we hold may be adversely affected by increasing interest rates and defaults by debtors.

- There have been changes and discussions with respect to U.S. trade policies, legislation, treaties and tariffs, including trade policies and tariffs affecting other countries, including China, the European Union, Canada and Mexico and retaliatory tariffs by such countries. Tariffs and retaliatory tariffs have been imposed, and additional tariffs and retaliation tariffs have been proposed. Such tariffs, retaliatory tariffs or other trade restrictions on products and materials that our customers import or export, could cause the prices of our customers' products to increase which could reduce demand for such products, or reduce our customer margins, and adversely impact their revenues, financial results and ability to service debt; which, in turn, could adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations. In addition, to the extent changes in the political environment have a negative impact on us or on the markets in which we operate our business, results of operations and financial condition could be materially and adversely impacted in the future. It remains unclear what the U.S. Administration or foreign governments will or will not do with respect to tariffs already imposed, additional tariffs that may be imposed, or international trade agreements and policies. A trade war or other governmental action related to tariffs or international trade agreements or policies has the potential to negatively impact ours and/or our customers' costs, demand for our customers' products, and/or the U.S. economy or certain sectors thereof and, thus, adversely impact our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Economic conditions in California and the other markets in which we operate may adversely affect our business.

Our banking operations are concentrated primarily in California, and secondarily in New York, Washington, Illinois, Texas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Jersey, and Hong Kong. The economic conditions in these local markets may be different from, and in some instances worse than, the economic conditions in the United States as a whole. Adverse economic conditions in these regions in particular could impair borrowers' ability to service their loans, decrease the level and duration of deposits by customers, decrease demand for our loans and other services and erode the value of loan collateral. These conditions include the effects of the general decline in real estate sales and prices in many markets across the United States; declines in economic growth, business activity or investor or business confidence; limitations on the availability or increases in the cost of credit and capital; increases in inflation or interest rates; high unemployment; natural disasters, pandemics and health crises (such as the COVID-19 pandemic), geopolitical events; state or local government insolvency or budget disputes; changes in taxes, tariffs, trade policies and other government regulations and polices; or a combination of these or other factors. These conditions could increase the amount of our non-performing assets and have an adverse effect on our efforts to collect our non-performing loans or otherwise liquidate our non-performing assets (including other real estate owned) on terms favorable to us, if at all, and could also cause a decline in demand for our products and services, or a lack of growth or a decrease in deposits, any of which may cause us to incur losses, adversely affect our capital, and hurt our business.

Our loan portfolio is largely secured by real estate, and a downturn in the real estate market may adversely affect our results of operations.

The real estate collateral securing our borrowers' obligations is principally located in California, and to a lesser extent, in New York, Washington, Illinois, Texas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, and New Jersey. The value of such collateral depends upon conditions in the relevant real estate markets. These include general or local economic conditions and neighborhood characteristics, unemployment rates, real estate tax rates, the cost of operating the properties, governmental regulations and fiscal policies, acts of nature including earthquakes, floods, and hurricanes (which may result in uninsured losses), and other factors beyond our control. The direction of real estate sales and prices in many markets across the United States is not currently predictable and reductions in the value of our real estate collateral could cause us to have to foreclose on the real estate. If we are not able to realize a satisfactory amount upon foreclosure sales, we may have to own the properties, subjecting us to exposure to the risks and expenses associated with ownership. Any continued declines in real estate sales and prices coupled with any weakness in the economy and continued high unemployment will result in higher than expected loan delinquencies or problem assets, additional loan charge-offs and provisions for loan losses, a decline in demand for our products and services, or a lack of growth or a decrease in deposits, which may cause us to incur losses, adversely affect our capital, and hurt our business.

Adverse conditions in Asia and elsewhere could adversely affect our business.

A substantial number of our customers have economic and cultural ties to Asia and, as a result, we are likely to feel the effects of adverse economic and political conditions in Asia, including the effects of rising inflation or slowing growth and volatility in the real estate and stock markets in China and other regions. Additionally, we maintain a branch in Hong Kong. U.S. and global economic and trade policies, military tensions, and unfavorable global economic conditions may adversely impact the Asian economies. In addition, pandemics and other public health crises, including the occurrence of a contagious disease or illness or concerns over the possibility of such crises could create economic, market and financial disruptions in the region.

A significant deterioration of economic conditions in Asia could expose us to, among other things, economic and transfer risk, and we could experience an outflow of deposits by those of our customers with connections to Asia. Transfer risk may result when an entity is unable to obtain the foreign exchange needed to meet its obligations or to provide liquidity. This may adversely impact the recoverability of investments with or loans made to such entities. Adverse economic conditions in Asia, and in China or Taiwan in particular, may also negatively impact asset values and the profitability and liquidity of our customers who operate in this region.

The soundness of other financial institutions could adversely affect us.

Financial institutions are interrelated as a result of trading, clearing, counterparty or other relationships. We have exposure to many different industries and counterparties, and we routinely execute transactions with counterparties in the financial industry, including brokers and dealers, commercial banks, investment banks, and other institutions. Many of these transactions expose us to credit risk in the event of default of our counterparty. In addition, our credit risk may be exacerbated when the collateral held by us cannot be realized upon or is liquidated at prices not sufficient to recover the full amount of the financial instrument exposure due us. The failure of financial institutions can also result in increased FDIC assessments for the DIF. Any such losses or increased assessments could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

Credit, Interest Rate and Liquidity Risks

We may be required to make additional provisions for loan losses and charge off additional loans in the future, which could adversely affect our results of operations.

At December 31, 2021, our allowance for loan losses totaled $136.2 million and we had net charge-offs of $17.6 million for 2021. Although economic conditions in the real estate market in portions of Los Angeles, San Diego, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties and the Central Valley of California where many of our commercial real estate and construction loan customers are based, have continued to improve, the economic recovery in these areas of California is uneven and in some areas rather slow, with relatively high and persistent unemployment, and economic growth appears to have slowed. Moreover, rising interest rates may adversely affect real estate sales and the refinancing of existing real estate loans. As of December 31, 2021, we had approximately $8.1 billion in commercial real estate and construction loans. Any deterioration in the real estate market generally and in the commercial real estate and residential building segments in particular could result in additional loan charge-offs and provisions for loan losses in the future, which could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, net income, and capital. In addition, a recent change in accounting standards will result in a significant change in how we recognize credit losses as further disclosed in the risk factor below entitled, “Our financial results could be adversely affected by changes in accounting standards or tax laws and regulations.”

The allowance for credit losses is an estimate of probable credit losses. Actual credit losses in excess of the estimate could adversely affect our results of operations and capital.

A significant source of risk arises from the possibility that we could sustain losses because borrowers, guarantors, and related parties may fail to perform in accordance with the terms of their loans. The underwriting and credit monitoring policies and procedures that we have adopted to address this risk may not prevent unexpected losses that could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows. The allowance for credit losses is based on management's estimate of the probable losses from our credit portfolio. If actual losses exceed the estimate, the excess losses could adversely affect our results of operations and capital. Such excess losses could also lead to larger allowances for credit losses in future periods, which could in turn adversely affect results of operations and capital in those periods. If economic conditions differ substantially from the assumptions used in the estimate or adverse developments arise with respect to our credits, future losses may occur, and increases in the allowance may be necessary. In addition, various regulatory agencies, as an integral part of their examination process, periodically review the adequacy of our allowance. These agencies may require us to establish additional allowances based on their judgment of the information available at the time of their examinations. No assurance can be given that we will not sustain credit losses in excess of present or future levels of the allowance for credit losses.

Our business is subject to interest rate risk, and fluctuations in interest rates could reduce our net interest income and adversely affect our business.

A substantial portion of our income is derived from the differential, or "spread," between the interest earned on loans, investment securities, and other interest-earning assets, and the interest paid on deposits, borrowings, and other interest-bearing liabilities. The interest rate risk inherent in our lending, investing, and deposit taking activities is a significant market risk to us and our business. Income associated with interest earning assets and costs associated with interest-bearing liabilities may not be affected uniformly by fluctuations in interest rates. The magnitude and duration of changes in interest rates, events over which we have no control, may have an adverse effect on net interest income. Prepayment and early withdrawal levels, which are also impacted by changes in interest rates, can significantly affect our assets and liabilities. Increases in interest rates may adversely affect the ability of our floating rate borrowers to meet their higher payment obligations, which could in turn lead to an increase in non-performing assets and net charge-offs.

Generally, the interest rates on our interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities do not change at the same rate, to the same extent, or on the same basis. Even assets and liabilities with similar maturities or periods of re-pricing may react in different degrees to changes in market interest rates. Interest rates on certain types of assets and liabilities may fluctuate in advance of changes in general market interest rates, while interest rates on other types of assets and liabilities may lag behind changes in general market rates. Certain assets, such as fixed and adjustable-rate mortgage loans, have features that limit changes in interest rates on a short-term basis and over the life of the asset. Therefore, as interest rates begin to increase, if our floating rate interest-earning assets do not reprice faster than our interest-bearing liabilities in a rising rate environment, our net interest income and, in turn, our profitability, could be adversely affected.

We seek to minimize the adverse effects of changes in interest rates by structuring our asset-liability composition to obtain the maximum spread. We use interest rate sensitivity analysis and a simulation model to assist us in estimating the optimal asset-liability composition. However, such management tools have inherent limitations that impair their effectiveness. Moreover, the long-term effects of the Federal Reserve's unprecedented quantitative easing and tapering off are unknown, and while interest rates have begun to increase, they remain at historically low levels. There can be no assurance that we will be successful in minimizing the adverse effects of changes in interest rates.

Inflation and deflation may adversely affect our financial performance.

The Consolidated Financial Statements and related financial data presented in this report have been prepared in accordance with GAAP. These principles require the measurement of financial position and operating results in terms of historical dollars, without considering changes in the relative purchasing power of money over time due to inflation or deflation. The primary impact of inflation on our operations is reflected in increased operating costs. Conversely, deflation will tend to erode collateral values and diminish loan quality. Virtually all of our assets and liabilities are monetary in nature. As a result, interest rates generally have a more significant impact on our performance than the general levels of inflation or deflation. Interest rates do not necessarily move in the same direction or in the same magnitude as the price of goods and services.

Liquidity risk could impair our ability to fund operations and jeopardize our financial condition.

Liquidity is essential to our business. An inability to raise funds through deposits, FHLB advances and other borrowings, the sale of loans, the issuance of securities and other sources could have a material adverse effect on our liquidity. Our access to funding sources in amounts adequate to finance our activities could be impaired by factors that affect us specifically or the financial services industry in general. Factors that could detrimentally impact our access to liquidity sources include a decrease in the level of our business activity due to a market downturn or adverse regulatory action against us. Deposit balances can decrease when customers perceive alternative investments as providing a better risk/return tradeoff. If customers move money out of bank deposits and into other investments, we would lose a relatively low-cost source of funds, increasing our funding costs and reducing our net interest income and net income. Our ability to acquire deposits or borrow could also be impaired by factors that are not specific to us, such as a severe disruption of the financial markets or negative views and expectations about the prospects for the financial services industry as a whole.

Based on past experience, we believe that our deposit accounts are relatively stable sources of funds. If we increase interest rates paid to retain deposits, our earnings may be adversely affected, which could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. Any decline in available funding could adversely impact our ability to originate loans, invest in securities, meet our expenses, pay dividends to our stockholders or to fulfill obligations such as repaying our borrowings or meeting deposit withdrawal demands, any of which could have a material adverse impact on our liquidity, business, financial condition and results of operations.

If the Company's goodwill were determined to be impaired, it would result in a charge against earnings and thus a reduction in stockholders' equity.

The Company tests goodwill for impairment on an annual basis, or more frequently, if necessary. Quoted market prices in active markets are the best evidence of fair value and are to be used as the basis for measuring impairment, when available. Other acceptable valuation methods include present value measurements based on multiples of earnings or revenues, or similar performance measures. If the Company were to determine that the carrying amount of the goodwill exceeded its implied fair value, the Company would be required to write down the value of the goodwill on the balance sheet, adversely affecting earnings as well as capital.

Operational Risks

We may incur significant losses as a result of ineffective risk management processes and strategies.

We are exposed to many types of operational risks, including liquidity risk, credit risk, market risk, interest rate risk, legal and compliance risk, strategic risk, information security risk, and reputational risk. We are also reliant upon our employees, and our operations are subject to the risk of fraud, theft or malfeasance by our employees, vendors and others. We seek to monitor and control our risk exposure through a risk and control framework encompassing a variety of separate but complementary financial, credit, operational and compliance systems, and internal control and management review processes. However, these systems and review processes and the judgments that accompany their application may not be effective and, as a result, we may not anticipate every economic and financial outcome in all market environments or the specifics and timing of such outcomes, particularly in the event of the kinds of dislocations in market conditions experienced during the recession, which highlight the limitations inherent in using historical data to manage risk. If those systems and review processes prove to be ineffective in identifying and managing risks, our business, financial condition, results of operations and the value of our common stock could be materially and adversely affected. We may also suffer severe reputational damage.

Concentration of risk increases the potential for significant losses.

We have naturally developed concentrated exposures to those markets and asset classes in which we have specific knowledge or competency. In particular, we primarily operate in California markets with a concentration of Chinese-American individuals and businesses, and commercial and commercial real estate loans constitute a significant portion of our loan portfolio. In management's judgment, our extensive experience within these concentration areas helps us to better evaluate underwriting and other associated risks with extending credit. However, the presence of similar exposures concentrated in certain asset classes leaves us exposed to the risk of a focused downturn within a concentration area. Thus, our concentration in the California markets increases our exposure to materially higher credit losses if there is a deterioration in the economic conditions, housing conditions or real estate values in the California markets. Our concentration in commercial and commercial real estate lending also increases our exposure to risks generally associated with such lending. Our commercial and commercial real estate loans may have a greater risk of loss than residential mortgage loans, in part because these loans are generally larger or more complex to underwrite and are characterized by having a limited supply of real estate at commercially attractive locations, long delivery time frames for development and high interest rate sensitivity. Unexpected deterioration in the credit quality of our commercial or commercial real estate loan portfolios would require us to increase our provision for loan losses, which would reduce our profitability and could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations. Moreover, with respect to commercial real estate loans, federal and state banking regulators are examining commercial real estate lending activity with heightened scrutiny and may require banks with higher levels of commercial real estate loans to implement more stringent underwriting, internal controls, risk management policies and portfolio stress testing, as well as possibly higher levels of allowances for losses and capital levels as a result of commercial real estate lending growth and exposures.

COVID-19 could have negative effects on our hospitality and CRE loans, including loans to hotels/motels, restaurants and the retail industry, which are dependent for repayment on the successful operation and management of the CRE, the strength of the CRE industry broadly and other factors outside of the borrower's control.

In response to COVID-19, many state and local governments have ordered certain restrictions on non-essential businesses and residents. Certain industries have been particularly hard hit, including the retail industry, the restaurant industry and the travel and hospitality industry. At December 31, 2021, we had outstanding loans to retail businesses/properties of $1.9 billion, or 11% of total loans, hotels & resorts of $301.3 million, or 2% of total loans, and restaurants of $144.0 million, or 1% of total loans. Our CRE loans are dependent on the profitable operation and management of the property securing the loan and its cash flows. The continued mutation and spread of COVID-19 could result in further reduction of demand for hotel rooms and related lodging and entertainment services in general, reduction in business and personal travel, reduction in discretionary spending by our borrowers' customers, increases in employee health related costs for our customers, operational cost increases due to potential labor, food, energy, water, and transportation shortages, government forced closures and travel restrictions, or other unanticipated costs related to such force majeure events like COVID-19. These conditions could have a significant adverse impact, which could be material to our borrowers, by reducing the revenue and cash flows of our borrowers, impacting the borrowers' ability to repay the loan, increasing the risk of default by our borrowers and/or reducing the foreclosure value of CRE that serves as collateral for certain of our loans. These conditions can also lead to a decline in property sales prices and related assets and properties planned for development. Loans may also be secured by depreciating assets where any repossessed collateral for a defaulted loan may not provide an adequate source of repayment of the outstanding loan balance.

Any of the foregoing could negatively impact our borrowers, and their financial results, which, in turn, could adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.

Our commercial loan, commercial real estate loan and construction loan portfolios expose us to risks that may be greater than the risks related to our other loans.

Our loan portfolio includes commercial loans and commercial real estate loans, which are secured by hotels and motels, shopping/retail centers, service station and car wash, industrial and warehouse properties, and other types of commercial properties. Commercial and commercial real estate loans may carry more risk as compared to other types of lending, because they typically involve larger loan balances often concentrated with a single borrower or groups of related borrowers. This may result in larger charge-offs on commercial and commercial real estate loans on a per loan basis than those incurred with our residential or consumer loan portfolios. These loans also may expose a lender to greater credit risk than loans secured by residential real estate. The payment experience on commercial real estate loans that are secured by income producing properties are typically dependent on the successful operation of the related real estate project and thus, may subject us to adverse conditions in the real estate market or to the general economy. The collateral securing these loans typically cannot be liquidated as easily as residential real estate. If we foreclose on these loans, our holding period for the collateral typically is longer than residential properties because there are fewer potential purchasers of the collateral.

Additionally, many of the Bank's commercial real estate and commercial business loans are made to small to medium sized businesses that may have a heightened vulnerability to economic conditions. Moreover, we have made a portion of these loans in recent years and the borrowers may not have experienced a complete business or economic cycle. Furthermore, the deterioration of our borrowers' businesses may hinder their ability to repay their loans with us, which could adversely affect our results of operations. Any unexpected deterioration in the credit quality of our commercial or commercial real estate loan portfolios would require us to increase our provision for loan losses, which would reduce our profitability and could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

Moreover, federal and state banking regulators are examining commercial real estate lending activity with heightened scrutiny and may require banks with higher levels of commercial real estate loans to implement more stringent underwriting, internal controls, risk management policies and portfolio stress testing, as well as possibly higher levels of allowances for losses and capital levels as a result of commercial real estate lending growth and exposures. Because a significant portion of our loan portfolio is comprised of commercial real estate loans, the banking regulators may require us to maintain higher levels of capital than we would otherwise be expected to maintain, which could limit our ability to leverage our capital and have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

In addition, the risks inherent in construction lending may continue to affect adversely our results of operations. Such risks include, among other things, the possibility that contractors may fail to complete, or complete on a timely basis, construction of the relevant properties; substantial cost overruns in excess of original estimates and financing (including do shortages in labor and raw materials and supplies); market deterioration during construction; and lack of permanent take-out financing. Loans secured by such properties also involve additional risk because they have no operating history. In these loans, loan funds are advanced upon the security of the project under construction (which is of uncertain value prior to completion of construction) and the estimated operating cash flow to be generated by the completed project. There is no assurance that such properties will be sold or leased so as to generate the cash flow anticipated by the borrower. A general decline in real estate sales and prices across the United States or locally in the relevant real estate market, a decline in demand for residential real estate, economic weakness, high rates of unemployment, and reduced availability of mortgage credit, are some of the factors that can adversely affect the borrowers' ability to repay their obligations to us and the value of our security interest in collateral, and thereby adversely affect our results of operations and financial results.

Our investments and/or financings in certain tax-advantaged projects may not generate returns as anticipated and may have an adverse impact on our financial results.

We invest in and/or finance certain tax-advantaged projects promoting affordable housing and renewable energy sources. Our investments in these projects are designed to generate a return primarily through the realization of federal and state income tax credits, and other tax benefits, over specified time periods. We are subject to the risk that previously recorded tax credits, which remain subject to recapture by taxing authorities based on compliance features required to be met at the project level, will fail to meet certain government compliance requirements and will not be able to be fully realized. The possible inability to realize these tax credits and other tax benefits can have a negative impact on our financial results. The risk of not being able to realize the tax credits and other tax benefits depends on many factors outside of our control, including changes in the applicable provisions of the tax code and the ability of the projects to be completed and properly managed.

Our use of appraisals in deciding whether to make a loan on or secured by real property does not ensure the value of the real property collateral.

In considering whether to make a loan secured by real property, we typically require an appraisal of the property. However, an appraisal is only an estimate of the value of the property at the time the appraisal is made. If the appraisal does not reflect the amount that may be obtained upon any sale or foreclosure of the property, we may not realize an amount equal to the indebtedness secured by the property.

Our use of third-party vendors and our other ongoing third-party business relationships are subject to increasing regulatory requirements and attention.

We regularly use third party vendors as part of our business. We also have substantial ongoing business relationships with other third parties. These types of third-party relationships are subject to increasingly demanding regulatory requirements and attention by our federal bank regulators. Recent regulation requires us to enhance our due diligence, ongoing monitoring and control over our third-party vendors and other ongoing third-party business relationships. In certain cases, we may be required to renegotiate our agreements with these vendors to meet these enhanced requirements, which could increase our costs. We expect that our regulators will hold us responsible for deficiencies in our oversight and control of our third-party relationships and in the performance of the parties with which we have these relationships. As a result, if our regulators conclude that we have not exercised adequate oversight and control over our third party vendors or other ongoing third party business relationships or that such third parties have not performed appropriately, we could be subject to enforcement actions, including civil money penalties or other administrative or judicial penalties or fines as well as requirements for customer remediation, any of which could have a material adverse effect our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Our deposit insurance premiums could increase in the future, which could have a material adverse impact on future earnings and financial condition.

The FDIC insures deposits at FDIC-insured financial institutions, including the Bank. The FDIC charges insured financial institutions premiums to maintain the DIF at a specific level. Unfavorable economic conditions, increased bank failures and additional failures decreased the DIF. According to the FDIC, the DIF reserve ratio reached 1.36% of total deposits as of September 30, 2018, exceeding the statutorily required minimum reserved ratio of 1.35% ahead of the September 30, 2020, deadline imposed by the Dodd-Frank Act. The FDIC has, in addition, established a higher reserve ratio of 2% as a long-term goal which goes beyond what is required by statute. There is no implementation deadline for the 2% ratio. The FDIC may increase the assessment rates or impose additional special assessments in the future to keep the DIF at the statutory target level. Any increase in the Bank's FDIC premiums could have an adverse effect on its financial condition and results of operations.

As we expand our business outside of California markets, including through acquisitions, we may encounter additional risks that could adversely affect our business and earnings.

We primarily operate in California markets with a concentration of Chinese-American individuals and businesses; however, one of our strategies is to expand beyond California into other domestic markets that have concentrations of Chinese-American individuals and businesses. We currently have operations in eight other states (New York, Washington, Illinois, Texas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, and New Jersey) and in Hong Kong. In the course of this expansion, we may encounter significant risks and uncertainties that could have a material adverse effect on our operations. These risks and uncertainties include increased expenses and operational difficulties arising from, among other things, our ability to attract sufficient business in new markets, to manage operations in noncontiguous market areas, to comply with all of the various local laws and regulations, and to anticipate events or differences in markets in which we have no current experience.

We have engaged in expansion through acquisitions and may consider other acquisitions in the future. There are risks associated with any such expansion. These risks include, among others, incorrectly assessing the asset quality of a bank acquired in a particular transaction, encountering greater than anticipated costs in integrating acquired businesses, facing resistance from customers or employees, and being unable to profitably deploy assets acquired in the transaction. Additional country- and region-specific risks are associated with transactions outside the United States, including in China. To the extent we issue capital stock in connection with additional transactions, if any, these transactions and related stock issuances may have a dilutive effect on earnings per share and share ownership.

Our earnings, financial condition, and prospects after a merger or acquisition depend in part on our ability to successfully integrate the operations of the acquired company. We may be unable to integrate operations successfully or to achieve expected cost savings. Any cost savings which are realized may be offset by losses in revenues or other charges to earnings. As with any acquisition of financial institutions, there also may be business disruptions that cause us to lose customers or cause customers to remove their accounts from us and move their business to competing financial institutions.

In addition, our ability to grow may be limited if we cannot make acquisitions. We compete with other financial institutions with respect to proposed acquisitions. We cannot predict if or when we will be able to identify and attract acquisition candidates or make acquisitions on favorable terms.

We face substantial competition from our competitors.

We face substantial competition for deposits, loans, and for other banking services, as well as acquisitions, throughout our market area from the major banks and financial institutions that dominate the commercial banking industry. This may cause our cost of funds to exceed that of our competitors. These banks and financial institutions, including those with foreign ownership, may have greater resources than we do, including the ability to finance advertising campaigns and allocate their investment assets to regions of higher yield and demand and make acquisitions and invest in new banking technology. By virtue of their larger capital bases, our larger competitors have substantially greater lending limits than we do and perform certain functions, including trust services, which are not presently offered by us. We also compete for loans and deposits, as well as other banking services, such as payment services, with savings and loan associations, savings banks, brokerage houses, insurance companies, mortgage companies, credit unions, credit card companies and other financial and non-financial institutions and entities. These factors and ongoing consolidation among insured institutions in the financial services industry may materially and adversely affect our ability to market our products and services. Significant increases in the costs of monitoring and ensuring compliance with new banking regulations and the necessary costs of upgrading information technology and data processing capabilities can have a disproportionate impact on our ability to compete with larger institutions.

We are dependent on key personnel and the loss of one or more of those key personnel may materially and adversely affect our prospects.

Competition for qualified employees and personnel in the banking industry is intense and we believe there are a limited number of qualified persons with knowledge of, and experience in, the communities that we serve. The process of recruiting personnel with the combination of skills and attributes required to carry out our strategies is often lengthy. Our success depends to a significant degree upon our ability to attract and retain qualified management, loan origination, finance, customer service, administrative, marketing, and technical personnel and upon the continued contributions of our management and personnel. In particular, our success has been and continues to be highly dependent upon the abilities of key executives and certain other employees, including, but not limited to, our Executive Chairman of the Board, Dunson K. Cheng, our Chief Executive Officer, Chang M. Liu, and our Chief Financial Officer, Heng W. Chen.

Our compensation practices are subject to review and oversight, and may be subject to limitations, by the FDIC, the DFPI, the Federal Reserve and other regulators. Such limitations may or may not affect our competitors and could further affect our ability to attract and retain our executive officers and other key personnel. In April 2011 and April 2016, the Federal Reserve, other federal banking agencies and the SEC jointly published proposed rules designed to implement provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act prohibiting incentive compensation arrangements that would encourage inappropriate risk taking at covered financial institutions, which includes a bank or bank holding company with $1 billion or more of assets, such as the Bancorp and the Bank. It cannot be determined at this time whether or when a final rule will be adopted and whether compliance with such a final rule will substantially affect the manner in which we structure compensation for our executives and other employees. Depending on the nature and application of the final rules, we may not be able to successfully compete with certain financial institutions and other companies that are not subject to some or all of the rules to retain and attract executives and other high performing employees. If this were to occur, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be adversely affected, perhaps materially.

Natural disasters, geopolitical events, public health crises and other catastrophic events beyond our control could adversely affect us.

Natural disasters such as earthquakes, landslides, wildfires, extreme weather conditions, hurricanes, floods, and other acts of nature, geopolitical events such as those involving civil unrest, changes in government regimes, terrorism or military conflict, climate change related events and pandemics and other public health crises, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, and other catastrophic events could, among other things, (i) adversely affect our business operations and those of our customers, counterparties and service providers; (ii) cause substantial damage and loss to real and personal property; (iii) impair our borrowers' ability to service their loans; (iv) decrease the level and duration of deposits by customers; (v) erode the value of loan collateral; (vi) result in an increase in the amount of our non-performing loans and a higher level of non-performing assets (including real estate owned), net charge-offs, and provision for loan losses; or (vii) lead to other operational difficulties and impair our ability to manage our business. We also could be adversely affected if our key personnel or a significant number of our employees were to become unavailable due to a public health crisis (such as another outbreak of a contagious disease), natural disaster, war, act of terrorism, accident, or other reason. Natural disasters, extreme weather conditions, geopolitical events, public health crises and other catastrophic events could also negatively affect our customers, counterparties and service providers, as well as result in disruptions in general economic activity and the financial and real estate markets.

Governmental and societal responses to climate change could adversely affect our business and performance, including indirectly through impacts on our customers.

Governments have become increasingly focused on the effects of climate change and related environmental issues. For example, U.S. Treasury Secretary Yellen has identified climate change and its risk to the financial system as a high priority. In addition, the Federal Reserve Board became a member of the Network of Central Banks and Supervisors for Greening the Financial System and, in its Financial Stability Report of November 2020, specifically addressed the implications of climate change for markets, financial exposures, financial institutions, and financial stability. How governments act to mitigate climate and related environmental risks could have an adverse effect on our business and financial results. The Federal Reserve Board, for example, may incorporate these risks into its supervisory stress tests. In addition, consumers and businesses also may change their behavior on their own as a result of their concerns over the long-term impacts of climate change. We and our customers will need to respond to new laws and regulations as well as consumer and business preferences resulting from climate change concerns. We and our customers may face cost increases, asset value reductions, operating process changes, and the like. The impact on our loan and other customers will likely vary depending on their specific attributes, including reliance on or role in carbon intensive activities and the impact of rising sea levels and other effects of climate change. Among the impacts to us could be a drop in demand for our products and services, particularly in certain sectors. In addition, we could face reductions in creditworthiness on the part of some customers or in the value of assets securing loans. Our efforts to take these risks into account in making lending and other decisions, including by increasing our business with climate-friendly companies, may not be effective in protecting us from the negative impact of new laws and regulations or changes in consumer or business behavior. It is possible as well that changes in climate and related environmental risks, perceptions of them, and governmental responses to them may occur more rapidly than we are able to adapt without disrupting our business and impairing our financial results.

Information, Information Technology and Privacy Risks

We depend on the accuracy and completeness of information about customers.

In deciding whether to extend credit, open a bank account or enter into other transactions with customers, we may rely on information furnished to us by or on behalf of customers, including financial statements and other financial information. We also may rely on representations of customers as to the accuracy and completeness of that information and, with respect to financial statements, on reports of independent auditors. We may further rely on invoices, contracts, and other supporting documentation provided by our customers, as well as our customers' representations that their financial statements conform to GAAP (or other applicable accounting standards in foreign markets) and present fairly, in all material respects, the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the customer. We also may rely on customer representations and certifications, or other audit or accountants' reports, with respect to the business and financial condition of our clients. Our financial condition, results of operations, financial reporting or reputation could be negatively affected if we rely on materially misleading, false, inaccurate or fraudulent information.

Our information systems may experience failures, interruptions, or breaches in security, which could have a material and adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and the value of our common stock.

We rely heavily on communications and information systems to conduct our business. Any failure, interruption, or breach or threatened breach of these systems could result in failures or disruptions in our customer relationship management, general ledger, deposit, loan, and other systems. In the course of providing financial services, we store personally identifiable data concerning customers and employees of customers. While we have policies and procedures designed to prevent or limit the effect of the failure, interruption, or breaches of our information systems, there can be no assurance that any such failures, interruptions, or breaches will not occur or, if they do occur, that they will be adequately addressed. Privacy laws and regulations are matters of growing public concern and are continually changing in the states in which we operate.

In recent periods, there has been a rise in electronic fraudulent activity, security breaches, and cyber-attacks within the financial services industry, especially in the banking sector. Fraudulent activity can take many forms and has evolved and escalated as more tools for accessing financial services emerge. Some financial institutions have reported breaches of their websites and systems, some of which have involved sophisticated and targeted attacks intended to misappropriate sensitive or confidential information, destroy or corrupt data, disable or degrade service, disrupt operations or sabotage systems. These breaches can remain undetected for an extended period of time. Other examples include debit card/credit card fraud, check fraud, mechanical devices attached to ATM machines, social engineering and phishing attacks to obtain personal information, impersonation of our clients through the use of falsified or stolen credentials, employee fraud, information theft and other malfeasance.

The secure maintenance and transmission of confidential information, as well as the secure execution of transactions over our systems, are essential to protect us and our customers against fraud and security breaches and to maintain our customers’ confidence. Increases in criminal activity levels and sophistication, advances in computer capabilities, and other developments could result in a compromise or breach of the technology, processes, and controls that we use to prevent fraudulent transactions or to protect data about us, our customers, and underlying transactions, as well as the technology used by our customers to access our systems. Cyber security risks may also occur with our third-party service providers and may interfere with their ability to fulfill their contractual obligations to us, with attendant potential for financial loss or liability that could adversely affect our financial condition or results of operations. These risks will likely continue to increase in the future as we continue to increase our offerings of mobile services and other Internet or web-based products.

The occurrence of any failures, interruptions, fraudulent activities or breaches could damage our reputation, result in a loss of customers, cause us to incur additional costs (including remediation and cyber security protection costs), disrupt our operations, affect our ability to grow our online and mobile banking services, subject us to additional regulatory scrutiny, or expose us to civil litigation and possible financial liability, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and the value of our common stock.

Our need to continue to adapt our information technology systems to allow us to provide new and expanded service could present operational issues, require significant capital spending, and disrupt our business.

The financial services market, including banking services, is continuing to undergo rapid changes with frequent introductions of new technology-driven products and services. In addition to better serving customers, the effective use of technology increases efficiency and may enable us to reduce costs. Our future success may depend, in part, on our ability to use technology to provide products and services that provide convenience to customers and to create additional efficiencies in our operations. As we continue to offer Internet banking and other online and mobile services to our customers, and continue to expand our existing conventional banking services, we will need to adapt our information technology systems to handle these changes in a way that meets constantly changing industry and regulatory standards. This can be very expensive and may require significant capital expenditures. In addition, our success will depend on, among other things, our ability to provide secure and reliable services, anticipate changes in technology, and efficiently develop and introduce services that are accepted by our customers and cost effective for us to provide. Some of our competitors have substantially greater resources to invest in technological improvements than we currently have. We may not be able to effectively implement new technology-driven products and services or be successful in marketing these products and services to our customers. As a result, our ability to effectively compete to retain or acquire new business may be impaired, and our business, financial condition or results of operations, may be adversely affected.

Managing reputational risk is important to attracting and maintaining customers, investors, and employees.

Threats to our reputation can come from many sources, including adverse sentiment about financial institutions generally, unethical practices, employee misconduct, failure to deliver minimum standards of service or quality, compliance deficiencies, failure to protect confidential client information and questionable, illegal, or fraudulent activities of our customers. We have policies and procedures in place that seek to protect our reputation and promote ethical conduct, but these policies and procedures may not be fully effective. Negative publicity regarding our business, employees, or customers, with or without merit, may result in the loss of customers, investors, and employees, costly litigation, a decline in revenues, and increased governmental regulation.

Regulations relating to privacy, information security and data protection could increase our costs, affect or limit how we collect and use personal information and adversely affect our business opportunities.

We are subject to various privacy, information security and data protection laws, including requirements concerning security breach notification, and we could be negatively impacted by these laws. For example, our business is subject to the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act of 1999 which, among other things: (i) imposes certain limitations on our ability to share nonpublic personal information about our customers with nonaffiliated third parties; (ii) requires that we provide certain disclosures to customers about our information collection, sharing and security practices and afford customers the right to "opt out" of any information sharing by us with nonaffiliated third parties (with certain exceptions); and (iii) requires we develop, implement and maintain a written comprehensive information security program containing safeguards appropriate based on our size and complexity, the nature and scope of our activities, and the sensitivity of customer information we process, as well as plans for responding to data security breaches. Various state and federal banking regulators and states have also enacted data security breach notification requirements with varying levels of individual, consumer, regulatory or law enforcement notification in certain circumstances in the event of a security breach. Moreover, legislators and regulators in the United States are increasingly adopting or revising privacy, information security and data protection laws that potentially could have a significant impact on our current and planned privacy, data protection and information security-related practices, our collection, use, sharing, retention and safeguarding of consumer or employee information, and some of our current or planned business activities. This could also increase our costs of compliance and business operations and could reduce income from certain business initiatives. This includes increased privacy-related enforcement activity at the federal level, by the Federal Trade Commission, as well as at the state level, such as with regard to mobile applications.

Compliance with current or future privacy, data protection and information security laws (including those regarding security breach notification) affecting customer or employee data to which we are subject could result in higher compliance and technology costs and could restrict our ability to provide certain products and services, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial conditions or results of operations. Our failure to comply with privacy, data protection and information security laws could result in potentially significant regulatory or governmental investigations or actions, litigation, fines, sanctions and damage to our reputation, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Regulatory, Compliance and Legal Risks

The banking industry is highly regulated, and the regulatory framework, together with any future legislative or regulatory changes, could limit or restrict our activities, hamper our ability to increase our assets and earnings, and materially and adversely affect our profitability.

We operate in a highly regulated industry and are or may become subject to regulation by federal, state, and local governmental authorities and various laws, regulations, regulatory guidelines, and judicial and administrative decisions imposing requirements or restrictions on part or all of our operations, capitalization, payment of dividends, mergers and acquisitions, investments, loans and interest rates charged, interest rates paid on deposits, and locations of offices. We also must comply with numerous federal anti-money laundering, tax withholding and reporting, and consumer protection statutes and regulations. A considerable amount of management time and resources has been devoted to the oversight of, and the development and implementation of controls and procedures relating to, compliance with these laws and regulations, and we expect that significant time and resources will be devoted to compliance in the future. These laws and regulations mandate certain disclosure and reporting requirements and regulate the manner in which we must deal with our customers when taking deposits, making loans, collecting loans, and providing other services. We also are, or may become subject to, examination, supervision, and additional comprehensive regulation by various federal, state, and local authorities with regard to compliance with these laws and regulations. Failure to comply with laws, regulations, or policies could result in sanctions by regulatory agencies, civil money penalties, and/or reputation damage, which could have a material and adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and the value of our common stock.

Because our business is highly regulated, the laws, rules, regulations, and supervisory guidance and policies applicable to us are subject to regular modification and change. Perennially, various laws, rules and regulations are proposed, which, if adopted, could impact our operations, increase our capital requirements or substantially restrict our growth and adversely affect our ability to operate profitably by making compliance much more difficult or expensive, restricting our ability to originate or sell loans, or further restricting the amount of interest or other charges or fees earned on loans or other products. The Dodd-Frank Act, for example, instituted major changes to the banking and financial institutions regulatory regimes, such as changes to Regulation Z promulgated by the CFPB that may make it more difficult for us to underwrite consumer mortgages and to compete with large national mortgage service providers. Further regulation could increase the assessment rate we are required to pay to the FDIC, adversely affecting our earnings. Other changes to statutes, regulations, or regulatory policies, including changes in interpretation or implementation of statutes, regulations, or policies, could affect us in substantial and unpredictable ways. It is very difficult to predict the competitive impact that any such changes would have on the banking and financial services industry in general or on our business in particular. Such changes may, among other things, increase the cost of doing business, limit permissible activities, or affect the competitive balance between banks and other financial institutions. See Part I — Item 1 — "Business — Regulation and Supervision."

We are subject to stringent capital requirements, including those required by Basel III.

The U.S. federal bank regulators have jointly adopted capital requirements on banks and bank holding companies as required by the Dodd-Frank Act, which incorporate the elements of Basel Committee's Basel III accords and have the effect of raising our capital requirements and imposing new capital requirements beyond those previously required. Increased regulatory capital requirements (and the associated compliance costs) whether due to the adoption of new laws and regulations, changes in existing laws and regulations, or more expansive or aggressive interpretations of existing laws and regulations, may require us to raise additional capital, or impact our ability to pay dividends or pay compensation to our executives, which could have a material and adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and the value of our common stock. If we do not meet minimum capital requirements, we will be subject to prompt corrective action by federal bank regulatory agencies. Prompt corrective action can include progressively more restrictive constraints on operations, management and capital distributions. For additional discussion regarding our capital requirements, please see "Item 1. Business – Regulation and Supervision – Capital Adequacy Requirements" above.

We may become subject to supervisory action by bank supervisory authorities that could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and the value of our common stock.

Under federal and state laws and regulations pertaining to the safety and soundness of financial institutions, the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco (the "FRB SF") has authority over the Bancorp and separately the DFPI and FDIC have authority over the Bank to compel or restrict certain actions if the Bancorp or the Bank should violate any laws or regulations, if its capital should fall below adequate capital standards as a result of operating losses, or if these regulators otherwise determine that the Bancorp or the Bank have engaged in unsafe or unsound practices, including failure to exercise proper risk oversight over the many areas of the Bancorp's and the Bank's operations. These regulators, as well as the CFPB, also have authority over the Bancorp's and the Bank's compliance with various statutes and consumer protection and other regulations. Among other matters, the corrective actions that may be required of the Bancorp or the Bank following the occurrence of any of the foregoing may include, but are not limited to, requiring the Bancorp and/or the Bank to enter into informal or formal enforcement orders, including board resolutions, memoranda of understanding, written agreements, supervisory letters, commitment letters, and consent or cease and desist orders to take corrective action and refrain from unsafe and unsound practices; removing officers and directors; restricting expansion activities; assessing civil monetary penalties; and taking possession of, closing and liquidating the Bank. If we are unable to meet the requirements of any corrective actions, we could become subject to supervisory action. The terms of any such supervisory action could have a material and adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and the value of our common stock.

We face a risk of noncompliance and enforcement action with the Bank Secrecy Act and other anti-money laundering statutes and regulations.

The Bank Secrecy Act, the USA PATRIOT Act of 2001, and other laws and regulations require financial institutions, among other duties, to institute and maintain an effective anti-money laundering program and file suspicious activity and currency transaction reports as appropriate. The federal Financial Crimes Enforcement Network is authorized to impose significant civil money penalties for violations of those requirements and has recently engaged in coordinated enforcement efforts with federal banking regulators, as well as with the U.S. Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration, and Internal Revenue Service. We are also subject to increased scrutiny of compliance with the rules enforced by the Office of Foreign Assets Control and compliance with the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. In addition, our Hong Kong Branch is subject to the anti-money laundering laws and regulations of Hong Kong. If our policies, procedures and systems are deemed deficient, we would be subject to liability, including fines and regulatory actions, which may include restrictions on our ability to pay dividends and the necessity to obtain regulatory approvals to proceed with certain aspects of our business plan, including our acquisition plans. Failure to maintain and implement adequate programs to combat money laundering and terrorist financing could also have serious reputational consequences for us. Any of these results could materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations and the value of our common stock.

We are subject to the CRA, fair lending and other laws and regulations, and our failure to comply with these laws and regulations could lead to material penalties.

The CRA, the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, the Fair Housing Act and other fair lending laws and regulations impose nondiscriminatory lending and other requirements on financial institutions. The U.S. Department of Justice and other federal agencies, including the FDIC and CFPB, are responsible for enforcing these laws and regulations. A successful challenge to an institution's performance under the CRA, fair lending and other compliance laws and regulations could result in a wide variety of sanctions, including the required payment of damages and civil money penalties, injunctive relief, imposition of restrictions on mergers and acquisitions activity and restrictions on expansion. Private parties may also have the ability to challenge an institution's performance under fair lending laws in private class action litigation. The costs of defending, and any adverse outcome from, any such challenge could damage our reputation or could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Reforms to and uncertainty regarding LIBOR may adversely affect our business.

On July 27, 2017, the United Kingdom's Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA"), which regulates LIBOR, announced that it will no longer persuade or compel banks to submit rates for the calculation of LIBOR after 2021. While Intercontinental Exchange Inc., the company that administers LIBOR plans to continue publishing LIBOR, liquidity in the interbank markets that those LIBOR estimates are based upon has been declining. Accordingly, there is considerable uncertainty regarding the publication of such rates beyond 2021. In April 2018, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York in conjunction with the Alternative Reference Rates Committee, a steering committee comprised of large U.S. financial institutions, announced the replacement of U.S. LIBOR with a new index calculated by short-term repurchase agreements, backed by U.S. Treasury securities called the Secured Overnight Financing Rate ("SOFR"). The first publication of SOFR was released in April 2018. Whether or not SOFR attains market traction as a LIBOR replacement tool remains in question and the future of LIBOR at this time is uncertain. The uncertainty as to the nature and effect of such reforms and actions and the political discontinuance of LIBOR may adversely affect the value of and return on our financial assets and liabilities that are based on or are linked to LIBOR, our results of operations or financial condition. In addition, these reforms may also require extensive changes to the contracts that govern these LIBOR based products, as well as our systems and processes.

As of December 31, 2021, approximately $2.2 billion of our outstanding loans, and, in addition, certain derivative contracts, borrowings and other financial instruments have attributes that are either directly or indirectly dependent on LIBOR. The transition from LIBOR has resulted in and could continue to result in added costs and employee efforts and could present additional risk. We are subject to litigation and reputational risks if we are unable to renegotiate and amend existing contracts with counterparties that are dependent on LIBOR, including contracts that do not have fallback language. The timing and manner in which each customer's contract transitions to SOFR, Ameribor Unsecured Overnight Rate ("AMERIBOR"), or Bloomberg Short Term Bank Yield Index ("BSBY") will vary on a case-by-case basis. There continues to be substantial uncertainty as to the ultimate effects of the LIBOR transition, including with respect to the acceptance and use of SOFR, AMERIBOR, BSBY and other benchmark rates. Since SOFR, AMERIBOR, and BSBY rates are calculated differently, payments under contracts referencing new rates will differ from those referencing LIBOR, which may lead to increased volatility as compared to LIBOR. The transition has impacted our market risk profiles and required changes to our risk and pricing models, valuation tools, product design and hedging strategies. Furthermore, failure to adequately manage this transition process with our customers could adversely impact our reputation. Although we are currently unable to assess what the ultimate impact of the transition from LIBOR will be, failure to adequately manage the transition could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Governmental monetary policies and intervention to stabilize the U.S. financial system may affect our business and are beyond our control.

The business of banking is affected significantly by the fiscal and monetary policies of the Federal government and its agencies. Such policies are beyond our control. We are particularly affected by the policies established by the Federal Reserve in relation to the supply of money and credit in the United States. The instruments of monetary policy available to the Federal Reserve can be used in varying degrees and combinations to directly affect the availability of bank loans and deposits, as well as the interest rates charged on loans and paid on deposits, and this can and does have a material effect on our business.

Adverse results in legal proceedings could adversely affect our business and financial condition.

Various aspects of our operations involve the risk of legal liability. We have been, and expect to continue to be, named or threatened to be named as defendants in legal proceedings arising from our business activities. We establish accruals for legal proceedings when information related to the loss contingencies represented by those proceedings indicates both that a loss is probable and that the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated, but we do not have accruals for all legal proceedings where we face a risk of loss. In addition, amounts accrued may not represent the ultimate loss to us from those legal proceedings. Thus, our ultimate losses may be higher or lower, and possibly significantly so, than the amounts accrued for loss contingencies arising from legal proceedings, and these losses could have a material and adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and the value of our common stock.

Liabilities from environmental regulations could materially and adversely affect our business and financial condition.

In the course of the Bank's business, the Bank may foreclose and take title to real estate and could be subject to environmental liabilities with respect to these properties. The Bank may be held liable to a governmental entity or to third parties for property damage, personal injury, investigation and clean-up costs incurred by these parties in connection with environmental contamination or may be required to investigate or clear up hazardous or toxic substances, or chemical releases at a property. The costs associated with investigation or remediation activities could be substantial. In addition, as the owner or former owner of any contaminated site, the Bank may be subject to common law claims by third parties based on damages, and costs resulting from environmental contamination emanating from the property. If the Bank ever becomes subject to significant environmental liabilities, its business, financial condition, results of operations and the value of our common stock could be materially and adversely affected.

Changes in accounting standards or tax laws and regulations could adversely affect our financial results.

From time to time, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (the "FASB") and the SEC will change the financial accounting and reporting standards that govern the preparation of our financial statements. In addition, from time to time, federal and state taxing authorities will change the tax laws and regulations, and their interpretations. These changes and their effects can be difficult to predict and can materially and adversely impact how we record and report our financial condition and results of operations.

In addition, changes to tax law could increase our effective tax rates. These law changes may be retroactive to previous periods and as a result could negatively affect our current and future financial performance. For example, the recent changes in the tax laws may have an adverse effect on the market for, and valuation of, residential properties, and on the demand for such loans in the future and could make it harder for borrowers to make their loan payments. In addition, these recent changes may also have a disproportionate effect on taxpayers in states with high residential home prices and high state and local taxes. If home ownership becomes less attractive, demand for mortgage loans could decrease. The value of the properties securing loans in our loan portfolio may be adversely impacted as a result of the changing economics of home ownership, which could require an increase in our provision for loan losses, which would reduce our profitability and could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Risks Related to Ownership of Our Common Stock

The price of our common stock may fluctuate significantly, and this may make it difficult for you to sell shares of common stock owned by you at times or at prices you find attractive.

The trading price of our common stock may fluctuate widely as a result of a number of factors, many of which are outside our control. In addition, the stock market is subject to fluctuations in the share prices and trading volumes that affect the market prices of the shares of many companies. These broad market fluctuations could adversely affect the market price of our common stock. Among the factors that could affect our stock price are:

- actual or anticipated quarterly fluctuations in our operating results and financial condition and prospects;
- changes in revenue or earnings estimates or publication of research reports and recommendations by financial analysts;
- failure to meet analysts' revenue or earnings estimates;
- speculation in the press or investment community;
- strategic actions by us or our competitors, such as acquisitions or restructurings;
- acquisitions of other banks or financial institutions;
- actions by institutional stockholders;
- fluctuations in the stock price and operating results of our competitors;
- general market conditions and, in particular, developments related to market conditions for the financial services industry;
- proposed or adopted regulatory changes or developments;
- anticipated or pending investigations, proceedings, or litigation that involve or affect us;
- successful management of reputational risk; and
- domestic and international economic factors, such as interest or foreign exchange rates, stock, commodity, credit, or asset valuations or volatility, unrelated to our performance.

The stock market and, in particular, the market for financial institution stocks, has experienced significant volatility. As a result, the market price of our common stock may be volatile. In addition, the trading volume in our common stock may fluctuate more than usual and cause significant price variations to occur. The trading price of the shares of our common stock and the value of our other securities will depend on many factors, which may change from time to time, including, without limitation, our financial condition, performance, creditworthiness and prospects, future sales of our equity or equity related securities, and other factors identified above in "Forward-Looking Statements," and in this Item 1A — "Risk Factors." The capital and credit markets can experience volatility and disruption. Such volatility and disruption can reach unprecedented levels, resulting in downward pressure on stock prices and credit availability for certain issuers without regard to their underlying financial strength. A significant decline in our stock price could result in substantial losses for individual stockholders and could lead to costly and disruptive securities litigation.

An investment in our common stock is not an insured deposit.

Our common stock is not a bank deposit and, therefore, is not insured against loss by the FDIC, any other deposit insurance fund or by any other public or private entity. Investment in our common stock is inherently risky for the reasons described in this "Risk Factors" section, elsewhere in this report and other documents we file with the SEC and is subject to the same market forces that affect the price of common stock in any company. As a result, if you acquire our common stock, you could lose some or all of your investment.

Statutory restrictions and restrictions by our regulators on dividends and other distributions from the Bank may adversely impact us by limiting the amount of distributions the Bancorp may receive. Statutory and contractual restrictions and our regulators may also restrict the Bancorp's ability to pay dividends.

The ability of the Bank to pay dividends to us is limited by various regulations and statutes, including California law, and our ability to pay dividends on our outstanding stock is limited by various regulations and statutes, including Delaware law.

Substantially all of the Bancorp's cash flow comes from dividends that the Bank pays to us. Various statutory provisions restrict the amount of dividends that the Bank can pay to us without regulatory approval.

The Federal Reserve Board has previously issued Federal Reserve Supervision and Regulation Letter SR-09-4 that states that bank holding companies are expected to inform and consult with the Federal Reserve supervisory staff prior to taking any actions that could result in a diminished capital base, including any payment or increase in the rate of dividends. In addition, if we are not current in our payment of dividends on our Junior Subordinated Notes, we may not pay dividends on our common stock. Further, new capital conservation buffer requirements will limit the ability of the Bank to pay dividends to the Bancorp if we are not compliant with those capital cushions.

If the Bank were to liquidate, the Bank's creditors would be entitled to receive distributions from the assets of the Bank to satisfy their claims against the Bank before the Bancorp, as a holder of the equity interest in the Bank, would be entitled to receive any of the assets of the Bank as a distribution or dividend.

The restrictions described above, together with the potentially dilutive impact of the warrant initially issued to the U.S. Treasury in connection with our participation in the TARP Capital Purchase Program and subsequently sold by the U.S. Treasury in a secondary public offering, could have a negative effect on the value of our common stock. Moreover, holders of our common stock are entitled to receive dividends only when, as and if declared by our board of directors. Although we have historically paid cash dividends on our common stock, we are not required to do so and our board of directors could reduce or eliminate our common stock dividend in the future, which could adversely affect the market price of our common stock.

The issuance of preferred stock could adversely affect holders of common stock, which may negatively impact their investment.

Our board of directors is authorized to issue preferred stock without any action on the part of the stockholders. Our board of directors also has the power, without stockholder approval, to set the terms of any such classes or series of preferred stock that may be issued, including voting rights, dividend rights and preferences over the common stock with respect to dividends or upon the liquidation, dissolution, or winding up of our business and other terms. If we issue preferred stock in the future that has a preference over the common stock with respect to the payment of dividends or upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up, or if we issue preferred stock with voting rights that dilute the voting power of the common stock, the rights of holders of the common stock or the market price of the common stock could be adversely affected.

Certain provisions of our charter and bylaws could make the acquisition of our company more difficult.

Certain provisions of our restated certificate of incorporation, as amended, and our restated bylaws, as amended, could make the acquisition of our company more difficult. These provisions include authorized but unissued shares of preferred and common stock that may be issued without stockholder approval; three classes of directors serving staggered terms; special requirements for stockholder proposals and nominations for director; and super-majority voting requirements in certain situations including certain types of business combinations.

Our outstanding debt securities restrict our ability to pay dividends on our common stock.

We have issued an aggregate of $119.1 million in trust preferred securities (collectively, the “Trust Preferred Securities”). Payments to investors in respect of the Trust Preferred Securities are funded by distributions on certain series of securities issued by us, with similar terms to the relevant series of Trust Preferred Securities, which we refer to as the “Junior Subordinated Notes.” If we are unable to pay interest in respect of the Junior Subordinated Notes (which will be used to make distributions on the Trust Preferred Securities), or if any other event of default occurs, then we will generally be prohibited from declaring or paying any dividends or other distributions, or redeeming, purchasing or acquiring, any of our capital securities, including the common stock, during the next succeeding interest payment period applicable to any of the Junior Subordinated Notes.

Moreover, any other financing agreements that we enter into in the future may limit our ability to pay cash dividends on our capital stock, including the common stock. In the event that any other financing agreements in the future restrict our ability to pay such dividends, we may be unable to pay dividends in cash on the common stock unless we can refinance amounts outstanding under those agreements.

We may need to raise additional capital, which may dilute the interests of holders of our common stock or otherwise have an adverse effect on their investment.

Should economic conditions deteriorate, particularly in the California commercial real estate and residential real estate markets where our business is concentrated, we may need to raise more capital to support any additional provisions for loan losses and loan charge-offs. In addition, we may need to raise more capital to meet other regulatory requirements, including new required capital standards, if our losses are higher than expected, if we are unable to meet our capital requirements, or if additional capital is required for our growth. There can be no assurance that we would succeed in raising any such additional capital, and any capital we obtain may dilute the interests of holders of our common stock, or otherwise have an adverse effect on their investment.

Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

The Company has not received written comments regarding its periodic or current reports from the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission that were issued not less than 180 days before the end of its 2021 fiscal year and that remain unresolved.

Item 2. Properties

Cathay General Bancorp

As of the date of the filing of this annual report, the Bancorp neither owns nor leases any real or personal property. The Bancorp uses the premises, equipment, and furniture of the Bank at 777 North Broadway, Los Angeles, California 90012 and at 9650 Flair Drive, El Monte, California 91731, in exchange for payment of a management fee to the Bank.

Cathay Bank

The Bank's head office is located in a 36,727 square foot building in the Chinatown area of Los Angeles. The Bank owns both the building and the land upon which the building is situated. The Bank maintains certain of its administrative offices at a seven-story 102,548 square foot office building located at 9650 Flair Drive, El Monte, California 91731. The Bank also owns this building and land in El Monte.

The Bank owns its branch offices in Monterey Park, Alhambra, Westminster, San Gabriel, City of Industry, Cupertino, Artesia, New York City (2 locations), Flushing (3 locations), Chicago, and Rockville in the state of Maryland. In addition, the Bank has certain operating and administrative departments located at 4128 Temple City Boulevard, Rosemead, California, where it owns the building and land with approximately 27,600 square feet of space.

The other branch and representative offices and other properties are leased by the Bank under leases with expiration dates ranging from May 2023 to December 2029, exclusive of renewal options. As of December 31, 2021, the Bank's investment in premises and equipment totaled $99.4 million, net of accumulated depreciation. See Note 6 and Note 13 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Item 3. Legal Proceedings

See the information under section entitled "Legal Proceedings" in Note 12 to the Consolidated Financial Statements. That information is incorporated into this item by reference.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Not Applicable.

PART II

Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

Market Information

Bancorp's common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "CATY." As of February 15, 2022, Bancorp had outstanding approximately 79,286,834 shares of common stock with approximately 1,564 holders of record. For information on Bancorp's dividend policy and the statutory and regulatory limitations on the ability of Bancorp to pay dividends to its shareholders and on the Bank to pay dividends to Bancorp, see "Item 1. Business-Regulation and Supervision — Dividends" and "Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations — Capital Resources – Dividend Policy.".

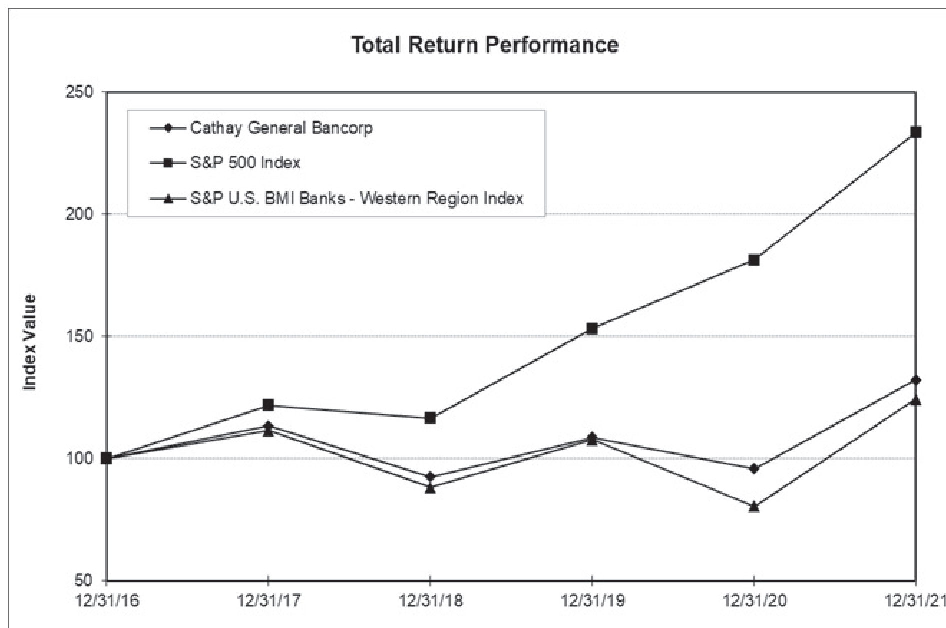
Securities Authorized for Issuance under Equity Compensation Plans

The information required by this item regarding equity compensation plans is incorporated by reference to the information set forth in Part III, Item 12 in this report.

Performance Graph

The graph and accompanying information furnished below shows the cumulative total shareholder return over a five-year period through December 31, 2021, assuming an investment of $100 was made and that all dividends were reinvested, in each of our common stock, the Standard & Poor's (S&P) 500 Index, and the S&P U.S. BMI Banks–Western Region Index. The S&P U.S. BMI Banks–Western Region Index is a market-weighted index comprised of publicly traded banks and bank holding companies (including the Company) most of which are based in California and the remainder of which are based in eight other western states, including Oregon, Washington, and Nevada. We will furnish, without charge, on the written request of any person who is a stockholder of record as of the record date for the 2022 annual meeting of stockholders, a list of the companies included in the S&P U.S. BMI Banks–Western Region Index. Requests for this information should be addressed to May Chan, Secretary, Cathay General Bancorp, 777 North Broadway, Los Angeles, California 90012.

The comparisons in the graph below are based upon historical data and are not indicative of, or intended to forecast, the future performance of, or returns on, our common stock. Such information furnished herewith shall not be deemed to be incorporated by reference into any of our filings under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and shall not be deemed to be "soliciting material" or to be "filed" under the Securities Act or the Securities Exchange Act with the Securities and Exchange Commission except to the extent that the Company specifically requests that such information be treated as soliciting material or specifically incorporates it by reference into a filing under the Securities Act or the Securities Exchange Act.



	Period Ending					
Index	**12/31/2016**	**12/31/2017**	**12/31/2018**	**12/31/2019**	**12/31/2020**	**12/31/2021**
Cathay General Bancorp	100.00	113.40	92.45	108.61	95.97	132.19
S&P 500 Index	100.00	121.83	116.49	153.17	181.35	233.41
S&P U.S. BMI Banks - Western Region Index....	100.00	111.50	88.28	107.65	80.56	124.21

Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence © 2022

Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities

There were no sales of any equity securities by the Company during the period covered by this Annual Report on Form 10-K that were not registered under the Securities Act.

Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

On April 1, 2021, the Board of Directors approved a new stock repurchase program to buy back up to $75.0 million of Bancorp's common stock. The $75.0 million share repurchased program was completed on August 5, 2021, with the repurchase of 1,832,481 shares for a total of $75.0 million, at an average cost of $40.93 per share.

On September 2, 2021, the Board of Directors approved a new stock repurchase program to buy back up to $125.0 million of the Company’s common stock. Through December 31, 2021, the Company repurchased 2,153,576 shares of common stock for a total of $92.1 million, at an average cost of $42.77 per share under the September 2021 buyback program.

Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities				
Period	**(a) Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased**	**(b) Average Price Paid per Share (or Unit)**	**(c) Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs**	**(d) Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares (or Units) that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs**
October 1, 2021 - October 31, 2021	106,720	$ 42.26	106,720	$ 94,821,432
November 1, 2021 - November 30, 2021	880,818	$ 44.37	880,818	$ 55,736,837
December 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021	523,500	$ 43.63	523,500	$ 32,895,703
Total	**1,511,038**	**$ 43.97**	**1,511,038**	**$ 32,895,703**

Item 6. Reserved

Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

General

The following discussion is intended to provide information to facilitate the understanding and assessment of the consolidated financial condition and results of operations of the Bancorp and its subsidiaries. It should be read in conjunction with this Annual Report and the audited Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes appearing elsewhere in this Annual Report. The following discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations contains forward-looking statements. These statements are based on current expectations and assumptions, which are subject to risks and uncertainties. See “Forward-Looking Statements” and “Risk Factors Summary.” Actual results could differ materially because of various factors, including but not limited to those discussed in “Risk Factors,” under Part I, Item 1A of this Annual Report.

The Bank offers a wide range of financial services. As of the filing date of this report, the Bank operates 31 branches in Southern California, 16 branches in Northern California, 10 branches in New York State, four branches in Washington State, two branches in Illinois, two branches in Texas, one branch in each of Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, and New Jersey, one branch in Hong Kong, and a representative office in Beijing, in Shanghai, and in Taipei. The Bank is a commercial bank, servicing primarily individuals, professionals, and small to medium-sized businesses in the local markets in which its branches are located.

The financial information presented herein includes the accounts of the Bancorp, its subsidiaries, including the Bank, and the Bank’s consolidated subsidiaries. All material transactions between these entities are eliminated.

Critical Accounting Policies

The discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations are based upon our Consolidated Financial Statements, which have been prepared in accordance with GAAP. The preparation of the Consolidated Financial Statements requires management to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of our Consolidated Financial Statements. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

Certain accounting policies that are fundamental to understanding our financial condition and results of operations involve significant judgments and assumptions by management that have a material impact on the carrying value of certain assets and liabilities. Management considers such accounting policies to be critical accounting policies. The judgments and assumptions used by management are based on historical experience and other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Management believes the following are critical accounting policies that require the most significant judgments and estimates used in the preparation of the Consolidated Financial Statements:

Allowance for Credit Losses ("ACL") on Loans Held for Investment

The Bank maintains the allowance for credit losses at a level that the Bank considers appropriate to absorb the estimated and known risks in the loan portfolio and off-balance sheet unfunded credit commitments. Allowance for credit losses is comprised of the allowance for loan losses and the reserve for off-balance sheet unfunded credit commitments. With this risk management objective, the Bank's management has an established monitoring system that it believes is designed to identify individually evaluated and potential problem loans, and to permit periodic evaluation of impairment and the appropriate level of the allowance for credit losses in a timely manner.

In addition, the Company's Board of Directors has established a written credit policy that includes a credit review and control system that the Board of Directors believes should be effective in ensuring that the Bank maintains an appropriate allowance for credit losses. The Board of Directors provides oversight for the allowance evaluation process, including quarterly evaluations, and determines whether the allowance is appropriate to absorb losses in the credit portfolio. The determination of the amount of the allowance for credit losses and the provision for credit losses are based on management's current judgment about the credit quality of the loan portfolio and takes into consideration known relevant internal and external factors that affect collectability when determining the appropriate level for the allowance for credit losses. The nature of the process by which the Bank determines the appropriate allowance for credit losses requires the exercise of considerable judgment. Additions to the allowance for credit losses are made by charges to the provision for credit losses. While management utilizes its business judgment based on the information available, the ultimate appropriateness of the allowance is dependent upon a variety of factors, many of which are beyond the Bank's control, including but not limited to the performance of the Bank's loan portfolio, the economy and market conditions, changes in interest rates, and the view of the regulatory authorities toward loan classifications. Identified credit exposures that are determined to be uncollectible are charged against the allowance for credit losses. Recoveries of previously charged off amounts, if any, are credited to the allowance for credit losses. A weakening of the economy or other factors that adversely affect asset quality could result in an increase in the number of delinquencies, bankruptcies, or defaults, and a higher level of non-performing assets, net charge-offs, and provision for credit losses in future periods.

The allowance for loan losses was $136.2 million and the allowance for off-balance sheet unfunded credit commitments was $7.1 million at December 31, 2021, which represented the amount believed by management to be appropriate to absorb lifetime credit losses in the loan portfolio, including unfunded credit commitments. The allowance for loan losses represented 0.83% of period-end gross loans and 202.4% of non-performing loans at December 31, 2021. The comparable ratios were 1.10% of period-end gross loans and 237.3% of non-performing loans at December 31, 2020.

The allowance for credit losses is discussed in more detail in “Risk Elements of the Loan Portfolio — *Allowance for Credit Losses*” below. Management has reviewed the foregoing critical accounting policies and related disclosures with the Audit Committee of the Company’s Board of Directors.

Recent Developments: Impact of and Response to COVID-19 Pandemic

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has significantly heightened the level of challenges, risks and uncertainties facing our Company and its operations.

Additional potential impacts arising from, and our anticipated responses to, the COVID-19 pandemic are set forth below. See also the COVID-related risk factors as previously disclosed in Part I, Item 1A, of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

The below table details our exposure to borrowers in industries generally considered to be the most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic:

December 31, 2021		
Industry [1]	**Loan Balance**	**Percent of Total Loan Portfolio**
	(In millions)	
Restaurants	$ 144.0	1.0%
Hotels/motels	301.0	2.0
Retail businesses/properties	1,871.0	11.0
Total	**$ 2,316.0**	**14.0%**

(1) Balances capture credit exposures in the business segments that manage the significant majority of industry relationships. Balances consist of commercial real estate secured loans where the collateral consist of restaurants, hotels/motels or have a retail dependency.

While we have not experienced disproportionate impacts among our business segments as of December 31, 2021, borrowers in the industries detailed in the table above (and potentially other industries) could have greater sensitivity to the economic downturn resulting from COVID-19 with potentially longer recovery periods than other business lines.

Loan modifications

We began receiving requests from our borrowers for loan deferrals in March 2020 following the onset of the pandemic. Modifications include the deferral of principal payments or the deferral of principal and interest payments for terms generally 90 - 180 days. Requests are evaluated individually, and approved modifications are based on the unique circumstances of each borrower. At December 31, 2021, $70.0 million of loans remain under loan modifications.

The CARES Act, as extended by the CAA, permits financial institutions to suspend requirements under GAAP for loan modifications to borrowers affected by COVID-19 and is intended to provide interpretive guidance as to conditions that would constitute a short-term modification that would not meet the definition of a troubled debt restructuring (“TDR”). Such conditions include the following (i) the loan modification is made between March 1, 2020, and the earlier of January 1, 2022, or 60 days after the end of the coronavirus emergency declaration and (ii) the applicable loan was not more than 30 days past due as of December 31, 2019. The Company is applying this guidance to qualifying loan modifications.

Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)

As part of the CARES Act, the Small Business Administration (SBA) has been authorized to guarantee loans under the PPP through December 31, 2021 for small businesses who meet the necessary eligibility requirements in order to keep their workers on the payroll. One of the notable features of the PPP is that borrowers are eligible for loan forgiveness if borrowers, among other conditions, maintain their staff and payroll and if loan amounts are used to cover payroll, mortgage interest, rents and utilities payments. PPP loans have a two to five year term and earn interest at a rate of 1%. We began accepting applications on April 3, 2020. As of December 31, 2021, our outstanding PPP loans had a current balance of $90.5 million and $337.0 million of PPP loans had been forgiven by the U.S. Treasury or repaid by the borrowers. PPP loans are guaranteed by the SBA and therefore we believe PPP loans generally do not represent a material credit risk.

Capital and liquidity

While we believe we have sufficient capital and do not anticipate any need for additional liquidity as of December 31, 2021, in response to the uncertainty regarding the severity and duration of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are prepared to take additional actions, as needed, to maintain strong capital levels and ensure the strength of our liquidity position. Such actions may include pledging additional collateral to increase our borrowing capacity with the FRB, if necessary. Our Board of Directors also will continue to evaluate the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the appropriateness of declaring future dividends and the rate of any future dividends as well as any stock repurchases, in light of our capital and liquidity needs.

Asset impairment

At this time, as of December 31, 2021, we do not believe there exists any impairment to our goodwill and intangible assets, long-lived assets, right of use assets, or available-for-sale investment securities due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is uncertain whether prolonged effects of the COVID-19 pandemic will result in future impairment charges related to any of the aforementioned assets. Continued and sustained declines in Bancorp's stock price and/or other credit related impacts could give rise to triggering events in the future that could result in a write-down in the value of our goodwill, which could have a material adverse impact on our results of operations.

Our processes, controls and business continuity plan

As a financial institution, we are considered an essential business and therefore continue to operate on a modified basis to comply with governmental restrictions and public health authority guidelines. The health and safety of our employees and customers is a major concern to our management. We are continuing to permit employees to work from home when feasible or, if working from one of our locations is required, to maintain appropriate social distancing and observe other health precautions. We have also taken such other actions as social distancing, restrictions on in-person meetings and conferences, Company travel restrictions and increased sanitary protocols. We believe these actions offer the best protection for our employees and customers and enhance our ability to continue providing our banking services.

Through this time of disruption, we have remained open for business supporting our customers while implementing our business continuity plan to mitigate the risks of the spread of COVID-19 to our employees and customers. While physical access to our bank offices remains restricted, customer business is still being transacted through drive-up facilities, online, telephone or by appointment.

We believe that we are positioned to continue these business continuity measures for the foreseeable future, however, no assurances can be provided as these circumstances may change depending on the duration and severity of the pandemic.

Results of Operations

Overview

For the year ended December 31, 2021, we reported net income of $298.3 million, or $3.80 per diluted share, compared to net income of $228.9 million, or $2.87 per diluted share, in 2020, and net income of $279.1 million, or $3.48 per diluted share, in 2019. The $69.4 million increase in net income from 2020 to 2021 was primarily the result of increases in net interest income and decreases in provision for credit losses, partially offset by increases in income taxes. The return on average assets in 2021 was 1.52%, compared to 1.22% in 2020, and to 1.61% in 2019. The return on average stockholders' equity was 12.11% in 2021, compared to 9.70% in 2020, and to 12.63% in 2019.

Highlights

- Record net income of $298.3 million and EPS of $3.80 per share in 2021.
- Total deposits, excluding time deposits, increased for the year by $3.1 billion, or 33.0%, to $12.5 billion from $9.4 billion in 2020.

Net income available to common stockholders and key financial performance ratios are presented below for the three years indicated:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2021	2020	2019
	(In thousands, except per share data)		
Net income	$ 298,304	$ 228,860	$ 279,135
Basic earnings per common share	$ 3.81	$ 2.88	$ 3.49
Diluted earnings per common share	$ 3.80	$ 2.87	$ 3.48
Return on average assets	1.52%	1.22%	1.61%
Return on average stockholders' equity	12.11%	9.70%	12.63%
Total average assets	$ 19,591,538	$ 18,736,854	$ 17,337,267
Total average equity	$ 2,463,021	$ 2,359,735	$ 2,209,642
Efficiency ratio	43.92%	47.65%	44.75%
Effective income tax rate	21.88%	9.89%	20.10%

Net Interest Income

Comparison of 2021 with 2020

Net interest income increased $45.6 million, or 8.3%, from $552.1 million in 2020 to $597.8 million in 2021. The increase in net interest income was due primarily to the decrease in interest expense from time deposits partially offset by lower interest income from loans.

Average loans for 2021 were $15.8 billion, a $326.6 million, or 2.1% increase from $15.5 billion in 2020. Compared with 2020, average commercial mortgage loans increased $304.1 million, or 4.1%, and average real estate construction loans increased $39.8 million, or 6.3%. Average investment securities were $1.0 billion in 2021, a decrease of $169.8 million, or 14.0%, from 2020. Average interest-bearing cash on deposits with financial institutions increased $689.3 million, or 71.8%, to $1.6 billion in 2021 from $960.3 million in 2020.

Average interest-bearing deposits were $13.0 billion in 2021, an increase of $434.2 billion, or 3.5%, from $12.5 billion in 2020, primarily due to increases of $1.1 billion, or 38.9%, in money market accounts, $455.3 million, or 28.6%, in interest bearing demand deposits, and $138.1 million, or 18.2%, in savings accounts, offset by decreases of $1.3 billion, or 17.7%, in time deposits.

Interest income decreased $34.1 million, or 4.9%, from $700.6 million in 2020 to $666.5 million in 2021 primarily due to decreases in the rate of loans:

- Changes in volume: Average interest-earning assets increased $846.1 million, or 4.8%, to $18.5 billion in 2021, compared with the average interest-earning assets of $17.7 billion in 2020. Average loans increased $326.6 million and average interest-bearing deposits with other financial institutions increased $689.3 million in 2021. Offsetting the above increases was a decrease of $169.8 million in average investment securities. The changes in volume contributed to interest income increase of $12.4 million.

- Changes in rate: The average yield of interest-bearing assets decreased to 3.59% in 2021 from 3.96% in 2020. The decrease in rate on loans resulted in a decrease of $42.0 million in interest income, the decrease in rate on deposits with other financial institutions resulted in a decrease of $708 thousand interest income, and the decrease in rate on investment securities resulted in a decrease of $3.8 million in interest income. The changes in rate contributed to interest income decrease of $46.5 million.

- Change in the mix of interest-earning assets: Average gross loans, which generally have a higher yield than other types of investments, comprised 85.4% of total average interest-earning assets in 2021, a decrease from 87.6% in 2020. Average investment securities comprised 5.6% of total average interest-bearing assets in 2021, a decrease from 6.9% in 2020.

Interest expense decreased by $79.7 million, or 53.7%, to $68.8 million in 2021, compared with $148.5 million in 2020, primarily due to decreased cost from time deposits, FHLB advances, and long-term debt. The overall decrease in interest expense was primarily due to decreases in rates on interest bearing deposits, volume decreases in long term debts and volume and rate decreases in other borrowings as discussed below:

- Changes in volume: Average interest-bearing deposits increased $434.2 billion, or 3.5%, offset by decreases of $250.5 million, or 76.8%, in average FHLB advances and other borrowings. The changes in volume caused a decrease in interest expense of $13.5 million.

- Changes in rate: The average costs of interest-bearing deposits, FHLB advances and other borrowings, and long-term debt decreased to 0.48% and 1.57% and 4.85% in 2021 from 1.09%, 1.73%, and 4.86% in 2020, respectively. The changes in rate caused interest expense to decrease by $66.2 million.

- Change in the mix of interest-bearing liabilities: Average interest-bearing deposits of $13.0 billion increased to 98.5% of total interest-bearing liabilities in 2021 compared to 96.6% in 2020. Offsetting the increase, average FHLB advances and other borrowings of $75.5 million decreased to 0.6% of total interest-bearing liabilities. Average long-term debt of $119.1 million remained unchanged at 0.9% of total interest-bearing liabilities in 2021 compared to 0.9% in 2020.

Net interest margin, defined as net interest income to average interest-earning assets, was 3.22% in 2021 compared to 3.12% in 2020.

Comparison of 2020 with 2019

Net interest income decreased $22.8 million, or 4.0%, from $574.9 million in 2019 to $552.1 million in 2020. The decrease in net interest income was due primarily to the decrease in loan interest income, offset by decreases in interest expense from time deposits.

Average loans for 2020 were $15.5 billion, a $1.0 billion, or 6.9% increase from $14.5 billion in 2019. Compared with 2019, average residential mortgage loans increased $325.2 million, or 7.7%, average commercial mortgage loans increased $438.4 million, or 6.3%, average commercial loans increased $184.2 million, or 6.7%, and average real estate construction loans increased $44.8 million, or 7.7%. Average investment securities were $1.2 billion in 2020, a decrease of $226.9 million, or 15.7%, from 2019. Average interest-bearing cash on deposits with financial institutions increased $707.0 million, or 279.1%, to $960.3 million in 2020 from $253.3 million in 2019.

Average interest-bearing deposits were $12.5 billion in 2020, an increase of $1.0 billion, or 8.7%, from $11.5 billion in 2019, primarily due to increases of $891.5 million, or 44.3%, in money market accounts, $301.2 million, or 23.3%, in interest bearing demand deposits, and $28.6 million, or 3.9%, in savings accounts, offset by decreases of $191.1 million, or 2.6%, in time deposits.

- Interest income decreased $68.7 million, or 8.9%, from $769.3 million in 2019 to $700.6 million in 2020 primarily due to decreases in the rate of loans:

- Changes in volume: Average interest-earning assets increased $1.5 billion, or 9.3%, to $17.7 billion in 2020, compared with the average interest-earning assets of $16.2 billion in 2019. Average loans increased $1.0 billion and average interest-bearing deposits with other financial institutions increased $707.0 million in 2020 which contributed to the increase in interest income. Offsetting the above increases was a decrease of $226.9 million in average investment securities. The changes in volume contributed to interest income increase of $47.6 million.

- Changes in rate: The average yield of interest-bearing assets decreased to 3.96% in 2020 from 4.74% in 2019. The decrease in rate on loans resulted in a decrease of $100.0 million interest income, the decrease in rate on deposits with other financial institutions resulted in a decrease of $8.3 million interest income, and the decrease in rate on investment securities resulted in a decrease of $7.8 million interest income. The changes in rate contributed to interest income decrease of $116.3 million.

- Change in the mix of interest-earning assets: Average gross loans, which generally have a higher yield than other types of investments, comprised 87.6% of total average interest-earning assets in 2020, a decrease from 89.4% in 2019. Average investment securities comprised 6.9% of total average interest-bearing assets in 2020, a decrease from 8.9% in 2019.

Interest expense decreased by $45.9 million, or 23.6%, to $148.5 million in 2020, compared with $194.4 million in 2019, primarily due to decreased cost from time deposits, FHLB advances, and long-term debt. The overall decrease in interest expense was primarily due to decreases in rates on interest bearing deposits, volume decreases in long term debts and volume and rate decreases in other borrowings as discussed below:

- Changes in volume: Average interest-bearing deposits increased $1.0 billion, or 9.0%, offset by decreases of $53.8 million, or 14.2%, in average FHLB advances and other borrowings and decreases in average long-term debt of $45.8 million, or 27.8%. The changes in volume caused an increase in interest expense of $1.3 million.

- Changes in rate: The average costs of interest-bearing deposits, FHLB advances and other borrowings, and long-term debt decreased to 1.09% and 1.73% and increased to 4.86% in 2020 from 1.55%, 2.21%, and 4.76% in 2019, respectively. The changes in rate caused interest expense to decrease by $47.2 million.

- Change in the mix of interest-bearing liabilities: Average interest-bearing deposits of $12.5 billion increased to 96.6% of total interest-bearing liabilities in 2020 compared to 95.5% in 2019. Offsetting the increase, average FHLB advances and other borrowings of $326.0 million decreased to 2.5% of total interest-bearing liabilities. Average long-term debt of $119.1 million decreased to 0.9% of total interest-bearing liabilities in 2020 compared to 1.4% in 2019.

Net interest margin, defined as net interest income to average interest-earning assets, was 3.12% in 2020 compared to 3.54% in 2019.

The following table sets forth information concerning average interest-earning assets, average interest-bearing liabilities, and the average yields and rates paid on those assets and liabilities in 2021, 2020 and 2019. Average outstanding amounts included in the table are daily averages.

Interest-Earning Assets and Interest-Bearing Liabilities

	2021 Average Balance	Interest Income/ Expense	Average Yield/ Rate (1)(2)	2020 Average Balance	Interest Income/ Expense	Average Yield/ Rate (1)(2)	2019 Average Balance	Interest Income/ Expense	Average Yield/ Rate (1)(2)
					($ In thousands)				
Interest-earning assets:									
Total loans [1]	$ 15,827,550	$ 649,224	4.10%	$ 15,500,910	$ 677,193	4.37%	$ 14,510,678	$ 729,619	5.03%
Investment securities	1,046,187	14,151	1.35%	1,215,957	20,599	1.69%	1,442,820	33,037	2.29%
Federal Home Loan Bank stock	17,250	991	5.74%	17,300	952	5.50%	17,266	1,207	6.99%
Interest-bearing deposits	1,649,564	2,145	0.13%	960,276	1,830	0.19%	253,296	5,404	2.13%
Total interest-earning assets	$ 18,540,551	$ 666,511	3.59%	$ 17,694,443	$ 700,574	3.96%	$ 16,224,060	$ 769,267	4.74%
Non-interest earning assets:									
Cash and due from banks	$ 157,952			$ 148,234			$ 199,917		
Other non-earning assets	1,041,667			1,052,693			1,039,098		
Total non-interest earning assets	$ 1,199,619			$ 1,200,927			$ 1,239,015		
Less: Allowance for loan losses	(142,969)			(156,225)			(124,431)		
Deferred loan fees	(5,664)			(2,291)			(1,377)		
Total assets	**$ 19,591,537**			**$ 18,736,854**			**$ 17,337,267**		
Interest-bearing liabilities:									
Interest-bearing demand deposits	$ 2,047,177	$ 2,249	0.11%	$ 1,591,924	$ 2,816	0.18%	$ 1,290,752	$ 2,371	0.18%
Money market deposits	4,034,246	18,241	0.45%	2,903,837	21,574	0.74%	2,012,306	21,508	1.07%
Savings deposits	897,663	769	0.09%	759,581	1,006	0.13%	731,027	1,432	0.20%
Time deposits	5,979,191	40,542	0.68%	7,268,738	111,629	1.54%	7,459,800	152,791	2.05%
Total interest-bearing deposits	$ 12,958,277	$ 61,801	0.48%	$ 12,524,080	$ 137,025	1.09%	$ 11,493,885	$ 178,102	1.55%
Other borrowings	75,516	1,182	1.57%	326,023	5,648	1.73%	379,816	8,412	2.21%
Long-term debt	119,136	5,773	4.85%	119,136	5,791	4.86%	164,976	7,847	4.76%
Total interest-bearing liabilities	$ 13,152,929	$ 68,756	0.52%	$ 12,969,239	$ 148,464	1.14%	$ 12,038,677	$ 194,361	1.61%
Non-interest bearing liabilities:									
Demand deposits	3,751,626			3,158,828			2,837,946		
Other liabilities	223,961			249,052			251,002		
Today equity	2,463,021			2,359,735			2,209,642		
Total liabilities and equity	**$ 19,591,537**			**$ 18,736,854**			**$ 17,337,267**		
Net interest spread			3.07%			2.82%			3.13%
Net interest income		$ 597,755			$ 552,110			$ 574,906	
Net interest margin			3.22%			3.12%			3.54%

(1) Yields and amounts of interest earned include loan fees. Non-accrual loans are included in the average balance.
(2) Calculated by dividing net interest income by average outstanding interest-earning assets.

Net Interest Income — Changes Due to Rate and Volume [(1)]

	2021 - 2020 Increase/(Decrease) in Net Interest Income Due to:			2020 - 2019 Increase/(Decrease) in Net Interest Income Due to:		
	Change in Volume	**Change in Rate**	**Total Change**	**Change in Volume**	**Change in Rate**	**Total Change**
	(In thousands)					
Interest-earning assets						
Loans	$ 14,047	$ (42,016)	$ (27,969)	$ 47,556	$ (99,982)	$ (52,426)
Investment securities	(2,639)	(3,809)	(6,448)	(4,686)	(7,752)	(12,438)
Federal Home loan Bank stock	(2)	41	39	2	(257)	(255)
Deposits with other banks	1,023	(708)	315	4,727	(8,301)	(3,574)
Total changes in interest income	12,429	(46,492)	(34,063)	47,599	(116,292)	(68,693)
Interest-Bearing Liabilities						
Interest-bearing demand deposits	674	(1,241)	(567)	536	(91)	445
Money market deposits	6,759	(10,092)	(3,333)	7,808	(7,742)	66
Savings deposits	161	(398)	(237)	54	(480)	(426)
Time deposits	(17,137)	(53,950)	(71,087)	(3,822)	(37,340)	(41,162)
Other borrowings	(3,969)	(497)	(4,466)	(1,089)	(1,675)	(2,764)
Long-term debt	—	(18)	(18)	(2,225)	169	(2,056)
Total changes in interest expense	(13,512)	(66,196)	(79,708)	1,262	(47,159)	(45,897)
Change in net interest income	**$ 25,941**	**$ 19,704**	**$ 45,645**	**$ 46,337**	**$ (69,133)**	**$ (22,796)**

(1) Changes in interest income and interest expense attributable to changes in both volume and rate have been allocated proportionately to changes due to volume and changes due to rate.

Provision for Credit Losses

The provision for credit losses represents the charge against current earnings that is determined by management, through a credit review process, as the amount needed to maintain an allowance for loan losses and an allowance for off-balance sheet unfunded credit commitments that management believes to be sufficient to absorb credit losses inherent in the Bank's loan portfolio and credit commitments. The Bank recorded a reversal of $16.0 million for credit losses in 2021 compared with a provision of $57.5 million for credit losses in 2020, and a reversal of $7.0 million in 2019. Net charge-offs for 2021 were $17.6 million, or 0.11% of average loans, compared to net recoveries for 2020 of $14.2 million, or 0.09% of average loans, and net recoveries for 2019 of $7.8 million, or 0.05% of average loans.

Non-interest Income

Non-interest income increased $11.8 million, or 27.5%, to $54.6 million for 2021, from $42.8 million for 2020, compared to $44.8 million for 2019. Non-interest income includes depository service fees, letters of credit commissions, securities gains (losses), gains (losses) from loan sales, gains from sale of premises and equipment, gains on acquisition, and other sources of fee income. These other fee-based services include wire transfer fees, safe deposit fees, fees on loan-related activities, fee income from our Wealth Management division, and foreign exchange fees.

Comparison of 2021 with 2020

The increase in non-interest income from 2020 to 2021 was primarily due to a $4.5 million increase in wealth management fees, $4.3 million increase in derivative fees and $1.3 million increase in the Bank Owned Life Insurance death benefit income.

Comparison of 2020 with 2019

The decrease in non-interest income from 2019 to 2020 was primarily due to a $6.9 million decrease in net gains from equity securities, offset in part by a $2.5 million increase in gain on low-income housing, a $1.5 million increase in gain on sales of securities, and a $1.3 million increase in fees and commissions income from wealth management.

Non-interest Expense

Non-interest expense includes expenses related to salaries and benefits of employees, occupancy expenses, marketing expenses, computer and equipment expenses, amortization of core deposit intangibles, amortization of investment is affordable housing and alternative energy partnerships, and other operating expenses.

Comparison of 2021 with 2020

Non-interest expense totaled $286.5 million in 2021 compared to $283.5 million in 2020. The increase of $3.1 million, or 1.1%, in non-interest expense in 2021 compared to 2020 was primarily due to a combination of the following:

- Salaries and employee benefits increased $8.8 million, or 7.1%.
- Professional Service increased $3.1 million, or 14.1%.
- Computer and equipment expenses increased $2.5 million, or 22.2%.
- Marketing expenses increased $1.7 million, or 32.3.%
- Amortization of investments in affordable housing and alternative energy partnerships decreased $12.8 million, or 21.9%.

The efficiency ratio, defined as non-interest expense divided by the sum of net interest income before provision for loan losses plus non-interest income, decreased to 43.92% in 2021 compared to 47.65% in 2020 due primarily to an increase in non-interest expense and higher net interest income as explained above.

Comparison of 2020 with 2019

Non-interest expense totaled $283.5 million in 2020 compared to $277.3 million in 2019. The increase of $6.2 million, or 2.2%, in non-interest expense in 2020 compared to 2019 was primarily due to a combination of the following:

- Amortization of investments in affordable housing and alternative energy partnerships increased $18.5 million, or 46.5%.
- Salaries and employee benefits decreased $5.3 million, or 4.1%.
- Other Real Estate Owned expenses decreased $4.2 million.
- Marketing expenses decreased $2.4 million, or 31.1%.

The efficiency ratio, increased to 47.65% in 2020 compared to 44.75% in 2019 due primarily to an increase in non-interest expense and lower net interest income as explained above.

Income Tax Expense

Income tax expense was $83.5 million in 2021, compared to $25.1 million in 2020, and $70.2 million in 2019. The effective tax rate was 21.9% for 2021, 9.9% for 2020, and 20.1% for 2019. The effective tax rate includes the impact of low-income housing and alternative energy investments.

Our tax returns are open for audits by the Internal Revenue Service back to 2018 and by the California Franchise Tax Board back to 2017. The audit by the Internal Revenue Service for 2017 was completed in July 2020 and did not have an impact on income tax expense. From time to time, there may be differences of opinion with respect to the tax treatment accorded transactions. When, and if, such differences occur, and the related tax effects become probable and estimable, such amounts will be recognized.

Financial Condition

Total assets were $20.9 billion at December 31, 2021, an increase of $1.9 billion, or 10.0%, from $19 billion at December 31, 2020, primarily due to an increase of $1.0 billion in short-term investments and interest-bearing deposits, an increase of $726.6 million in net loans, and an increase of $89.3 million in securities available for sale and equity securities.

Investment Securities

Investment securities were $1.1 billion and represented 5.4% of total assets at December 31, 2021, compared with $1.0 billion and 5.4% of total assets at December 31, 2020. The following table summarizes the carrying value of our portfolio of securities for each of the past two years:

	As of December 31,	
	2021	**2020**
	(In thousands)	
Securities Available-for-Sale:		
U.S. treasury securities	$ —	$ 80,948
U.S. government agency entities	87,509	99,839
Mortgage-backed securities	888,665	727,068
Collateralized mortgage obligations	9,117	10,324
Corporate debt securities	142,018	118,371
Total	**$ 1,127,309**	**$ 1,036,550**
Equity Securities		
Mutual funds	6,230	6,413
Preferred stock of government sponsored entities	1,811	5,485
Other equity securities	14,278	11,846
Total	**$ 22,319**	**$ 23,744**

Effective January 1, 2021, upon the adoption of ASU 2016-13, Financial Instruments - Credit Losses, debt securities available-for-sale are measured at fair value and subject to impairment testing. When an available-for-sale debt security is considered impaired, the Company must determine if the decline in fair value has resulted from a credit-related loss or other factors and then, (1) recognize an allowance for credit losses by a charge to earnings for the credit-related component (if any) of the decline in fair value, and (2) recognize in other comprehensive income (loss) any non-credit related components of the fair value change. If the amount of the amortized cost basis expected to be recovered increases in a future period, the valuation reserve would be reduced, but not more than the amount of the current existing reserve for that security.

For available-for-sale ("AFS") debt securities in an unrealized loss position, the Company first assesses whether it intends to sell, or it is more likely than not that it will be required to sell the security before recovery of its amortized cost basis. If either of the criteria regarding intent or requirement to sell is met, the security's amortized cost basis is written down to fair value with the credit component of the unrealized loss of the impaired AFS debt security recognized as an allowance for credit losses, and a corresponding provision for credit losses on the consolidated statement of income. For AFS debt securities that do not meet the aforementioned criteria, the Company evaluates whether the decline in fair value has resulted from credit losses or other factors.

In making this assessment, management considers the extent to which fair value is less than amortized cost, the payment structure of the security, failure of the issuer of the security to make scheduled interest or principal payments, any changes to the rating of the security by a rating agency, and adverse conditions specifically related to the security, among other factors. If this assessment indicates that a credit loss exists, the present value of cash flows expected to be collected from the security are compared to the amortized cost basis of the security. Any fair value changes that have not been recorded through an allowance for credit losses is recognized in other comprehensive income. In the current period, management evaluated the securities in an unrealized loss position and determined that their unrealized losses were a result of the level of market interest rates relative to the types of securities and pricing changes caused by shifting supply and demand dynamics and not a result of downgraded credit ratings or other indicators of deterioration of the underlying issuers' ability to repay. Accordingly, we determined the unrealized losses were not credit-related and recognized the unrealized losses in "other comprehensive income" in stockholders' equity. Although we periodically sell securities for portfolio for management purposes, we do not foresee having to sell any impaired securities strictly for liquidity needs and believe that it is more likely than not we would not be required to sell any impaired securities before recovery of their amortized cost.

Securities available-for-sale represented 5.4% of total assets as of December 31, 2021, compared to 5.4% of total assets as of December 31, 2020. Securities available-for-sale were $1.1 billion as of December 31, 2021, compared to $1.0 billion as of December 31, 2020.

The tables below show the related fair value and the gross unrealized losses of the Company’s investment portfolio, aggregated by investment category and the length of time that individual securities has been in a continuous unrealized loss position, as of December 31, 2021, and December 31, 2020:

	As of December 31, 2021					
	Less than 12 months		12 months or longer		Total	
	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses
	(In thousands)					
Securities Available-for-Sale						
U.S. treasury securities	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —
U.S. government agency entities	—	—	2,337	135	2,337	135
Mortgage-backed securities	527,276	6,659	6,496	755	533,772	7,414
Collateralized mortgage obligations	8,989	417	128	13	9,117	430
Corporate debt securities	103,720	2,122	19,468	532	123,188	2,654
Total	**$ 639,985**	**$ 9,198**	**$ 28,429**	**$ 1,435**	**$ 668,414**	**$ 10,633**

	As of December 31, 2020					
	Less than 12 months		12 months or longer		Total	
	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses
	(In thousands)					
Securities Available-for-Sale						
U.S. treasury securities	$ 40,952	$ 6	$ —	$ —	$ 40,952	$ 6
U.S. government agency entities	26,390	102	40,009	444	66,399	546
Mortgage-backed securities	1,694	23	8,093	583	9,787	606
Collateralized mortgage obligations	10,131	25	193	9	10,324	34
Corporate debt securities	58,405	267	—	—	58,405	267
Total	**$ 137,572**	**$ 423**	**$ 48,295**	**$ 1,036**	**$ 185,867**	**$ 1,459**

The scheduled maturities and taxable-equivalent yields by security type are presented in the following table:

Securities Portfolio Maturity Distribution and Yield Analysis:

	As of December 31, 2021				
	One Year or Less	After One Year to Five Years	After Five Years to Ten Years	Over Ten Years	Total
			(In thousands)		
Maturity Distribution:					
Securities Available-for-Sale:					
U.S. treasury securities	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —
U.S. government agency entities	—	—	32,463	55,046	87,509
Mortgage-backed securities [1]	1	960	94,918	792,786	888,665
Collateralized mortgage obligations [1]	—	—	128	8,989	9,117
Corporate debt securities	5,009	123,188	13,821	—	142,018
Total	**$ 5,010**	**$ 124,148**	**$ 141,330**	**$ 856,821**	**$ 1,127,309**
Weighted-Average Yield:					
Securities Available-for-Sale:					
U.S. treasury securities	—%	—%	—%	—%	—%
U.S. government agency entities	—	—	0.67	0.79	0.74
Mortgage-backed securities [1]	3.49	2.85	2.92	2.24	2.32
Collateralized mortgage obligations [1]	—	—	3.88	1.57	1.60
Corporate debt securities	1.08	1.50	4.29	—	1.75
Total	**1.08%**	**1.51%**	**2.54%**	**2.14%**	**2.12%**

(1) Securities reflect stated maturities and do not reflect the impact of anticipated prepayments.

Equity Securities

For the year ended December 31, 2021, the Company recognized a net loss of $1.4 million due to the decrease in fair value of equity investments with readily determinable fair values, compared to a net loss of $1.1 million in 2020. Equity securities were $22.3 million as of December 31, 2021, compared to $23.7 million as of December 31, 2020.

Loans

Loans represented 85.37% of average interest-earning assets during 2021, compared with 87.6% during 2020. Gross loans increased by $698.1 million, or 4.5%, to $16.3 billion at December 31, 2021, compared with $15.6 billion at December 31, 2020. The increase in gross loans was primarily attributable to the following:

- Commercial mortgage loans increased $588.2 million, or 7.8%, to $8.1 billion at December 31, 2021, compared to $7.6 billion at December 31, 2020. Total commercial mortgage loans accounted for 49.8% of gross loans at December 31, 2021, compared to 48.3% at December 31, 2020. Commercial mortgage loans consist primarily of commercial retail properties, shopping centers, owner-occupied industrial facilities, office buildings, multiple-unit apartments, hotels, and multi-tenanted industrial properties, and are typically secured by first deeds of trust on such commercial properties.

- Total residential mortgage loans increased by $36.6 million, or 0.9%, to $4.2 billion at December 31, 2021, compared to $4.1 billion at December 31, 2020, primarily due to the low level of interest rates, the originations of limited documentation mortgages, and loan purchases.

- Commercial loans, including PPP loans, increased $145.6 million, or 5.1%, to $3.0 billion at December 31, 2021, compared to $2.8 billion at December 31, 2020. Commercial loans consist primarily of short-term loans (typically with a maturity of one year or less) to support general business purposes, or to provide working capital to businesses in the form of lines of credit, trade-finance loans, loans for commercial purposes secured by cash, and SBA loans.

- Real estate construction loans decreased $68.5 million, or 10.1%, to $611.0 million at December 31, 2021, compared to $679.5 million at December 31, 2020.

Our lending relates predominantly to activities in the states of California, New York, Texas, Washington, Massachusetts, Illinois, New Jersey, Maryland, and Nevada. We also lend to domestic clients who are engaged in international trade. Loans outstanding in our branch in Hong Kong were $275.6 million as of December 31, 2021, compared to $280.5 million as of December 31, 2020.

The classification of loans by type and amount outstanding as of December 31 for each of the past five years is presented below:

Loan Type and Mix

	As of December 31,				
	2021	**2020**	**2019**	**2018**	**2017**
			(In thousands)		
Commercial loans	$ 2,982,399	$ 2,836,833	$ 2,778,744	$ 2,741,965	$ 2,461,266
Residential mortgage loans and equity lines	4,601,493	4,569,944	4,436,561	3,943,820	3,242,354
Commercial mortgage loans	8,143,272	7,555,027	7,275,262	6,724,200	6,482,695
Real estate construction loans	611,031	679,492	579,864	581,454	678,805
Installment and other loans	4,284	3,100	5,050	4,349	5,170
Gross loans	16,342,479	15,644,396	15,075,481	13,995,788	12,870,290
Less:					
Allowance for loan losses	(136,157)	(166,538)	(123,224)	(122,391)	(123,279)
Unamortized deferred loan fees	(4,321)	(2,494)	(626)	(1,565)	(3,245)
Total loans, net	**$ 16,202,001**	**$ 15,475,364**	**$ 14,951,631**	**$ 13,871,832**	**$ 12,743,766**
Loans held for sale	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ 8,000**

The loan maturities in the table below are based on contractual maturities as of December 31, 2021. As is customary in the banking industry, loans that meet underwriting criteria can be renewed by mutual agreement between us and the borrower. Because we are unable to estimate the extent to which our borrowers will renew their loans, the table is based on contractual maturities. As a result, the data shown below should not be viewed as an indication of future cash flows.

Contractual Maturity of Loan Portfolio

	As of December 31, 2021			
	Within One Year	One to Five Years	Over Five Years	Total
	(In thousands)			
Commercial loans				
Floating rate	$ 2,199,317	$ 440,483	$ 123,380	$ 2,763,180
Fixed rate	84,255	110,524	24,440	219,219
Residential mortgage loans and equity lines				
Floating rate	45	524	3,017,285	3,017,854
Fixed rate	5,749	20,347	1,557,543	1,583,639
Commercial mortgage loans				
Floating rate	451,166	1,801,562	3,581,961	5,834,689
Fixed rate	335,501	1,556,906	416,176	2,308,583
Real estate construction loans				
Floating rate	392,149	214,589	4,285	611,023
Fixed rate	8	—	—	8
Installment and other loans				
Floating rate	4,274	10	—	4,284
Fixed rate	—	—	—	—
Gross loans	$ 3,472,464	$ 4,144,945	$ 8,725,070	$ 16,342,479
Floating rate	3,046,951	2,457,168	6,726,911	12,231,030
Fixed rate	425,513	1,687,777	1,998,159	4,111,449
Gross loans	$ 3,472,464	$ 4,144,945	$ 8,725,070	$ 16,342,479
Allowance for loan losses				(136,157)
Unamortized deferred loan fees				(4,321)
Total loans, net				**$ 16,202,001**

Deposits

The Bank primarily uses customer deposits to fund its operations, and to a lesser extent advances from the Federal Home Loan Bank ("FHLB"), and other borrowings. The Bank's deposits are generally obtained from the Bank's geographic market area. The Bank utilizes traditional marketing methods to attract new customers and deposits, by offering a wide variety of products and services and utilizing various forms of advertising media. Although the vast majority of the Bank's deposits are retail in nature, the Bank does engage in certain wholesale activities, primarily accepting deposits generated by brokers. The Bank considers wholesale deposits to be an alternative borrowing source rather than a customer relationship and, as such, their levels are determined by management's decisions as to the most economic funding sources. Brokered-deposits totaled $394.0 million, or 2.2%, of total deposits, at December 31, 2021, compared to $1.2 billion, or 7.2%, at December 31, 2020.

The Bank's total deposits increased $2.0 billion, or 12.4%, to $18.1 billion at December 31, 2021, from $16.1 billion at December 31, 2020, primarily due to a $1.3 billion, or 37.3%, increase in money market deposits, a $1.1 billion, or 33.5%, increase in non-interest-bearing demand deposits, a $596.3 million, or 31.0%, increase in NOW deposits offset by a $1.2 billion, or 17.3% decrease in time deposits. The following table displays the deposit mix balances as of the end of the past three years:

Deposit Mix

	Year Ended December 31,					
	2021		2020		2019	
	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%
	(In thousands)					
Deposits						
Non-interest-bearing demand deposits	$ 4,492,054	24.9%	$ 3,365,086	20.9%	$ 2,871,444	19.5%
Interest bearing demand deposits	2,522,442	14.0	1,926,135	12.0	1,358,152	9.2
Money market deposits	4,611,579	25.5	3,359,191	20.8	2,260,764	15.4
Savings deposits	915,515	5.1	785,672	4.9	758,903	5.2
Time deposits	5,517,252	30.5	6,673,317	41.4	7,443,045	50.7
Total deposits	**$ 18,058,842**	**100.0%**	**$ 16,109,401**	**100.0%**	**$ 14,692,308**	**100.0%**

Average total deposits increased $1.0 billion, or 6.5%, to $16.7 billion in 2021, compared with average total deposits of $15.7 billion in 2020.

The following table displays average deposits and rates for the past five years:

Average Deposits and Average Rates

	Year Ended December 31,									
	2021		2020		2019		2018		2017	
	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%
	(In thousands)									
Deposits										
Non-interest-bearing demand deposits	$ 3,751,626	—%	$ 3,158,828	—%	$ 2,837,946	—%	$ 2,819,711	—%	$ 2,599,109	—%
Interest bearing demand deposits	2,047,177	0.11	1,591,924	0.18	1,290,752	0.18	1,389,326	0.20	1,304,052	0.17
Money market deposits	4,034,246	0.45	2,903,837	0.74	2,012,306	1.07	2,200,847	0.74	2,360,188	0.64
Savings deposits	897,663	0.09	759,581	0.13	731,027	0.20	791,982	0.20	834,973	0.21
Time deposits	5,979,191	0.68	7,268,738	1.54	7,459,800	2.05	6,031,061	1.43	4,947,052	0.95
Total deposits	**$ 16,709,903**	**0.37%**	**$ 15,682,908**	**0.87%**	**$ 14,331,831**	**1.24%**	**$ 13,232,927**	**0.81%**	**$ 12,045,374**	**0.55%**

Management considers the Bank's time deposits of $250 thousand or more, which totaled $2.9 billion at December 31, 2021, to be generally less volatile than other wholesale funding sources primarily because approximately 92.7% of the Bank's CDs of $250 thousand or more have been on deposit with the Bank for two years or more. Management monitors the CDs of $250 thousand or more portfolio to help identify any changes in the deposit behavior in the market and of the Bank's customers.

Approximately 96.4% of the Bank's CDs mature within one year as of December 31, 2021. The following tables display time deposits by maturity:

Time Deposits by Maturity

	At December 31, 2021		
	Time Deposits - under $100,000	**Time Deposits - $100,000 and over**	**Total Time Deposits**
		(In thousands)	
Less than three months	$ 411,064	$ 1,789,581	$ 2,200,645
Three to six months	97,319	880,230	977,549
Six to twelve months	177,505	1,963,107	2,140,612
Over one year	63,665	134,781	198,446
Total	**$ 749,553**	**$ 4,767,699**	**$ 5,517,252**
Percent of total deposits	4.2%	26.4%	30.6%

The following table displays time deposits with a remaining term of more than one year at December 31, 2021:

Maturities of Time Deposits with a Remaining Term of More Than One Year for Each of the Five Years Following December 31, 2021

	(In thousands)
2023	$ 139,734
2024	$ 58,088
2025	$ 144
2026	$ 467
2027	$ 13

Borrowings

Borrowings include securities sold under agreements to repurchase, Federal funds purchased, funds obtained as advances from the FHLB of San Francisco, and borrowings from other financial institutions.

As of December 31, 2021, there were no over-night borrowings from the FHLB in both 2021 and 2020. As of December 31, 2021, the advances from the FHLB were $20.0 million at a weighted average rate of 2.89% compared to $150.0 million at a weighted average rate of 2.15% as of December 31, 2020. As of December 31, 2021, final maturity for the FHLB advances is $20.0 million in May 2023.

Long-term Debt

We established three special purpose trusts in 2003 and two in 2007 for the purpose of issuing Guaranteed Preferred Beneficial Interests in their Subordinated Debentures to outside investors ("Capital Securities"). The proceeds from the issuance of the Capital Securities as well as our purchase of the common stock of the special purpose trusts were invested in Junior Subordinated Notes of the Company ("Junior Subordinated Notes"). The trusts exist for the purpose of issuing the Capital Securities and investing in Junior Subordinated Notes. Subject to some limitations, payment of distributions out of the monies held by the trusts and payments on liquidation of the trusts, or the redemption of the Capital Securities, are guaranteed by the Company to the extent the trusts have funds on hand at such time. The obligations of the Company under the guarantees and the Junior Subordinated Notes are subordinate and junior in right of payment to all indebtedness of the Company and will be structurally subordinated to all liabilities and obligations of the Company's subsidiaries. The Company has the right to defer payments of interest on the Junior Subordinated Notes at any time or from time to time for a period of up to twenty consecutive quarterly periods with respect to each deferral period. Under the terms of the Junior Subordinated Notes, the Company may not, with certain exceptions, declare or pay any dividends or distributions on its capital stock or purchase or acquire any of its capital stock if it has deferred payment of interest on any Junior Subordinated Notes.

At December 31, 2021, Junior Subordinated Notes totaled $119.1 million with a weighted average interest rate of 2.38%, compared to $119.1 million with a weighted average rate of 2.40% at December 31, 2020. The Junior Subordinated Notes have a stated maturity term of 30 years and qualify as Total Capital for these periods.

Off-Balance-Sheet Arrangements, Commitments, Guarantees, and Contractual Obligations

In the normal course of business, we enter into various transactions, which, in accordance with GAAP, are not included in the Consolidated Balance Sheets. We enter into these transactions to meet the financing needs of our customers. These transactions include commitments to extend credit and standby letters of credit, which involve, to varying degrees, elements of credit risk and interest rate risk in excess of the amounts recognized in the Consolidated Balance Sheets.

Loan Commitments. We enter into contractual commitments to extend credit, normally with fixed expiration dates or termination clauses, at specified rates and for specific purposes. Substantially all of our commitments to extend credit are contingent upon customers maintaining specific credit standards at the time of loan funding. We minimize our exposure to loss under these commitments by subjecting them to credit approval and monitoring procedures. Management assesses the credit risk associated with certain commitments to extend credit in determining the level of the allowance for credit losses.

Standby Letters of Credit. Standby letters of credit are written conditional commitments issued by us to secure the obligations of a customer to a third party. In the event the customer does not perform in accordance with the terms of an agreement with the third party, we would be required to fund the commitment. The maximum potential amount of future payments we could be required to make is represented by the contractual amount of the commitment. If the commitment is funded, we would be entitled to seek reimbursement from the customer. Our policies generally require that standby letter of credit arrangements contain security and debt covenants similar to those contained in loan agreements.

Capital Resources

Stockholders' Equity

Total equity was $2.4 billion at December 31, 2021, an increase of $28.1 million, or 1.2%, from $2.4 billion at December 31, 2020, primarily due to net income of $298.3 million, proceeds from dividend reinvestment of $3.6 million, and stock based compensation of $6.0 million, offset by other comprehensive income of $8.4 million, shares withheld related to net share settlement of RSUs of $2.6 million, purchase of treasury stock of $167.1 million, and common stock cash dividends of $99.3 million. The Company paid cash dividends of $1.27 per common share in 2021, $1.24 per common share in 2020, and $1.24 per common share in 2019.

On April 1, 2021, the Board of Directors approved a stock repurchase program to buy back up to $75.0 million of Bancorp's common stock. The $75 million share repurchased program was completed on August 5, 2021, with the repurchase of 1,832,481 shares for a total of $75.0 million, at an average cost of $40.93 per share.

On September 2, 2021, the Board of Directors approved a new stock repurchase program to buy back up to $125.0 million of the Bancorp's common stock. As of December 31, 2021, the Company repurchased 2,153,576 shares of common stock for a total of $92.1 million, at an average cost of $42.77 per share.

Capital Adequacy

Management seeks to retain our capital at a level sufficient to support future growth, protect depositors and stockholders, and comply with various regulatory requirements. The primary measure of capital adequacy is based on the ratio of risk-based capital to risk-weighted assets. At December 31, 2021, the Company's Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio of 12.80%, total risk-based capital ratio of 14.41%, and Tier 1 leverage capital ratio of 10.40%, calculated under the Basel III Capital Rules, continue to place the Company in the "well capitalized" category for regulatory purposes, which is defined as institutions with a Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio equal to or greater than 8%, a total risk-based capital ratio equal to or greater than 10%, and a Tier 1 leverage capital ratio equal to or greater than 5%. At December 31, 2020, the Company's Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio was 13.53%, total risk-based capital ratio was 15.47%, and Tier 1 leverage capital ratio was 10.94%.

A table displaying the Bancorp's and the Bank's capital and leverage ratios at December 31, 2021, and 2020, is included in Note 21 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Dividend Policy

Holders of common stock are entitled to dividends as and when declared by our Board of Directors out of funds legally available for the payment of dividends. Although we have historically paid cash dividends on our common stock, we are not required to do so. We increased the common stock dividend from $0.24 per share in the fourth quarter of 2017, to $0.31 per share in the fourth quarter of 2018, to $0.34 per share in the fourth quarter of 2021. The amount of future dividends will depend on our earnings, financial condition, capital requirements and other factors, and will be determined by our Board of Directors. The terms of our Junior Subordinated Notes also limit our ability to pay dividends. If we are not current in our payment of dividends on our Junior Subordinated Notes, we may not pay dividends on our common stock.

Substantially all of the revenues of the Company available for payment of dividends derive from amounts paid to it by the Bank. The Bank paid dividends to the Bancorp totaling $230.0 million during 2021, $146.0 million during 2020, and $239.0 million during 2019.

The Federal Reserve Board issued Federal Reserve Supervision and Regulation Letter SR-09-4 that states that bank holding companies are expected to inform and consult with the Federal Reserve supervisory staff prior to declaring and paying a dividend that exceeds earnings for the period for which the dividend is being paid.

Under California State banking law, the Bank may not without regulatory approval pay a cash dividend which exceeds the lesser of the Bank's retained earnings or its net income for the last three fiscal years, less any cash distributions made during that period. Under this regulation, the amount of retained earnings available for cash dividends to the Company immediately after December 31, 2021, was restricted to approximately $207.8 million. For additional information on statutory and regulatory limitations on the ability of Bancorp to pay dividends to its shareholders and on the Bank to pay dividends to Bancorp, see "Item 1. Business-Regulation and Supervision — Dividends."

Risk Elements of the Loan Portfolio

Non-performing Assets

Non-performing assets include loans past due 90 days or more and still accruing interest, non-accrual loans, and OREO. Our policy is to place loans on non-accrual status if interest and principal or either interest or principal is past due 90 days or more, or in cases where management deems the full collection of principal and interest unlikely. After a loan is placed on non-accrual status, any previously accrued but unpaid interest is reversed and charged against current income and subsequent payments received are generally first applied towards the outstanding principal balance of the loan. Depending on the circumstances, management may elect to continue the accrual of interest on certain past due loans if partial payment is received and/or the loan is well collateralized and in the process of collection. The loan is generally returned to accrual status when the borrower has brought the past due principal and interest payments current and, in the opinion of management, the borrower has demonstrated the ability to make future payments of principal and interest as scheduled.

Management reviews the loan portfolio regularly to see to identify problem loans. During the ordinary course of business, management may become aware of borrowers that may not be able to meet the contractual requirements of their loan agreements. Such loans are placed under closer supervision with consideration given to placing the loan on non-accrual status, the need for an additional allowance for loan losses, and (if appropriate) partial or full charge-off.

Total non-performing portfolio assets decreased $5.9 million, or 7.6%, to $71.7 million at December 31, 2021, compared to $77.6 million at December 31, 2020, primarily due to a decrease of $3.5 million, $1.8 million and $0.6 million in accruing loans past due 90 days or more, nonaccrual loans and OREO, respectively.

As a percentage of gross loans, excluding loans held for sale, plus OREO, our non-performing assets decreased to 0.44% at December 31, 2021, from 0.50% at December 31, 2020. The non-performing portfolio loan, excluding loans held for sale, coverage ratio, defined as the allowance for credit losses to non-performing loans, excluding loans held for sale, decreased to 212.9% at December 31, 2021, from 237.3% at December 31, 2020. The following table presents the breakdown of total non-accrual, past due, and restructured loans for the past five years:

Non-accrual, Past Due and Restructured Loans

	As of December 31,				
	2021	**2020**	**2019**	**2018**	**2017**
			(In thousands)		
Accruing loans past due 90 days or more	$ 1,439	$ 4,982	$ 6,409	$ 3,773	$ —
Non-accrual loans	65,846	67,684	40,523	41,815	48,787
Total non-performing loans	67,285	72,666	46,932	45,588	48,787
Other real estate owned	4,368	4,918	10,244	12,674	9,442
Total non-performing assets	**$ 71,653**	**$ 77,584**	**$ 57,176**	**$ 58,262**	**$ 58,229**
Accruing troubled debt restructurings (TDRs)	$ 12,837	$ 27,721	$ 35,336	$ 65,071	$ 68,565
Non-accrual TDRs (included in non-accrual loans)	$ 8,175	$ 8,985	$ 18,048	$ 24,189	$ 33,416
Non-accrual loans held for sale	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ 8,000
Non-performing assets as a percentage of gross loans and OREO at year-end	0.44%	0.50%	0.38%	0.42%	0.45%
Allowance for credit losses as a percentage of gross loans	0.88%	1.10%	0.84%	0.89%	0.99%
Allowance for credit losses as a percentage of non-performing loans	212.91%	237.27%	270.77%	273.41%	262.09%

The effect of non-accrual loans on interest income for the past five years is presented below:

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2021	**2020**	**2019**	**2018**	**2017**
			(In thousands)		
Non-accrual Loans					
Contractual interest due	$ 4,032	$ 3,093	$ 1,775	$ 1,618	$ 3,254
Interest recognized	1,074	1,008	85	66	86
Net interest foregone	**$ 2,958**	**$ 2,085**	**$ 1,690**	**$ 1,552**	**$ 3,168**

As of December 31, 2021, there were no commitments to lend additional funds to those borrowers whose loans had been restructured, were considered impaired, or were on non-accrual status.

Non-accrual Loans

Total non-accrual portfolio loans were $65.8 million at December 31, 2021, decreased $1.9 million, or 2.8%, from $67.7 million at December 31, 2020. The allowance for the collateral-dependent loans is calculated based on the difference between the outstanding loan balance and the value of the collateral as determined by recent appraisals, sales contracts, or other available market price information, less cost to sell. The allowance for collateral-dependent loans varies from loan to loan based on the collateral coverage of the loan at the time of designation as non-performing. We continue to monitor the collateral coverage of these loans, based on recent appraisals, on a quarterly basis and adjust the allowance accordingly.

The following tables present the type of properties securing the non-accrual portfolio loans and the type of businesses the borrowers engaged in as of the dates indicated:

	December 31, 2021		December 31, 2020	
	Real Estate [(1)]	Commercial	Real Estate [(1)]	Commercial
	(In thousands)			
Type of Collateral				
Single/multi-family residence	$ 12,456	$ 7,697	$ 7,126	$ 9,031
Commercial real estate	36,832	338	37,471	338
Land	—	2,744	—	2,634
Personal property (UCC)	—	5,779	—	11,084
Total	**$ 49,288**	**$ 16,558**	**$ 44,597**	**$ 23,087**

(1) Real estate includes commercial mortgage loans, real estate construction loans, and residential mortgage loans and equity lines.

	December 31, 2021		December 31, 2020	
	Real Estate [(1)]	Commercial	Real Estate [(1)]	Commercial
	(In thousands)			
Type of Business				
Real estate development	$ 13,775	$ —	$ 12,875	$ 33
Wholesale/Retail	24,600	12,468	25,291	11,290
Import/Export	—	3,190	—	6,191
Other	10,913	900	6,431	5,573
Total	**$ 49,288**	**$ 16,558**	**$ 44,597**	**$ 23,087**

(1) Real estate includes commercial mortgage loans, real estate construction loans, and residential mortgage loans and equity lines.

Troubled Debt Restructurings

A troubled debt restructuring ("TDR") is a formal modification of the terms of a loan when the Bank, for economic or legal reasons related to the borrower's financial difficulties, grants a concession to the borrower. The concessions may be granted in various forms, including reduction of the stated interest rate, reduction of the amount of principal amortization, forgiveness of a portion of a loan balance or accrued interest, or an extension of the maturity date. Although these loan modifications are considered under ASC Subtopic 310-40 to be TDRs, the loans must have, pursuant to the Bank's policy, performed under the restructured terms and have demonstrated sustained performance under the modified terms for six months before being returned to accrual status. The sustained performance considered by management pursuant to its policy includes the periods prior to the modification if the prior performance met or exceeded the modified terms. This would include cash paid by the borrower prior to the restructure to set up interest reserves. Loans classified as TDRs are reported as individually evaluated loans.

The allowance for credit loss on a TDR is measured using the same method as all other loans held for investment, except when the value of a concession cannot be measured using a method other than the discounted cash flow method. When the value of a concession is measured using the discounted cash flow method, the allowance for credit loss is determined by discounting the expected future cash flows at the original interest rate of the loan.

The CARES Act as extended by the CAA permits financial institutions to suspend requirements under GAAP for loan modifications to borrowers affected by COVID-19 and is intended to provide interpretive guidance as to conditions that would constitute a short-term modification that would not meet the definition of a TDR. Such conditions include the following (i) the loan modification is made between March 1, 2020, and the earlier of January 1, 2022 or 60 days after the end of the coronavirus emergency declaration and (ii) the applicable loan was not more than 30 days past due as of December 31, 2019.

A summary of TDRs by type of loan and by accrual/non-accrual status as of the dates indicated is shown below:

	December 31, 2021			
Accruing TDRs	**Payment Deferral**	**Rate Reduction**	**Rate Reduction and Payment Deferral**	**Total**
	(In thousands)			
Commercial loans	$ 3,368	$ —	$ —	$ 3,368
Commercial mortgage loans	438	5,522	168	6,128
Residential mortgage loans	1,464	249	1,628	3,341
Total accruing TDRs	**$ 5,270**	**$ 5,771**	**$ 1,796**	**$ 12,837**

	December 31, 2021			
Non-accrual TDRs	**Payment Deferral**	**Rate Reduction**	**Rate Reduction and Payment Deferral**	**Total**
	(In thousands)			
Commercial loans	$ 7,717	$ —	$ —	$ 7,717
Residential mortgage loans	458	—	—	458
Total non-accrual TDRs	**$ 8,175**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ 8,175**

	December 31, 2020			
Accruing TDRs	**Payment Deferral**	**Rate Reduction**	**Rate Reduction and Payment Deferral**	**Total**
	(In thousands)			
Commercial loans	$ 3,983	$ —	$ —	$ 3,983
Commercial mortgage loans	515	5,635	13,425	19,575
Residential mortgage loans	1,724	275	2,164	4,163
Total accruing TDRs	**$ 6,222**	**$ 5,910**	**$ 15,589**	**$ 27,721**

	December 31, 2020			
Non-accrual TDRs	**Payment Deferral**	**Rate Reduction**	**Rate Reduction and Payment Deferral**	**Total**
	(In thousands)			
Commercial loans	$ 8,462	$ —	$ —	$ 8,462
Residential mortgage loans	523	—	—	523
Total non-accrual TDRs	**$ 8,985**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ 8,985**

Impaired Loans

Prior to January 1, 2021, a loan was considered to be impaired when it was probable that we would be unable to collect all amounts due according to the contractual terms of the loan agreement based on current circumstances and events. The assessment for impairment occurs when and while such loans are on non-accrual as a result of delinquency of over 90 days or receipt of information indicating that full collection of principal is doubtful, or when the loan has been restructured in a TDRs. Those loans with a balance less than our defined selection criteria, generally when a loan amount is $500,000 or less, were treated as a homogeneous portfolio. If loans meeting the defined criteria were not collateral dependent, we measured the impairment based on the present value of the expected future cash flows discounted at the loan's effective interest rate. If loans meeting the defined criteria were collateral dependent, we measured the impairment by using the loan's observable market price or the fair value of the collateral.

We generally obtained an appraisal to determine the amount of impairment at the date that the loan became impaired. The appraisals were based on "as is" or bulk sale valuations. To ensure that appraised values remained current, we obtained an updated appraisal every twelve months from qualified independent appraisers. If the fair value of the collateral, less cost to sell, was less than the recorded amount of the loan, we then recognized impairment by creating or adjusting an existing valuation allowance with a corresponding charge to the provision for loan losses. If an impaired loan was expected to be collected through liquidation of the collateral, the amount of impairment, excluding disposal costs (which range between 3% to 6% of the fair value, depending on the size of impaired loan), is charged off against the allowance for loan losses. Non-accrual impaired loans, including TDRs, were not returned to accrual status unless the unpaid interest has been brought current and full repayment of the recorded balance was expected or if the borrower had made six consecutive monthly payments of the scheduled amounts due, and TDRs were reviewed for continued impairment until they are no longer reported as TDRs.

As of December 31, 2021, recorded investment in non-accrual loans was $65.8 million. As of December 31, 2020, recorded investment in impaired loans totaled $95.4 million and was comprised of non-accrual loans of $67.7 million and accruing TDRs of $27.7 million. For non-accrual loans, the amounts previously charged off represent 10.7% of the contractual balances for non-accrual loans as of December 31, 2021. For impaired loans, the amounts previously charged off represents 7.1% as of December 31, 2020, of the contractual balances for impaired loans. As of December 31, 2021, $49.3 million, or 74.9%, of the $65.8 million of non-accrual loans were secured by real estate compared to $44.6 million, or 65.9% of the $67.7 million of non-accrual loans that were secured by real estate as of December 31, 2020. The Bank generally seeks to obtain current appraisals, sales contracts, or other available market price information intended to provide updated factors in evaluating potential loss.

At December 31, 2020, $6.4 million of the $166.5 million allowance for loan losses was allocated for impaired loans and $160.1 million was allocated to the general allowance.

The allowance for loan losses to non-performing loans was 202.4% at December 31, 2021, compared to 229.2% at December 31, 2020, primarily due to an increase in the non-accrual loans. Non-accrual loans also include those TDRs that do not qualify for accrual status.

The following table presents non-accrual loans and the related allowance as of December 31, 2021:

	As of December 31, 2021		
	Unpaid Principal Balance	Recorded Investment	Allowance
	(In thousands)		
With no allocated allowance:			
Commercial loans	$ 15,879	$ 11,342	$ —
Commercial mortgage loans	24,437	21,209	—
Residential mortgage and equity lines	6,020	5,850	—
Subtotal	$ 46,336	$ 38,401	$ —
With allocated allowance:			
Commercial loans	$ 14,294	$ 5,217	$ 894
Commercial mortgage loans	17,930	16,964	3,631
Residential mortgage and equity lines	6,048	5,264	22
Subtotal	$ 38,272	$ 27,445	$ 4,547
Total non-accrual loans	**$ 84,608**	**$ 65,846**	**$ 4,547**

In connection with the adoption of ASU 2016-13, the Company no longer provides information on impaired loans. The following table presents impaired loans and the related allowance as of December 31, 2020:

	Impaired Loans		
	As of December 31, 2020		
	Unpaid Principal Balance	Recorded Investment	Allowance
	(In thousands)		
With no allocated allowance:			
Commercial loans	$ 23,784	$ 20,698	$ —
Real estate construction loans	5,776	4,286	—
Commercial mortgage loans	22,877	22,287	—
Residential mortgage and equity lines	6,379	6,307	—
Subtotal	$ 58,816	$ 53,578	$ —
With allocated allowance:			
Commercial loans	$ 13,703	$ 6,372	$ 1,030
Commercial mortgage loans	31,134	31,003	5,254
Residential mortgage and equity lines	5,005	4,452	145
Subtotal	$ 49,842	$ 41,827	$ 6,429
Total impaired loans	**$ 108,658**	**$ 95,405**	**$ 6,429**

Loan Interest Reserves

In accordance with customary banking practice, construction loans and land development loans generally are originated where interest on the loan is disbursed from pre-established interest reserves included in the total original loan commitment. Our construction and land development loans generally include optional renewal terms after the maturity of the initial loan term. New appraisals are obtained prior to extension or renewal of these loans in part to determine the appropriate interest reserve to be established for the new loan term. Loans with interest reserves are generally underwritten to the same criteria, including loan to value and, if applicable, pro forma debt service coverage ratios, as loans without interest reserves. Construction loans with interest reserves are monitored on a periodic basis to gauge progress towards completion. Interest reserves are frozen if it is determined that additional draws would result in a loan to value ratio that exceeds policy maximums based on collateral property type. Our policy limits in this regard are consistent with supervisory limits and range from 50% in the case of land to 85% in the case of one to four family residential construction projects.

As of December 31, 2021, construction loans of $520.5 million were disbursed with pre-established interest reserves of $51.1 million compared to $643.5 million of such loans disbursed with pre-established interest reserves of $71.0 million at December 31, 2020. The balance for construction loans with interest reserves which have been extended was $20.4 million with pre-established interest reserves of $0.4 million at December 31, 2021, compared to $127.0 million with pre-established interest reserves of $4.4 million at December 31, 2020. Land loans of $46.2 million were disbursed with pre-established interest reserves of $0.6 million at December 31, 2021, compared to $24.7 million land loans disbursed with pre-established interest reserves of $0.5 million at December 31, 2020. The balance for land loans with interest reserves which have been renewed was $0.9 million at December 31, 2021, with pre-established interest reserves of $58 thousand, compared to $0.9 million land loans with pre-established interest reserves of $58 thousand at December 31, 2020.

At December 31, 2021 and December 31, 2020, the Bank had no loans on non-accrual status with available interest reserves. At December 31, 2021 and 2020, there was zero and $4.3 million of non-accrual non-residential construction loans that were originated with pre-established interest reserves, respectively. While we typically expect loans with interest reserves to be repaid in full according to the original contractual terms, some loans may require one or more extensions beyond the original maturity before full repayment. Typically, these extensions are required due to construction delays, delays in the sale or lease of property, or some combination of these two factors.

Loan Concentration

Most of the Company's business activities are with customers located in the high-density Asian-populated areas of Southern and Northern California; New York City; New York; Dallas and Houston, Texas; Seattle, Washington; Boston, Massachusetts; Chicago, Illinois; Nevada; New Jersey; Rockville, Maryland and Las Vegas, Nevada. The Company also has loan customers in Hong Kong. The Company has no specific industry concentration, and generally our loans are collateralized with real property or other pledged collateral of the borrowers. The Company generally expects our loans to be paid off from the operating profits of the borrowers, refinancing by another lender, or through sale by the borrowers of the collateral. There are no loan concentrations to multiple borrowers in similar activities that exceeded 10% of total loans as of December 31, 2021, or as of December 31, 2020.

The Federal banking regulatory agencies issued final guidance on December 6, 2006, regarding risk management practices for financial institutions with high or increasing concentrations of commercial real estate ("CRE") loans on their balance sheets. The regulatory guidance reiterates the need for sound internal risk management practices for those institutions that have experienced rapid growth in CRE lending, have notable exposure to specific types of CRE, or are approaching or exceeding the supervisory criteria used to evaluate the CRE concentration risk, but the guidance is not to be construed as a limit for CRE exposure. The supervisory criteria are: (1) total reported loans for construction, land development, and other land represent 100% of the institution's total risk-based capital, and (2) both total CRE loans represent 300% or more of the institution's total risk-based capital and the institution's CRE loan portfolio has increased 50% or more within the last thirty-six months. The Bank’s loans for construction, land development, and other land represented 31% of total risk-based capital as of December 31, 2021, and 35% as of December 31, 2020. Total CRE loans represented 285% of total risk-based capital as of December 31, 2021, and 273% as of December 31, 2020, which were within the Bank’s internal limit of 400%, of total capital. See Part I — Item 1A — “Risk Factors” for a discussion of some of the factors that may affect us.

Allowance for Credit Losses

The Bank maintains the allowance for credit losses at a level that the Bank’s management considers appropriate to cover the estimated and known inherent risks in the loan portfolio and off-balance sheet unfunded credit commitments. Allowance for credit losses is comprised of allowances for loan losses and for off-balance sheet unfunded credit commitments. With this risk management objective, the Bank’s management has an established monitoring system that is designed to identify individually evaluated and potential problem loans, and to permit periodic evaluation of impairment and the appropriate level of the allowance for credit losses in a timely manner.

In addition, the Board of Directors of the Bank has established a written credit policy that includes a credit review and control system that it believes should be effective in ensuring that the Bank maintains an appropriate allowance for credit losses. The Board of Directors provides oversight for the allowance evaluation process, including quarterly evaluations, and determines whether the allowance is appropriate to absorb losses in the credit portfolio. The determination of the amount of the allowance for credit losses and the provision for credit losses is based on management’s current judgment about the credit quality of the loan portfolio and takes into consideration known relevant internal and external factors that affect collectability when determining the appropriate level for the allowance for credit losses. The nature of the process by which the Bank determines the appropriate allowance for credit losses requires the exercise of considerable judgment. Additions or reductions to the allowance for credit losses are made by charges or credits to the provision for credit losses. While management utilizes its business judgment based on the information available, the ultimate appropriateness of the allowance is dependent upon a variety of factors, many of which are beyond the Bank’s control, including but not limited to the performance of the Bank’s loan portfolio, the economy and market conditions, changes in interest rates, and the view of the regulatory authorities toward loan classifications. Identified credit exposures that are determined to be uncollectible are charged against the allowance for credit losses. Recoveries of previously charged off amounts, if any, are credited to the allowance for credit losses. A weakening of the economy or other factors that adversely affect asset quality can result in an increase in the number of delinquencies, bankruptcies, and defaults, and a higher level of non-performing assets, net charge-offs, and provision for loan losses. See Part I — Item 1A — “Risk Factors” for additional factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from forward-looking statements or historical performance.

The allowance for loan losses was $136.2 million and the allowance for off-balance sheet unfunded credit commitments was $7.1 million at December 31, 2021, which represented the amount believed by management to be appropriate to absorb credit losses inherent in the loan portfolio. The allowance for credit losses, which is the sum of the allowances for loan losses and for off-balance sheet unfunded credit commitments, was $143.3 million at December 31, 2021, compared to $172.4 million at December 31, 2020, a decrease of $29.1 million, or 16.9%. The allowance for credit losses represented 0.9% of period-end gross loans and 212.9% of non-performing loans at December 31, 2021. The comparable ratios were 1.10% of period-end gross loans and 237.3% of non-performing loans at December 31, 2020.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

Our accounting policies are fundamental to understanding management's discussion and analysis of results of operations and financial condition. We identify critical policies and estimates as those that require management to make particularly difficult, subjective, and/or complex judgments about matters that are inherently uncertain and because of the likelihood that materially different amounts would be reported under different conditions or using different assumptions. We have identified the policy and estimates relate to the allowance for credit losses on loans as a critical accounting policy.

Our critical accounting policies and estimates are described in Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations included in this Annual Report Form 10-K. For more information, please also see Note 1, Summary of Significant Accounting Policies contained in Item 8, Financial Statements and Supplementary Data.

Expected Credit Losses Estimate for Loans

In January 2021, we adopted ASC 326, which replaces the incurred loss methodology with an expected loss methodology. The allowance for credit losses on loans held for investment is the combination of the allowance for loan losses and the reserve for unfunded loan commitments. The allowance for loan losses is reported as a reduction of the amortized cost basis of loans, while the reserve for unfunded loan commitments is included within "Other liabilities" on the Consolidated Balance Sheets. The amortized cost basis of loans does not include interest receivable, which is included in "Other assets" on the Consolidated Balance Sheets. The "Provision for credit losses" on the Consolidated Statement of Operations and Comprehensive Income is a combination of the provision for loan losses and the provision for unfunded loan commitments.

Under the CECL methodology, expected credit losses reflect losses over the remaining contractual life of an asset, considering the effect of prepayments and available information about the collectability of cash flows, including information about relevant historical experience, current conditions, and reasonable and supportable forecasts of future events and circumstances. Thus, the CECL methodology incorporates a broad range of information in developing credit loss estimates. For further information regarding the calculation of the allowance for credit losses on loans held for investment using the CECL methodology effective January 1, 2021, see Notes 1 and 4 to the Consolidated Financial Statements contained in "Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data."

In calculating our allowance for credit losses for the year ended 2021, the change in Moody's forecast of future GDP, unemployment rates, CRE and home price indexes, resulted in a decrease in the allowance for credit losses. Our methodology and framework along with the 8-quarter reasonable and supportable forecast period and the 4-quarter reversion period have remained consistent since the implementation of CECL on January 1, 2021. Certain management assumptions are reassessed every quarter based on current expectations for credit losses, while other assumptions are assessed and updated on at least an annual basis.

The use of different economic forecasts, whether based on different scenarios, the use of multiple or single scenarios, or updated economic forecasts and scenarios, can change the outcome of the calculations. In addition to the economic forecasts, there are numerous components and assumptions that are integral to the overall estimation of allowance for credit losses.

The determination of the allowance for credit losses is complex and dependent on numerous models, assumptions, and judgments made by management. Management's current expectation for credit losses as quantified in the allowance for credit losses, considers the impact of assumptions and is reflective of historical credit experience, economic forecasts viewed to be reasonable and supportable, current loan composition, and relative credit risks known as of the balance sheet date.

The Company's CECL methodology utilizes an eight-quarter reasonable and supportable ("R&S") forecast period, and a four-quarter reversion period. Management relies on multiple forecasts, blending them into a single loss estimate. Generally speaking, the blended scenario approach would include the Baseline, the Alternative Scenario 1 – Upside – 10th Percentile and the Alternative Scenario 3 – Downside – 90th Percentile forecasts. After the R&S period, the Company will revert straight-line for the four-quarter reversion period to the long-term loss rates for each of the six portfolios of loans. The contractual term excludes renewals and modifications but includes pre-approved extensions and prepayment assumptions where applicable.

Our allowance for credit losses is sensitive to a number of inputs, including macroeconomic forecast assumptions and credit rating migrations during the period. Our macroeconomic forecasts used in determining the December 31, 2021, allowance for credit losses consisted of three scenarios. The baseline scenario reflects ongoing GDP growth and falling unemployment in 2022, generally in line with market expectations, and consistent with waning COVID transmission and improved supply chains. The upside scenario reflects a faster recovery in consumer spending and stronger productivity growth in 2022 relative to the baseline scenario. The downside scenario contemplates a double-dip recession due to resurgent COVID infections that results in negative GDP growth, rising unemployment, and deteriorating credit conditions in early 2022. We placed the most weight on our baseline scenario, with the remaining weighting split equally between the upside and downside scenarios.

Keeping all other factors constant, we estimate that if we had applied 100% weighting to the downside scenario, the allowance for credit losses as of December 31, 2021, would have been approximately $80.3 million higher. This estimate is intended to reflect the sensitivity of the allowance for credit losses to changes in our scenario weights and is not intended to be indicative of future changes in the allowance for credit losses.

Management believes the allowance for credit losses is appropriate for the current expected credit losses in our loan portfolio and associated unfunded commitments, and the credit risk ratings and inherent loss rates currently assigned are reasonable and appropriate as of the reporting date. It is possible that others, given the same information, may at any point in time reach different conclusions that could result in a significant impact to the Company's financial statements.

The following table sets forth the information relating to the allowance for loan losses, charge-offs, recoveries, and the reserve for off-balance sheet credit commitments for the past five years:

Allowance for Credit Losses

	Amount Outstanding as of December 31,				
	2021	**2020**	**2019**	**2018**	**2017**
			(In thousands)		
Allowance for loan losses					
Balance at beginning of year	$ 166,538	$ 123,224	$ 122,391	$ 123,279	$ 118,966
Impact of ASU 2016-13 adoption	(1,560)	—	—	—	—
Adjusted beginning balance	**$ 164,978**	**$ 123,224**	**$ 122,391**	**$ 123,279**	**$ 118,966**
(Reversal)/provision for credit losses	(11,210)	57,500	(7,000)	(4,500)	(2,500)
Charge-offs :					
Commercial loans	(20,051)	(21,996)	(6,997)	(629)	(3,313)
Real estate loans	(3)	—	—	(2,577)	(860)
Total charge-offs	(20,054)	(21,996)	(6,997)	(3,206)	(4,173)
Recoveries:					
Commercial loans	1,706	7,267	4,155	1,875	3,402
Construction loans	76	—	4,612	177	229
Real estate loans	661	543	6,063	4,766	7,336
Installment loans and other loans	—	—	—	—	19
Total recoveries	2,443	7,810	14,830	6,818	10,986
Balance at end of period	**$ 136,157**	**$ 166,538**	**$ 123,224**	**$ 122,391**	**$ 123,279**
Reserve for off-balance sheet credit commitments					
Balance at beginning of year	$ 5,880	$ 3,855	$ 2,250	$ 4,588	$ 3,224
Impact of ASU 2016-13 adoption	6,018	—	—	—	—
Adjusted beginning balance	**$ 11,898**	**$ 3,855**	**$ 2,250**	**$ 4,588**	**$ 3,224**
(Reversal)/provision for credit losses	(4,798)	2,025	1,605	(2,338)	1,364
Balance at the end of period	**$ 7,100**	**$ 5,880**	**$ 3,855**	**$ 2,250**	**$ 4,588**
Average loans outstanding during the year [1]	$ 15,827,550	$ 15,500,910	$ 14,510,678	$ 13,280,665	$ 11,936,389
Ratio of net charge-offs/(recoveries) to average loans outstanding during the year [1]	0.11%	0.09%	(0.05)%	(0.03)%	(0.06)%
Provision/(reversal) for credit losses to average loans outstanding during the year [1]	(0.07)%	0.37%	(0.05)%	(0.03)%	(0.02)%
Allowance for credit losses to non-performing portfolio loans at year-end [2]	212.91%	237.27%	270.77%	273.41%	262.09%
Allowance for credit losses to gross loans at year-end [1]	0.88%	1.10%	0.84%	0.89%	0.99%

(1) Excluding loans held for sale
(2) Excluding non-accrual loans held for sale

Prior to January 1, 2021, our allowance for loan losses consisted of the following:

- Specific allowance: For impaired loans, we provide specific allowances for loans that are not collateral dependent based on an evaluation of the present value of the expected future cash flows discounted at the loan's effective interest rate and for loans that are collateral dependent based on the fair value of the underlying collateral determined by the most recent valuation information received, which may be adjusted based on factors such as changes in market conditions from the time of valuation. If the measure of the impaired loan is less than the recorded investment in the loan, the deficiency will be charged off against the allowance for loan losses or, alternatively, a specific allocation will be established.

- General allowance: The unclassified portfolio is segmented on a group basis. Segmentation is determined by loan types and common risk characteristics. The non-impaired loans are grouped into 19 segments: two commercial segments, ten commercial real estate segments, one residential construction segment, one non-residential construction segment, one SBA segment, one installment loans segment, one residential mortgage segment, one equity lines of credit segment, and one overdrafts segment. The allowance is provided for each segmented group based on the group's historical loan loss experience aggregated based on loan risk classifications which take into account the current financial condition of the borrowers and guarantors, the prevailing value of the underlying collateral if collateral dependent, charge-off history, management's knowledge of the portfolio, general economic conditions, environmental factors including the trends in delinquency and non-accrual, and other significant factors, such as the national and local economy, volume and composition of the portfolio, strength of management and loan staff, underwriting standards, and concentration of credit. Management also reviews reports on past-due loans to ensure appropriate classification. In the fourth quarter of 2016, management reevaluated and increased the look back period from five to eight years to capture historical loan losses from the last recession. The look back period is anchored from the first quarter of 2009 and has been extended through forty-eight quarters through the fourth quarter of 2020. The general allowance is affected by loan volumes, quarterly net charge-offs/recoveries and historical loss rates. In addition, risk factor calculations for pass rated loans included a specified loss emergence period and were determined based on five-year average of observed net losses, unless trends would indicate that a different weighting would be appropriate. These refinements maintained the Bank's allowance at a level consistent with the prior quarter.

The table set forth below reflects management's allocation of the allowance for loan losses by loan category and the ratio of each loan category to the total loans as of the dates indicated:

Allocation of Allowance for Loan Losses
As of December 31,

	2021		2020		2019		2018		2017	
	Amount	Percentage of Loans in Each Category to Average Gross Loans	Amount	Percentage of Loans in Each Category to Average Gross Loans	Amount	Percentage of Loans in Each Category to Average Gross Loans	Amount	Percentage of Loans in Each Category to Average Gross Loans	Amount	Percentage of Loans in Each Category to Average Gross Loans
	(In thousands)									
Type of Loans:										
Commercial loans	$ 43,394	18.4%	$ 68,742	18.8%	$ 57,021	18.9%	$ 54,978	19.1%	$ 49,796	19.1%
Residential mortgage loans and equity lines	25,379	28.7	17,737	29.4	13,108	29.1	14,282	26.9	11,013	24.5
Commercial mortgage loans	61,081	48.7	49,205	47.8	33,602	48.0	33,487	49.5	37,610	51.2
Real estate construction loans	6,302	4.2	30,854	4.0	19,474	4.0	19,626	4.5	24,838	5.2
Installment and other loans	1	—	—	—	19	—	18	—	22	—
Total	**$136,157**	**100.0%**	**$166,538**	**100.0%**	**$123,224**	**100.0%**	**$122,391**	**100.0%**	**$123,279**	**100.0%**

The allowance allocated to commercial loans was $43.4 million at December 31, 2021, compared to $68.7 million at December 31, 2020. The decrease is due primarily to a decrease in the allowance of $31.5 million from the adoption of ASU 2016-13 and net charge offs of $18.3 million offset by a provision for loan losses of $24.5 million.

The allowance allocated to residential mortgage loans and equity lines was $25.4 million at December 31, 2021, compared to $17.7 million at December 31, 2020. The increase is due primarily to an increase in the allowance of $19.2 million from the adoption of ASU 2016-13 offset by a reversal for loan losses of $11.9 million related to improvements in projected future macro-economic conditions in 2021.

The allowance allocated to commercial mortgage loans was $61.1 million at December 31, 2021, compared to $49.2 million at December 31, 2020. The increase is due primarily to an increase in the allowance of $35.0 million from the adoption of ASU 2016-13 offset by a reversal for loan losses of $23.4 million related to the improvements in projected future macro-economic conditions in 2021.

The allowance allocated for construction loans decreased to $6.3 million at December 31, 2021, from $30.9 million at December 31, 2020. The decrease is due primarily to a decrease in the allowance of $24.3 million from the adoption of ASU 2016-13. The $24.3 million decrease in allowance was primarily due to a change in methodology from the incurred loss model in 2020 to CECL based modeling in 2021. Under the CECL based modeling, the allowance is determined using actual loss experience, average life of loans, loan-to-collateral value among other factors, as compared to only historical loss experience used in incurred loss model.

Please also see Part I — Item 1A — "Risk Factors" for additional factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from forward-looking statements or historical performance.

Liquidity

Liquidity is our ability to maintain sufficient cash flow to meet maturing financial obligations and customer credit needs, and to take advantage of investment opportunities as they are presented in the marketplace. Our principal sources of liquidity are growth in deposits, proceeds from the maturity or sale of securities and other financial instruments, repayments from securities and loans, Federal funds purchased, securities sold under agreements to repurchase, and advances from the FHLB. For December 2021, our average monthly liquidity ratio (defined as net cash plus short-term and marketable securities to net deposits and short-term liabilities) was 17.3% compared to 14.7% for December 2020.

The Bank is a shareholder of the FHLB, which enables the Bank to have access to lower-cost FHLB financing when necessary. At December 31, 2021, the Bank had an approved credit line with the FHLB of San Francisco totaling $5.0 billion. Total advances from the FHLB of San Francisco were $20 million and standby letter of credits issued by FHLB on the Company's behalf were $676.4 million as of December 31, 2021. These borrowings bear fixed rates and are secured by loans. See Note 8 to the Consolidated Financial Statements. At December 31, 2021, the Bank pledged $773.3 thousand of its commercial loans to the Federal Reserve Bank's Discount Window under the Borrower-in-Custody program. The Bank had borrowing capacity of $2.4 million from the Federal Reserve Bank Discount Window at December 31, 2021.

Liquidity can also be provided through the sale of liquid assets, which consist of federal funds sold, securities purchased under agreements to resell, securities available-for-sale and equity securities. At December 31, 2021, securities available-for-sale totaled $1.1 billion, with $30.5 million pledged as collateral for borrowings and other commitments. The remaining $1.1 billion was available as additional liquidity or to be pledged as collateral for additional borrowings.

Approximately 96% of our time deposits mature within one year or less as of December 31, 2021. Management anticipates that there may be some outflow of these deposits upon maturity due to the keen competition in the Bank's marketplace. However, based on our historical runoff experience, we expect the outflow will not be significant and anticipate that the outflow can be replenished through our normal growth in deposits. As of December 31, 2021, management believes all the above-mentioned sources will provide adequate liquidity during the next twelve months for the Bank to meet its operating needs. Deposits and other sources of liquidity, however, may be adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The business activities of the Bancorp consist primarily of the operation of the Bank and limited activities in other investments. The Bancorp obtains funding for its activities primarily through dividend income contributed by the Bank, proceeds from the issuance of the Bancorp common stock through our Dividend Reinvestment Plan and the exercise of stock options. Dividends paid to the Bancorp by the Bank are subject to regulatory limitations. Management believes the Bancorp's liquidity generated from its prevailing sources is sufficient to meet its operational needs.

Please also see Note 12 to the Consolidated Financial Statements regarding commitments and contingencies.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In March 2020, the FASB issued ASU No. 2020-04, "Reference Rate Reform (Topic 848): Facilitation of the Effects of Reference Rate Reform on Financial Reporting." ASU No. 2020-04 is effective for all entities as of March 12, 2020, through December 31, 2022. This ASU provides temporary optional guidance to ease the potential burden in accounting for reference rate reform. The new guidance provides optional expedients and exceptions for applying GAAP to contract modifications and hedging relationships, subject to meeting certain criteria, that reference LIBOR or another reference rate expected to be discontinued. The ASU is intended to help stakeholders during the global market-wide reference rate transition period. Therefore, it will be in effect for a limited time through December 31, 2022. In January 2021, the FASB issued ASU 2021-01 as subsequent amendments, which expanded the scope of Topic 848 to include all affected derivatives and clarified certain optional expedients and exceptions regarding the hedge accounting for derivative contracts affected by the discounting transition. The adoption of this guidance did not have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

Please see Note 1 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for details of other recent accounting pronouncements and their expected impact, if any, on the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

Market Risk

Market risk is the risk of loss from adverse changes in market prices and rates. We believe the principal market risk to the Company is the interest rate risk inherent in our lending, investing, deposit taking and borrowing activities, due to the fact that interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities do not re-price at the same rate, to the same extent, or on the same basis.

As part of our asset and liability management, we monitor and manage our interest rate risk through analyzing the re-pricing characteristics of our loans, securities, deposits, and borrowings on an on-going basis. The primary objective of our asset and liability management is to manage and minimize the adverse effects of changes in interest rates on our earnings, cash flows, values of our assets and liabilities, and ultimately the underlying market value of our equity, while structuring our asset-liability composition to seek to obtain the maximum spread in a safe and sound manner. Many factors affect the spread between interest earned on assets and interest paid on liabilities, including economic and financial conditions, movements in interest rates, consumer preferences and regulatory actions.

Management meets regularly to monitor the interest rate risk, the sensitivity of our assets and liabilities to interest rate changes, the book and fair values of assets and liabilities, our investment activities, and changes in the composition of our interest earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities. Our strategy has been to seek to reduce the sensitivity of our earnings to interest rate fluctuations by more closely matching the effective maturities or repricing characteristics of our assets and liabilities. Certain assets and liabilities, however, may react in different degrees to changes in market interest rates. Further, interest rates on certain types of assets and liabilities may fluctuate prior to changes in market interest rates, while interest rates on other types may lag behind.

We use a net interest income simulation model as a method to help manage interest rate risk and estimate the extent of the differences in the behavior of the lending, investing, and funding rates to changing interest rates, so as to project future earnings or market values under alternative interest rate scenarios. The net interest income simulation model is designed to measure the volatility of net interest income and net portfolio value, defined as net present value of assets and liabilities, under immediate rising or falling interest rate scenarios in 25 basis points increments.

We establish a tolerance level in our policy for net interest income volatility of plus or minus 5% when the hypothetical rate change is plus or minus 200 basis points. When the net interest rate simulation projects that our tolerance level will be met or exceeded, we seek corrective action after considering, among other things, market conditions, customer reaction, and the estimated impact on profitability. At December 31, 2021, if interest rates were to increase instantaneously by 100 basis points, the simulation indicated that our net interest income over the next twelve months would increase by 9.43%, and if interest rates were to increase instantaneously by 200 basis points, the simulation indicated that our net interest income over the next twelve months would increase by 19.63%. Conversely, if interest rates were to decrease instantaneously by 100 basis points, the simulation indicated that our net interest income over the next twelve months would decrease by 1.30%, and if interest rates were to decrease instantaneously by 200 basis points, the simulation indicated that our net interest income over the next twelve months would decrease by 1.51%.

Our simulation model also projects the net market value of our portfolio of assets and liabilities. We have established a tolerance level to value the net market value of our portfolio of assets and liabilities in our policy to a change of not less than 0% when the hypothetical rate change is plus or minus 200 basis points. At December 31, 2021, if interest rates were to increase instantaneously by 200 basis points, the simulation indicated that the net market value of our portfolio of assets and liabilities would increase by 12.23%, and conversely, if interest rates were to decrease instantaneously by 200 basis points, the simulation indicated that the net market value of our assets and liabilities would decrease by 7.11%.

Although we believe our simulation modeling is helpful in managing interest rate risk, the model does require significant assumptions for, among other factors, the projection of loan prepayment rates on mortgage related assets, loan volumes and pricing, and deposit and borrowing volume and pricing, that might prove inaccurate. Because these assumptions are inherently uncertain, the model does not necessarily represent our forecast, and the simulated results may not be indicative of actual changes to our net interest income. Actual results will differ from simulated results due to the timing, magnitude, and frequency of interest rate changes, the differences between actual experience and the assumed volume, changes in market conditions, and management strategies, among other factors.

Quantitative Information about Interest Rate Risk

The following table shows the carrying value of our financial instruments that are sensitive to changes in interest rates, categorized by expected maturity, as well as the instruments' total fair values at December 31, 2021, and 2020. For assets, expected maturities are based on contractual maturity. For liabilities, we use our historical experience and decay factors to estimate the deposit runoffs of interest-bearing transactional deposits. We use certain assumptions to estimate fair values and expected maturities that are described in Note 15 to the Consolidated Financial Statements. Off-balance sheet commitments to extend credit, letters of credit, and bill of lading guarantees represent the contractual unfunded amounts. Off-balance sheet financial instruments represent fair values. The results presented may vary if different assumptions are used or if actual experience differs from the assumptions used.

	Average Interest Rate	Expected Maturity Date at December 31,						December 31, 2021		December 31, 2020	
		2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Thereafter	Total	Fair Value	Total	Fair Value
	(In thousands)										
Interest-Sensitive Assets:											
Mortgage-backed securities and collateralized mortgage obligations	2.31%	$ 1	$ 63	$ 6	$ 489	$ 401	$ 896,820	$ 897,780	$ 897,780	$ 737,392	$ 737,392
Other investment securities	1.37%	$ 5,009	$ 10,003	$ 20,407	$ 19,468	$ 73,311	$ 101,331	$ 229,529	$ 229,529	$ 299,158	$ 299,158
Loans	3.94%	$ 3,472,465	$ 1,097,728	$ 771,523	$ 823,619	$ 1,452,075	$ 8,725,069	$ 16,342,479	$ 16,499,869	$ 15,644,396	$ 16,103,471
Interest Sensitive Liabilities:											
Other interest-bearing deposits	0.26%	$ 1,581,346	$ 974,311	$ 697,815	$ 475,278	$ 2,420,707	$ 1,900,079	$ 8,049,536	$ 8,049,536	$ 6,070,998	$ 6,070,998
Time deposits	0.68%	$ 5,318,805	$ 139,735	$ 58,088	$ 144	$ 467	$ 13	$ 5,517,252	$ 5,510,130	$ 6,673,317	$ 6,689,724
Advances from the Federal Home Loan Bank	2.89%	$ —	$ 20,000	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ 20,000	$ 21,279	$ 150,000	$ 155,133
Other borrowings	—%	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ 23,145	$ 23,145	$ 18,945	$ 23,714	$ 19,632
Long-term debt	2.38%	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ 119,136	$ 119,136	$ 62,274	$ 119,136	$ 65,487
Off-Balance Sheet Financial Instruments:											
Commitments to extend credit		$ 1,256,102	$ 795,636	$ 352,971	$ 145,828	$ 165,536	$ 581,290	$ 3,297,363	$ (12,594)	$ 2,977,528	$ (8,432)
Standby letters of credit		$ 170,748	$ 6,437	$ 1,428	$ 29,635	$ 1,146	$ 57,095	$ 266,489	$ (2,640)	$ 234,200	$ (1,630)
Other letters of credit		$ 16,652	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ 16,652	$ (13)	$ 16,821	$ (16)
Bill of lading guarantees		$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ 238	$ —

Financial Derivatives

It is our policy not to speculate on the future direction of interest rates. However, from to time, we may enter into financial derivatives in order to seek mitigation of exposure to interest rate risks related to our interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities. We believe that these transactions, when properly structured and managed, may provide a hedge against inherent interest rate risk in our assets or liabilities and against risk in specific transactions. In such instances, we may enter into interest rate swap contracts or other types of financial derivatives. Prior to considering any hedging activities, we seek to analyze the costs and benefits of the hedge in comparison to other viable alternative strategies. All hedges must be approved by the Bank's Investment Committee.

The Company follows ASC Topic 815 that establishes accounting and reporting standards for financial derivatives, including certain financial derivatives embedded in other contracts, and hedging activities. It requires the recognition of all financial derivatives as assets or liabilities in the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheets and measurement of those financial derivatives at fair value. The accounting treatment of changes in fair value is dependent upon whether or not a financial derivative is designated as a hedge and, if so, the type of hedge. Fair value is determined using third-party models with observable market data. For derivatives designated as cash flow hedges, changes in fair value are recognized in other comprehensive income and are reclassified to earnings when the hedged transaction is reflected in earnings. For derivatives designated as fair value hedges, changes in the fair value of the derivatives are reflected in current earnings, together with changes in the fair value of the related hedged item if there is a highly effective correlation between changes in the fair value of the interest rate swaps and changes in the fair value of the underlying asset or liability that is intended to be hedged. If there is not a highly effective correlation between changes in the fair value of the interest rate swap and changes in the fair value of the underlying asset or liability that is intended to be hedged, then only the changes in the fair value of the interest rate swaps are reflected in the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements.

The Company offers various interest rate derivative contracts to its customers. When derivative transactions are executed with its customers, the derivative contracts are offset by paired trades with third-party financial institutions including with central counterparties ("CCP"). Certain derivative contracts entered with CCPs are settled-to-market daily to the extent the CCP's rulebooks legally characterize the variation margin as settlement. Derivative contracts are intended to allow borrowers to lock in attractive intermediate and long-term fixed rate financing while not increasing the interest rate risk to the Company. These transactions are generally not linked to specific Company assets or liabilities on the Consolidated Balance Sheets or to forecasted transactions in a hedging relationship and, therefore, are economic hedges. The contracts are marked to market at each reporting period. The changes in fair values of the derivative contracts traded with third-party financial institutions are expected to be largely comparable to the changes in fair values of the derivative transactions executed with customers throughout the terms of these contracts, except for the credit valuation adjustment component. The Company records credit valuation adjustments on derivatives to properly reflect the variances of credit worthiness between the Company and the counterparties, considering the effects of enforceable master netting agreements and collateral arrangements. As of December 31, 2021 and 2020, the Company had outstanding interest rate derivative contracts with certain customers and third-party financial institutions with a notional amount of $457.0 million and $83.2 million, respectively.

In May 2014, the Bancorp entered into interest rate swap contracts in the notional amount of $119.1 million for a period of ten years. The objective of these interest rate swap contracts, which were designated as hedging instruments in cash flow hedges, was to hedge the quarterly interest payments on Bancorp's $119.1 million of Junior Subordinated Debentures that had been issued to five trusts, throughout the ten-year period beginning in June 2014 and ending in June 2024, from the risk of variability of these payments resulting from changes in the three-month LIBOR interest rate. As of December 31, 2021, and 2020, the ineffective portion of these interest rates swaps was not significant.

The notional amount and net unrealized loss of the Company's cash flow derivative financial instruments as of December 31, 2021, and December 31, 2020, were as follows:

	December 31, 2021	December 31, 2020
Cash flow swap hedges:	($ in thousands)	
Notional	$ 119,136	$ 119,136
Weighted average fixed rate-pay	2.61%	2.61%
Weighted average variable rate-receive	0.16%	0.44%
Unrealized loss, net of taxes [1]	$ (3,276)	$ (6,890)

	Year ended	
	December 31, 2021	December 31, 2020
Periodic net settlement of swaps [2]	$ 2,949	$ 2,193

(1)-Included in other comprehensive income.
(2)-the amount of periodic net settlement of interest rate swaps was included in interest expense.

As of December 31, 2021, the Bank's outstanding interest rate swap contracts had a notional amount of $324.8 million for various terms from three to ten years. The Bank entered into these interest rate swap contracts that are matched to individual fixed-rate commercial real estate loans in the Bank's loan portfolio. These contracts have been designated as hedging instruments to hedge the risk of changes in the fair value of the underlying commercial real estate loans due to changes in interest rates. The swap contracts are structured so that the notional amounts reduce over time to match the contractual amortization of the underlying loan and allow prepayments with the same pre-payment penalty amounts as the related loan. As of December 31, 2021, and 2020, the ineffective portion of these interest rate swaps was not significant.

The Company has designated as a partial-term hedging election $404.4 million and $25.0 million notional as last-of-layer hedge on pool of loans with a notational value of $748.6 million and $44.7 million as of December 31, 2021 and 2020, respectively. The loans are not expected to be affected by prepayment, defaults, or other factors affecting the timing and amount of cash flows under the last-of-layer method. The Company has entered into a pay-fixed and receive 1-Month LIBOR interest rate swap to convert the last-of-layer $404.4 million portion of a $748.6 million fixed rate loan tranche in order to reduce the Company's exposure to higher interest rates for the last-of-layer tranche. As of December 31, 2021 and 2020, the last-of-layer loan tranche had a fair value basis adjustment of $30 thousand and $342 thousand, respectively. The interest rate swap converts this last-of-layer tranche into a floating rate instrument. The Company's risk management objective with respect to this last-of-layer interest rate swap is to reduce interest rate exposure as to the last-of-layer tranche.

Interest rate swap contracts involve the risk of dealing with institutional derivative counterparties and their ability to meet contractual terms. Institutional counterparties must have a strong credit profile and be approved by the Company's Board of Directors. The Company's credit exposure on interest rate swaps is limited to the net favorable value and interest payments of all swaps by each counterparty. Credit exposure may be reduced by the amount of collateral pledged by the counterparty. Bancorp's interest rate swaps have been assigned by the counterparties to a derivatives clearing organization and daily margin is indirectly maintained with the derivatives clearing organization. Cash posted as collateral by Bancorp related to derivative contracts totaled $5.9 million as of December 31, 2021, and $11.9 million as of December 31, 2020.

The notional amount and net unrealized loss of the Company's fair value derivative financial instruments as of December 31, 2021, and December 31, 2020, were as follows:

	December 31, 2021	December 31, 2020
Fair value swap hedges:	($ in thousands)	
Notional	$ 729,280	$ 478,266
Weighted average fixed rate-pay	2.65%	4.56%
Weighted average variable rate spread	1.31%	2.46%
Weighted average variable rate-receive	1.43%	3.11%
Net unrealized loss [1]	$ (1,013)	$ (15,082)

	Year ended	
	December 31, 2021	December 31, 2020
Periodic net settlement of SWAPs [2]	$ (9,345)	$ (7,719)

(1)-the amount is included in other non-interest income.
(2)-the amount of periodic net settlement of interest rate swaps was included in interest income.

From time to time, the Company enters into foreign exchange forward contracts with various counterparties to mitigate the risk of fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates for foreign exchange certificates of deposit or foreign exchange contracts entered into with our clients. These contracts are not designated as hedging instruments and are recorded at fair value in our Consolidated Balance Sheets. Changes in the fair value of these contracts as well as the related foreign exchange certificates of deposit and foreign exchange contracts are recognized immediately in net income as a component of non-interest income. Period end gross positive fair values are recorded in other assets and gross negative fair values are recorded in other liabilities. The notional amount and fair value of the Company's derivative financial instruments not designated as hedging instruments as of December 31, 2021, and December 31, 2020, were as follows:

	December 31, 2021	December 31, 2020
Derivative financial instruments not designated as hedging instruments:	(In thousands)	
Notional amounts:		
Option contracts	$ 676	$ —
Forward, and swap contracts with positive fair value	$ 181,997	$ 151,244
Forward, and swap contracts with negative fair value	$ 51,782	$ 132,813
Fair value:		
Option contracts	$ 2,911	$ —
Forward, and swap contracts with positive fair value	$ 1,113	$ 4,658
Forward, and swap contracts with negative fair value	$ (327)	$ (2,200)

Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

For financial statements, see “Index to Consolidated Financial Statements” on page F-1.

Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure

Not Applicable.

Item 9A. Controls and Procedures

Disclosure Controls and Procedures

The Company's principal executive officer and principal financial officer have evaluated the effectiveness of the Company’s “disclosure controls and procedures,” as such term is defined in Rule 13a-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, (the “Exchange Act”) as of the end of the period covered by this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Based upon their evaluation, the principal executive officer and principal financial officer have concluded that the Company’s disclosure controls and procedures are effective to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Company in the reports filed or submitted by it under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC’s rules and forms, and include controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Company in such reports is accumulated and communicated to the Company’s management, including its principal executive officer and principal financial officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

There have not been any changes in the Company’s disclosure controls and procedures that occurred during its fourth fiscal quarter of 2021 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, these controls and procedures.

Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

The management of the Company is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting as such term is defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Exchange Act. The Company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed under the supervision of the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of the Company's financial statements for external purposes in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

As of December 31, 2021, under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's management, including the Company's principal executive officer and principal financial officer, the Company assessed the effectiveness of its internal control over financial reporting based on the criteria for effective internal control over financial reporting established in "Internal Control — Integrated Framework (2013)," issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). Based on this assessment, management determined that the Company maintained effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2021.

KPMG LLP, the independent registered public accounting firm that audited the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, has also issued an audit report on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2021. The report, which expresses an unqualified opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2021, is included in this Item under the heading "Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm" below.

Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

There have been no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting, as such term is defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Exchange Act, that occurred during the fourth fiscal quarter of 2021 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially effect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Stockholders and Board of Directors
Cathay General Bancorp:

Opinion on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

We have audited Cathay General Bancorp and subsidiaries' (the Company) internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2021, based on criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. In our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2021, based on criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB), the consolidated balance sheets of the Company as of December 31, 2021 and 2020, the related consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income, changes in stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2021, and the related notes (collectively, the consolidated financial statements), and our report dated February 28, 2022 expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements.

Basis for Opinion

The Company's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit of internal control over financial reporting included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audit also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Definition and Limitations of Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

/s/ KPMG LLP

Los Angeles, California
February 28, 2022

Item 9B. Other Information

None.

Item 9C. Disclosure Regarding Foreign Jurisdictions That Prevent Inspections

Not Applicable.

PART III

Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance

The information required by this item concerning our, directors, compliance with Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the code of ethics that applies to our principal executive officer, principal financial officer and principal accounting officer, and matters relating to corporate governance is incorporated herein by reference from the information set forth under the captions “Proposal One—Election of Directors,” “Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance,” “Board of Directors and Corporate Governance” and “Code of Ethics” in our Definitive Proxy Statement relating to our 2022 Annual Meeting of Stockholders (our “Proxy Statement”).

The information required by this item concerning our executive officers is set forth in Part I – Item 1. Business – Executive Officers of the Registrant in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Item 11. Executive Compensation

The information required by this item is incorporated herein by reference from the information set forth under the captions “Board of Directors and Corporate Governance—Compensation of Directors,” “Executive Compensation,” and “Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control” in our Proxy Statement.

Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters

Securities Authorized for Issuance under Equity Compensation Plans

The following table sets forth certain information as of December 31, 2021, with respect to compensation plans under which equity securities of the Company were authorized for issuance.

Plan Category	Number of Securities to be Issued Upon Exercise of Outstanding Options, Warrants, and Rights (a)	Weighted-average Exercise Price of Outstanding Options, Warrants, and Rights (b)	Number of Securities Remaining Available For Future Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans [Excluding Securities Reflected in Column (a)] (c)
Equity Compensation Plans Approved by Security Holders	—	$ —	1,861,104
Equity Compensation Plans Not Approved by Security Holders	—	—	—
Total	—	$ —	1,861,104

Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management

The information required by this item is incorporated herein by reference from the information set forth under the captions “Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners” and “Proposal One—Election of Directors— Security Ownership of Nominees, Continuing Directors, and Named Executive Officers” in our Proxy Statement.

Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence

The information required by this item is incorporated herein by reference to the information set forth under the captions “Transactions with Related Persons, Promoters and Certain Control Persons” and “Board of Directors and Corporate Governance— Director Independence” in our Proxy Statement.

Item 14. Principal Accounting Fees and Services

The information required by this item is incorporated herein by reference from the information set forth under the caption “Principal Accounting Fees and Services” in our Proxy Statement.

PART IV

Item 15. Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules

Documents Filed as Part of this Report

(a)(1) Financial Statements

See “Index to Consolidated Financial Statements” on page F-1.

(a)(2) Financial Statement Schedules

Schedules have been omitted since they are not applicable, they are not required, or the information required to be set forth in the schedules is included in the Consolidated Financial Statements or Notes thereto.

(b) Exhibits

The exhibits listed in the accompanying Index to Exhibits are filed as part of, or incorporated by reference into, this Annual Report on Form 10-K. The following is a list of such Exhibits:

INDEX OF EXHIBITS

Exhibit No.	Description of Exhibits
3.1	Restated Certificate of Incorporation. Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 29, 2016, as an exhibit to Bancorp's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015, and incorporated herein by reference.
3.1.1	Amendment to Restated Certificate of Incorporation. Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 29, 2016, as an exhibit to Bancorp's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015, and incorporated herein by reference.
3.2	Amended and Restated Bylaws, effective February 16, 2017. Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 17, 2017, as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Current Report on Form 8-K and incorporated herein by reference.
3.3	Certificate of Designation of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock. Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 28, 2012, as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, and incorporated herein by reference.
3.4	Certificate of Designation of Fixed Rate Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series B. Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 3, 2014, as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 and incorporated herein by reference.
4.1	Indenture, dated as of March 30, 2007, between Cathay General Bancorp and LaSalle Bank National Association (including form of debenture). Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 1, 2013, as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012, and incorporated herein by reference.
4.1.1	Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust of Cathay Capital Trust III, dated as of March 30, 2007. Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 1, 2013, as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012 and incorporated herein by reference.
4.1.2	Guarantee Agreement, dated as of March 30, 2007, between Cathay General Bancorp and LaSalle Bank National Association. Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 1, 2013, as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012 and incorporated herein by reference.
4.1.3	Form of Capital Security Certificate of Cathay Capital Trust III (included within Exhibit 4.1.1).
4.2+	Description of the Bancorp's Common Stock.

10.1+ Form of Indemnification Agreement between the Bancorp and its directors and certain officers.

10.2** Cathay Bank Employee Stock Ownership Plan, as amended and restated effective December 22, 2015. Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 1, 2018, as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017, and incorporated herein by reference.

10.2.1** Amendment No. 1 to the Cathay Bank Employee Stock Ownership Plan, as amended and restated effective December 22, 2015. Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 1, 2018, as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017, and incorporated herein by reference.

10.2.2** Amendment No. 2 to the Cathay Bank Employee Stock Ownership Plan, as amended and restated effective December 22, 2015. Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 1, 2018, as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017, and incorporated herein by reference.

10.2.3** Amendment No. 3 to the Cathay Bank Employee Stock Ownership Plan, as amended and restated effective December 22, 2015. Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 9, 2018, as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2018, and incorporated herein by reference.

10.3 Dividend Reinvestment Plan and Stock Purchase Plan (Amended and Restated) of the Bancorp. Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 27, 2015, as an exhibit to Registration Statement No. 333-205888, and incorporated herein by reference.

10.4** Cathay Bank Bonus Deferral Agreement (Amended and Restated). Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 1, 2013, as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012 and incorporated herein by reference.

10.5.1** Cathay General Bancorp 2005 Incentive Plan (As Amended and Restated). Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 29, 2016 as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31,2015 and incorporated herein by reference.

10.5.2** Executive Officer Annual Cash Bonus Program under the Company's 2005 Incentive Plan (As Amended and Restated). Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 2, 2020 as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2018, and incorporated herein by reference.

10.5.3** Form of Cathay General Bancorp 2005 Incentive Plan (As Amended and Restated) Restricted Stock Unit Agreement (Performance Shares – EPS), used to award performance-based restricted stock units. Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 21, 2016, as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Current Report on Form 8-K and incorporated herein by reference.

10.5.4** Form of Cathay General Bancorp 2005 Incentive Plan (As Amended and Restated) Restricted Stock Unit Agreement (Performance Shares – TSR), used to award performance-based restricted stock units. Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 21, 2016, as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Current Report on Form 8-K and incorporated herein by reference.

10.5.5** Form of Cathay General Bancorp 2005 Incentive Plan (As Amended and Restated) Restricted Stock Unit Agreement (Performance Shares – ROA), used to award performance-based restricted stock units. Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 21, 2016, as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Current Report on Form 8-K and incorporated herein by reference.

10.5.6** Form of Cathay General Bancorp 2005 Incentive Plan (As Amended and Restated) Restricted Stock Unit Agreement (Clawback Rider), used in connection with award of performance-based restricted stock units. Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 21, 2016, as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Current Report on Form 8-K and incorporated herein by reference.

10.5.7** Form of Cathay General Bancorp 2005 Incentive Plan (As Amended and Restated) Restricted Stock Unit Agreement (Time-Based Shares). Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 30, 2017, as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Current Report on Form 8-K, and incorporated herein by reference.

10.5.8** Form of Cathay General Bancorp 2005 Incentive Plan (As Amended and Restated) Restricted Stock Unit Agreement (Clawback Rider), used in connection with award of time-based restricted stock units. Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 30, 2017, as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Current Report on Form 8-K and incorporated herein by reference.

10.5.9** Form of Cathay General Bancorp 2005 Incentive Plan (As Amended and Restated) Restricted Stock Unit Agreement (Immediate Vesting/Deferred Distribution). Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 10, 2018, as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2018, and incorporated herein by reference.

10.6** Amended and Restated Change of Control Employment Agreement for Dunson K. Cheng dated as of December 18, 2008. Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 3, 2014 as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 and incorporated herein by reference.

10.6.1** Amended and Restated Change of Control Employment Agreement for Heng W. Chen dated as of December 18, 2008. Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 3, 2014 as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 and incorporated herein by reference.

10.6.2** Amended and Restated Change of Control Employment Agreement for Kim R. Bingham dated as of December 18, 2008. Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 3, 2014, as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 and incorporated herein by reference.

10.7** Form of Change of Control Employment Agreement to be entered into with Executive Officers on or after July 16, 2020. Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 7, 2020 as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2020 and incorporated herein by reference.

10.8** Change of Control Employment Agreement for Chang M. Liu dated as of July 16, 2020. Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 9, 2020 as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2020 and incorporated herein by reference.

10.9** Employment Agreement for Chang M. Liu dated as of July 16, 2020. Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 9, 2020 as an exhibit to the Bancorp's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2020 and incorporated herein by reference.

21.1+ Subsidiaries of the Bancorp.

23.1+ Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.

31.1+ Certification of the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

31.2+ Certification of the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

32.1++ Certification of the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

32.2++ Certification of the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

101.INS Inline XBRL Instance Document

101.SCH Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document

101.CAL Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document

101.DEF Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document

101.LAB Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document

101.PRE Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document

104 Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL and contained in Exhibit 101)

** Management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement.

+ Filed herewith.

++ Furnished herewith pursuant to Rule 13a-14(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

Item 16. Form 10-K Summary.

None.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Cathay General Bancorp

By: /s/ Chang M. Liu
Chang M. Liu
President and Chief Executive Officer

Date: February 28, 2022

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature	Title	Date
/s/ Chang M. Liu Chang M. Liu	President and Chief Executive Officer, and Director (principal executive officer)	February 28, 2022
/s/ Heng W. Chen Heng W. Chen	Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer (principal financial officer) (principal accounting officer)	February 28, 2022
/s/ Dunson K. Cheng Dunson K. Cheng	Executive Chairman of the Board	February 28, 2022
/s/ Peter Wu Peter Wu	Vice Chairman of the Board	February 28, 2022
/s/ Anthony M. Tang Anthony M. Tang	Vice Chairman of the Board	February 28, 2022
/s/ Kelly L. Chan Kelly L. Chan	Director	February 28, 2022
/s/ Nelson Chung Nelson Chung	Director	February 28, 2022

/s/ Felix S. Fernandez Felix S. Fernandez	Director	February 28, 2022
/s/ Jane Jelenko Jane Jelenko	Director	February 28, 2022
/s/ Maan-Huei Hung Maan-Huei Hung	Director	February 28, 2022
/s/ Joseph C.H. Poon Joseph C.H. Poon	Director	February 28, 2022
/s/ Richard Sun Richard Sun	Director	February 28, 2022
/s/ Shally Wang Shally Wang	Director	February 28, 2022

INDEX TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	Page
Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	F-2
Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2021 and 2020	F-5
Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income for each of the years ended December 31, 2021, 2020, and 2019	F-6
Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity for each of the years ended December 31, 2021, 2020, and 2019	F-7
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for each of the years ended December 31, 2021, 2020 and 2019	F-8
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements	F-9
Parent-only condensed financial information of Cathay General Bancorp is included in Note 19 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in this Annual Report on Form 10-K	F-59

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Stockholders and Board of Directors
Cathay General Bancorp:

Opinion on the Consolidated Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Cathay General Bancorp and subsidiaries (the Company) as of December 31, 2021 and 2020, the related consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income, changes in stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2021, and the related notes (collectively, the consolidated financial statements). In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2021 and 2020, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2021, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB), the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2021, based on criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission, and our report dated February 28, 2022 expressed an unqualified opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

Change in Accounting Principle

As discussed in Note 1 and Note 4 to the consolidated financial statements, the Company has changed its method of accounting for the recognition and measurement of credit losses as of January 1, 2021 due to the adoption of ASU No. 2016-13, "*Financial Instruments - Credit Losses (Topic 326): Measurement of Credit Losses on Financial Instruments*".

Basis for Opinion

These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Critical Audit Matter

The critical audit matter communicated below is a matter arising from the current period audit of the consolidated financial statements that was communicated or required to be communicated to the audit committee and that: (1) relates to accounts or disclosures that are material to the consolidated financial statements and (2) involved our especially challenging, subjective, or complex judgments. The communication of a critical audit matter does not alter in any way our opinion on the consolidated financial statements, taken as a whole, and we are not, by communicating the critical audit matter below, providing a separate opinion on the critical audit matter or on the accounts or disclosures to which it relates.

Allowance for credit losses for loans evaluated on a collective basis modeled using an econometric methodology

As discussed in Note 1 and Note 4 to the consolidated financial statements, the Company adopted ASU No. 2016-13, Financial Instruments – Credit Losses (ASC Topic 326), as of January 1, 2021. The total allowance for credit losses as of January 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021 was $165.0 and $136.2 million, respectively, a substantial portion of which relates to the allowance for loan losses on loans evaluated on a collective basis over residential mortgages, commercial and industrial loans, construction loans, commercial real estate for multifamily loans, commercial real estate for owner-occupied loans, and other commercial real estate loans (hereafter "six portfolios") using a methodology that includes both econometric regression models and certain qualitative loss factors (the January 1, 2021 collective ALL and December 31, 2021 collective ALL, respectively, together the collective ALL). The collective ALL includes the measure of expected credit losses on a collective basis by pooling those loans that share similar risk characteristics into these six portfolios. The collective ALL methodology uses historical credit loss experience as a basis for estimation of expected credit losses at the collective pool basis over the contractual term of the loans, adjusted for expected prepayments when appropriate. The Company estimates the collective ALL using the probability of default during the reasonable and supportable forecast period using separate econometric regression models developed to correlate macroeconomic variables, to historical credit performance for each of the six portfolios. Loss given default rates are computed based on the net charge-offs recognized divided by the expected exposure at default of defaulted loans. The probability of default and the loss given default rates are applied to the expected amount at default at the loan level based on contractual scheduled payments and estimated prepayments. The collective ALL incorporates reasonable and supportable forecasts of various macroeconomic variables over a two-year reasonable and supportable forecast period, reverting straight line to long term loss rates over the one year reversion period. Adjustments to historical loss information are made for differences in current loan specific risk characteristics as well as for changes in environmental conditions. The adjustments, or qualitative loss factors, consider idiosyncratic risk factors, conditions that may not be reflected in quantitatively derived results, or other relevant factors to seek to ensure the allowance for credit losses reflects the Company's best estimate of current expected credit losses.

We identified the assessment of the collective ALL as a critical audit matter. A high degree of audit effort, including specialized skills and knowledge, and subjective and complex auditor judgment was involved in the assessment due to significant measurement uncertainty. Specifically, the assessment of the collective ALL methodology, including the econometric models used to estimate expected loss and their significant assumptions. Such significant assumptions included portfolio segmentation, prepayments, the period over which loss history is considered, the economic forecast scenarios and their weightings and macroeconomic variables, the length of the reasonable and supportable forecast period and corresponding reversion period, and risk ratings. The assessment also included the evaluation of the qualitative loss factors. In addition, auditor judgment was required to evaluate the sufficiency of audit evidence obtained.

The following are the primary procedures we performed to address this critical audit matter. We evaluated the design and tested the operating effectiveness of certain internal controls related to the Company's measurement of the collective ALL, including controls over the:

- development of the collective ALL methodology
- development of the econometric models
- identification and determination of the significant assumptions used in the econometric models
- development of the qualitative loss factors
- determination of risk ratings
- analysis of the collective ALL results, trends, and ratios.

We evaluated the Company's process to develop the collective ALL by testing certain sources of data, factors, and assumptions used, and considered the relevance and reliability of such data, factors, and assumptions. In addition, we involved credit risk professionals with specialized skills and knowledge, who assisted in:

- evaluating the collective ALL methodology for compliance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles
- evaluating judgments made relative to the development and performance monitoring of the econometric models, by comparing them to Company-specific metrics and trends and the applicable industry and regulatory practices
- assessing the conceptual soundness and performance testing of the econometric models by inspecting the model documentation to determine whether the models are suitable for their intended use
- evaluating the economic forecast scenarios and underlying assumptions driving the macroeconomic forecasts, including the determination of the reasonable and supportable forecast period and weightings used by comparing them to the Company's business environment and relevant industry practice
- determining whether the loan portfolio is segmented by similar risk characteristics by comparing to specific portfolio risk characteristics and trends
- testing individual risk ratings for a selection of loans by evaluating the financial performance of the borrower, sources of repayment, and any relevant guarantees or underlying collateral
- evaluating the methodology used to develop certain qualitative loss factors and the effect of those qualitative loss factors on the collective ALL compared with relevant credit risk factors and consistency with credit trends and identified limitations of the econometric models

We also assessed the sufficiency of audit evidence obtained related to the collective ALL by evaluating the:

- cumulative results of the audit procedures
- qualitative aspects of the Company's accounting practices
- potential bias in the accounting estimates

/s/ KPMG LLP

We have served as the Company's auditor since 1991.

Los Angeles, California
February 28, 2022

CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

	As of December 31, 2021	As of December 31, 2020
	(In thousands, except share and per share data)	
Assets		
Cash and due from banks	$ 134,141	$ 138,616
Short-term investments and interest-bearing deposits	2,315,563	1,282,462
Securities available-for-sale (amortized cost of $1,126,867 in 2021 and $1,019,230 in 2020)	1,127,309	1,036,550
Loans	16,342,479	15,644,396
Less: Allowance for loan losses	(136,157)	(166,538)
Unamortized deferred loan fees, net	(4,321)	(2,494)
Loans, net	16,202,001	15,475,364
Equity securities	22,319	23,744
Federal Home Loan Bank stock	17,250	17,250
Other real estate owned, net	4,368	4,918
Affordable housing investments and alternative energy partnerships, net	299,211	309,016
Premises and equipment, net	99,402	102,998
Customers' liability on acceptances	8,112	13,753
Accrued interest receivable	56,994	59,032
Goodwill	372,189	372,189
Other intangible assets, net	4,627	5,434
Right-of-use assets- operating leases	27,834	30,919
Other assets	195,403	170,889
Total assets	**$ 20,886,723**	**$ 19,043,134**
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity		
Deposits:		
Non-interest-bearing demand deposits	$ 4,492,054	$ 3,365,086
Interest-bearing deposits:		
NOW deposits	2,522,442	1,926,135
Money market deposits	4,611,579	3,359,191
Savings deposits	915,515	785,672
Time deposits	5,517,252	6,673,317
Total deposits	18,058,842	16,109,401
Advances from the Federal Home Loan Bank	20,000	150,000
Other borrowings for affordable housing investments	23,145	23,714
Long-term debt	119,136	119,136
Acceptances outstanding	8,112	13,753
Lease liabilities - operating leases	30,694	33,484
Other liabilities	180,543	175,502
Total liabilities	18,440,472	16,624,990
Commitments and contingencies	—	—
Stockholders' Equity		
Common stock, $0.01 par value, 100,000,000 shares authorized, 90,871,860 issued and 75,750,862 outstanding at December 31, 2021, and 90,643,206 issued and 79,508,265 outstanding at December 31, 2020	909	906
Additional paid-in-capital	972,474	964,734
Accumulated other comprehensive income, net	(3,065)	5,310
Retained earnings	1,985,168	1,789,325
Treasury stock, at cost (15,120,998 shares at December 31, 2021, and 11,134,941 shares at December 31, 2020)	(509,235)	(342,131)
Total equity	2,446,251	2,418,144
Total liabilities and equity	**$ 20,886,723**	**$ 19,043,134**

See accompanying notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2021	2020	2019
	(In thousands, except share and per share data)		
Interest and Dividend Income			
Loan receivable	$ 649,224	$ 677,193	$ 729,619
Investment securities	14,151	20,599	33,037
Federal Home Loan Bank stock	991	952	1,207
Deposits with banks	2,145	1,830	5,404
Total interest and dividend income	666,511	700,574	769,267
Interest Expense			
Time deposits	40,542	111,629	152,791
Other deposits	21,259	25,396	25,311
Advances from the Federal Home Loan Bank	1,182	5,299	7,441
Long-term debt	5,773	5,791	7,847
Deferred payments from acquisition	—	115	568
Short-term borrowings	—	234	403
Total interest expense	68,756	148,464	194,361
Net interest income before provision/(reversal) for credit losses	597,755	552,110	574,906
Provision/(reversal) for credit losses	(16,008)	57,500	(7,000)
Net interest income after provision/(reversal) for credit losses	613,763	494,610	581,906
Non-Interest Income			
Net (losses)/gains from equity securities	(1,426)	(1,148)	5,736
Securities gains, net	853	1,695	211
Letters of credit commissions	7,103	6,741	6,407
Depository service fees	5,584	4,949	4,763
Other operating income	42,489	30,583	27,634
Total non-interest income	54,603	42,820	44,751
Non-Interest Expense			
Salaries and employee benefits	132,795	124,022	129,300
Occupancy expense	20,318	20,634	22,004
Computer and equipment expense	13,549	11,133	11,113
Professional services expense	23,666	21,856	23,107
Data processing service expense	13,607	14,897	13,210
FDIC and State assessments	7,132	8,999	9,617
Marketing expense	6,913	5,224	7,585
Other real estate owned expense/(income)	343	(3,091)	1,115
Amortization of investments in low income housing and alternative energy partnerships	45,447	58,225	39,731
Amortization of core deposit premium	687	687	687
Cost associated with debt redemption	732	693	—
Acquisition, integration and reorganization costs	1,425	—	—
Other operating expense	19,909	20,186	19,819
Total non-interest expense	286,523	283,465	277,288
Income before income tax expense	381,843	253,965	349,369
Income tax expense	83,539	25,105	70,234
Net income	**$ 298,304**	**$ 228,860**	**$ 279,135**
Other Comprehensive Income/(Loss), Net of Tax:			
Unrealized holding gains/(losses) on securities available for sale	(11,388)	7,680	23,628
Unrealized holding (losses)/gains on cash flow hedge derivatives	3,614	(3,478)	(3,171)
Less: reclassification adjustment for gains included in net income	601	1,194	149
Total other comprehensive income/(loss), net of tax	(8,375)	3,008	20,308
Total comprehensive income	$ 289,929	$ 231,868	$ 299,443
Net Income Per Common Share			
Basic	$ 3.81	$ 2.88	$ 3.49
Diluted	$ 3.80	$ 2.87	$ 3.48
Cash dividends paid per common share	$ 1.27	$ 1.24	$ 1.24
Average Common Shares Outstanding:			
Basic	78,268,369	79,584,560	79,999,703
Diluted	78,570,638	79,777,847	80,247,893

See accompanying notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

(In thousands, except number of shares)	Common Stock Number of Shares	Common Stock Amount	Additional Paid-in Capital	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income/(Loss)	Retained Earnings	Treasury Stock	Total Stockholders' Equity
Balance at December 31, 2018	80,501,948	$ 898	$ 942,062	$ (18,006)	$ 1,479,149	$ (282,237)	$ 2,121,866
Dividend Reinvestment Plan	93,143	1	3,365	—	—	—	3,366
Restricted stock units vested	123,762	1	—	—	—	—	1
Shares withheld related to net share settlement of RSUs	—	—	(2,311)	—	—	—	(2,311)
Stock issued to directors	21,160	—	749	—	—	—	749
Purchases of treasury stock	(1,010,594)	—	—	—	—	(36,301)	(36,301)
Stock -based compensation	—	—	6,601	—	—	—	6,601
Cash dividends of $1.24 per share	—	—	—	—	(99,131)	—	(99,131)
Other comprehensive income	—	—	—	20,308	—	—	20,308
Net income	—	—	—	—	279,135	—	279,135
Balance at December 31, 2019	79,729,419	$ 900	$ 950,466	$ 2,302	$ 1,659,153	$ (318,538)	$ 2,294,283
Dividend Reinvestment Plan	358,157	4	9,773	—	—	—	9,777
Restricted stock units vested	189,557	2	—	—	—	—	2
Shares withheld related to net share settlement of RSUs	—	—	(1,911)	—	—	—	(1,911)
Stock issued to directors	31,110	—	800	—	—	—	800
Purchases of treasury stock	(799,978)	—	—	—	—	(23,593)	(23,593)
Stock -based compensation	—	—	5,606	—	—	—	5,606
Cash dividends of $1.24 per share	—	—	—	—	(98,688)	—	(98,688)
Other comprehensive income	—	—	—	3,008	—	—	3,008
Net income	—	—	—	—	228,860	—	228,860
Balance at December 31, 2020	79,508,265	$ 906	$ 964,734	$ 5,310	$ 1,789,325	$ (342,131)	$ 2,418,144
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle related to ASC 326 [(1)]	—	—	—	—	(3,139)	—	(3,139)
Dividend Reinvestment Plan	84,011	1	3,562	—	—	—	3,563
Restricted stock units vested	123,893	2	—	—	—	—	2
Shares withheld related to net share settlement of RSUs	—	—	(2,632)	—	—	—	(2,632)
Stock issued to directors	20,750	—	850	—	—	—	850
Purchases of treasury stock	(3,986,057)	—	—	—	—	(167,104)	(167,104)
Stock -based compensation	—	—	5,960	—	—	—	5,960
Cash dividends of $1.27 per share	—	—	—	—	(99,322)	—	(99,322)
Other comprehensive income	—	—	—	(8,375)	—	—	(8,375)
Net income	—	—	—	—	298,304	—	298,304
Balance at December 31, 2021	**75,750,862**	**$ 909**	**$ 972,474**	**$ (3,065)**	**$ 1,985,168**	**$ (509,235)**	**$ 2,446,251**

(1) Represents the impact of the adoption of Accounting Standards Update ASU 2016-13, Financial Instruments — Credit Losses (Topic 326) on January 1, 2021.

See accompanying notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2021	2020	2019
		(In thousands)	
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
Net income	$ 298,304	$ 228,860	$ 279,135
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:			
(Reversal)/provision for credit losses	(16,008)	57,500	(7,000)
Provision for losses on other real estate owned	17	717	681
Deferred tax (benefit)/ provision	9,168	(9,486)	9,825
Depreciation and amortization	7,956	7,660	6,756
Amortization of right-of-use asset	8,160	8,852	8,366
Change in operating lease liabilities	(2,790)	(2,389)	(7,157)
Net gains on sale and transfers of other real estate owned	(57)	(4,216)	(212)
Net gains on sale of loans	(357)	(413)	(804)
Proceeds from sale of loans	5,351	11,098	75,257
Originations of loans held for sale	(4,994)	(10,685)	(2,241)
Loss on sales or disposal of fixed assets	55	45	14
Amortization of alternative energy partnerships, venture capital and other investments	45,447	58,131	39,898
Net gain on sales and calls of securities	(853)	(1,695)	(211)
Amortization/accretion of security premiums/discount, net	7,865	8,617	3,834
Unrealized loss/(gain) on equity securities	2,036	1,148	(5,736)
Stock-based compensation and stock issued to officers as compensation	6,810	6,406	7,350
Net change in accrued interest receivable and other assets	(34,196)	(21,247)	6,163
Net change in other liabilities	2,403	(18,948)	21,061
Net cash provided by operating activities	**334,317**	**319,955**	**434,979**
Cash Flows from Investing Activities			
Purchase of investment securities available-for-sale	(560,140)	(434,165)	(770,206)
Proceeds from repayment, maturity, and call of investment securities available-for-sale	424,386	734,485	296,721
Proceeds from sale of investment securities available-for-sale	21,102	117,249	293,849
Proceeds from sale of equity securities	—	3,112	2,829
Purchase of Federal Home Loan Bank stock	—	(840)	(1,815)
Redemption of Federal Home Loan Bank stock	—	1,680	975
Net increase in loans	(715,862)	(583,136)	(1,147,019)
Purchase of premises and equipment	(3,728)	(5,778)	(7,133)
Benefits received on bank owned life insurance	2,752	—	—
Proceeds from sales of other real estate owned	795	4,308	2,822
Net increase in investment in affordable housing and alternative energy partnerships	(29,229)	(79,119)	(52,697)
Net cash used for investing activities	**(859,924)**	**(242,204)**	**(1,381,674)**
Cash Flows from Financing Activities			
Net increase in deposits	1,949,728	1,417,310	989,942
Advances from Federal Home Loan Bank	50,000	1,450,000	4,355,000
Repayment of Federal Home Loan Bank borrowings	(180,000)	(1,970,000)	(4,215,000)
Cash dividends paid	(99,322)	(98,688)	(99,131)
Purchase of treasury stock	(167,104)	(23,593)	(36,301)
Proceeds from issuance of short-term borrowings	—	—	25,683
Repayment of short-term borrowings	—	(25,683)	—
Repayment of other borrowings	—	(7,663)	(81,065)
Proceeds from shares issued under Dividend Reinvestment Plan	3,563	9,777	3,366
Taxes paid related to net share settlement of RSUs	(2,632)	(1,911)	(2,311)
Net cash provided by financing activities	**1,554,233**	**749,549**	**940,183**
Increase/(Decrease) in cash, cash equivalents, and restricted cash	1,028,626	827,300	(6,512)
Cash, cash equivalents, and restricted cash, beginning of the year	1,421,078	593,778	600,290
Cash, cash equivalents, and restricted cash, end of the period	**$ 2,449,704**	**$ 1,421,078**	**$ 593,778**
Supplemental Cash Flow Information			
Cash paid during the year for:			
Interest	$ 75,486	$ 162,434	$ 182,527
Income taxes	$ 92,691	$ 45,371	$ 61,548
Non-cash investing and financing activities:			
Net change in unrealized holding (loss)/gain on securities available-for-sale, net of tax	$ (11,989)	$ 6,486	$ 23,479
Net change in unrealized holding gain/(loss) on cash flow hedge derivatives	$ 3,614	$ (3,478)	$ (3,171)
Transfers to other real estate owned from loans held for investment	$ 205	$ —	$ 860
Loans transferred to loans held for sale	$ —	$ —	$ 75,285

See accompanying notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The accompanying Consolidated Financial Statements include the accounts of Cathay General Bancorp (the "Bancorp"), a Delaware corporation, its wholly-owned subsidiaries, Cathay Bank (the "Bank"), a California state-chartered bank, ten limited partnerships investing in affordable housing projects, and GBC Venture Capital, Inc. (together, the "Company," "we," "us," or "our"). All significant inter-company transactions and balances have been eliminated in consolidation. The Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company are prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP") and general practices within the banking industry.

Organization and Background. The Bancorp's primary business is to act as the holding company for the Bank.

The Bank is a commercial bank, servicing primarily the individuals, professionals, and small to medium-sized businesses in the local markets in which its branches are located. Its operations include the acceptance of checking, savings, and time deposits, and the making of commercial, real estate, and consumer loans. The Bank also offers trade financing, letters of credit, wire transfer, foreign currency spot and forward contracts, Internet banking, investment services, and other customary banking services to its customers. The Bank owns 100% of the common securities of Cathay Holdings LLC.

Use of Estimates. The preparation of the Consolidated Financial Statements in accordance with GAAP requires management of the Company to make several estimates and assumptions relating to the reported amount of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the Consolidated Financial Statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The significant estimates subject to change relate to the allowance for loan losses.

Concentrations. The Bank was incorporated in California and started its business from California. Therefore, loans originated, and deposits solicited were mainly from California. As of December 31, 2021, gross loans were primarily comprised of 49.8% of commercial mortgage loans, 25.6% of residential mortgage loans, and 18.3% of commercial loans. As of December 31, 2021, approximately 48.7% of the Bank's residential mortgages were for properties located in California.

Securities Available for Sale. Prior to January 1, 2021, available-for-sale ("AFS") debt securities were measured at fair value and declines in the fair value were reviewed to determine whether the impairment was other-than-temporary. If we did not expect to recover the entire amortized cost basis of the security, then an other-than-temporary impairment ("OTTI") was considered to have occurred. The cost basis of the security was written down to its estimated fair value and the amount of the write-down was recognized through a charge to earnings. If the amount of the amortized cost basis expected to be recovered increased in a future period, the cost basis of the security was not increased but rather recognized prospectively through interest income.

Effective January 1, 2021, upon the adoption of ASU 2016-13, debt securities AFS are measured at fair value and subject to impairment testing. When an AFS debt security is considered impaired, the Company must determine if the decline in fair value has resulted from a credit-related loss or other factors and then, (1) recognize an allowance for credit loss by a charge to earnings for the credit-related component (if any) of the decline in fair value, and (2) recognize in other comprehensive income (loss) any non-credit related components of the fair value change. If the amount of the amortized cost basis expected to be recovered increases in a future period, the valuation reserve would be reduced, but not more than the amount of the current existing reserve for that security.

Interest income includes amortization of premiums and discounts as an adjustment of yield on a level-yield basis. Premiums on callable debt securities are amortized to their earliest call date. Gains and losses on sales are recorded on the trade date and determined using the specific identification method.

A debt security is placed on nonaccrual status at the time any principal or interest payments become delinquent by 90 days or greater. Interest accrued but not received for a security placed on non-accrual is reversed against interest income. No interest was reversed against interest income during the period.

Allowance for Credit Losses on Available for Sale Securities. For AFS debt securities in an unrealized loss position, the Company first assesses whether it intends to sell, or it is more likely than not that it will be required to sell the security before recovery of its amortized cost basis. If either of the criteria regarding intent or requirement to sell is met, the security's amortized cost basis is written down to fair value with the credit component of the unrealized loss of the impaired AFS debt security recognized as an allowance for credit losses, and a corresponding provision for credit losses on the consolidated statement of income and the non-credit component is recognized in other comprehensive income (loss), net of applicable taxes. For AFS debt securities that do not meet the aforementioned criteria, the Company evaluates whether the decline in fair value has resulted from credit losses or other factors. In making this assessment, management considers the extent to which fair value is less than amortized cost, the payment structure of the security, failure of the issuer of the security to make scheduled interest or principal payments, any changes to the rating of the security by a rating agency, and adverse conditions specifically related to the security, among other factors. If this assessment indicates that a credit loss exists, the present value of cash flows expected to be collected from the security are compared to the amortized cost basis of the security. Any fair value changes that have not been recorded through an allowance for credit losses is recognized in other comprehensive income.

Changes in the allowance for credit losses are recorded as provision for credit loss expense. Losses are charged against the allowance when management believes the uncollectability of an available-for-sale security is confirmed or when either of the criteria regarding intent or requirement to sell is met.

The amortized cost of the Company's AFS debt securities exclude accrued interest, which is included in "accrued interest receivable" on the Consolidated Balance Sheets. The Company has made an accounting policy election not to measure an allowance for credit losses for accrued interest receivables on AFS debt securities since the Company timely reverses any previously accrued interest when the debt security remains in default for an extended period. As each AFS debt security has a unique security structure, where the accrual status is clearly determined when certain criteria listed in the terms are met, the Company assesses the default status of each security as defined by the debt security's specific security structure.

Trading securities are reported at fair value, with unrealized gains or losses included in income.

Investment in Federal Home Loan Bank ("FHLB") Stock. As a member of the FHLB system the Bank is required to maintain an investment in the capital stock of the FHLB. The amount of investment is also affected by the outstanding advances under the line of credit the Bank maintains with the FHLB. FHLB stock is carried at cost and is pledged as collateral to the FHLB. FHLB stock is periodically evaluated for impairment based on ultimate recovery of par value. The carrying amount of the FHLB stock was $17.3 million at December 31, 2021, and 2020. As of December 31, 2021, the Company owned 172,500 shares of FHLB stock, which exceeded the minimum stock requirement of 150,000 shares.

Loans Held for Investment. Loans receivable that the Company has the intent and ability to hold for the foreseeable future or until maturity are stated at their outstanding principal, reduced by an allowance for loan losses and net of deferred loan fees or costs on originated loans and unamortized premiums or discounts on purchased loans. Nonrefundable fees and direct costs associated with the origination or purchase of loans are deferred and netted against outstanding loan balances. The deferred net loan fees and costs are recognized in interest income as an adjustment to yield over the loan term using the effective interest method or straight-line method. Discounts or premiums on purchased loans are accreted or amortized to interest income using the effective interest method or straight-line method over the remaining period to contractual maturity. Interest on loans is calculated using the simple-interest method on daily balances of the principal amounts outstanding based on an actual or 360-day basis.

Generally, loans are placed on nonaccrual status when they become 90 days past due. Loans are considered past due when contractually required principal or interest payments have not been made on the due dates. Loans are also placed on nonaccrual status when management believes, after considering economic and business conditions and collection efforts, that the borrower's financial condition is such that full collection of principal or interest becomes uncertain, regardless of the length of past due status. Once a loan is placed on nonaccrual status, interest accrual is discontinued, and all unpaid accrued interest is reversed against interest income. As a result, accrued interest receivable does not carry a credit loss reserve. Interest payments received on nonaccrual loans are reflected as a reduction of principal and not as interest income. A loan is returned to accrual status when the borrower has demonstrated a satisfactory payment trend subject to management's assessment of the borrower's ability to repay the loan.

Loans held for sale. Loans held for sale are carried at the lower of aggregate cost or fair value. Gains and losses are recorded in non-interest income based on the difference between sales proceeds, net of sales commissions, and carrying value. When a determination is made at the time of commitment to originate or purchase loans as held-for-investment, it is the Company's intent to hold these loans to maturity or for the "foreseeable future," subject to periodic review under the Company's management evaluation processes, including asset/liability management. When the Company subsequently changes its intent to hold certain loans, the loans are transferred from the loans held-for-investment portfolio at amortized cost to the loans held-for-sale portfolio at lower of aggregate cost or fair value and the existing ACL on the loans transferred is reversed.

Allowance for Credit Losses on Loans Held for Investment. Effective January 1, 2021, and upon the adoption of ASU 2016-13, the Company replaced the incurred loss accounting approach with the current expected credit loss ("CECL") approach for financial instruments measured at amortized cost and other commitments to extend credit. CECL requires the immediate recognition of estimated credit losses expected to occur over the estimated remaining life of the asset. The forward-looking concept of CECL requires loss estimates to consider historical experience, GDP, unemployment rates, CRE and home price indexes, and reasonable and supportable economic forecasts of future events and circumstances.

The ACL on loans held for investment is the combination of the allowance for loan losses and the reserve for unfunded loan commitments. The allowance for loan losses is reported as a reduction of the amortized cost basis of loans, while the reserve for unfunded loan commitments is included within "other liabilities" on the Consolidated Balance Sheets. The amortized cost basis of loans does not include accrued interest receivable, which is included in "accrued interest receivable" on the Consolidated Balance Sheets. The "Provision for credit losses" on the Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income is a combination of the provision for loan losses and the provision for unfunded loan commitments.

Under the Company's CECL approach, management estimates the ACL using relevant available information from internal and external sources, relating to past events, GDP, unemployment rates, CRE and home price indexes, and reasonable and supportable economic forecasts that vary by loan portfolio. We use economic forecasts from Moody's Analytics in this process. The economic forecast is updated monthly; therefore, the one used for each quarter-end calculation is generally based on a one-month lag based on the timing of when the forecast is released. The Company does not consider a one-month lag to create a material difference but will consider any subsequent material changes to our estimated loss forecasts as deemed appropriate. Historical credit loss experience provides the basis for the estimation of expected credit losses. Adjustments to historical loss information are made for differences in current loan-specific risk characteristics such as differences in underwriting standards, portfolio mix, delinquency level, or term as well as for changes in environmental conditions, such as changes in gross domestic product (or "GDP"), unemployment rates, property values, or other relevant factors.

Under the CECL methodology, quantitative and qualitative loss factors are applied to our population of loans on a collective pool basis when similar risk characteristics exist. When loans do not share similar risk characteristics, the Company would evaluate the loan for expected credit losses on an individual basis. The Company evaluates loans for expected credit losses on an individual basis if, based on current information and events, the loan does not share similar credit risk characteristics with other loans. The Company may choose to measure expected credit losses on an individual loan basis by using one of the following methods: (1) the present value of the expected future cash flows of the loan discounted at the loan's original effective interest rate, or (2) if the loan is collateral dependent, the fair value of the collateral less costs to sell. For loans that are not collateral-dependent, the Company will use the present value of future cash flows.

Under the Company's CECL methodology, nine portfolio segments with similar risk characteristics are evaluated for expected loss. Six portfolios are modeled using econometric models and three smaller portfolios are evaluated using a simplified loss-rate method that calculates lifetime expected credit losses for the respective pools (simplified approach). The six portfolios subject to econometric modeling include residential mortgages; commercial and industrial loans ("C&I"); construction loans; commercial real estate ("CRE") for multifamily loans; CRE for owner-occupied loans; and other CRE loans. We estimate the probability of default during the reasonable and supportable forecast period using separate econometric regression models developed to correlate macroeconomic variables, (GDP, unemployment, CRE prices and residential mortgage prices) to historical credit performance for each of the six loan portfolios from 2007 to the fourth quarter of 2020. Loss given default rates would be computed based on the net charge-offs recognized divided by the expected exposure at default of defaulted loans starting with the fourth quarter of 2007 through the fourth quarter of 2020. The probability of default and the loss given default rates are applied to the expected amount at default at the loan level based on contractual scheduled payments and estimated prepayments. The amounts so calculated comprise the quantitative portion of the allowance for credit losses.

The Company's CECL methodology utilizes an eight-quarter R&S forecast period, and a four-quarter reversion period. Management relies on multiple forecasts, blending them into a single loss estimate. Generally speaking, the blended scenario approach would include the Baseline, the Alternative Scenario 1 – Upside – 10th Percentile and the Alternative Scenario 3 – Downside – 90th Percentile forecasts. After the R&S period, the Company will revert straight-line for the four-quarter reversion period to the long-term loss rates for each of the six portfolios of loans.

The Company's CECL methodology estimates expected credit losses over the contractual term of the loans, adjusted for expected prepayments when appropriate. The contractual term excludes expected extensions, renewals, and modifications unless either of the following applies: (i) management has a reasonable expectation at the reporting date that a troubled debt restructuring will be executed with an individual borrower or (ii) the extension or renewal options are included in the original or modified contract at the reporting date and are not unconditionally cancellable by the Company.

The simplified approach portfolios include Small Business Administration ("SBA") loans, Home Equity Lines of Credit ("HELOCs") and cash-secured loans, which are not modelled econometrically due to the low loss history for these three pools of loans. The forecasted loss rate is based on the forecasted GDP and unemployment rates during the first eight quarters of the portfolio's contractual life, reversion loss rates for the next four quarters of the portfolio's contractual life on a linear declining rate, and the long-term loss rate projected over the remainder of the portfolio's contractual life.

Under the Company's CECL methodology, the qualitative portion of the reserve on pooled loans represents management's judgment of additional considerations to account for internal and external risk factors that are not adequately measured in the quantitative reserve. The qualitative loss factors consider idiosyncratic risk factors, conditions that may not be reflected in quantitatively derived results, or other relevant factors to seek to ensure the allowance for credit losses reflects our best estimate of current expected credit losses. The qualitative reserves include reserves for policy exceptions, experience of management and staff, level of competition in the lending environment, weak risk identification, lack of historical experience with residential mortgage loans made to non-U.S. residents, oil & gas, included as part of the C&I loan portfolio, and the higher risk characteristics of purchased syndicated loans. Current and forecasted economic trends and underlying market values for collateral dependent loans also are considered within the econometric models described above.

The Company's CECL methodology requires a significant amount of management judgment in determining the appropriate allowance for credit losses. Several of the steps in the methodology involve judgment and are subjective in nature including, among other things: segmenting the loan portfolio; determining the period over which loss history to consider; selecting predictive econometric regression models that use appropriate macroeconomic variables; determining the methodology to forecast prepayments; selecting the most appropriate economic forecast scenario; determining the length of the R&S forecast and reversion periods; estimating expected utilization rates on unfunded loan commitments; and assessing relevant and appropriate qualitative factors. In addition, the CECL methodology is dependent on economic forecasts that are inherently imprecise and will change from period to period. Although the allowance for credit losses is considered by management to be appropriate, there can be no assurance that it will be sufficient to absorb future losses.

Management believes the allowance for credit losses is appropriate for the CECL in our loan portfolio and associated unfunded commitments, and the risk ratings and inherent loss rates currently assigned are reasonable and appropriate as of the reporting date.

Individually Evaluated Loans. Loans that do not share similar risk characteristics with other financial assets are individually evaluated for impairment and excluded from loan pools used within the collective evaluation of estimated credit losses. We defined the following criteria for what constitutes a "default", which results in a loan no longer sharing similar risk characteristics with other loans, and therefore requires an individual evaluation for expected credit losses. The criteria for default may include any one of the following: on nonaccrual status, modified under a troubled debt restructuring, or payment delinquency of 90 days or more.

Allowance for Loan Losses. Prior to January 1, 2021, the determination of the amount of the provision for loan losses charged to operations reflects management's current judgment about the credit quality of the loan portfolio and takes into consideration changes in lending policies and procedures, changes in economic and business conditions, changes in the nature and volume of the portfolio and in the terms of loans, changes in the experience, ability and depth of lending management, changes in the volume and severity of past due, non-accrual and adversely classified or graded loans, changes in the quality of the loan review system, changes in the value of underlying collateral for collateral-dependent loans, the existence and effect of any concentrations of credit and the effect of competition, legal and regulatory requirements, and other external factors. The nature of the process by which loan losses is determined and the appropriate allowance for loan losses requires the exercise of considerable judgment. The allowance is increased or decreased by the provision or credit to the allowance for loan losses and decreased by charge-offs when management believes the uncollectability of a loan is confirmed. Subsequent recoveries, if any, are credited to the allowance.

The total allowance for loan losses consists of two components: specific allowances and general allowances. To determine the appropriateness of the allowance in each of these two components, two primary methodologies are employed, the individual loan review analysis methodology and the classification migration methodology. These methodologies support the basis for determining allocations between the various loan categories and the overall appropriateness of our allowance to provide for probable losses inherent in the loan portfolio. These methodologies are further supported by additional analysis of relevant factors such as the historical losses in the portfolio, and environmental factors which include trends in delinquency and non-accrual, and other significant factors, such as the national and local economy, the volume and composition of the portfolio, strength of management and loan staff, underwriting standards, and the concentration of credit.

The Bank's management allocates a specific allowance for "Impaired Credits," in accordance with Accounting Standard Codification ("ASC") Section 310-10-35. For non-Impaired Credits, a general allowance is established for those loans internally classified and risk graded Pass, Watch, Special Mention, or Substandard based on historical losses in the specific loan portfolio and a reserve based on environmental factors determined for that loan group. The level of the general allowance is established to provide coverage for management's estimate of the credit risk in the loan portfolio by various loan segments not covered by the specific allowance.

Impaired Loans. Prior to January 1, 2021, a loan was considered impaired when it was probable that we would be unable to collect all amounts due according to the contractual terms of the loan or lease agreement. The measurement of impairment may be based on (1) the present value of the expected future cash flows of the impaired loan discounted at the loan's original effective interest rate, (2) the observable market price of the impaired loan or (3) the fair value of the collateral of a collateral-dependent loan. The amount by which the recorded investment in the loan exceeds the measure of the impaired loan is recognized by recording a valuation allowance with a corresponding charge to the provision for loan losses. When loans are placed on an impaired status, previously accrued but unpaid interest is reversed against current income and subsequent payments received are generally first applied toward the outstanding principal balance of the loan.

Troubled Debt Restructured Loan ("TDR"). A TDR is a formal modification of the terms of a loan when the lender, for economic or legal reasons related to the borrower's financial difficulties, grants a concession to the borrower. The concessions may be granted in various forms, including reduction in the stated interest rate, reduction in the loan balance or accrued interest, or extension of the maturity date. Although these loan modifications are considered TDRs, TDR loans that have, pursuant to the Bank's policy, performed under the restructured terms and have demonstrated sustained performance under the modified terms for six months are returned to accrual status. The sustained performance considered by management pursuant to its policy includes the periods prior to the modification if the prior performance met or exceeded the modified terms. This would include cash paid by the borrower prior to the restructure to set up interest reserves. Loans classified as TDRs are reported as individually evaluated loans.

The allowance for credit loss on a TDR is measured using the same method as all other loans held for investment, except when the value of a concession cannot be measured using a method other than the discounted cash flow method. When the value of a concession is measured using the discounted cash flow method, the allowance for credit loss is determined by discounting the expected future cash flows at the original interest rate of the loan.

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act ("CARES Act") as extended by the Consolidated Appropriation Act, 2021 ("CAA") permits financial institutions to suspend requirements under GAAP for loan modifications to borrowers affected by COVID-19 and is intended to provide interpretive guidance as to conditions that would constitute a short-term modification that would not meet the definition of a TDR. Such conditions include the following (i) the loan modification is made between March 1, 2020, and the earlier of January 1, 2022 or 60 days after the end of the coronavirus emergency declaration and (ii) the applicable loan was not more than 30 days past due as of December 31, 2019.

Unfunded Loan Commitments. Unfunded loan commitments are generally related to providing credit facilities to clients of the Bank and are not actively traded financial instruments. These unfunded commitments are disclosed as off-balance sheet financial instruments in Note 12 in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

The Company estimates expected credit losses over the contractual period in which the Company is exposed to credit risk via a contractual obligation to extend credit, unless that obligation is unconditionally cancellable by the Company, using the same loss factors as used for the allowance for loan losses. The reserve for unfunded loan commitments uses the expected historical usage rate of the unfunded commitments during the contractual life of the commitments. The allowance for unfunded commitments is included in "other liabilities" on the Consolidated Balance Sheets. Changes in the allowance for unfunded commitments are included in the provision for loan losses.

Letter of Credit Fees. Issuance and commitment fees received for the issuance of commercial or standby letters of credit are recognized over the term of the instruments.

Premises and Equipment. Premises and equipment are carried at cost, less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is computed on the straight-line method based on the following estimated useful lives of the assets:

Type	Estimated Useful Life (years)
Buildings	15 to 45
Building improvements	5 to 20
Furniture, fixtures, and equipment	3 to 25
Leasehold improvements	Shorter of useful lives or the terms of the leases

Improvements are capitalized and amortized to occupancy expense based on the above table. Construction in process is carried at cost and includes land acquisition cost, architectural fees, general contractor fees, capitalized interest and other costs related directly to the construction of a property.

Other Real Estate Owned ("OREO"). Real estate acquired in the settlement of loans is initially recorded at fair value, less estimated costs to sell. Specific valuation allowances on other real estate owned are recorded through charges to operations to recognize declines in fair value subsequent to foreclosure. Gain or loss on sale is recognized when certain criteria relating to the buyer's initial and continuing investment in the property are met.

Investments in Affordable Housing Partnerships and Other Tax Credit Investments. The Company is a limited partner in limited partnerships that invest in low-income housing projects that are intended to qualify for Federal and/or State income tax credits and limited partnerships that invests in alternative energy systems that are intended to qualify for alternative energy tax credits. As further discussed in Note 5 to the Consolidated Financial Statements, the partnership interests are accounted for utilizing the equity method of accounting. As of December 31, 2021, ten of the limited partnerships in which the Company has an equity interest were determined to be variable interest entities for which the Company is the primary beneficiary. The Company therefore consolidated the financial statements of these ten limited partnerships into the Consolidated Financial Statements. The tax credits from these partnerships are recognized in the consolidated financial statements to the extent they are utilized on the Company's income tax returns. The investments are reviewed for impairment on an annual basis or on an interim basis if an event occurred that would trigger potential impairment.

Investments in Venture Capital. The Company invests in limited partnerships that invest in nonpublic companies. These are commonly referred to as venture capital investments. These limited partnership interests are carried under the cost method with other-than-temporary impairment charged against net income.

Goodwill and Goodwill Impairment. Goodwill and other intangible assets are assessed for impairment annually or whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying amount may not be recoverable. The Company performed its annual impairment test and determined no impairment existed as of December 31, 2021.

Core Deposit Intangible. Core deposit intangible, which represents the purchase price over the fair value of the deposits acquired from other financial institutions, is amortized over its estimated useful life to its residual value in proportion to the economic benefits consumed. If a pattern of consumption cannot be reliably determined, straight-line amortization is used. The Company assesses the recoverability of this intangible asset by determining whether the amortization of the premium balance over its remaining life can be recovered through the remaining deposit portfolio and amortizes core deposit premium over its estimated useful life.

Securities Sold Under Agreements to Repurchase. The Company sells certain securities under agreements to repurchase. The agreements are treated as collateralized financing transactions and the obligations to repurchase securities sold are reflected as a liability in the accompanying Consolidated Balance Sheets. The securities underlying the agreements remain in the applicable asset accounts.

Bank-Owned Life Insurance. We have purchased single premium life insurance policies ("bank-owned life insurance") on certain officers. The Bank is the beneficiary under each policy. In the event of the death of a covered officer, we will receive the specified insurance benefit from the insurance carrier and pay a fixed dollar amount to the beneficiary designated by the officer. Bank-owned life insurance is recorded at the amount that can be realized under the insurance contract at the balance sheet date, which is the cash surrender value adjusted for other charges or other amounts due, if any, that are probable at settlement.

Stock-Based Compensation. Stock option compensation expense is calculated based on the fair value of the award at the grant date for those options expected to vest and is recognized as an expense over the vesting period of the grant using the straight-line method. The Company uses the Black-Scholes option pricing model to estimate the value of granted options. This model takes into account the option exercise price, the expected life, the current price of the underlying stock, the expected volatility of the Company's stock, expected dividends on the stock and a risk-free interest rate. The Company estimates the expected volatility based on the Company's historical stock prices for the period corresponding to the expected life of the stock options. Restricted stock units are valued at the closing price of the Company's stock on the date of the grant.

Derivatives. The Company follows ASC Topic 815 that establishes accounting and reporting standards for financial derivatives, including certain financial derivatives embedded in other contracts, and hedging activities. It requires the recognition of all financial derivatives as assets or liabilities in the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheets at fair value. The accounting treatment of changes in fair value is dependent upon whether or not a financial derivative is designated as a hedge and, if so, the type of hedge. Fair value is determined using third-party models with observable market data. For derivatives designated as cash flow hedges, changes in fair value are recognized in other comprehensive income and are reclassified to earnings when the hedged transaction is reflected in earnings. For derivatives designated as fair value hedges, changes in the fair value of the derivatives are reflected in current earnings, together with changes in the fair value of the related hedged item if there is a highly effective correlation between changes in the fair value of the interest rate swaps and changes in the fair value of the underlying asset or liability that is intended to be hedged. If there is not a highly effective correlation between changes in the fair value of the interest rate swap and changes in the fair value of the underlying asset or liability that is intended to be hedged, then only the changes in the fair value of the interest rate swaps are reflected in the Company's consolidated financial statements.

Foreign Exchange Forwards and Foreign Currency Option Contracts. We enter into foreign exchange forward contracts and foreign currency option contracts with correspondent banks to mitigate the risk of fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates for foreign currency certificates of deposit, foreign exchange contracts or foreign currency option contracts entered into with our clients. These contracts are not designated as hedging instruments and are recorded at fair value in our Consolidated Balance Sheets. Changes in the fair value of these contracts as well as the related foreign currency certificates of deposit, foreign exchange contracts or foreign currency option contracts, are recognized immediately in net income as a component of non-interest income. Period end gross positive fair values are recorded in other assets and gross negative fair values are recorded in other liabilities.

Income Taxes. The provision for income taxes is based on income reported for financial statement purposes, and differs from the amount of taxes currently payable, since certain income and expense items are reported for financial statement purposes in different periods than those for tax reporting purposes. The Company accounts for income taxes using the asset and liability approach, the objective of which is to establish deferred tax assets and liabilities for the temporary differences between the financial reporting basis and the tax basis of the Company’s assets and liabilities at enacted tax rates expected to be in effect when such amounts are realized or settled. A valuation allowance is established for deferred tax assets if, based on the weight of available evidence, it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized.

Comprehensive Income/(loss). Comprehensive income/(loss) is defined as the change in equity during a period from transactions and other events and circumstances from non-owner sources. Comprehensive income/(loss) generally includes net income/(loss), unrealized gains and losses on investments in securities available-for-sale, and cash flow hedges. Comprehensive income/(loss) and its components are reported and displayed in the Company’s Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income.

Net Income per Common Share. Earnings per share (“EPS”) is computed on a basic and diluted basis. Basic EPS excludes dilution and is computed by dividing net income available to common stockholders by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding for the period. Diluted EPS reflects the potential dilution that could occur if securities or other contracts to issue common stock were exercised or converted into common stock or resulted in the issuance of common stock that then shares in the earnings of the Company. Potential dilution is excluded from computation of diluted per-share amounts when a net loss from operations exists.

Foreign Currency Translation. The Company considers the functional currency of its foreign operations to be the United States dollar. Accordingly, the Company remeasures monetary assets and liabilities at year-end exchange rates, while nonmonetary items are remeasured at historical rates. Income and expense accounts are remeasured at the average rates in effect during the year, except for depreciation, which is remeasured at historical rates. Foreign currency transaction gains and losses are recognized in income in the period of occurrence.

Statement of Cash Flows. Cash and cash equivalents include short-term highly liquid investments that generally have an original maturity of three months or less.

Segment Reporting. Through our branch network and lending units, we provide a broad range of financial services to individuals and companies. These services include demand, time and savings deposits; and commercial and industrial, real estate and consumer lending. While our chief decision makers monitor the revenue streams of our various products and services, operations are managed, and financial performance is evaluated on a company-wide basis. Accordingly, we consider all of our operations to be aggregated in one reportable operating segment.

Accounting Standards adopted in 2021

In June 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2016-13, "Financial Instruments - Credit Losses (Topic 326): Measurement of Credit Losses on Financial Instruments." This update requires an entity to use a broader range of R&S forecasts, in addition to historical experience and current conditions, to develop an expected credit loss estimate, referred to as the CECL model, for financial assets and net investments that are not accounted for at fair value through net income. Credit losses relating to available-for-sale debt securities should be recorded through an allowance for credit losses to the amount by which fair value is below amortized cost.

The FASB issued additional ASUs containing clarifying guidance, transition relief provisions and minor updates to the original ASU. These include ASU 2018-19 (issued November 2018), ASU 2019-04 (issued April 2019), ASU 2019-05 (issued May 2019), ASU 2019-10 (issued November 2019), ASU 2019-11 (issued November 2019), ASU 2020-02 (issued February 2020) and ASU 2020-03 (issued March 2020). ASU 2016-13 and subsequent ASUs are effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those fiscal years, beginning after December 15, 2019 and subsequently extended by the CAA until the earlier of (i) the beginning of our fiscal year that begins after the date the COVID-19 national emergency comes to an end or (ii) January 1, 2022. This amendment requires using a modified retrospective approach with a cumulative-effect adjustment to beginning retained earnings, as of the beginning of the first reporting period in which the guidance is effective.

Effective January 1, 2021, the Company adopted ASU 2016-13 and the related amendments to Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") Topic 326, Financial Instruments - Credit Losses, to replace the incurred loss accounting approach with a CECL approach for financial instruments measured at amortized cost and other commitments to extend credit. The new standard is generally intended to require earlier recognition of credit losses. While the standard changes the measurement of the allowance for credit losses, it does not change the credit risk of our lending portfolios or the ultimate losses in those portfolios.

Under the CECL approach, the standard requires immediate recognition of estimated credit losses expected to occur over the estimated remaining life of the asset. The forward-looking concept of CECL requires loss estimates to consider historical experience, current conditions and reasonable and supportable forecasts. The standard modifies the other-than-temporary impairment model for available-for-sale debt securities to require entities to record an allowance when recognizing credit losses for available-for-sale securities, rather than reducing the amortized cost of the securities by direct write-offs.

The Company adopted the new standard using the modified retrospective approach and recognized a cumulative effect adjustment to decrease retained earnings by $3.1 million, net of taxes, and decrease the allowance for loan losses by $1.6 million and increase the reserve for unfunded loan commitments by $6.0 million without restating prior periods and applied the requirements of the new standard prospectively. There was no cumulative effect adjustment related to available-for-sale securities at adoption. The Company elected to account for accrued interest receivable separately from the amortized cost of loans and investment securities. Accrued interest receivable is included in "accrued interest receivables" on the Consolidated Balance Sheets. The Company elected the practical expedient to use the fair value of the collateral at the reporting date when determining the allowance for credit losses for a financial asset for which the repayment is expected to be provided substantially through the operation or sale of the collateral when the borrower is experiencing financial difficulty based on the entity's assessment as of the reporting date (collateral dependent financial asset). Additionally, the Company implemented new business processes, new internal controls, and modified existing and/or implemented new internal models and tools to facilitate the ongoing application of the new standard. See Note 8. Loans for further details.

The following table sets forth the cumulative effect of the changes to the Company's unaudited Consolidated Balance Sheets at January 1, 2021, for the adoption of ASC 326:

	Balance at December 31, 2020	Adjustments due to Adoption of ASC 326	Balance at January 1, 2021
		(In thousands)	
Assets:			
Allowance for credit losses on loans	$ 166,538	$ (1,560)	$ 164,978
Deferred tax assets	85,610	1,319	86,929
Liabilities:			
Allowance for unfunded commitments	$ 5,880	$ 6,018	$ 11,898
Stockholders' equity:			
Retained earnings, net of tax	$ 2,418,144	$ (3,139)	$ 2,415,005

In July 2017, the FASB issued ASU 2017-11, "Earnings per Share (Topic 260), Distinguishing Liabilities from Equity (Topic 480) and Derivatives and Hedging (Topic 815)." There are two parts to this update. Part I addresses the complexity of accounting for certain financial instruments with down round features. Down round features are features of certain equity-linked instruments that result in the strike price being reduced on the basis of the pricing of future equity offerings. Part II addresses the difficulty in navigating Topic 480, Distinguishing Liabilities from Equity, because of the existence of extensive pending content in the FASB ASC. This pending content is the result of the indefinite deferral of accounting requirements about mandatorily redeemable financial instruments of certain nonpublic entities and certain mandatorily redeemable noncontrolling interests. The amendments in this update are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2020. Early adoption is permitted for all entities, including adoption in an interim period. If an entity early adopts the amendments in an interim period, any adjustments should be reflected as of the beginning of the fiscal year that includes that interim period. The amendments in part I of this update should be applied in either of the following ways: (i) retrospectively to outstanding financial instruments with a down round feature by means of a cumulative-effect adjustment to the statement of financial position as of the beginning of the first fiscal year and interim periods in which the pending content that links to this paragraph is effective; or (ii) retrospectively to outstanding financial instruments with a down round feature for each prior reporting period presented in accordance with the guidance on accounting changes in paragraphs 250-10-45-5 through 45-10. The amendments to Part II of this update do not require any transition guidance because those amendments do not have an accounting effect. Adoption of ASU 2017-11 did not have a material impact on the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements.

In December 2019, the FASB issued ASU No. 2019-12, "Income Taxes (Topic 740); Simplifying the Accounting for Income Taxes." This ASU removes specific exceptions to the general principles in Topic 740 in GAAP. It eliminates the need for an organization to analyze whether the following apply in a given period: exception to the incremental approach for intra-period tax allocation; exception to accounting for basis differences when there are ownership changes in foreign investments; and exception in interim period income tax accounting for year-to-date losses that exceed anticipated losses. The ASU also (i) improves financial statement preparers' application of income tax-related guidance (ii) simplifies GAAP for franchise taxes that are partially based on income; transactions with a government that result in a step up in the tax basis of goodwill; and separate financial statements of legal entities that are not subject to tax; and (iii) establishes changes in tax laws in interim periods. This ASU is effective for public business entities, for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2020 with early adoption permitted for public business entities for periods for which financial statements have not yet been issued. Adoption of ASU 2019-12 did not have a material impact on the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements.

In January 2020, the FASB issued ASU No. 2020-01, "'Investments—Equity Securities (Topic 321), Investments—Equity Method and Joint-Ventures (Topic 323), and Derivatives and Hedging (Topic 815). Clarifying the Interactions between Topic 321, Topic 323, and Topic 815." This ASU is effective for public business entities for fiscal years, and interim periods within those fiscal years, beginning after December 15, 2020. Early application is permitted, including early adoption in an interim period for public business entities for periods for which financial statements have not yet been issued. An entity should apply ASU No. 2020-01 prospectively at the beginning of the interim period that includes the adoption date. This ASU, among other things, clarifies that a company should consider observable transactions that require a company to either apply or discontinue the equity method of accounting under Topic 323, Investments—Equity Method and Joint Ventures, for the purposes of applying the measurement alternative in accordance with Topic 321 immediately before applying or upon discontinuing the equity method. The new ASU clarifies that, when determining the accounting for certain forward contracts and purchased options a company should not consider, whether upon settlement or exercise, if the underlying securities would be accounted for under the equity method or fair value option. Adoption of ASU 2020-01 did not have a material impact on the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In March 2020, the FASB issued ASU No. 2020-04, "Reference Rate Reform (Topic 848): Facilitation of the Effects of Reference Rate Reform on Financial Reporting." ASU No. 2020-04 is effective for all entities as of March 12, 2020, through December 31, 2022. This ASU provides temporary optional guidance to ease the potential burden in accounting for reference rate reform. The new guidance provides optional expedients and exceptions for applying GAAP to contract modifications and hedging relationships, subject to meeting certain criteria, that reference LIBOR or another reference rate expected to be discontinued. The ASU is intended to help stakeholders during the global market-wide reference rate transition period. Therefore, it will be in effect for a limited time through December 31, 2022. In January 2021, the FASB issued ASU 2021-01 as subsequent amendments, which expanded the scope of Topic 848 to include all affected derivatives and clarified certain optional expedients and exceptions regarding the hedge accounting for derivative contracts affected by the discounting transition. The adoption of this guidance did not significantly impact the Company's consolidated financial statements.

2. Cash, Cash Equivalents and Restricted Cash

The Company manages its cash and cash equivalents, which consist of cash on hand, amounts due from banks, federal funds sold, and short-term investments with original maturity of three months or less, based upon the Company's operating, investment, and financing activities. For the purpose of reporting cash flows, these same accounts are included in cash and cash equivalents.

The Company is required to maintain reserves with the Federal Reserve Bank. Reserve requirements are based on a percentage of deposit liabilities. The average reserve balances required were zero for 2021 and $60 thousand for 2020. The average excess balance with Federal Reserve Bank was $1,609.7 million in 2021 and $874.8 million in 2020. At December 31, 2021 and December 31, 2020, the Company had $24.3 million and $34.7 million, respectively, on deposit in a cash margin account that serves as collateral for interest rate swaps. These amounts included $5.9 million and $11.9 million, respectively, on deposit in a cash margin account that serves as collateral for the Bancorp's interest rate swaps. As of December 31, 2021 and December 31, 2020, the Company held $689.9 thousand and $9.3 million, respectively, in a restricted escrow account with a major bank for its alternative energy investments.

3. Investment Securities

Investment Securities. The following tables reflect the amortized cost, gross unrealized gains, gross unrealized losses, and fair values of debt securities available-for-sale as of December 31, 2021 and December 31, 2020:

	As of December 31, 2021			
	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value
	(In thousands)			
Securities Available-for-Sale				
U.S. treasury securities	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —
U.S. government agency entities	86,475	1,169	135	87,509
Mortgage-backed securities	886,614	9,465	7,414	888,665
Collateralized mortgage obligations	9,547	—	430	9,117
Corporate debt securities	144,231	441	2,654	142,018
Total	**$ 1,126,867**	**$ 11,075**	**$ 10,633**	**$ 1,127,309**

	As of December 31, 2020			
	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value
	(In thousands)			
Securities Available-for-Sale				
U.S. treasury securities	$ 80,948	$ 6	$ 6	$ 80,948
U.S. government agency entities	99,944	441	546	99,839
Mortgage-backed securities	709,709	17,965	606	727,068
Collateralized mortgage obligations	10,358	—	34	10,324
Corporate debt securities	118,271	367	267	118,371
Total	**$ 1,019,230**	**$ 18,779**	**$ 1,459**	**$ 1,036,550**

The amortized cost and fair value of securities available-for-sale at December 31, 2021, by contractual maturities, are set forth in the table below. Actual maturities may differ from contractual maturities because borrowers may have the right to call or repay obligations with or without call or repayment penalties.

	Securities Available-for-Sale As of December 31, 2021	
	Amortized Cost	Fair Value
	(In thousands)	
Due in one year or less	$ 5,005	$ 5,009
Due after one year through five years	126,871	124,148
Due after five years through ten years	137,989	141,331
Due after ten years	857,002	856,821
Total	**$ 1,126,867**	**$ 1,127,309**

Proceeds from the sale of investment securities were $21.1 million during 2021 compared to $117.2 million during 2020. Proceeds from repayments, maturities and calls of investment securities during 2021 were $424.4 million compared to $734.5 million during 2020. In 2021, the Company recorded realized gains of $853 thousand and zero losses on sales of investment securities compared to realized gains of $1.7 million and zero losses on sales of investment securities in 2020.

Allowance for Credit Losses

The securities that were in an unrealized loss position at December 31, 2021, were evaluated to determine whether the decline in fair value below the amortized cost basis resulted from a credit loss or other factors. For a discussion of the factors and criteria the Company uses in analyzing securities for impairment related to credit losses, see Note 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - Allowance for Credit Losses on Available for Sale Securities to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

The Company concluded the unrealized losses were primarily attributed to yield curve movement, together with widened liquidity spreads and credit spreads. The issuers have not, to the Company's knowledge, established any cause for default on these securities. The Company expects to recover the amortized cost basis of its securities and has no present intent to sell and will not be required to sell available-for-sale securities that have declined below their cost before their anticipated recovery. Accordingly, no allowance for credit losses was recorded as of December 31, 2021, against these securities, and there was no provision for credit losses recognized for the year ended December 31, 2021.

The tables below show the related fair value and the gross unrealized losses of the Company's investment portfolio, aggregated by investment category and the length of time that individual securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss position as of December 31, 2021, and December 31, 2020:

	As of December 31, 2021					
	Less than 12 months		**12 months or longer**		**Total**	
	Fair Value	**Gross Unrealized Losses**	**Fair Value**	**Gross Unrealized Losses**	**Fair Value**	**Gross Unrealized Losses**
	(In thousands)					
Securities Available-for-Sale						
U.S. treasury securities	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —
U.S. government agency entities	—	—	2,337	135	2,337	135
Mortgage-backed securities	527,276	6,659	6,496	755	533,772	7,414
Collateralized mortgage obligations	8,989	417	128	13	9,117	430
Corporate debt securities	103,720	2,122	19,468	532	123,188	2,654
Total	**$ 639,985**	**$ 9,198**	**$ 28,429**	**$ 1,435**	**$ 668,414**	**$ 10,633**

	As of December 31, 2020					
	Less than 12 months		**12 months or longer**		**Total**	
	Fair Value	**Gross Unrealized Losses**	**Fair Value**	**Gross Unrealized Losses**	**Fair Value**	**Gross Unrealized Losses**
	(In thousands)					
Securities Available-for-Sale						
U.S. treasury securities	$ 40,952	$ 6	$ —	$ —	$ 40,952	$ 6
U.S. government agency entities	26,390	102	40,009	444	66,399	546
Mortgage-backed securities	1,694	23	8,093	583	9,787	606
Collateralized mortgage obligations	10,131	25	193	9	10,324	34
Corporate debt securities	58,405	267	—	—	58,405	267
Total	**$ 137,572**	**$ 423**	**$ 48,295**	**$ 1,036**	**$ 185,867**	**$ 1,459**

Securities available-for-sale having a carrying value of $30.5 million and $22.7 million as of December 31, 2021, and December 31, 2020, respectively, were pledged to secure public deposits, other borrowings, treasury tax and loans.

For the year ended December 31, 2021, the Company recognized a net loss of $1.4 million due to the decrease in fair value of equity investments with readily determinable fair values, compared to a net loss of $1.1 million in 2020. Equity securities were $22.3 million as of December 31, 2021, compared to $23.7 million as of December 31, 2020.

4. Loans

Most of the Company's business activities are with customers located in the high-density Asian-populated areas of Southern and Northern California; New York City, New York; Houston and Dallas, Texas; Seattle, Washington; Boston, Massachusetts; Chicago, Illinois; Edison, New Jersey; Rockville, Maryland; and Las Vegas, Nevada. The Company also has loan customers in Hong Kong. The Company has no specific industry concentration, and generally its loans, when secured, are secured by real property or other collateral of the borrowers. The Company generally expects loans to be paid off from the operating profits of the borrowers, from refinancing by another lender, or through sale by the borrowers of the secured collateral.

The types of loans in the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2021, and 2020, were as follows:

	As of December 31,	
	2021	2020
	(In thousands)	
Type of Loans:		
Commercial loans	$ 2,982,399	$ 2,836,833
Real estate construction loans	611,031	679,492
Commercial mortgage loans	8,143,272	7,555,027
Residential mortgage loans	4,182,006	4,145,389
Equity lines	419,487	424,555
Installment and other loans	4,284	3,100
Gross loans	16,342,479	15,644,396
Less:		
Allowance for loan losses	(136,157)	(166,538)
Unamortized deferred loan fees	(4,321)	(2,494)
Total loans, net	**$ 16,202,001**	**$ 15,475,364**

The Company pledged real estate loans of $11.5 billion at December 31, 2021, and $11.2 billion at December 31, 2020, to the Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco under its blanket lien pledging program. In addition, the Company pledged $773 thousand at December 31, 2021, and $7.5 million at December 31, 2020, of its commercial loans to the Federal Reserve Bank's Discount Window under the Borrower-in-Custody program.

Loans serviced for others as of December 31, 2021, totaled $141.2 million and were comprised of $92.1 million of residential mortgages, $17.0 million of commercial real estate loans, $30.1 million of construction loans, and $2.3 million of commercial loans.

The Company has entered into transactions with its directors, executive officers, or principal holders of its equity securities, or the associates of such persons ("Related Parties"). All loans to Related Parties were current as of December 31, 2021. An analysis of the activity with respect to loans to Related Parties for the years indicated is as follows:

	December 31,	
	2021	2020
	(In thousands)	
Balance at beginning of year	$ 51,288	$ 43,952
Additional loans made	29,182	23,102
Payment received	(41,938)	(15,766)
Balance at end of year	**$ 38,532**	**$ 51,288**

At December 31, 2021, recorded investment in non-accrual loans totaled $65.8 million. At December 31, 2020, recorded investment in impaired loans totaled $95.4 million and were comprised of nonaccrual loans of $67.7 million and accruing TDR's of $27.7 million. The average balance of non-accrual loans was $72.7 million in 2021 and average balance of impaired loans was $91.4 million in 2020. Interest recognized on non-accrual loans totaled $1.1 million in 2021 and on impaired loans totaled $2.4 million in 2020. For non-accrual loans, the amounts previously charged off represent 10.7% of the contractual balances for non-accrual loans as of December 31, 2021. For impaired loans, the amounts previously charged off represent 7.1% of the contractual balances for impaired loans at December 31, 2020.

The following table presents the average balance and interest income recognized on non-accrual loans for the periods indicated:

	For the year ended December 31, 2021	
	Average Recorded Investment	**Interest Income Recognized**
	(In thousands)	
Commercial loans	$ 21,453	$ —
Real estate construction loans	3,805	—
Commercial mortgage loans	38,047	1,044
Residential mortgage and equity lines	9,435	30
Total	**$ 72,740**	**$ 1,074**

In connection with the adoption of ASU 2016-13, the Company no longer provides information on impaired loans. The following table presents the average recorded investment and interest income recognized on individually evaluated loans for the period indicated:

	For the year ended December 31, 2020	
	Average Recorded Investment	**Interest Income Recognized**
	(In thousands)	
Commercial loans	$ 31,009	$ 246
Real estate construction loans	4,408	294
Commercial mortgage loans	41,649	1,602
Residential mortgage and equity lines	14,287	252
Total	**$ 91,353**	**$ 2,394**

The following table presents non-accrual loans and the related allowance as of December 31, 2021:

	As of December 31, 2021		
	Unpaid Principal Balance	**Recorded Investment**	**Allowance**
		(In thousands)	
With no allocated allowance:			
Commercial loans	$ 15,879	$ 11,342	$ —
Commercial mortgage loans	24,437	21,209	—
Residential mortgage and equity lines	6,020	5,850	—
Subtotal	$ 46,336	$ 38,401	$ —
With allocated allowance:			
Commercial loans	$ 14,294	$ 5,217	$ 894
Commercial mortgage loans	17,930	16,964	3,631
Residential mortgage and equity lines	6,048	5,264	22
Subtotal	$ 38,272	$ 27,445	$ 4,547
Total non-accrual loans	**$ 84,608**	**$ 65,846**	**$ 4,547**

In connection with the adoption of ASU 2016-13, the Company no longer provides information on impaired loans. The following table presents impaired loans and the related allowance as of December 31, 2020:

	Impaired Loans As of December 31, 2020		
	Unpaid Principal Balance	**Recorded Investment**	**Allowance**
		(In thousands)	
With no allocated allowance:			
Commercial loans	$ 23,784	$ 20,698	$ —
Real estate construction loans	5,776	4,286	—
Commercial mortgage loans	22,877	22,287	—
Residential mortgage and equity lines	6,379	6,307	—
Subtotal	$ 58,816	$ 53,578	$ —
With allocated allowance:			
Commercial loans	$ 13,703	$ 6,372	$ 1,030
Commercial mortgage loans	31,134	31,003	5,254
Residential mortgage and equity lines	5,005	4,452	145
Subtotal	$ 49,842	$ 41,827	$ 6,429
Total impaired loans	**$ 108,658**	**$ 95,405**	**$ 6,429**

The following table is a summary of non-accrual loans as of December 31, 2021, 2020, and 2019 and the related net interest foregone for the years then ended:

	As of December 31,		
	2021	**2020**	**2019**
		(In thousands)	
Non-accrual portfolio loans	$ 65,846	$ 67,684	$ 40,523
Contractual interest due	4,032	3,093	1,775
Interest recognized	1,074	1,008	85
Net interest foregone	**$ 2,958**	**$ 2,085**	**$ 1,690**

The following tables present the aging of the loan portfolio by type as of December 31, 2021, and December 31, 2020:

	As of December 31, 2021						
	30-59 Days Past Due	**60-89 Days Past Due**	**90 Days or More Past Due**	**Non-accrual Loans**	**Total Past Due**	**Loans Not Past Due**	**Total**
Type of Loans:				(In thousands)			
Commercial loans	$ 4,294	$ 9,877	$ 1,439	$ 16,558	$ 32,168	$ 2,950,231	$ 2,982,399
Real estate construction loans	—	—	—	—	—	611,031	611,031
Commercial mortgage loans	8,389	—	—	38,173	46,562	8,096,710	8,143,272
Residential mortgage loans	20,129	3,138	—	11,115	34,382	4,567,111	4,601,493
Installment and other loans	—	—	—	—	—	4,284	4,284
Total loans	**$ 32,812**	**$ 13,015**	**$ 1,439**	**$ 65,846**	**$ 113,112**	**$ 16,229,367**	**$ 16,342,479**

	As of December 31, 2020						
	30-59 Days Past Due	**60-89 Days Past Due**	**90 Days or More Past Due**	**Non-accrual Loans**	**Total Past Due**	**Loans Not Past Due**	**Total**
Type of Loans:				(In thousands)			
Commercial loans	$ 52,601	$ 3,182	$ 2,947	$ 23,087	$ 81,817	$ 2,755,016	$ 2,836,833
Real estate construction loans	6,257	—	—	4,286	10,543	668,949	679,492
Commercial mortgage loans	45,186	18,069	2,035	33,715	99,005	7,456,022	7,555,027
Residential mortgage loans	14,315	4,223	—	6,596	25,134	4,544,810	4,569,944
Installment and other loans	43	—	—	—	43	3,057	3,100
Total loans	**$ 118,402**	**$ 25,474**	**$ 4,982**	**$ 67,684**	**$ 216,542**	**$ 15,427,854**	**$ 15,644,396**

A TDR is a formal modification of the terms of a loan when the lender, for economic or legal reasons related to the borrower's financial difficulties, grants a concession to the borrower. The concessions may be granted in various forms, including a change in the stated interest rate, a reduction in the loan balance or accrued interest, or an extension of the maturity date. Although these loan modifications are considered TDRs, TDR loans that have, pursuant to the Bank's policy, performed under the restructured terms and have demonstrated sustained performance under the modified terms for six months are returned to accrual status. The sustained performance considered by management pursuant to its policy includes the periods prior to the modification if the prior performance met or exceeded the modified terms. This would include cash paid by the borrower prior to the restructure to set up interest reserves. Loans classified as TDRs are reported as individually evaluated loans.

The allowance for credit loss on a TDR is measured using the same method as all other loans held for investment, except when the value of a concession cannot be measured using a method other than the discounted cash flow method. When the value of a concession is measured using the discounted cash flow method, the allowance for credit loss is determined by discounting the expected future cash flows at the original interest rate of the loan.

The Company establishes a specific reserve for individually evaluated loans that do not share similar risk characteristics with the loans included in the quantitative baseline. These individually evaluated loans are removed from the pooling approach discussed in the "Basis of Presentation and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies" above, for the quantitative baseline, and include non-accrual loans, TDRs, and other loans as deemed appropriate by management. In addition, the Company individually evaluates "reasonably expected" TDRs, which are identified by the Company as a commercial loan expected to be classified as a TDR. Individually evaluated loans also includes "reasonably expected" TDRs, identified by the Company as a consumer loan for which a borrower's application of loan modification due to hardship has been received by the Company. Management judgment is utilized to make this determination.

Although the Company took steps to incorporate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the economic conditions and other factors utilized to determine the expected loan losses, if the economic conditions or other factors worsen relative to the assumptions the Company utilized, the expected loan losses will increase accordingly in future periods.

At December 31, 2021, accruing TDRs were $12.8 million and non-accrual TDRs were $8.2 million compared to accruing TDRs of $27.7 million and non-accrual TDRs of $9.0 million at December 31, 2020. The Company allocated seven thousand in reserves to accruing TDRs and three thousand to non-accrual TDRs at December 31, 2021, compared to $122 thousand to accruing TDRs and $24 thousand to non-accrual TDRs at December 31, 2020. The following table presents TDRs that were modified during 2021, their specific reserve at December 31, 2021, and charge-offs during 2021:

	Loans Modified as TDRs During the Year Ended December 31, 2021				
	No. of Contracts	**Pre-Modification Outstanding Recorded Investment**	**Post-Modification Outstanding Recorded Investment**	**Specific Reserve**	**Charge-offs**
	(Dollars in thousands)				
Commercial loans	3	$ 2,150	$ 2,150	$ —	$ —
Residential mortgage and equity lines	2	3	3	—	—
Total	**5**	**$ 2,153**	**$ 2,153**	**$ —**	**$ —**

The following table presents TDRs that were modified during 2020, their specific reserve at December 31, 2020, and charge-offs during 2020:

	Loans Modified as TDRs During the Year Ended December 31, 2020				
	No. of Contracts	**Pre-Modification Outstanding Recorded Investment**	**Post-Modification Outstanding Recorded Investment**	**Specific Reserve**	**Charge-offs**
	(Dollars in thousands)				
Commercial loans	5	$ 5,417	$ 5,417	$ —	$ —
Total	**5**	**$ 5,417**	**$ 5,417**	**$ —**	**$ —**

The following table presents TDRs that were modified during 2019, their specific reserve at December 31, 2019, and charge-offs during 2019:

	Loans Modified as TDRs During the Year Ended December 31, 2019				
	No. of Contracts	**Pre-Modification Outstanding Recorded Investment**	**Post-Modification Outstanding Recorded Investment**	**Specific Reserve**	**Charge-off**
	(Dollars in thousands)				
Commercial loans	23	$ 25,937	$ 21,874	$ 2,190	$ 4,063
Residential mortgage and equity lines	1	42	42	—	—
Total	**24**	**$ 25,979**	**$ 21,916**	**$ 2,190**	**$ 4,063**

A summary of TDRs by type of concession and by type of loans as of December 31, 2021, and December 31, 2020, are shown below:

	December 31, 2021			
Accruing TDRs	Payment Deferral	Rate Reduction	Rate Reduction and Payment Deferral	Total
	(In thousands)			
Commercial loans	$ 3,368	$ —	$ —	$ 3,368
Commercial mortgage loans	438	5,522	168	6,128
Residential mortgage loans	1,464	249	1,628	3,341
Total accruing TDRs	**$ 5,270**	**$ 5,771**	**$ 1,796**	**$ 12,837**

	December 31, 2021			
Non-accrual TDRs	Payment Deferral	Rate Reduction	Rate Reduction and Payment Deferral	Total
	(In thousands)			
Commercial loans	$ 7,717	$ —	$ —	$ 7,717
Residential mortgage loans	458	—	—	458
Total non-accrual TDRs	**$ 8,175**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ 8,175**

	December 31, 2020			
Accruing TDRs	Payment Deferral	Rate Reduction	Rate Reduction and Payment Deferral	Total
	(In thousands)			
Commercial loans	$ 3,983	$ —	$ —	$ 3,983
Commercial mortgage loans	515	5,635	13,425	19,575
Residential mortgage loans	1,724	275	2,164	4,163
Total accruing TDRs	**$ 6,222**	**$ 5,910**	**$ 15,589**	**$ 27,721**

	December 31, 2020			
Non-accrual TDRs	Payment Deferral	Rate Reduction	Rate Reduction and Payment Deferral	Total
	(In thousands)			
Commercial loans	$ 8,462	$ —	$ —	$ 8,462
Residential mortgage loans	523	—	—	523
Total non-accrual TDRs	**$ 8,985**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ 8,985**

Modifications of the loan terms in the twelve months ended December 31, 2021, were in the form of extensions of maturity dates, which ranged generally from three to twelve months from the modification date.

We expect that the TDRs on accruing status as of December 31, 2021, which were all performing in accordance with their restructured terms, will continue to comply with the restructured terms because of the reduced principal or interest payments on these loans. The ongoing impact of the COVID pandemic, however, could increase the risk of such TDRs becoming non-accrual due to the borrowers' inability to continue to comply with their restructured terms.

The Company considers a loan to be in payment default once it is 60 to 90 days contractually past due under the modified terms. The Company did not have any loans that were modified as a TDR during the previous twelve months and which had subsequently defaulted as of December 31, 2021.

Under the Company's internal underwriting policy, an evaluation is performed of the probability that the borrower will be in payment default on any of its debt in the foreseeable future without the modification in order to determine whether a borrower is experiencing financial difficulty.

As of December 31, 2021, there were no commitments to lend additional funds to those borrowers whose loans have been restructured, were considered individually evaluated, or were on non-accrual status.

The CARES Act, signed into law on March 27, 2020, and as extended by the CAA, 2021, permits financial institutions to suspend requirements under GAAP for loan modifications to borrowers affected by COVID-19 that would otherwise be characterized as TDRs and suspend any determination related thereto if (i) the loan modification is made between March 1, 2020 and the earlier of December 31, 2021 or 60 days after the end of the coronavirus emergency declaration and (ii) the applicable loan was not more than 30 days past due as of December 31, 2019. In addition, federal bank regulatory authorities have issued guidance to encourage financial institutions to make loan modifications for borrowers affected by COVID-19 and have assured financial institutions that they will neither receive supervisory criticism for such prudent loan modifications, nor be required by examiners to automatically categorize COVID-19-related loan modifications as TDRs. The Company is applying this guidance to qualifying loan modifications.

As part of the on-going monitoring of the credit quality of our loan portfolio, the Company utilizes a risk grading matrix to assign a risk rating to each loan. Loans are risk rated based on analysis of the current state of the borrower's credit quality. The analysis of credit quality includes a review of sources of repayment, the borrower's current financial and liquidity status and other relevant information. The risk rating categories can be generally described by the following grouping for non-homogeneous loans:

- **Pass/Watch** – These loans range from minimal credit risk to lower than average, but still acceptable, credit risk.
- **Special Mention** – Borrower is deemed fundamentally sound, and the loan is currently protected but adverse trends are apparent that, if not corrected, may affect ability to repay. Primary source of loan repayment remains viable but there is increasing reliance on collateral or guarantor support.
- **Substandard** – These loans are deemed inadequately protected by current sound worth, paying capacity or pledged collateral. Well-defined weaknesses exist that could jeopardize repayment of debt. Loss may not be imminent, but if weaknesses are not corrected, there is a good possibility of some loss.
- **Doubtful** – The possibility of loss is deemed extremely high, but due to identifiable and important pending events (which may strengthen the loan) a loss classification is deferred until the situation is better defined.
- **Loss** – These loans are deemed uncollectible and of such little value that to continue to carry the loans as an active asset is no longer warranted.

In connection with the adoption of ASU 2016-13, the Company no longer provides information on impaired loans. The following tables present loan portfolio by risk rating as of December 31, 2020:

	As of December 31, 2020				
	Pass/Watch	Special Mention	Substandard	Doubtful	Total
			(In thousands)		
Commercial loans	$ 2,581,128	$ 141,344	$ 108,788	$ 5,573	$ 2,836,833
Real estate construction loans	593,196	82,010	4,286	—	679,492
Commercial mortgage loans	7,202,568	186,283	166,176	—	7,555,027
Residential mortgage and equity lines	4,547,052	11,647	11,245	—	4,569,944
Installment and other loans	3,100	—	—	—	3,100
Total gross loans	**$ 14,927,044**	**$ 421,284**	**$ 290,495**	**$ 5,573**	**$ 15,644,396**

The following table summarizes the Company's loan held for investment by loan portfolio segments, risk ratings and vintage year. The vintage year is the year of origination, renewal or major modification:

	Loans Amortized Cost Basis by Origination Year								
December 31, 2021	**2021**	**2020**	**2019**	**2018**	**2017**	**Prior**	**Revolving Loans**	**Revolving Converted to Term Loans**	**Total**
					(In thousands)				
Commercial loans									
Pass/Watch	$ 606,770	$ 268,756	$ 183,468	$ 142,419	$ 80,701	$ 100,496	$ 1,437,463	$ 7,433	$ 2,827,506
Special Mention	395	780	1,138	1,645	3,157	—	40,761	49	47,925
Substandard	450	5,879	22,513	16,423	14,309	5,221	34,713	5,716	105,224
Doubtful	—	—	—	—	—	—	900	—	900
Total	**$ 607,615**	**$ 275,415**	**$ 207,119**	**$ 160,487**	**$ 98,167**	**$ 105,717**	**$ 1,513,837**	**$ 13,198**	**$ 2,981,555**
YTD period charge-offs	$ —	$ 1,478	$ 507	$ 366		$ 50	$ 17,650	$ —	$ 20,051
YTD period recoveries	—	(1)	(29)	(124)		(191)	(1,361)	—	(1,706)
Net	**$ —**	**$ 1,477**	**$ 478**	**$ 242**	**$ —**	**$ (141)**	**$ 16,289**	**$ —**	**$ 18,345**
Real estate construction loans									
Pass/Watch	$ 199,188	$ 188,782	$ 125,316	$ 24,548	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ 537,834
Special Mention	—	23,107	27,672	17,374	—	—	—	—	68,153
Substandard	—	—	1,919	—	—	—	—	—	1,919
Total	**$ 199,188**	**$ 211,889**	**$ 154,907**	**$ 41,922**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ 607,906**
YTD period charge-offs	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —
YTD period recoveries	—	—	—	—	—	(76)	—	—	(76)
Net	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ (76)**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ (76)**
Commercial mortgage loans									
Pass/Watch	$ 1,893,807	$ 1,201,825	$ 1,253,548	$ 1,031,191	$ 727,916	$ 1,313,882	$ 198,869	$ —	$ 7,621,038
Special Mention	45,719	59,182	49,796	103,101	61,105	60,448	750	—	380,101
Substandard	1,110	—	13,483	42,803	1,580	76,906	3,297	—	139,179
Total	**$ 1,940,636**	**$ 1,261,007**	**$ 1,316,827**	**$ 1,177,095**	**$ 790,601**	**$ 1,451,236**	**$ 202,916**	**$ —**	**$ 8,140,318**
YTD period charge-offs	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —
YTD period recoveries	—	—	(240)	—	—	(28)	(111)	—	(379)
Net	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ (240)**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ (28)**	**$ (111)**	**$ —**	**$ (379)**
Residential mortgage loans									
Pass/Watch	$ 978,375	$ 622,999	$ 678,775	$ 502,325	$ 453,992	$ 929,846	$ —	$ —	$ 4,166,312
Special Mention	—	46	1,576	1,064	836	438	—	—	3,960
Substandard	1,684	147	2,698	2,574	862	5,255	—	—	13,220
Total	**$ 980,059**	**$ 623,192**	**$ 683,049**	**$ 505,963**	**$ 455,690**	**$ 935,539**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ 4,183,492**
YTD period charge-offs	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ 3	$ —	—		$ 3
YTD period recoveries	—	—	—	—	—	(208)	—		(208)
Net	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ 3**	**$ (208)**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ (205)**
Equity lines									
Pass/Watch	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ 5	$ 389,069	$ 30,025	$ 419,099
Substandard	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,230	273	1,503
Total	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ 5**	**$ 390,299**	**$ 30,298**	**$ 420,602**
YTD period charge-offs	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —
YTD period recoveries	—	—	—	—	—	—	(10)	(64)	(74)
Net	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ (10)**	**$ (64)**	**$ (74)**
Installment and other loans									
Pass/Watch	$ 4,117	$ 168	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ 4,285
Total	**$ 4,117**	**$ 168**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ 4,285**
YTD period charge-offs	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —
YTD period recoveries	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Net	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**
Total loans	**$ 3,731,615**	**$ 2,371,671**	**$ 2,361,902**	**$ 1,885,467**	**$ 1,344,458**	**$ 2,492,497**	**$ 2,107,052**	**$ 43,496**	**$ 16,338,158**
Net charge-offs/(recoveries)	**$ —**	**$ 1,477**	**$ 238**	**$ 242**	**$ 3**	**$ (453)**	**$ 16,168**	**$ (64)**	**$ 17,611**

Revolving loans that are converted to term loans presented in the table above are excluded from the term loans by vintage year columns.

The following table presents the balance in the allowance for loan losses by portfolio segment and based on impairment method as of December 31, 2020. This table is no longer presented after December 31, 2020, given the adoption of ASU 2016-13, which has a single impairment methodology.

	Commercial Loans	Real Estate Construction Loans	Commercial Mortgage Loans	Residential Mortgage and Equity Lines	Consumer and Other	Total
	(In thousands)					
December 31, 2020						
Loans individually evaluated for impairment						
Allowance	$ 1,030	$ —	$ 5,254	$ 145	$ —	$ 6,429
Balance	$ 27,070	$ 4,286	$ 53,289	$ 10,760	$ —	$ 95,405
Loans collectively evaluated for impairment						
Allowance	$ 67,712	$ 30,854	$ 43,951	$ 17,592	$ —	$ 160,109
Balance	$ 2,809,763	$ 675,206	$ 7,501,738	$ 4,559,184	$ 3,100	$15,548,991
Total allowance	$ 68,742	$ 30,854	$ 49,205	$ 17,737	$ —	$ 166,538
Total balance	$ 2,836,833	$ 679,492	$ 7,555,027	$ 4,569,944	$ 3,100	$15,644,396

The following table details activity in the allowance for loan losses by portfolio segment for the years ended December 31, 2021, and 2020. Allocation of a portion of the allowance to one category of loans does not preclude its availability to absorb losses in other categories.

	Commercial Loans	Real Estate Construction Loans	Commercial Mortgage Loans	Residential Mortgage and Equity Lines	Installment and Other Loans	Total
	(In thousands)					
2020 Beginning Balance	**$ 57,021**	**$ 19,474**	**$ 33,602**	**$ 13,108**	**$ 19**	**$ 123,224**
Provision/(reversal) for loan losses	26,450	11,380	15,164	4,525	(19)	57,500
Charge-offs	(21,996)	—	—	—	—	(21,996)
Recoveries	7,267	—	439	104	—	7,810
Net (Charge-offs)/Recoveries	(14,729)	—	439	104	—	(14,186)
2020 Ending Balance	**$ 68,742**	**$ 30,854**	**$ 49,205**	**$ 17,737**	**$ —**	**$ 166,538**
Reserve for impaired loans	$ 1,030	$ —	$ 5,254	$ 145	$ —	$ 6,429
Reserve for non-impaired loans	$ 67,712	$ 30,854	$ 43,951	$ 17,592	$ —	$ 160,109
Reserve for off-balance sheet credit commitments	$ 4,802	$ 690	$ 101	$ 284	$ 3	$ 5,880
2021 Beginning Balance	**$ 68,742**	**$ 30,854**	**$ 49,205**	**$ 17,737**	**$ —**	**$ 166,538**
Impact of ASU 2016-13 adoption	$ (31,466)	$ (24,307)	$ 34,993	$ 19,211	$ 9	$ (1,560)
Allowance for loan losses, January 1, 2020	**$ 37,276**	**$ 6,547**	**$ 84,198**	**$ 36,948**	**$ 9**	**$ 164,978**
Provision/(reversal) for loan losses	24,463	(321)	(23,401)	(11,943)	(8)	(11,210)
Charge-offs	(20,051)	—	—	(3)	—	(20,054)
Recoveries	1,706	76	284	377	—	2,443
Net (Charge-offs)/Recoveries	$ (18,345)	$ 76	$ 284	$ 374	$ —	$ (17,611)
2021 Ending Balance	**$ 43,394**	**$ 6,302**	**$ 61,081**	**$ 25,379**	**$ 1**	**$ 136,157**
Allowance for unfunded credit commitments 2020 Ending Balance	$ 4,802	$ 690	$ 101	$ 284	$ 3	$ 5,880
Impact of ASU 2016-13 adoption	3,236	3,135	(66)	(284)	(3)	6,018
Allowance for loan losses, January 1, 2021	$ 8,038	$ 3,825	$ 35	$ —	$ —	$ 11,898
Provision/(reversal) for possible credit losses	(4,313)	(450)	(35)	—	—	(4,798)
Allowance for unfunded credit commitments 2021 Ending Balance	**$ 3,725**	**$ 3,375**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ 7,100**

An analysis of the activity in the allowance for credit losses for the years ended December 31, 2021, 2020, and 2019 is as follows:

	For the year ended December 31,		
	2021	2020	2019
		(In thousands)	
Allowance for Loan Losses:			
Balance at beginning of year	$ 166,538	$ 123,224	$ 122,391
Impact of ASU 2016-13 adoption	(1,560)	—	—
Provision/(reversal) for credit losses	(11,210)	57,500	(7,000)
Loans charged off	(20,054)	(21,996)	(6,997)
Recoveries of charged off loans	2,443	7,810	14,830
Balance at end of year	**$ 136,157**	**$ 166,538**	**$ 123,224**
Reserve for Off-balance Sheet Credit Commitments:			
Balance at beginning of year	$ 5,880	$ 3,855	$ 2,250
Impact of ASU 2016-13 adoption	6,018	—	—
Provision/(reversal) for credit losses and transfers	(4,798)	2,025	1,605
Balance at end of year	**$ 7,100**	**$ 5,880**	**$ 3,855**

Residential mortgage loans in process of formal foreclosure proceedings were $2.0 million at December 31, 2021, compared to $808 thousand at December 31, 2020.

The U. S. economy has gradually recovered from the COVID-19 pandemic with improving gross national product and a declining unemployment rate in the 2021. This contributed to a positive economic outlook and forecasts that resulted in a decrease to the allowance for credit losses.

Despite the recovery in 2021, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has caused significant disruption in the United States and international economies and financial markets. Although banks have generally been permitted to continue operating, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused disruptions to our business and could cause material disruptions to our business and operations in the future. The Company has continued its efforts to support its customers affected by the pandemic and to maintain asset quality and balance sheet strength, including the following:

- The Company has provided loans through the SBA's Paycheck Protection Program, (or "PPP"). As of December 31, 2021, 671 PPP loans with a current balance of $90.5 million were outstanding and additional $337.0 million have been forgiven by the U.S. Government or repaid by the borrowers. These loans do not carry an allowance for loan losses.

- The Company has outstanding COVID-19 modifications on approximately 7 commercial real estate loans, totaling $49.4 million as of December 31, 2021, which represented 0.6% of the Bank's CRE loans and 4 commercial loans, totaling $20.5 million, which represented 0.7% of the total commercial loans.

5. Investments in Affordable Housing and Alternative Energy Partnerships

The Company holds ownership interests in a number of limited partnerships that were formed to develop and operate housing for lower-income tenants throughout the United States and alternative energy partnerships that qualify for energy tax credits. The Company evaluates its interests in these partnerships to determine whether they meet the definition of a Variable Interest Entity ("VIE") and whether the Company is required to consolidate these entities. A VIE is consolidated by its primary beneficiary, which is the party that has both (i) the power to direct the activities that most significantly impact the economic performance of the VIE and (ii) a variable interest that could potentially be significant to the VIE. To determine whether or not a variable interest the Company holds could potentially be significant to the VIE, the Company considers both qualitative and quantitative factors regarding the nature, size and form of the Company's involvement with the VIE. While the Company has determined that its interests in these entities meet the definition of a variable interest in accordance with ASC 810, the Company has determined that the Company is not the primary beneficiary in all but ten of these partnerships because the Company does not have the power to direct the activities that most significantly impact the economic performance of the entities including operational and credit risk management activities. As the Company is not the primary beneficiary, the Company did not consolidate the entities.

The investment in these entities approximates the maximum exposure to loss as a result of the Company's involvement with these unconsolidated entities. The balance of the Company's investments in these entities was $299.2 million and $309.0 million as of December 31, 2021, and 2020, respectively.

The Company's investments in these partnerships, net, are presented in the table below:

	As of December 31,	
	2021	**2020**
	(In thousands)	
Investments in affordable housing partnerships, net	$ 287,517	$ 279,981
Other borrowings for affordable housing limited partnerships	$ 23,145	$ 23,714
Investments in affordable housing and alternative energy partnerships, unfunded commitments	$ 107,652	$ 103,060
Investments in alternative energy tax credit partnerships, net	$ 11,694	$ 29,035

At December 31, 2021, ten of the limited partnerships in which the Company has an equity interest were determined to be variable interest entities for which the Company is the primary beneficiary. The consolidation of these limited partnerships in the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements increased total assets and liabilities by $31.1 million at December 31, 2021, and by $31.4 million at December 31, 2020. Recourse in other borrowings for affordable housing limited partnerships is limited to the assets of the limited partnerships. Investments in alternative energy partnerships were $11.7 million as of December 31, 2021. At December 31, 2021, $690 thousand of this investment is in an escrow account with a major bank. Unfunded commitments for affordable housing limited partnerships and alternative energy tax credit partnerships were recorded under other liabilities.

As of December 31, 2021, the Company's unfunded commitments related to investments in qualified affordable housing and alternative energy partnerships, net, are estimated to be paid as follows:

Year Ending December 31,	**Amount** (In thousands)
2022	$ 49,206
2023	32,635
2024	17,722
2025	1,977
2026	1,489
Thereafter	4,623
Total unfunded commitments	**$ 107,652**

Each of the partnerships must meet regulatory requirements for affordable housing and alternative energy projects, including long-term minimum compliance periods (such as a 15-year minimum compliance period for certain affordable housing tax credits) to fully utilize the tax credits. If the partnerships cease to qualify during the compliance period, the credits may be denied for any period in which the projects are not in compliance and a portion of the credits previously taken is subject to recapture with interest. The remaining tax credits to be utilized over a multiple-year period are $231.8 million for Federal and $4.5 million for state as of December 31, 2021. The possible inability to realize these tax credits and other returns from our investments in these partnerships can have a negative impact on our financial results. The risk of not being able to realize the tax credits and other returns depends on many factors, including changes in the applicable provisions of the tax code, the ability of the projects to be completed and properly managed and other factors that are outside of our control. Losses in excess of the Bank's investment in three limited partnerships have not been recorded in the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements because the Company had fully satisfied all capital commitments required under the respective limited partnership agreements. In 2021 and 2020, non-interest expense included $1.8 million and $1.4 million in impairment charges for investments in low-income housing partnerships.

The following table summarizes the Company's usage of affordable housing and other tax credits including energy tax credits.

	As of December 31,		
	2021	2020	2019
	(In thousands)		
Affordable housing and other tax credits recognized	$ 26,459	$ 23,273	$ 21,523
Alternative energy tax credits recognized	$ 6,337	$ 29,706	$ 17,786

6. Premises and Equipment

Premises and equipment consisted of the following as of December 31, 2021, and December 31, 2020:

	As of December 31,	
	2021	2020
	(In thousands)	
Land and land improvements	$ 42,475	$ 42,476
Building and building improvements	81,290	79,953
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	62,138	62,835
Leasehold improvement	17,862	17,819
Construction in process	2,453	2,061
	206,218	205,144
Less: Accumulated depreciation/amortization	106,816	102,146
Premises and equipment, net	**$ 99,402**	**$ 102,998**

The amount of depreciation/amortization included in operating expense was $7.7 million in 2021, $7.0 million in 2020, and $6.1 million in 2019.

7. Deposits

The following table displays deposit balances as of December 31, 2021, and December 31, 2020:

	As of December 31,	
	2021	2020
	(In thousands)	
Deposits		
Non-interest-bearing demand deposits	$ 4,492,054	$ 3,365,086
Interest bearing demand deposits	2,522,442	1,926,135
Money market deposits	4,611,579	3,359,191
Savings deposits	915,515	785,672
Time deposits	5,517,252	6,673,317
Total deposits	**$ 18,058,842**	**$ 16,109,401**

Time deposits outstanding as of December 31, 2021, mature as follows.

	Expected Maturity Date at December 31,						
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Thereafter	Total
	(In thousands)						
Time deposits	$ 5,318,805	$ 139,735	$ 58,088	$ 144	$ 467	$ 13	$ 5,517,252

Accrued interest payable on customer deposits was $1.7 million at December 31, 2021, $8.5 million at December 31, 2020, and $22.3 million at December 31, 2019. The following table summarizes the interest expense on deposits by account type for the years ended December 31, 2021, 2020, and 2019:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2021	2020	2019
	(In thousands)		
Interest bearing demand	$ 2,249	$ 2,816	$ 2,371
Money market accounts	18,241	21,574	21,508
Saving accounts	769	1,006	1,432
Time deposits	40,542	111,629	152,791
Total	**$ 61,801**	**$ 137,025**	**$ 178,102**

The aggregate amount of domestic time deposits in denominations that meet or exceed the current FDIC insurance limit of $250 thousand was $2.7 billion and $2.9 billion as of December 31, 2021, and 2020, respectively. Foreign offices' time deposits of $156.9 million and $142.8 million as of December 31, 2021, and 2020, respectively, were in denominations of greater than $250 thousand.

8. Borrowed Funds

There were no outstanding securities sold under agreements to repurchase at December 31, 2021, and December 31, 2020.

Securities sold under agreements to repurchase, if any, are accounted for as collateralized financing transactions and recorded at the amounts at which the securities were sold. No securities sold under agreements to repurchased were entered into in 2021,2020, or 2019.

As of December 31, 2021, there were no over-night borrowings from the FHLB for both 2021 and 2020. As of December 31, 2021, the advances from the FHLB were $20 million at a weighted average rate of 2.89% compared to $150 million at a weighted average rate of 2.15% as of December 31, 2020. As of December 31, 2021, final maturity for the FHLB advances is $20.0 million in May 2023.

Other Liabilities. On November 23, 2004, the Company entered into an agreement with Mr. Dunson K. Cheng, pursuant to which he agreed to defer any bonus amounts in excess of $225 thousand for the year ended December 31, 2005, until the later of January 1 of the first year following his separation from service from the Company or the first day of the seventh month following his separation from service from the Company. Accordingly, an amount equal to $610 thousand was deferred in 2004 and was accrued in other liabilities in the Consolidated Balance Sheets. The Company agreed to accrue interest on the deferred portion of the bonus at 7.0% per annum compounded quarterly. The deferred amount will be increased each quarter by the amount of interest computed for that quarter. On November 23, 2014, the interest rate was reset to 5.06% based on 275 basis points above the interest rate on the ten-year Treasury Note on that date. On March 13, 2014, the Compensation Committee of the Company awarded Mr. Cheng a cash bonus in the amount of $300 thousand for the quarter ended December 31, 2013 and provided as part of the award that payment of the bonus would be deferred until the later of January 1 of the first year following his separation from service from the Company or the first day of the seventh month following his separation from service from the Company. The Company accrues interest on the deferred bonus at 5.02% per annum compounded quarterly. On March 28, 2019, the interest rate was reset to 5.72% based on 350 basis points above the interest rate on the five-year Treasury Note on that date.

Interest of $110 thousand during 2021, $105 thousand during 2020, and $99 thousand during 2019 was accrued on the deferred bonuses. The balance was $2.1 million at December 31, 2021, and $2.1 million at December 31, 2020.

We established three special purpose trusts in 2003 and two in 2007 for the purpose of issuing Guaranteed Preferred Beneficial Interests in their Subordinated Debentures to outside investors (“Capital Securities”). The proceeds from the issuance of the Capital Securities as well as our purchase of the common stock of the special purpose trusts were invested in Junior Subordinated Notes of the Company (“Junior Subordinated Notes”). The trusts exist for the purpose of issuing the Capital Securities and investing in Junior Subordinated Notes. Subject to some limitations, payment of distributions out of the monies held by the trusts and payments on liquidation of the trusts, or the redemption of the Capital Securities, are guaranteed by the Company to the extent the trusts have funds on hand at such time. The obligations of the Company under the guarantees and the Junior Subordinated Notes are subordinate and junior in right of payment to all indebtedness of the Company and will be structurally subordinated to all liabilities and obligations of the Company’s subsidiaries. The Company has the right to defer payments of interest on the Junior Subordinated Notes at any time or from time to time for a period of up to twenty consecutive quarterly periods with respect to each deferral period. Under the terms of the Junior Subordinated Notes, the Company may not, with certain exceptions, declare or pay any dividends or distributions on its capital stock or purchase or acquire any of its capital stock if it has deferred payment of interest on any Junior Subordinated Notes.

At December 31, 2021, Junior Subordinated Notes totaled $119.1 million with a weighted average interest rate of 2.38%, compared to $119.1 million with a weighted average rate of 2.4% at December 31, 2020. The Junior Subordinated Notes have a stated maturity term of 30 years. Interest expense, excluding impact of cash flow interest rate swaps entered into during June 2014, on the Junior Subordinated Notes was $2.8 million for 2021, $3.6 million for 2020, and $5.6 million for 2019.

9. Capital Resources

Total equity was $2.45 billion at December 31, 2021, an increase of $28.1 million, or 1.2%, from $2.42 billion at December 31, 2020, primarily due to increases in net income of $298.3 million, proceeds from dividend reinvestment of $3.6 million, and stock based compensation of $6.0 million, offset by other comprehensive income of $8.4 million, shares withheld related to net share settlement of RSUs of $2.6 million, purchase of treasury stock of $167.1 million, and common stock cash dividends of $99.3 million. The Company paid cash dividends of $1.27 per common share in 2021 and $1.24 per common share in 2020.

On April 1, 2021, the Board of Directors approved a new stock repurchase program to buy back up to $75.0 million of the Company's common stock. The $75.0 million share repurchase program was completed and terminated on August 5, 2021, with the repurchase of 1,832,481 shares for a total of $75.0 million, at an average cost of $40.93 per share.

On September 2, 2021, the Board of Directors approved a new stock repurchase program to buy back up to $125.0 million of the Company's common stock. Under this program, the Company repurchased 2,153,576 shares for $92.1 million at an average cost of $42.77 for the year. During 2021, the Company repurchased 3,986,057 shares in total for approximately $167.1 million at an average cost of $41.92.

The five special purpose trusts established for the purpose of issuing the Capital Securities are considered variable interest entities. Because the Bancorp is not the primary beneficiary of the trusts, the financial statements of the trusts are not included in the Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company. The Junior Subordinated Notes, all of which were issued before May 19, 2010, are currently included in the Tier 2 capital of the Bancorp for regulatory capital purposes. Under the Dodd-Frank Act, trust preferred securities issued before May 19, 2010, by bank holding companies with assets of less than $15.0 billion as of December 31, 2009, continue to qualify for Tier 1 capital treatment. As of December 31, 2021, and 2020, the Company's assets exceeded the $15.0 billion threshold and, as a result, the Junior Subordinated Notes no longer qualify as Tier 1 capital for regulatory reporting purposes.

The table below summarizes the outstanding Junior Subordinated Notes issued by the Company to each trust as of December 31, 2021:

Trust Name	Issuance Date	Principal Balance of Notes	Not Redeemable Until	Stated Maturity	Annualized Coupon Rate	Current Interest Rate	Date of Rate Change	Payable/ Distribution Date
		(Dollars in thousands)						
Cathay Capital Trust I	June 26, 2003	$ 20,619	June 30, 2008	June 30, 2033	3-month LIBOR + 3.15%	3.37%	December 31, 2021	March 31 June 30 September 30 December 31
Cathay Statutory Trust I	September 17, 2003	20,619	September 17, 2008	September 17, 2033	3-month LIBOR + 3.00%	3.22%	December 17, 2021	March 17 June 17 September 17 December 17
Cathay Capital Trust II	December 30, 2003	12,887	March 30, 2009	March 30, 2034	3-month LIBOR + 2.90%	3.12%	December 31, 2021	March 31 June 30 September 30 December 31
Cathay Capital Trust III	March 28, 2007	46,392	June 15, 2012	June 15, 2037	3-month LIBOR + 1.48%	1.68%	December 15, 2021	March 15 June 15 September 15 December 15
Cathay Capital Trust IV	May 31, 2007	18,619	September 6, 2012	September 6, 2037	3-month LIBOR + 1.4%	1.58%	December 6, 2021	March 7 June 6 September 6 December 6
Total Junior Subordinated Notes		**$ 119,136**						

10. Income Taxes

For the years ended December 31, 2021, 2020, and 2019, the current and deferred amounts of the income tax expense are summarized as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2021	**2020**	**2019**
	(In thousands)		
Current:			
Federal	$ 29,955	$ (2,196)	$ 20,943
State	44,416	36,787	39,466
Total Current	**$ 74,371**	**$ 34,591**	**$ 60,409**
Deferred:			
Federal	$ 5,986	$ (3,234)	$ 7,464
State	3,182	(6,252)	2,361
Total Deferred	**$ 9,168**	**$ (9,486)**	**$ 9,825**
Total income tax expense	**$ 83,539**	**$ 25,105**	**$ 70,234**

Temporary differences between the amounts reported in the financial statements and the tax basis of assets and liabilities give rise to deferred taxes. Net deferred tax assets at December 31, 2021, and at December 31, 2020, are included in other assets in the accompanying Consolidated Balance Sheets and are as follows:

	As of December 31,	
	2021	**2020**
	(In thousands)	
Deferred Tax Assets		
Loan loss allowance, due to differences in computation of bad debts	$ 43,895	$ 52,899
Share-based compensation	—	1,936
Accrual for bonuses	4,935	3,356
Non-accrual interest	1,117	861
Write-down on equity securities and venture capital investments	2,000	1,833
State tax	4,691	3,882
Unrealized loss on interest rate swaps	1,394	2,934
Tax credits carried forward	9,136	9,136
Net operating loss carried forward	8,732	10,880
Other, net	3,765	3,864
Gross deferred tax assets	79,665	91,581
Deferred Tax Liabilities		
Deferred loan costs	(9,936)	(10,017)
Depreciation and amortization	(3,150)	(2,709)
Unrealized gain on securities	(3,823)	(8,712)
OREO Installment Sale	(1,273)	(1,274)
Dividends on Federal Home Loan Bank common stock	(978)	(979)
Other, net	(2,168)	(3,599)
Gross deferred tax liabilities	(21,328)	(27,290)
Net deferred tax assets	**$ 58,337**	**$ 64,291**

Amounts for the current year are based upon estimates and assumptions and could vary from amounts shown on the tax returns as filed.

As of December 31, 2021, the Company's gross net operating loss ("NOL") carryovers, all of which are subject to limitation under Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code, totaled approximately $18.4 million for which a deferred tax asset of $3.87 million has been recorded reflecting the expected benefit of these federal NOL carryovers. At December 31, 2021, the Company has California NOL carryovers of $45.9 million for which a California deferred tax asset of $4.5 million has been recorded reflecting the expected benefit of these California NOL carryovers. The annual IRC Section 382 limitation is $10.2 million in 2021, $8.8 million in 2022 and decreases to $7.3 million per year thereafter. If not utilized, a portion of the Company's federal and state NOL's will begin to expire in 2031. At December 31, 2021, the Company's federal tax credit carryovers and AMT tax credit carryovers total $7.5 million and $1.0 million, respectively. If not utilized, the federal tax credit carryovers will begin in expire in 2028. The AMT tax credit carryovers can be carried forward indefinitely.

In assessing the realization of deferred tax assets, management considers whether it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. The ultimate realization of deferred tax assets is dependent on the generation of future taxable income during the periods in which those temporary differences become deductible. Management considers the projected future taxable income and tax planning strategies in making this assessment. Based upon the level of historical taxable income and projections for future taxable income over the periods in which the deferred tax assets are deductible, management believes it is more likely than not the Company will realize all benefits related to these deductible temporary differences.

The Company had current income tax receivables of $41.1 million at December 31, 2021, and $19.5 million at December 31, 2020. Current income tax receivable is included in other assets in the accompanying Consolidated Balance Sheets.

The Company's tax returns are open for audits by the Internal Revenue Service back to 2018 and by the California Franchise Tax Board back to 2017. The audit by the Internal Revenue Service for 2017 was completed in July 2020 and did not have a material impact on income tax expense. It is reasonably possible that unrecognized tax benefits could change significantly over the next twelve months. The Company does not expect that any such changes would have a material impact on its annual effective tax rate.

Income tax expense results in effective tax rates that differ from the statutory federal income tax rate for the years indicated as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,					
	2021		2020		2019	
	(Dollars in thousands)					
Tax provision at Federal statutory rate	$ 80,187	21.0%	$ 53,333	21.0%	$ 73,368	21.0%
State income taxes, net of Federal income tax benefit	37,602	9.8	23,602	9.3	33,276	9.5
Excess deduction for stock option and RSUs	(20)	(0.0)	264	0.1	(398)	(0.1)
Low income housing and other tax credits	(32,795)	(8.6)	(52,979)	(20.8)	(37,519)	(10.7)
Other, net	(1,435)	(0.4)	885	0.3	1,507	0.4
Total income tax expense	**$ 83,539**	**21.9%**	**$ 25,105**	**9.9%**	**$ 70,234**	**20.1%**

11. Stockholders' Equity and Earnings per Share

As a bank holding company, the Bancorp's ability to pay dividends will depend upon the dividends it receives from the Bank and on the income it may generate from any other activities in which it may engage, either directly or through other subsidiaries.

Under California banking law, the Bank may not, without regulatory approval, pay a cash dividend that exceeds the lesser of the Bank's retained earnings or its net income for the last three fiscal years, less any cash distributions made during that period. Under this regulation, the amount of retained earnings available for cash dividends to the Company immediately after December 31, 2021, is restricted to approximately $207.8 million.

Activity in accumulated other comprehensive income, net of tax, and reclassification out of accumulated other comprehensive income for the years ended December 31, 2021, and 2020 was as follows:

	2021			2020		
	Pre-tax	Tax expense/ (benefit)	Net-of-tax	Pre-tax	Tax expense/ (benefit)	Net-of-tax
			(In thousands)			
Beginning balance, loss, net of tax						
Securities available-for-sale			$ 12,200			$ 5,714
Cash flow hedge derivatives			(6,890)			(3,412)
Total			**$ 5,310**			**$ 2,302**
Net unrealized gains/(losses) arising during the period						
Securities available-for-sale	$ (16,167)	$ (4,779)	$ (11,388)	$ 10,903	$ 3,223	$ 7,680
Cash flow hedge derivatives	5,131	1,517	3,614	(4,938)	(1,460)	(3,478)
Total	**(11,036)**	**(3,262)**	**(7,774)**	**5,965**	**1,763**	**4,202**
Reclassification adjustment for net gains in net income						
Securities available-for-sale	(853)	(252)	(601)	(1,695)	(501)	(1,194)
Cash flow hedge derivatives	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	**(853)**	**(252)**	**(601)**	**(1,695)**	**(501)**	**(1,194)**
Total other comprehensive income/(loss)						
Securities available-for-sale	(17,020)	(5,031)	(11,989)	9,208	2,722	6,486
Cash flow hedge derivatives	5,131	1,517	3,614	(4,938)	(1,460)	(3,478)
Total	**$ (11,889)**	**$ (3,514)**	**$ (8,375)**	**$ 4,270**	**$ 1,262**	**$ 3,008**
Ending balance, gain/(loss), net of tax						
Securities available-for-sale			$ 211			$ 12,200
Cash flow hedge derivatives			(3,276)			(6,890)
Total			**$ (3,065)**			**$ 5,310**

The Board of Directors of the Bancorp is authorized to issue preferred stock in one or more series and to fix the voting powers, designations, preferences or other rights of the shares of each such class or series and the qualifications, limitations, and restrictions thereon. Any preferred stock issued by the Bancorp may rank prior to the Bancorp common stock as to dividend rights, liquidation preferences, or both, may have full or limited voting rights, and may be convertible into shares of the Bancorp common stock. There are no shares of preferred stock currently issued and outstanding.

The following is the reconciliation of the numerators and denominators of the basic and diluted earnings per share computations for the years as indicated:

	Year Ended December 31,								
	2021			2020			2019		
	Income (Numerator)	Shares (Denominator)	Per Share Amount	Income (Numerator)	Shares (Denominator)	Per Share Amount	Income (Numerator)	Shares (Denominator)	Per Share Amount
	(In thousands, except shares and per share data)								
Net income	$ 298,304			$ 228,860			$ 279,135		
Basic EPS, income	$ 298,304	78,268,369	$ 3.81	$ 228,860	79,584,560	$ 2.88	$ 279,135	79,999,703	$ 3.49
Effect of dilutive stock options and RSU		302,269			193,287			248,190	
Diluted EPS, income	**$ 298,304**	**78,570,638**	**$ 3.80**	**$ 228,860**	**79,777,847**	**$ 2.87**	**$ 279,135**	**80,247,893**	**$ 3.48**

12. Commitments and Contingencies

Legal Proceedings. The Company is involved in various claims and legal proceedings that arise in the course of conducting the Company's business. The outcome of such claims and legal proceedings are inherently difficult to predict. Management, after consultation with legal counsel and based upon its assessment of information currently available to the Company, believes that any liability resulting from the resolution of any claims and proceedings currently pending against the Company will not have a material effect upon the Company's consolidated financial condition, results of operations, or liquidity taken as a whole.

In accordance with ASC 450, "Contingencies," the Company accrues reserves for outstanding lawsuits, claims and proceedings when a loss contingency is probable and can be reasonably estimated. The Company estimates the amount of loss contingencies using current available information from legal proceedings, advice from legal counsel, and available insurance coverage. Due to the inherent subjectivity of the assessments and unpredictability of the outcomes of the legal proceedings, any amounts accrued or included in this aggregate amount may not represent the ultimate loss to the Company from the legal proceedings in question. Thus, the Company's exposure and ultimate losses may be higher, and possibly significantly more than the amounts accrued.

Lending. In the normal course of business, the Company becomes a party to financial instruments with off-balance sheet risk to meet the financing needs of its customers. These financial instruments include commitments to extend credit in the form of loans or through commercial or standby letters of credit and financial guarantees. Those instruments represent varying degrees of exposure to risk in excess of the amounts included in the accompanying Consolidated Balance Sheets. The contractual or notional amount of these instruments indicates a level of activity associated with a particular class of financial instrument and is not a reflection of the level of expected losses, if any.

The Company's exposure to credit loss in the event of non-performance by the other party to the financial instrument for commitments to extend credit is represented by the contractual amount of those instruments. The Company uses the same credit policies in making commitments and conditional obligations as it does for on-balance sheet instruments. Unless noted otherwise, the Company does not require collateral or other security to support financial instruments with credit risk.

Financial instruments for which contract amounts represent the amount of credit risk include the following:

	As of December 31,	
	2021	2020
	(In thousands)	
Commitments to extend credit	$ 3,297,362	$ 2,977,528
Standby letters of credit	266,490	234,200
Commercial letters of credit	16,652	16,821
Bill of lading guarantees	—	238
Total	**$ 3,580,504**	**$ 3,228,787**

Commitments to extend credit are agreements to lend to a customer provided there is no violation of any condition established in the commitment agreement. These commitments generally have fixed expiration dates and are expected to expire without being drawn upon. The total commitment amounts do not necessarily represent future cash requirements. The Company evaluates each customer's creditworthiness on a case-by-case basis. The amount of collateral obtained if deemed necessary by the Company upon extension of credit is based on management's credit evaluation of the borrowers.

As of December 31, 2021, the Company does not have fixed-rate or variable-rate commitments with characteristics similar to options, which provide the holder, for a premium paid at inception to the Company, the benefits of favorable movements in the price of an underlying asset or index with limited or no exposure to losses from unfavorable price movements.

As of December 31, 2021, commitments to extend credit of $3.3 billion include commitments to fund fixed rate loans of $111.4 million and adjustable-rate loans of $3.2 billion compared to December 31, 2020 commitments to extend credit of $3.0 billion and included commitments to fund fixed rate loans of $59.9 million and adjustable-rate loans of $2.9 billion.

Commercial letters of credit and bill of lading guarantees are issued to facilitate domestic and foreign trade transactions while standby letters of credit are issued to make payments on behalf of customers if certain specified future events occur. The credit risk involved in issuing letters of credit and bill of lading guarantees is essentially the same as that involved in making loans to customers.

13. Leases

The Company determines if a contract arrangement is a lease at inception and primarily enters into operating lease contracts for its branch locations, office space and certain equipment. As part of its property lease agreements, the Company may seek to include options to extend or terminate a lease when it is reasonably certain that the Company will exercise those options. The ROU lease asset also includes any lease payments made and lease incentives. Lease expense for lease payments is recognized on a straight-line basis over the lease term. The Company does not possess any leases that have variable lease payments or residual value guarantees as of December 31, 2021.

ASU 2016-02, "Leases (Topic 842)," as amended by ASU No. 2018-01, "Land Easement Practical Expedient for Transition to Topic 842"; ASU No. 2018-10, "Codification Improvements to Topic 842, Leases"; and ASU No. 2018-11, "Targeted Improvements," establishes a right-of-use model ("ROU") that requires a lessee to recognize a ROU asset and lease liability on the balance sheet for all leases with a term longer than 12 months. The standard provides a number of optional practical expedients in transition. We have elected the 'package of practical expedients', which permits us not to reassess under the new standard our prior conclusions about lease identification, lease classification and initial direct costs. We also elected all of the new standard's available transition practical expedients, including the short-term lease recognition exemption that includes not recognizing ROU assets or lease liabilities for existing short-term leases, and the practical expedient to not separate lease and non-lease components for all of our leases. The Company uses its incremental borrowing rate to determine the present value of its lease liabilities.

The following table represents the operating lease amounts reported on the Consolidated Balance Sheets and other supplemental information as of December 31, 2021, and December 31, 2020:

	December 31, 2021	December 31, 2020
	(Dollars in millions)	
Operating Leases:		
ROU assets	$ 27.8	$ 30.9
Lease liabilities	$ 30.7	$ 33.5
Weighted-average remaining lease term (in years)	4.4	4.7
Weighted-average discount rate	2.61%	2.77%
Operating cash flows from operating leases	$ 9.9	$ 9.3
ROU assets obtained in exchange for lease obligations	$ 6.0	$ 5.7

Operating lease expense was $11.6 million and $11.7 million as of December 31, 2021, and December 31, 2020, respectively, and includes short-term leases that were immaterial.

The following table presents a maturity analysis of the Company's operating lease liabilities as of December 31, 2021:

	As of December 31, 2021
	Operating Leases
	(In thousands)
2022	$ 9,438
2023	8,119
2024	5,689
2025	3,431
2026	2,639
Thereafter	3,248
Total lease payments	32,564
Less amount of payment representing interest	(1,870)
Total present value of lease payments	**$ 30,694**

14. Financial Derivatives

The Company does not speculate on the future direction of interest rates. As part of the Company's asset and liability management, however, the Company enters into financial derivatives to seek to mitigate exposure to interest rate risks related to its interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities. The Company believes that these transactions, when properly structured and managed, may provide a hedge against inherent interest rate risk in assets or liabilities and against risk in specific transactions of the Company. In such instances, the Company may protect its position through the purchase or sale of interest rate futures contracts for a specific cash or interest rate risk position. Other hedging transactions may be implemented using interest rate swaps, interest rate caps, floors, financial futures, forward rate agreements, and options on futures or bonds. Prior to considering any hedging activities, the Company seeks to analyze the costs and benefits of the hedge in comparison to other viable alternative strategies. All hedges will require an assessment of basis risk and must be approved by the Bancorp or the Bank's Investment Committee.

The Company follows ASC Topic 815 that establishes accounting and reporting standards for financial derivatives, including certain financial derivatives embedded in other contracts, and hedging activities. It requires the recognition of all financial derivatives as assets or liabilities in the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheets and measurement of those financial derivatives at fair value. The accounting treatment of changes in fair value is dependent upon whether or not a financial derivative is designated as a hedge and, if so, the type of hedge. Fair value is determined using third-party models with observable market data. For derivatives designated as cash flow hedges, changes in fair value are recognized in other comprehensive income and are reclassified to earnings when the hedged transaction is reflected in earnings. For derivatives designated as fair value hedges, changes in the fair value of the derivatives are reflected in current earnings, together with changes in the fair value of the related hedged item if there is a highly effective correlation between changes in the fair value of the interest rate swaps and changes in the fair value of the underlying asset or liability that is intended to be hedged. If there is not a highly effective correlation between changes in the fair value of the interest rate swap and changes in the fair value of the underlying asset or liability that is intended to be hedged, then only the changes in the fair value of the interest rate swaps are reflected in the Company's consolidated financial statements.

The Company offers various interest rate derivative contracts to its customers. When derivative transactions are executed with its customers, the derivative contracts are offset by paired trades with third-party financial institutions including with central counterparties ("CCP"). Certain derivative contracts entered with CCPs are settled-to-market daily to the extent the CCP's rulebooks legally characterize the variation margin as settlement. Derivative contracts are intended to allow borrowers to lock in attractive intermediate and long-term fixed rate financing while not increasing the interest rate risk to the Company. These transactions are generally not linked to specific Company assets or liabilities on the Consolidated Balance Sheets or to forecasted transactions in a hedging relationship and, therefore, are economic hedges. The contracts are marked to market at each reporting period. The changes in fair values of the derivative contracts traded with third-party financial institutions are expected to be largely comparable to the changes in fair values of the derivative transactions executed with customers throughout the terms of these contracts, except for the credit valuation adjustment component. The Company records credit valuation adjustments on derivatives to properly reflect the variances of credit worthiness between the Company and the counterparties, considering the effects of enforceable master netting agreements and collateral arrangements. As of December 31, 2021 and 2020, the Company had outstanding interest rate derivative contracts with certain customers and third-party financial institutions with a notional amount of $457.0 million and $83.2 million, respectively.

In May 2014, the Bancorp entered into five interest rate swap contracts in the notional amount of $119.1 million for a period of ten years. The objective of these interest rate swap contracts, which were designated as hedging instruments in cash flow hedges, was to hedge the quarterly interest payments on the Bancorp's $119.1 million of Junior Subordinated Debentures that had been issued to five trusts, throughout the ten-year period beginning in June 2014 and ending in June 2024, from the risk of variability of these payments resulting from changes in the three-month LIBOR interest rate. As of December 31, 2021, and 2020, the ineffective portion of these interest rates swaps was not significant. The notional amount and net unrealized loss of the Company's cash flow derivative financial instruments as of December 31, 2021, and December 31, 2020, were as follows:

	December 31, 2021	December 31, 2020
	($ in thousands)	
Cash flow swap hedges:		
Notional	$ 119,136	$ 119,136
Weighted average fixed rate-pay	2.61%	2.61%
Weighted average variable rate-receive	0.16%	0.44%
Unrealized loss, net of taxes [(1)]	$ (3,276)	$ (6,890)

	Year ended	
	December 31, 2021	December 31, 2020
Periodic net settlement of swaps [(2)]	$ 2,949	$ 2,193

(1)-Included in other comprehensive income.

(2)-the amount of periodic net settlement of interest rate swaps was included in interest expense.

As of December 31, 2021, the Bank's outstanding interest rate swap contracts had a notional amount of $324.8 million for various terms from three to ten years. The Bank entered into these interest rate swap contracts that are matched to individual fixed-rate commercial real estate loans in the Bank's loan portfolio. These contracts have been designated as hedging instruments to hedge the risk of changes in the fair value of the underlying commercial real estate loans due to changes in interest rates. The swap contracts are structured so that the notional amounts reduce over time to match the contractual amortization of the underlying loan and allow prepayments with the same prepayment penalty amounts as the related loan. As of December 31, 2021, and 2020, the ineffective portion of these interest rate swaps was not significant.

The Company has designated as a partial-term hedging election $404.4 million and $25.0 million notional as last-of-layer hedge on a closed pool of loans with a stated amount of $748.6 million and $44.7 million as of December 31, 2021 and 2020, respectively. The hedge is not expected to be affected by prepayment, defaults, or other factors affecting the timing and amount of cash flows under the last-of-layer method. The Company has entered into a pay-fixed and receive 1-Month LIBOR interest rate swap to convert the last-of-layer $404.4 million portion of a $748.6 million fixed rate loan tranche in order to reduce the Company's exposure to higher interest rates for the last-of-layer tranche. As of December 31, 2021 and 2020, the last-of-layer loan tranche had a fair value basis adjustment of $30 thousand and $342 thousand, respectively. The interest rate swap converts this last-of-layer tranche into a floating rate instrument. The Company's risk management objective with respect to this last-of-layer interest rate swap is to reduce interest rate exposure as to the last-of-layer tranche.

Interest rate swap contracts involve the risk of dealing with institutional derivative counterparties and their ability to meet contractual terms. Institutional counterparties must have a strong credit profile and be approved by the Company's Board of Directors. The Company's credit exposure on interest rate swaps is limited to the net favorable value and interest payments of all swaps by each counterparty. Credit exposure may be reduced by the amount of collateral pledged by the counterparty. The Bancorp's interest rate swaps have been assigned by the counterparties to a derivatives clearing organization and daily margin is indirectly maintained with the derivatives clearing organization. Cash posted as collateral by the Bancorp related to fair value derivative contracts totaled $5.9 million as of December 31, 2021, and $11.9 million as of December 31, 2020.

The notional amount and net unrealized loss of the Company's fair value derivative financial instruments as of December 31, 2021, and December 31, 2020, were as follows:

	December 31, 2021	December 31, 2020
Fair value swap hedges:	($ in thousands)	
Notional	$ 729,280	$ 478,266
Weighted average fixed rate-pay	2.65%	4.56%
Weighted average variable rate spread	1.31%	2.46%
Weighted average variable rate-receive	1.43%	3.11%
Net unrealized loss [1]	$ (1,013)	$ (15,082)

	Year ended December 31, 2021	Year ended December 31, 2020
Periodic net settlement of SWAPs [2]	$ (9,345)	$ (7,719)

(1)-the amount is included in other non-interest income.

(2)-the amount of periodic net settlement of interest rate swaps was included in interest income.

The Company enters into foreign exchange forward contracts with various counterparties to mitigate the risk of fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates for foreign exchange certificates of deposit or foreign exchange contracts entered into with our clients. These contracts are not designated as hedging instruments and are recorded at fair value in our Consolidated Balance Sheets. Changes in the fair value of these contracts as well as the related foreign exchange certificates of deposit and foreign exchange contracts are recognized immediately in net income as a component of non-interest income. Period end gross positive fair values are recorded in other assets and gross negative fair values are recorded in other liabilities.

The notional amount and fair value of the Company's derivative financial instruments not designated as hedging instruments as of December 31, 2021, and December 31, 2020, were as follows:

	December 31, 2021	December 31, 2020
Derivative financial instruments not designated as hedging instruments:	(In thousands)	
Notional amounts:		
Option contracts	$ 676	$ —
Forward, and swap contracts with positive fair value	$ 181,997	$ 151,244
Forward, and swap contracts with negative fair value	$ 51,782	$ 132,813
Fair value:		
Option contracts	$ 2,911	$ —
Forward, and swap contracts with positive fair value	$ 1,113	$ 4,658
Forward, and swap contracts with negative fair value	$ (327)	$ (2,200)

15. Fair Value Measurements and Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The Company uses fair value to measure certain assets and liabilities on a recurring basis, primarily securities available for-sale and derivatives. For assets measured at the lower of cost or fair value, the fair value measurement criteria may or may not be met during a reporting period and such measurements are therefore considered "nonrecurring" for purposes of disclosing our fair value measurements. Fair value is used on a nonrecurring basis to adjust carrying values for individually evaluated loans and other real estate owned and also to record impairment on certain assets, such as goodwill, CDI, and other long-lived assets.

The Company used valuation methodologies to measure assets at fair value under ASC Topic 820 and ASC Topic 825, as amended by ASU 2016-01 and ASU 2018-03, to estimate the fair value of financial instruments not recorded at fair value. The fair value of the Company's assets and liabilities is classified and disclosed in one of the following three categories:

- Level 1 – Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
- Level 2 – Observable prices in active markets for similar assets or liabilities; prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active; directly observable market inputs for substantially the full term of the asset and liability; market inputs that are not directly observable but are derived from or corroborated by observable market data.
- Level 3 – Unobservable inputs based on the Company's own judgments about the assumptions that a market participant would use.

The classification of assets and liabilities within the hierarchy is based on whether inputs to the valuation methodology used are observable or unobservable, and the significance of those inputs in the fair value measurement. The Company's assets and liabilities are classified in their entirety based on the lowest level of input that is significant to their fair value measurements as follows:

Financial assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis

The Company uses the following methodologies to measure the fair value of its financial assets and liabilities on a recurring basis:

Securities Available for Sale and Equity Securities. For certain actively traded agency preferred stocks, mutual funds, U.S. Treasury securities, and other equity securities, the Company measures the fair value based on quoted market prices in active exchange markets at the reporting date, a Level 1 measurement. The Company also measures securities by using quoted market prices for similar securities or dealer quotes, a Level 2 measurement. This category generally includes U.S. Government agency securities, state and municipal securities, mortgage-backed securities ("MBS"), commercial MBS, collateralized mortgage obligations, asset-backed securities, corporate bonds and trust preferred securities.

Warrants. The Company measures the fair value of warrants based on unobservable inputs based on assumption and management judgment, a Level 3 measurement.

Currency Option Contracts and Foreign Exchange Contracts. The Company measures the fair value of currency option and foreign exchange contracts based on observable market rates on a recurring basis, a Level 2 measurement.

Interest Rate Swaps. The Company measures the fair value of interest rate swaps using third party models with observable market data, a Level 2 measurement.

The following tables present the Company's hierarchy for its assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis at December 31, 2021, and at December 31, 2020:

As of December 31, 2021	**Fair Value Measurements Using**			**Total at Fair Value**
	Level 1	**Level 2**	**Level 3**	
Assets		(In thousands)		
Securities available-for-sale				
U.S. Treasury securities	$ —	$ —	$ —	$ —
U.S. government agency entities	—	87,509	—	87,509
Mortgage-backed securities	—	888,665	—	888,665
Collateralized mortgage obligations	—	9,117	—	9,117
Corporate debt securities	—	142,018	—	142,018
Total securities available-for-sale	—	1,127,309	—	1,127,309
Equity securities				
Mutual funds	6,230	—	—	6,230
Preferred stock of government sponsored entities	1,811	—	—	1,811
Other equity securities	14,278	—	—	14,278
Total equity securities	22,319	—	—	22,319
Warrants	—	—	23	23
Interest rate swaps	—	10,090	—	10,090
Foreign exchange contracts	—	1,113	—	1,113
Total assets	**$ 22,319**	**$ 1,138,512**	**$ 23**	**$ 1,160,854**
Liabilities				
Interest rate swaps	$ —	$ 12,642	$ —	$ 12,642
Foreign exchange contracts	—	327	—	327
Total liabilities	**$ —**	**$ 12,969**	**$ —**	**$ 12,969**

As of December 31, 2020	**Fair Value Measurements Using**			**Total at Fair Value**
	Level 1	**Level 2**	**Level 3**	
Assets		(In thousands)		
Securities available-for-sale				
U.S. Treasury securities	$ 80,948	$ —	$ —	$ 80,948
U.S. government agency entities	—	99,838	—	99,838
Mortgage-backed securities	—	727,068	—	727,068
Collateralized mortgage obligations	—	10,324	—	10,324
Corporate debt securities	—	118,372	—	118,372
Total securities available-for-sale	80,948	955,602	—	1,036,550
Equity securities				
Mutual funds	6,413	—	—	6,413
Preferred stock of government sponsored entities	5,485	—	—	5,485
Other equity securities	11,846	—	—	11,846
Total equity securities	23,744	—	—	23,744
Warrants	—	—	21	21
Interest rate swaps	—	3,409	—	3,409
Foreign exchange contracts	—	4,658	—	4,658
Total assets	**$ 104,692**	**$ 963,669**	**$ 21**	**$ 1,068,382**
Liabilities				
Interest rate swaps	$ —	$ 10,286	$ —	$ 10,286
Foreign exchange contracts	—	2,200	—	2,200
Total liabilities	**$ —**	**$ 12,486**	**$ —**	**$ 12,486**

Assets measured at estimated fair value on a non-recurring basis.

Certain assets or liabilities are required to be measured at estimated fair value on a nonrecurring basis subsequent to initial recognition. Generally, these adjustments are the result of lower-of-cost-or-fair value or other impairment write-downs of individual assets. In determining the estimated fair values during the period, the Company determined that substantially all the changes in estimated fair value

were due to declines in market conditions versus instrument specific credit risk. For the year ended December 31, 2021, and December 31, 2020, there were no material adjustments to fair value for the Company's assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis in accordance with GAAP.

For financial assets measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis that were still reflected in the balance sheet at December 31, 2021, and 2020, the following tables provide the level of valuation assumptions used to determine each adjustment and the carrying value of the related individual assets at December 31, 2021, and at December 31, 2020, and the total losses for the periods indicated:

	As of December 31, 2021				Total Losses	
	Fair Value Measurements Using				For the Twelve Months Ended	
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total at Fair Value	December 31, 2021	December 31, 2020
Assets	(In thousands)					
Impaired loans by type:						
Commercial loans	$ —	$ —	$ 4,327	$ 4,327	$ 1,012	$ 7,012
Commercial mortgage loans	—	—	13,335	13,335	—	—
Residential mortgage and equity lines	—	—	5,243	5,243	—	—
Total impaired loans	—	—	22,905	22,905	1,012	7,012
Other real estate owned [(1)]	—	—	4,589	4,589	17	717
Investments in venture capital	—	—	952	952	143	107
Total assets	**$ —**	**$ —**	**$ 28,446**	**$ 28,446**	**$ 1,172**	**$ 7,836**

(1) Other real estate owned balance of $4.4 million in the Consolidated Balance Sheets is net of estimated disposal costs.

	As of December 31, 2020				Total Losses/(Gains)	
	Fair Value Measurements Using				For the Twelve Months Ended	
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total at Fair Value	December 31, 2020	December 31, 2019
Assets	(In thousands)					
Impaired loans by type:						
Commercial loans	$ —	$ —	$ 5,342	$ 5,342	$ 7,012	$ —
Commercial mortgage loans	—	—	25,749	25,749	—	—
Residential mortgage and equity lines	—	—	4,307	4,307	—	—
Total impaired loans	—	—	35,398	35,398	7,012	—
Other real estate owned [(1)]	—	905	4,236	5,141	717	681
Investments in venture capital	—	—	1,381	1,381	107	167
Total assets	**$ —**	**$ 905**	**$ 41,015**	**$ 41,920**	**$ 7,836**	**$ 848**

(1) Other real estate owned balance of $4.9 million in the Consolidated Balance Sheets is net of estimated disposal costs.

The significant unobservable inputs used in the fair value measurement of collateral for collateral-dependent impaired loans was primarily based on the appraised value of collateral adjusted by estimated sales cost and commissions. The Company generally obtains new appraisal reports on an annual basis. As the Company's primary objective in the event of default would be to monetize the collateral to settle the outstanding balance of the loan, less marketable collateral would receive a larger discount. During the 2018 reported period, collateral discounts ranged from 55% in the case of accounts receivable collateral to 65% in the case of inventory collateral. In 2019, the Company began using borrower specific collateral discounts with various discount levels.

The fair value of impaired loans was calculated based on the net realizable fair value of the collateral or the observable market price of the most recent sale or quoted price from loans held for sale. The Company does not record loans at fair value on a recurring basis. Nonrecurring fair value adjustments to collateral dependent impaired loans are recorded based on the current appraised value of the collateral, a Level 2 measurement, or management's judgment and estimation of value using discounted future cash flows or old appraisals which are then adjusted based on recent market trends, a Level 3 measurement.

The significant unobservable inputs used in the fair value measurement of OREO was primarily based on the appraised value of OREO adjusted by estimated sales cost and commissions.

The Company applies estimated sales cost and commission ranging from 3% to 6% of collateral value of impaired loans, quoted price or loan sale price of loans held for sale, and appraised value of OREOs.

The significant unobservable inputs in the Black-Scholes option pricing model for the fair value of warrants are the expected life of warrant ranging from one to six years, risk-free interest rate from 0.50% to 1.47%, and stock volatility of the Company from 12.32% to 20.74%.

Fair value estimates were made at specific points in time, based on relevant market information and information about the financial instrument. Because no market exists for a significant portion of the Bank’s financial instruments, fair value estimates were based on judgments regarding future expected loss experience, current economic conditions, risk characteristics of various financial instruments, and other factors. These estimates were subjective in nature and involved uncertainties and matters of significant judgment and therefore cannot be determined with precision. Changes in assumptions could significantly affect the estimates.

The following tables present carrying amounts and estimated fair values of certain financial instruments as of the dates indicated:

	December 31, 2021		December 31, 2020	
	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
	(In thousands)			
Financial Assets				
Cash and due from banks	$ 134,141	$ 134,141	$ 138,616	$ 138,616
Short-term investments	2,315,563	2,315,563	1,282,462	1,282,462
Securities available-for-sale	1,127,309	1,127,309	1,036,550	1,036,550
Loans, net	16,202,001	16,499,869	15,475,364	16,103,471
Equity securities	22,319	22,319	23,744	23,744
Investment in Federal Home Loan Bank stock	17,250	17,250	17,250	17,250
Warrants	23	23	21	21
	Notional Amount	**Fair Value**	**Notional Amount**	**Fair Value**
Foreign exchange contracts	$ 181,997	$ 1,113	$ 151,244	$ 4,658
Interest rate swaps	904,635	10,090	96,889	3,409
Financial Liabilities	**Carrying Amount**	**Fair Value**	**Carrying Amount**	**Fair Value**
Deposits	$ 18,058,842	$ 18,051,720	$ 16,109,401	$ 16,125,808
Advances from Federal Home Loan Bank	20,000	21,279	150,000	155,133
Other borrowings	23,145	18,945	23,714	19,632
Long-term debt	119,136	62,274	119,136	65,487
	Notional Amount	**Fair Value**	**Notional Amount**	**Fair Value**
Option contracts	$ 676	$ 2,911	$ —	$ —
Foreign exchange contracts	51,782	327	132,813	2,200
Interest rate swaps	872,400	12,642	679,648	10,286
	Notional Amount	**Fair Value**	**Notional Amount**	**Fair Value**
Off-Balance Sheet Financial Instruments				
Commitments to extend credit	$ 3,297,362	$ (12,594)	$ 2,977,528	$ (8,432)
Standby letters of credit	266,490	(2,640)	234,200	(1,630)
Other letters of credit	16,652	(13)	16,821	(16)
Bill of lading guarantees	—	—	238	—

The following tables present the level in the fair value hierarchy for the estimated fair values of certain financial instruments at December 31, 2021, and December 31, 2020.

	As of December 31, 2021			
	Estimated Fair Value Measurements	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
	(In thousands)			
Financial Assets				
Cash and due from banks	$ 134,141	$ 134,141	$ —	$ —
Short-term investments	2,315,563	2,315,563	—	—
Securities available-for-sale	1,127,309	—	1,127,309	—
Loans, net	16,499,869	—	—	16,499,869
Equity securities	22,319	22,319	—	—
Investment in Federal Home Loan Bank stock	17,250	—	17,250	—
Warrants	23	—	—	23
Financial Liabilities				
Deposits	18,051,720	—	—	18,051,720
Advances from Federal Home Loan Bank	21,279	—	21,279	—
Other borrowings	18,945	—	—	18,945
Long-term debt	62,274	—	62,274	—

	As of December 31, 2020			
	Estimated Fair Value Measurements	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
	(In thousands)			
Financial Assets				
Cash and due from banks	$ 138,616	$ 138,616	$ —	$ —
Short-term investments	1,282,462	1,282,462	—	—
Securities available-for-sale	1,036,550	80,948	955,602	—
Loans, net [1]	16,103,471	—	—	16,103,471
Equity securities	23,744	23,744	—	—
Investment in Federal Home Loan Bank stock	17,250	—	17,250	—
Warrants	21	—	—	21
Financial Liabilities				
Deposits	16,125,808	—	—	16,125,808
Advances from Federal Home Loan Bank	155,133	—	155,133	—
Other borrowings	19,632	—	—	19,632
Long-term debt	65,487	—	65,487	—

16. Revenue from Contracts with Customers

On January 1, 2018, the Company adopted ASU 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers - Topic 606 and all subsequent ASUs that modified ASC 606, Revenue from Contracts with Customers. The Company adopted ASC 606 using the modified retrospective method applied to those contracts that were not completed as of January 1, 2018. The new standard did not materially impact the timing or measurement of the Company's revenue recognition as it is consistent with the Company's existing accounting for contracts within the scope of the new standard. There was no cumulative effect adjustment to retained earnings as a result of adopting this new standard.

The following is a summary of revenue from contracts with customers that are in-scope and not in-scope under ASC 606:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2021	2020	2019
		(In thousands)	
Non-interest income, in-scope[1]:			
Fees and service charges on deposit accounts	$ 8,618	$ 7,965	$ 7,848
Wealth management fees	15,056	10,529	9,241
Other service fees[2]	15,400	13,742	14,392
Total in-scope non-interest income	39,074	32,236	31,481
Noninterest income, not in-scope[3]	15,529	10,584	13,270
Total non-interest income	$ 54,603	$ 42,820	$ 44,751

(1) There were no adjustments to the Company's financial statements recorded as a result of the adoption of ASC 606. For comparability, the Company has adjusted consolidated prior period amounts to conform to the periods presentation.
(2) Other service fees comprise of fees related to letters of credit, wire fees, fees on foreign exchange transactions and other immaterial individual revenue streams.
(3) These amounts primarily represent revenue from contracts with customers that are out of the scope of ASC 606.

The major revenue streams by fee type that are within the scope of ASC 606 presented in the above tables are described in additional detail below:

Fees and Services Charges on Deposit Accounts

Fees and service charges on deposit accounts include charges for analysis, overdraft, cash checking, ATM, and safe deposit activities executed by our deposit clients, as well as interchange income earned through card payment networks for the acceptance of card-based transactions. Fees earned from our deposit clients are governed by contracts that provide for overall custody and access to deposited funds and other related services and can be terminated at will by either party. Fees received from deposit clients for the various deposit activities are recognized as revenue once the performance obligations are met. The adoption of ASU 2014-09 had no impact to the recognition of fees and service charges on deposit accounts.

Wealth Management Fees

The Company employs financial consultants to provide investment planning services for customers including wealth management services, asset allocation strategies, portfolio analysis and monitoring, investment strategies, and risk management strategies. The fees the Company earns are variable and are generally received monthly. The Company recognizes revenue for the services performed at quarter end based on actual transaction details received from the broker dealer the Company engages.

Practical Expedients and Exemptions

The Company applies the practical expedient in ASC 606-10-50-14 and does not disclose the value of unsatisfied performance obligations as the Company's contracts with customers generally have a term that is less than one year, are open-ended with a cancellation period that is less than one year or allow the Company to recognize revenue in the amount to which the Company has the right to invoice.

In addition, given the short-term nature of the Company's contracts, the Company also applies the practical expedient in ASC 606-10-32-18 and does not adjust the consideration from customers for the effects of a significant financing component, if at contract inception, the period between when the entity transfers the goods or services and when the customer pays for that good or service is one year or less.

17. Employee Benefit Plans

Employee Stock Ownership Plan. Under the Company's Amended and Restated Cathay Bank Employee Stock Ownership Plan ("ESOP"), the Company can make annual contributions to a trust in the form of either cash or common stock of the Bancorp for the benefit of eligible employees. Employees are eligible to participate in the ESOP after completing two years of service for salaried full-time employees or 1,000 hours for each of two consecutive years for salaried part-time employees. The amount of the annual contribution is discretionary except that it must be sufficient to enable the trust to meet its current obligations. The Company also pays for the administration of this plan and of the trust. The Company has not made contributions to the trust since 2004 and does not expect to make any contributions in the future. Effective June 17, 2004, the ESOP was amended to provide the participants the election either to reinvest the dividends on the Company stock allocated to their accounts or to have these dividends distributed to the participant. The ESOP trust purchased 18,338 shares in 2021, 32,128 shares in 2020, and 22,933 shares in 2019, of the Bancorp's common stock at an aggregate cost of $781 thousand in 2021, $818 thousand in 2020, and $827 thousand in 2019. The distribution of benefits to participants totaled 47,617 shares in 2021, 33,629 shares in 2020, and 22,309 shares in 2019. As of December 31, 2021, the ESOP owned 718,874 shares, or 1.0%, of the Company's outstanding common stock.

401(k) Plan. In 1997, the Board approved the Company's 401(k) Profit Sharing Plan, which began on March 1, 1997. Salaried employees who have completed three months of service and have attained the age of 21 are eligible to participate. Enrollment dates are on the first of each month. Participants may contribute up to 75% of their eligible compensation for the year but not to exceed the dollar limit set by the Internal Revenue Code. Participants may change their contribution election on the enrollment dates. The vesting schedule for the matching contribution is 0% for less than two years of service, 25% after two years of service and from then on, at an increment of 25% each year until 100% is vested after three years of service. Effective on June 1, 2018, the Company matches 100% on the first 5.0% of eligible compensation contributed per pay period by the participant, on the first day of the following month after 30 days of service. The Company's contribution amounted to $3.6 million in 2021, $3.7 million in 2020, and $3.5 million in 2019. The Plan allows participants to withdraw all or part of their vested amount in the Plan due to certain financial hardship as set forth in the Internal Revenue Code and Treasury Regulations. Participants may also borrow up to 50% of the vested amount, with a maximum of $50 thousand. The minimum loan amount is $1 thousand.

Bank-Owned Life Insurance. As of December 31, 2021, cash surrender value of bank-owned life insurance was $52.0 million. The Bank is the beneficiary under the policy. In the event of the death of a covered officer, we will receive the specified insurance benefit from the insurance carrier and pay a fixed dollar amount to the beneficiary designated by the officer.

18. Equity Incentive Plans

Pursuant to the Company’s 2005 Incentive Plan, as amended and restated in May 2015, the Company may grant incentive stock options (employees only), non-statutory stock options, common stock awards, restricted stock, RSUs, stock appreciation rights and cash awards to non-employee directors and eligible employees.

At December 31, 2021, 1,861,104 shares were available under the 2005 Incentive Plan for future grants.

In addition to stock options, the Company also grants restricted stock units (“RSUs”) that are generally granted at no cost to the recipient. RSUs generally vest ratably over three years or cliff vest after one or three years of continued employment from the date of the grant. While a portion of RSUs may be time-vesting awards, others may vest subject to the attainment of specified performance goals and are referred to as “performance-based RSUs.” All RSUs are subject to forfeiture until vested.

Performance-based RSUs are granted at the target amount of awards. Based on the Company’s attainment of specified performance goals and consideration of market conditions, the number of shares that vest can be adjusted to a minimum of zero and to a maximum of 150% of the target. The amount of performance-based RSUs that are eligible to vest is determined at the end of each performance period and is then added together to determine the total number of performance shares that are eligible to vest. Performance-based RSUs generally cliff vest three years from the date of grant.

Compensation costs for the time-based awards are based on the quoted market price of the Company’s stock at the grant date. Compensation costs associated with performance-based RSUs are based on grant date fair value, which considers both market and performance conditions. Compensation costs of both time-based and performance-based awards are recognized on a straight-line basis from the grant date until the vesting date of each grant.

The following table presents RSU activity for 2021, 2020, and 2019:

	Time-Based RSUs		Performance-Based RSUs	
	Shares	Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value	Shares	Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value
Balance at December 31, 2018	**284,493**	**35.79**	**265,659**	**32.90**
Granted	108,925	36.37	124,586	36.37
Vested	(93,729)	35.14	(92,501)	38.36
Forfeited	(26,489)	39.34	—	—
Balance at December 31, 2019	**273,200**	**35.90**	**297,744**	**32.65**
Granted	110,495	21.79	212,369	22.96
Vested	(80,654)	25.34	(193,240)	21.68
Forfeited	(10,371)	39.04	(14,071)	39.08
Balance at December 31, 2020	**292,670**	**33.37**	**302,802**	**32.55**
Granted	63,467	41.18	113,764	37.13
Vested	(96,869)	41.72	(76,292)	41.69
Forfeited	(23,324)	29.92	(7,768)	40.85
Balance at December 31, 2021	**235,944**	**32.38**	**332,506**	**31.82**

The compensation expense recorded for RSUs was $6.0 million in 2021, $5.6 million in 2020, and $6.6 million in 2019. Unrecognized stock-based compensation expense related to RSUs was $8.6 million and $8.4 million as of December 31, 2021, and 2020, respectively. As of December 31, 2021, these costs are expected to be recognized over the next 1.7 years.

19. Condensed Financial Information of Cathay General Bancorp

The condensed financial information of the Bancorp as of December 31, 2021, and December 31, 2020, and for the years ended December 31, 2021, 2020, and 2019 is as follows:

Balance Sheets

	As of December 31,	
	2021	2020
	(In thousands, except share and per share data)	
Assets		
Cash	$ 19,629	$ 50,060
Cash pledged as margin for interest rate swaps	1,071	2,159
Short-term certificates of deposit	333	332
Equity securities	15,627	15,505
Investment in Cathay Bank subsidiary	2,530,850	2,467,643
Investment in non-bank subsidiary	807	845
Other assets	4,691	6,447
Total assets	**$ 2,573,008**	**$ 2,542,991**
Liabilities		
Junior subordinated debt	$ 119,136	$ 119,136
Other liabilities	7,621	5,711
Total liabilities	126,757	124,847
Commitments and contingencies	—	—
Stockholders' equity		
Common stock, $0.01 par value, 100,000,000 shares authorized, 90,871,860 issued and 75,750,862 outstanding at December 31, 2021, and 90,643,206 issued and 79,508,265 outstanding at December 31, 2020	909	906
Additional paid-in-capital	972,474	964,734
Accumulated other comprehensive loss, net	(3,065)	5,310
Retained earnings	1,985,168	1,789,325
Treasury stock, at cost (15,120,998 shares at December 31, 2021, and 11,134,941 shares at December 31, 2020)	(509,235)	(342,131)
Total equity	2,446,251	2,418,144
Total liabilities and equity	**$ 2,573,008**	**$ 2,542,991**

Statements of Operations

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2021	2020	2019
		(In thousands)	
Cash dividends from Cathay Bank	$ 230,000	$ 146,000	$ 238,998
Interest income	36	49	90
Interest expense	5,773	5,906	8,415
Non-interest Income/(loss)	3,117	(435)	4,634
Non-interest expense	3,224	4,846	3,491
Income before income tax expense	224,156	134,862	231,816
Income tax expense	(1,810)	(3,692)	(2,459)
Income before undistributed earnings of subsidiaries	225,966	138,554	234,275
Undistributed earnings of subsidiary	72,338	90,306	44,860
Net income	**$ 298,304**	**$ 228,860**	**$ 279,135**

Statements of Cash Flows

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2021	2020	2019
		(In thousands)	
Cash flows from Operating Activities			
Net income	$ 298,304	$ 228,860	$ 279,135
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Equity in undistributed earnings of subsidiaries	(72,338)	(90,306)	(44,860)
Loss/(gain) on equity securities	(122)	641	(4,414)
Write-downs on venture capital and other investments	73	107	105
Loss in fair value of warrants	—	18	145
Stock issued to directors as compensation	850	800	749
Net change in accrued interest receivable and other assets	1,918	(1,182)	125
Net change in other liabilities	4,934	(9,853)	(832)
Net cash provided by operating activities	**233,619**	**129,085**	**230,153**
Cash flows from Investment Activities			
Proceeds from liquidation of subsidiary	—	2,399	—
Proceeds from sale of equity securities	—	3,112	2,829
Venture capital and other investments	357	116	399
Net cash provided by investment activities	**357**	**5,627**	**3,228**
Cash flows from Financing Activities			
Repayment of long-term debt	—	(7,644)	(81,065)
Cash dividends paid	(99,322)	(98,688)	(99,131)
Proceeds from shares issued under the Dividend Reinvestment Plan	3,563	9,777	3,366
Taxes paid related to net share settlement of RSUs	(2,632)	(1,911)	(2,311)
Purchase of treasury stock	(167,104)	(23,593)	(36,301)
Net cash used in financing activities	**(265,495)**	**(122,059)**	**(215,442)**
Increase/(decrease) in cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash	(31,519)	12,653	17,939
Cash, cash equivalents, and restricted cash, beginning of the year	52,219	39,566	21,627
Cash, cash equivalents, and restricted cash, end of the period	**$ 20,700**	**$ 52,219**	**$ 39,566**

20. Dividend Reinvestment Plan

The Company has a Dividend Reinvestment Plan which allows for participants' reinvestment of cash dividends and certain optional additional investments in the Bancorp's common stock. Shares issued under the plan and the consideration received were 84,011 shares for $3.6 million in 2021, 358,157 shares for $9.8 million in 2020, and 93,143 shares for $3.4 million in 2019.

21. Regulatory Matters

The Bank is subject to various regulatory capital requirements administered by the federal banking agencies. Failure to meet minimum capital requirements can result in certain mandatory and possibly additional discretionary actions by regulators that, if undertaken, could have a direct material effect on the Bank's financial statements. Under capital adequacy guidelines and the regulatory framework for prompt corrective action, the Bank must meet specific capital guidelines that involve quantitative measures of the Bank's assets, liabilities, and certain off-balance-sheet items as calculated under regulatory accounting practices. The Bank's capital amounts, and classification are also subject to qualitative judgments by the regulators about components, risk weightings, and other factors.

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation has established five capital ratio categories: "well capitalized," "adequately capitalized," "undercapitalized," "significantly undercapitalized," and "critically undercapitalized." A well-capitalized institution must have a common equity tier 1 capital ratio equal to or greater than 6.5%, a Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio equal to or greater than 8%, a total risk-based capital ratio equal to or greater than 10%, and a Tier 1 leverage capital ratio equal to or greater than 5%. At December 31, 2021, and 2020, the Bank qualified as well capitalized under the regulatory framework for prompt corrective action.

The Bancorp's and the Bank's capital and leverage ratios as of December 31, 2021, and December 31, 2020, are presented in the tables below:

	Actual		Minimum Capital Required - Basel III		Required to be Considered Well Capitalized	
	Capital Amount	Ratio	Capital Amount	Ratio	Capital Amount	Ratio
December 31, 2021			(In thousands)			
Common Equity Tier 1 to Risk-Weighted Assets						
Cathay General Bancorp	$ 2,056,601	12.80	$ 1,124,381	7.00	$ 1,044,068	6.50
Cathay Bank	2,137,925	13.32	1,123,721	7.00	1,043,455	6.50
Tier 1 Capital to Risk-Weighted Assets						
Cathay General Bancorp	2,056,601	12.80	1,365,320	8.50	1,285,007	8.00
Cathay Bank	2,137,925	13.32	1,364,519	8.50	1,284,253	8.00
Total Capital to Risk-Weighted Assets						
Cathay General Bancorp	2,315,358	14.41	1,686,572	10.50	1,606,259	10.00
Cathay Bank	2,281,182	14.21	1,685,582	10.50	1,605,316	10.00
Leverage Ratio						
Cathay General Bancorp	2,056,601	10.40	791,226	4.00	989,033	5.00
Cathay Bank	2,137,925	10.82	790,430	4.00	988,037	5.00

	Actual		Minimum Capital Required - Basel III		Required to be Considered Well Capitalized	
	Capital Amount	Ratio	Capital Amount	Ratio	Capital Amount	Ratio
December 31, 2020			(In thousands)			
Common Equity Tier 1 to Risk-Weighted Assets						
Cathay General Bancorp	$ 2,016,448	13.53	$ 1,042,967	7.00	$ 968,470	6.50
Cathay Bank	2,059,056	13.83	1,041,911	7.00	967,489	6.50
Tier 1 Capital to Risk-Weighted Assets						
Cathay General Bancorp	2,016,448	13.53	1,266,460	8.50	1,191,963	8.00
Cathay Bank	2,059,056	13.83	1,265,178	8.50	1,190,755	8.00
Total Capital to Risk-Weighted Assets						
Cathay General Bancorp	2,304,366	15.47	1,564,451	10.50	1,489,953	10.00
Cathay Bank	2,231,474	14.99	1,562,866	10.50	1,488,444	10.00
Leverage Ratio						
Cathay General Bancorp	2,016,448	10.94	737,382	4.00	921,727	5.00
Cathay Bank	2,059,056	11.19	736,317	4.00	920,396	5.00

22. Balance Sheet Offsetting

Certain financial instruments, including resell and repurchase agreements, securities lending arrangements and derivatives, may be eligible for offset in the Consolidated Balance Sheets and/or subject to master netting arrangements or similar agreements. The Company's securities sold with agreements to repurchase and derivative transactions with upstream financial institution counter parties are generally executed under International Swaps and Derivative Association master agreements which include "right of set-off" provisions. In such cases, there is generally a legally enforceable right to offset recognized amounts and there may be an intention to settle such amounts on a net basis. Nonetheless, the Company does not generally offset such financial instruments for financial reporting purposes.

Financial instruments that are eligible for offset in the Consolidated Balance Sheets, as of December 31, 2021, and December 31, 2020, are presented in the following tables:

				Gross Amounts Not Offset in the Balance Sheet		
	Gross Amounts Recognized	Gross Amounts Offset in the Balance Sheet	Net Amounts Presented in the Balance Sheet	Financial Instruments	Collateral Posted	Net Amount
December 31, 2021			(In thousands)			
Assets:						
Derivatives	$ 10,090	$ —	$ 10,090	$ —	$ —	$ 10,090
Liabilities:						
Derivatives	$ 15,748	$ (3,106)	$ 12,642	$ —	$ —	$ 12,642
December 31, 2020						
Assets:						
Derivatives	$ 3,409	$ —	$ 3,409	$ —	$ —	$ 3,409
Liabilities:						
Derivatives	$ 28,258	$ (17,972)	$ 10,286	$ —	$ —	$ 10,286

23. Subsequent Events

On February 7, 2022, the Company subsidiary bank, Cathay Bank completed the purchase of the HSBC Bank USA's West Coast mass market consumer banking business and retail business banking business, including 10 retail branches in California for total consideration of approximately $5.0 million.

On February 14, 2022, the Company's Board of Directors declared first quarter 2022 dividends for the Company's common stock. The common stock cash dividend of $0.34 per share will be paid on March 7, 2022, to stockholders of record on February 25, 2022.

On February 18, 2022, the Company completed its September 2021 stock buyback program by repurchasing 704,927 shares at an average cost of $46.67 for a total of $32.9 million.

The Company has evaluated the effect of events that have occurred subsequent to December 31, 2021, through the date of issuance of the Consolidated Financial Statements. Based on this evaluation, the Company has determined none of these events would require recognition in the Consolidated Financial Statements or disclosure in the notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

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Forward-looking statements

Our Annual Report includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of the applicable provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 regarding management's beliefs, projections, and assumptions concerning future results and events. We intend such forward-looking statements to be covered by the safe harbor for forward-looking statements in these provisions. All statements other than statements of historical fact are "forward-looking statements" for purposes of federal and state securities laws. Words such as "aims," "anticipates," "believes," "can," "continue," "could," "estimates," "expects," "hopes," "intends," "may," "optimistic," "plans," "predicts," "possible," "potential," "projects," "seeks," "shall," "should," "will," and variations of these words and similar expressions are intended to identify these forward-looking statements. Our forward-looking statements are based on estimates, beliefs, projections, and assumptions of management and are not guarantees of future performance. These forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from our historical experience and our present expectations or projections. These and other factors are described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K (at Item 1A in particular) for the year ended December 31, 2021, as supplemented by any risk factors contained in our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K. Given these risks and uncertainties, readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any forward-looking statement. Any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date on which it is made, and, except as required by law, we undertake no obligation to update or review any forward-looking statement to reflect circumstances, developments or events occurring after the date on which the statement is made or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

Cathay General Bancorp's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2021, and other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) are available at the website maintained by the SEC at www.sec.gov or by request directed to Cathay General Bancorp, 9650 Flair Drive, El Monte, California 91731; Attention: Investor Relations; telephone 626 279 3296. These reports and filings are also available at www.cathaygeneralbancorp.com. The information on the websites of Cathay General Bancorp and Cathay Bank is not part of this Annual Report.

Cathay Bank, Member FDIC, is an Equal Housing Lender.

FDIC insurance coverage is limited to deposit accounts at Cathay Bank's U.S. domestic branch locations. Non-Deposit Investment Products are NOT A DEPOSIT | NOT FDIC INSURED | NOT INSURED BY ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY | NO BANK GUARANTEE | MAY LOSE VALUE.

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