# To Achieve Management Conscious of Cost of Capital and Stock Price

May. 15, 2024



**H2O RETAILING CORPORATION** 

# **Analysis of Current Status and Direction of Initiatives**



PER

ROE

# Current issues (PBR is below 1.0x)

- PBR continues to be below 1.0x despite an improving trend, due to PER which are lower than sector levels.
- ROE (8.5%) > Cost of shareholders' equity (6.6%) ROIC (4.7%) > WACC (4.0%) \*FY2024
  - ROE is above cost of shareholders' capital, but below in actual, and further ROE improvement is needed in the future.
  - Aim to secure stable ROIC above WACC by promoting the utilization of non-business assets with low profitability, which has been an issue for the company.

# Direction of Initiatives (PBR to remain 1.0x over)

- Gain market credibility by formulating growth strategies, enhancing shareholder returns, and strengthening IR communications.
  - (i) Clarify growth strategy

(ii) Enhancing shareholder returns

- (iii) Expand the shareholder/investor base and improve IR communication
- Practices management conscious of cost of capital

(iv) Control of total assets and equity

(v) Concentrated Investment in high-growth/high-profit businesses

Current

PBR 0.85 x

 $= ROE 8.5\% * \times PER10 X$ 

\* Actual ROE excluding extraordinary gains from asset sales and other special gains and tax effects: 5.1%.

Future

PBR 1.2 x over

= ROE 8% over × PER 15 times over

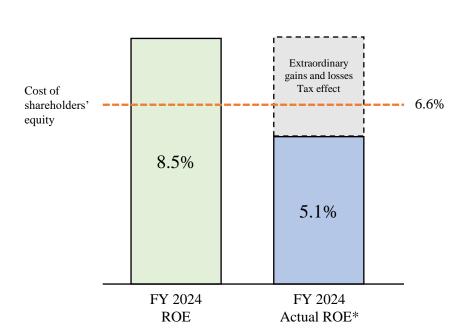
- (iv) Control of total assets and equity
- (v) Concentrated investment in highgrowth/high-profit businesses
- (i) Clarify growth strategy
- (ii) Enhancing shareholder returns
- (iii) Expand the shareholder/investor base and improve communication

# ROE and cost of shareholders' equity



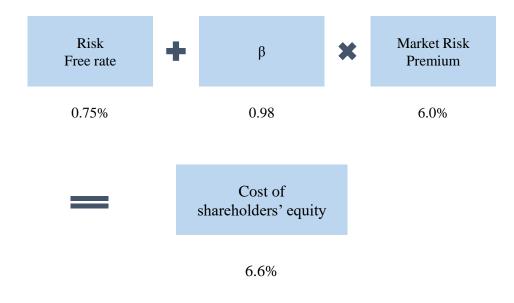
ROE recovered due to improved profitability, but actual ROE in FY2024 was still lower than shareholders' equity.

#### ■ Cost of shareholders' equity



#### \*Excluding extraordinary gains such as asset sales and tax effects

#### ■ Assumptions for calculating cost of shareholders' equity



WACC=4.0% (D/E ratio 0.73, cost of shareholders' equity 6.6%, cost of debt 0.54%)

# **Enhancing Corporate Value and Equity Value**



Aim to achieve and sustain PBR of 1.0x as soon as possible by executing business strategies and aggressively promoting capital and financial strategies that will be fully implemented in FY2025.

КРІ	FY2025-2027	FY2024
ROE	Over 6.6% (FY27)	5.1% (actual)
ROIC	<b>5.9%</b> (FY27)	4.7%
EBITDA-Interest- Bearing-Debt-Ratio	2.0 X	2.3 X
Total payout ratio	Approximately 60%	22%
Dividends	¥40 per share	¥28 per share

#### **Business Strategy**

(v) Concentrated investment in high-growth/high-profit businesses

ROE

PER

Deepen existing businesses and strengthen response to high-net -worth customers

- Making Hankyu Main Store a "Global Department Store"
- Focus on and strengthen overseas customer businesses with high growth potential

#### (i) Clarify growth strategy

**PER** 

Develop and deploy new sources of revenue by utilizing the "customer base".

- Continue to launch and develop customer service business (Food and Health)
- Launch of customer data utilization business

## **Capital/financial strategy**

(ii) Enhancing shareholder returns

PER

Active return of surplus shareholders' capital

- Dividends per share increased to ¥40 (¥28 in FY2024)
- Plan to acquire treasury stock on the scale of ¥30 bn. in FY2025-2027 (over ¥50 bn. including KFM wholly owned subsidiary)
- (iv) Control of total assets and shareholders' equity

ROE

Improvement of return on capital

- Controlling WACC by leveraging interest-bearing debt
- Sale of low-profit assets such as policy stock holdings
- Restructuring of B/S in line with the targeted business portfolio by making KFM a wholly owned subsidiary and Ningbo Hankyu a subsidiary

(iii) Expand the shareholder/investor base and improve communication (Strengthening IR communications)

ROE

**PER** 

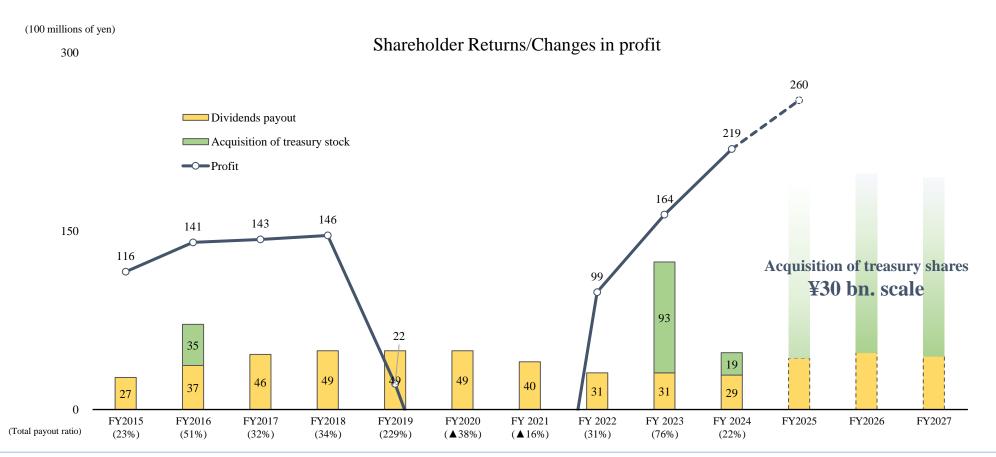
### Shareholder Returns Plan for FY2025-2027



In principle, the Company will pay out dividends based on a DOE of over 1.8% and will flexibly return profits to shareholders in accordance with business performance.

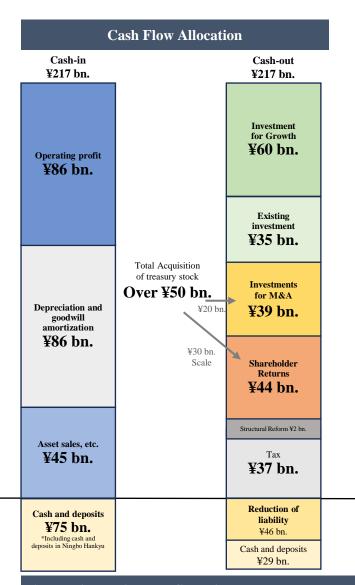
- Dividends: Increased to ¥40 per share (started from FY2025)
- Acquisition of treasury stock: Scale of ¥30 bn. in 3 years

  Total payout ratio (including acquisition of treasury stock) to be approximately 60% for cumulative period.



# **Cash Flow Allocation (FY2025-2027)**





- Focus investment on growth of highly profitable businesses, deepen existing businesses and establish new business area.
  - Active investment in Hankyu Main Store, remodeling of Ningbo Hankyu, resumption of supermarket store openings.
  - ✓ Application development for customer service business, development of Business Infrastructure
- Strengthening business foundations
- Utilize cash generated from asset sales, etc. for M&A, etc.
   Build B/S in line with the targeted business portfolio and maximize synergies.
  - Made Kansai Food Market a wholly owned subsidiary (¥22 bn.)
  - ✓ Made Ningbo Hankyu a subsidiary (¥16.5 bn.)
- Based on stable dividends, aimed at enhancing corporate value and capital efficiency by acquiring treasury stock
  - ✓ Dividends of ¥40 per share,
  - ✓ Acquisition of treasury stock ¥30 bn.
     Total payout ratio (including acquisition of treasury stock) to be approximately 60% for cumulative period.

• Secure financial soundness with a target EBITDA interest-bearing debt ratio of 2x.

Aggressive capital and financial strategy to generate cash, and aim to exceed 1x PBR as soon as possible by strengthening business investment and returns to shareholders

# **Balance Sheet Changes**



End of FY2021 Total assets ¥630 bn.



End of FY2024 Total assets ¥710 bn.

[Liabilities]

Interest-bearing

¥170 bn.

¥420 bn.

debt

[Net assets]

¥290 bn.

[Current assets]

[Non-current

¥530 bn.

equipment

¥290 bn.

Intangible assets .

¥240 bn.

Investments and other

Property, plant and

¥180 bn.

assets



End of FY2027 Total assets ¥670 bn.

[Current assets] [Liabilities] ¥140 bn. ¥400 bn. Interest-bearing debt [Non-current ¥170 bn. assets ] ¥490 bn. [Net assets] ¥230 bn.

#### Change in noncurrent assets

- Kansai Super management integration ¥40 bn.
- Sale of policy stock holdings. sale of land, etc. ¥40 bn



# assets

- Kansai Food wholly owned subsidiary
- Made a subsidiary ¥32.5 bn.



## Change non-current

- Market made a
- Ningbo Hankyu
- Sale of policy stock holdings, sale of land, etc. ¥45 bn.



[Non-current assets ]

[Current assets]

¥150 bn.

#### ¥520 bn.

- Property, plant and equipment ¥320 bn.
- Intangible assets · Investments and other

(+¥30 bn.)

¥200 bn. (**A** ¥40 bn.)

# [Liabilities]

- Interest-bearing debt ¥130 bn.
- Secure financial soundness with a target EBITDA interestbearing debt ratio of 2x
- [Net assets] ¥280 bn.

(▲ ¥10 bn.)

- Control through dividends and acquisition of treasury stock
- ¥30 bn. in treasury stock
- (Consider retirement)

Profit ▲¥24.8 bn. **ROE** ▲ 10.5%

Profit ¥21.9 bn. **ROE 8.5 % (actual ROE5.1 %)** 

**ROE** over 6.6%

To maintain B/S at an appropriate size while aggressively investing in high-growth, highly profitable businesses, promote asset efficiency by selling low-profit assets, etc., which will lead to ROE improvement along with an improved profit level

# Expand the shareholder/investor base and improve communication



Engaging in more active communication with capital markets and reflecting this communication in management to enhance corporate value.

To expand the investor base, improve the convenience of shareholder benefits and implement measures to increase the number of fan shareholders.

#### **■** Promoting Dialogue with the capital market

- Disclosure of financial and capital strategies of high interest by investors
- Continuous information provision and enhanced interactive communication by the president and executive officers.

#### ■ Enhancement of shareholder benefits and introduction of selection system

- Under consideration of the following
  - ✓ Enhanced shareholder benefits at supermarkets, etc. (e.g., point redemption)
  - ✓ Improve convenience of department store shareholder benefits (e.g., apps)
  - ✓ Distribution of rice and other goods

#### ■ Implementation of measures to expand fan shareholders

- Holding briefings for individual shareholders and holding fan meetings, tours, and hands-on events using stores
- Enhancement of information provision, including upgrading of the website for individual investors



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