# Knowledge Bites

Wednesday July 26 12:00-12:45 p.m. Zoom with Ken Linge, VT Bond Agency



# Learn while you lunch!

**Webinar: VT Bond Agency** 

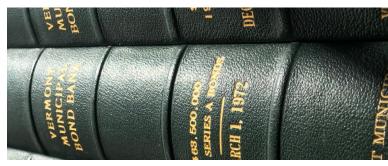
Meet Ken Linge from the VT Bond Agency and learn how they partner with VT communities to fund their projects.













**GENERAL OVERVIEW - SUMMER 2023** 

# **VBB** at a Glance

Established by state statute in 1970 as an "instrumentality exercising public and essential governmental functions"

Serve governmental units (Cities, Towns, School Districts, Fire Districts, Municipal Utilities, etc.) statewide

Nearly \$600 million in loans outstanding in Pooled Loan Program

Over \$230 million in loans outstanding in the State Revolving Fund Administered in Partnership with DEC

# **VBB Mission and Vision**

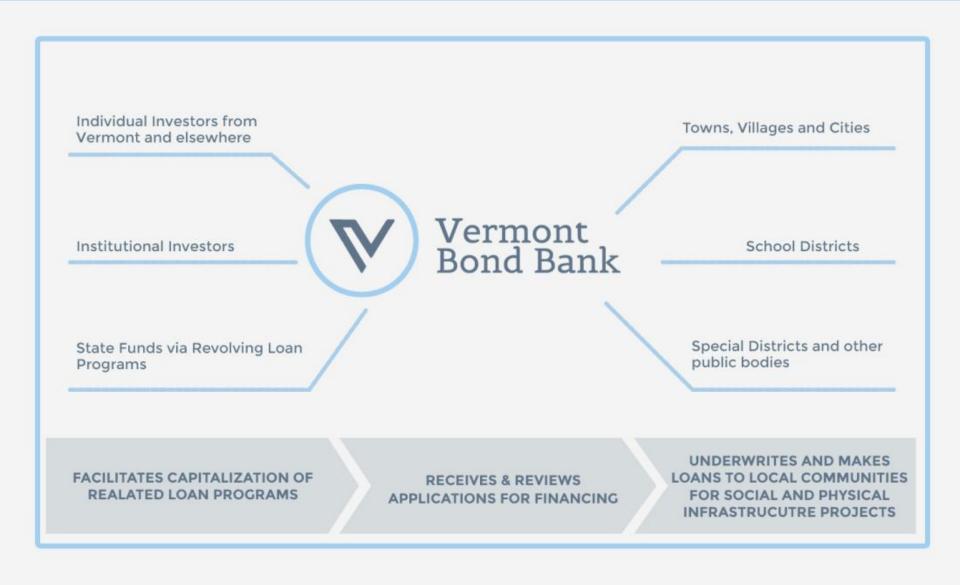
#### Mission

To assist Vermont's municipalities and other qualified public bodies in gaining access to affordable, innovative and appropriate financing to meet their capital needs.

#### Vision

To support Vermont's municipalities and other qualified bodies in making informed and knowledgeable financing decisions for present and future generations.

# **How We Work**



# **Bond Bank History**

#### REQUISITION AS TO LOANS FROM LOAN ACCOUNTS

January 11, 1971

Bankers Trust Company 1 Battery Park Plaza New York, New York

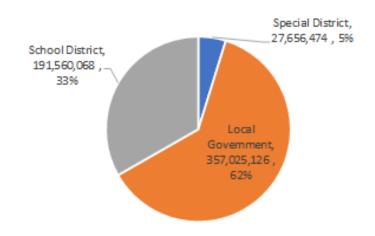
#### Gentlemen:

Pursuant to Section 503 of the General Bond Resolution of the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank adopted on December 21, 1970, you are hereby instructed to pay from the following loan accounts the amounts to the respective municipalities as shown below:

Loan Accounts	Amounts	Municipalities
shire Town School District	\$ 260,000	Berkshire Town School District
Town School District	520,000	Berlin Town School District
ton Town School District	370,000	Brighton Town School District
Town School District	430,000	Cabot Town School District
Town School District	215,000	Calais Town School District
eton Town School District	.700,000	Castleton Town School District
eston Town School District	400,000	Charleston Town School District
lette Town School District	300,000	Charlotte Town School District
ndon Town School District	440,000	Clarendon Town School District
ester Town School District	1,500,000	Colchester Town School District
Town School District	575,000	Dover Town School District
Town School District	1,235,000	Essex Town School District
Junction Graded School District	3,160,000	Essex Town School District
d Isle Town School District	135,000	Essex Junction Graded School District
and Town School District	500,000	Grand Isle Town School District
burg Town School District	450,000	Hartland Town School District
Town School District	90,000	Hinesburg Town School District
wans Town School District	300,000	Peacham Town School District
Asbury Town School District	1,035,000	St. Albans Town School District
20Wn School District	1,120,000	St. Johnsbury Town School District
Town School District		Shelburne Town School District
The state of the s	465,000	Sherburne Town School District
	1,440,000	South Burlington Town School District
aland Town School District	440,000	South Burlington Town School District
	200,000	Sunderland Town School District
agion Town School District	325,000	Underhill Graded School District, Inc.
school District lock UHSD No. 2	655,000	Wilmington Town School District
No. 2	970,000	Braintree-Randolph UHSI) No. 2
Table Valley UHSD No. 7	870,000	Woodstock UHSD No. 4
and Valley UHSD No. 7	345,000	Missisquoi Valley UHSD No. 7
and UHSD No. 7	2,000,000	Missisquoi Valley UHSD No. 7
UHSD No. 17	3,875,000	Mt. Mansfield UHSD No. 17
12	680,000	Lamoille UHSD No. 18

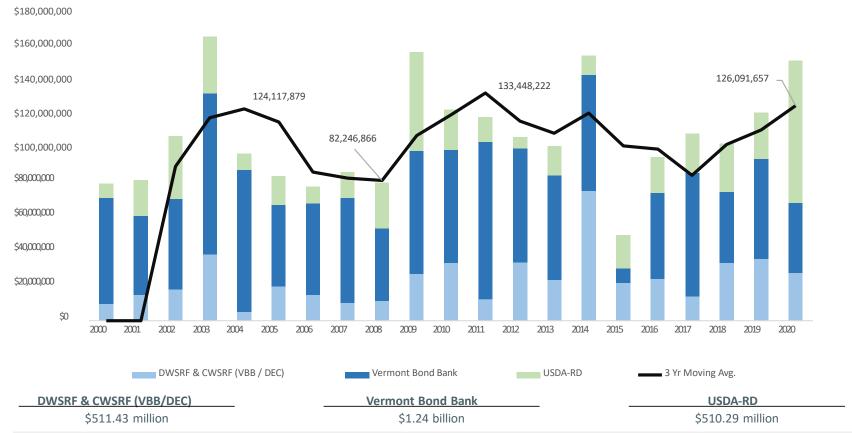
- Creation followed period of school construction spending financed with short term borrowing
- Bond Bank provided long term financing solution
- First bond issue in 1971 exclusively provided loans to local schools

#### LOANS OUTSTANDING AS OF JULY 5, 2023



#### **VT Infrastructure Loans from Public Lenders**

#### Municipal Lending & Related Assistance (Real \$)



Above data includes total assistance provided by three organizations (adjusted for inflation)

- VTBB Loans
- USDA-RD Loans and related grants
- VBB / DEC SRF Loans with forgiveness

Year based on either date of first repayment, commitment date, or closing depending on source

Municipal includes municipalities, school districts, and special districts



# **PLP Loans Outstanding in Southern VT**



Rutland County \$44,581,035 (23 Borrowers)

Windsor County \$69,714,846 (24 Borrowers)

Bennington County \$22,714,067 (8 Borrowers)

Windham County \$42,563,689 (17 Borrowers)

# **50 Years of Assisting Vermont Communities**

#### Provide Funding for:

- towns, cities, counties, incorporated villages, municipal utilities, water districts, fire districts, solid waste districts, and school districts
- all types of physical infrastructure in all of Vermont's 14 counties

- Creating an economy of scale for Vermont's small communities and providing billions of \$ in loans
   across Vermont through the pooled loan program
- Facilitating hundreds of millions of \$ in water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure loans through the SRF program
- Constantly exploring new sources of leverage (like impact premiums), new sources of capital (like USDA's RESP program, the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, etc.), and other capital market innovations to increase the capacity of communities to make infrastructure improvements – and to make improvements affordable
- Began detailed impact reporting and issued first Green Bond in 2017
- Awarded *The Bond Buyer's* "Deal of the Year" award in 2019 for Local Investment Bonds
- Accepted into the NASDAQ Sustainable Bond Network in 2020

# **2022 Bond Bank Impact**



# **Local Investment Bonds**

# THE BOND BUYER

INDUSTRY TOPICS V WASHINGTON V REGIONS V MARKETS V TECH V NOTICES AND CALENDARS V COMMUNITY V

DEAL OF THE YEAR

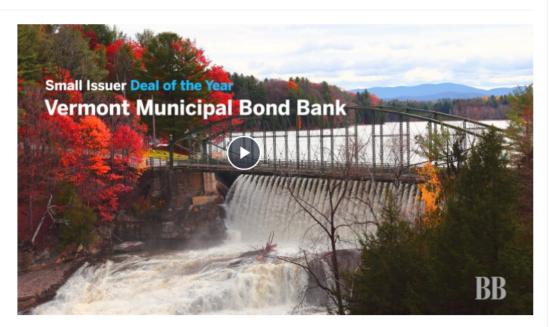
# Deal of the Year 2019 — Small Issuer: Vermont Municipal Bond Bank

December 4, 2019 12:57 PM 1:29









The Vermont Municipal Bond Bank is the Small Issuer honoree for its \$31.5 million issuance of Local Investment Bonds.

# **Bond Bank Credit Rating**

# General Resolution

Standard & Poor's

AA+

Outlook - Stable

**Date -** July 2023

**Document -** S&P Rating Report

# General Resolution

Moody's

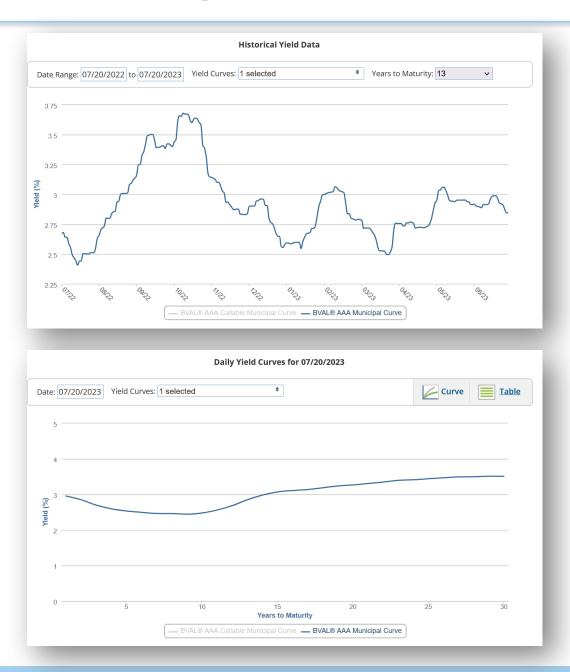
Aa2

Outlook - Stable

**Date -** July 2023

**Document - Moody's Rating Report** 

# PLP Lending Rates / Muni Market Update



# **Current Bond Bank NIC Assumptions**

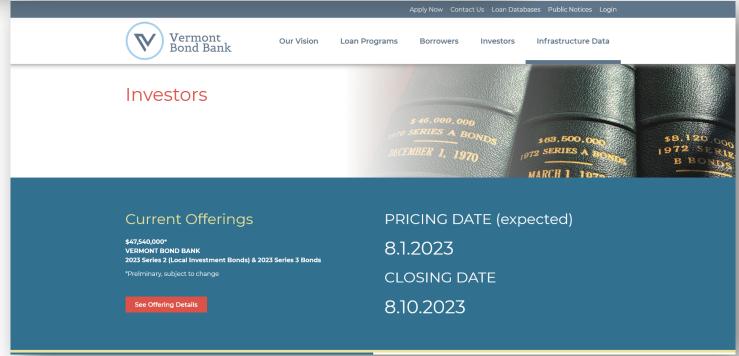
10 Year: 2.99%

20 Year: 3.99%

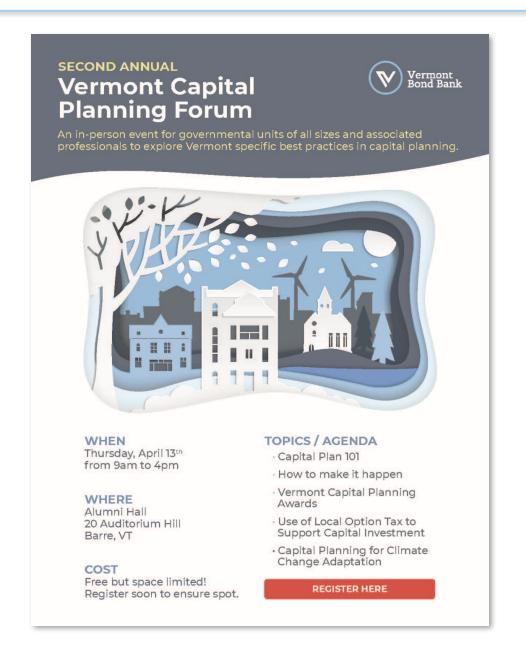
30 Year: 4.19%

# **Investing in VT Through the Bond Bank**





# **Annual Capital Planning Forum**



#### **Planning and Climate**



## The University of Vermont



#### VERMONT CLIMATE ASSESSMENT

#### **Vermont Climate Action Plan**

#### **SUMMARY**



#### **The Vermont Climate Action Plan**

Vermont and the world are facing the impacts of climate change and it's time to act. The initial Vermont Climate Action Plan, released on December 1, 2021, outlines steps to cut climate pollution and help Vermonters prepare for extreme weather and other impacts caused by climate change.

# **State Hazard Mitigation Plan**

#### 2023 State Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

The 2023 Draft SHMP Public Webinar on July 12th from 9 - 10:30am is CANCELLED.

Due to the severe flooding, we are cancelling the July 12 public webinar on the draft State Hazard Mitigation Plan.

#### **Planning, Climate, and Prosperity**



Stowe Electric
Department:
Improving
resiliency and
reliability in a
mountainous
community
with an electric
substation
upgrade

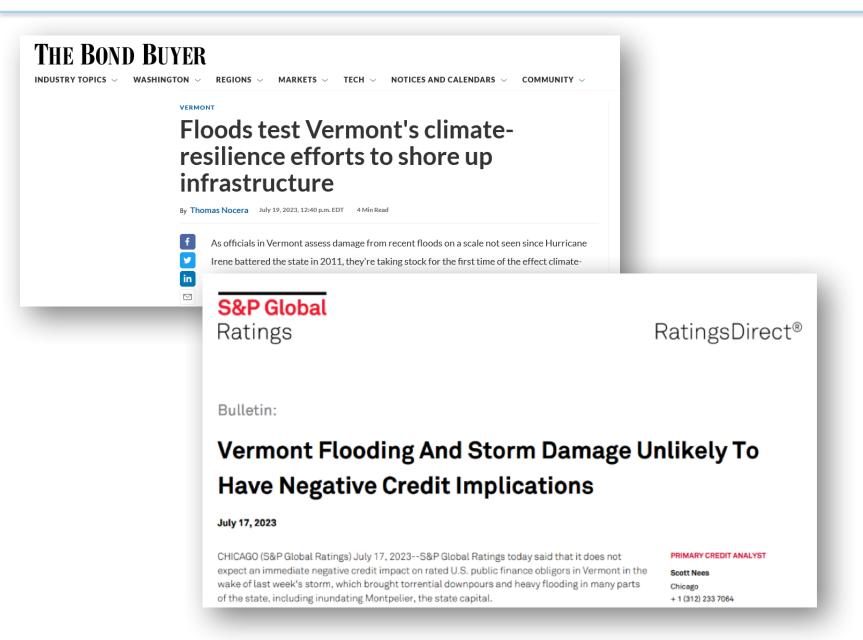


Winooski
Myers
Memorial
Pool:
Developing
of a valuable
resource for
weathering
hot summers

Bennington Elementary School, Molly Stark Elementary School, and Monument Elementary School: Improving financial and environmental performance of energy systems – and creating a better learning environment for students

Bennington Schools Annual Savings (Financial and Environmental)										
	Dollars kWh gal. propane lbs of carbo									
Bennington ES	\$25,514	74,132	12,736	240,323						
Molly Stark ES	\$30,889	77,701	16,848	296,071						
Monument ES	\$12,256	33,132	6,409	116,468						
TTL	\$68,659	184,965	35,993	652,862						

#### Planning, Climate, and Credit



# **Green Energy and Energy Efficiency Lending**

#### How can Bond Bank support renewable energy and energy efficiency projects?

- New program emerging late 2023
- Solar installations, storage, and related expenses likely eligible
- Other energy efficiency and long-term cost reduction uses likely eligible too details TBD
- Complementary with the Bond Bank's Pooled Loan Program and with other subsidies
- Rates and terms TBD



Photo Credit: Ian Albinson, The Addison County Independent

# **PLP and SRF**

#### **Pooled Loan Program**

- Provides access to financing for:
  - Towns, cities, counties, incorporated villages
  - Special Districts (water, fire, solid waste, etc.)
  - School Districts
  - Essentially any type of government institution
- For any type of physical infrastructure:
  - Roads, bridges, sidewalks, streetscapes
  - Water, sewer, stormwater
  - Buildings
  - Energy efficiency projects
  - Equipment
  - Refinance costs not covered by FEMA
  - Refinance USDA debt

#### **State Revolving Funds**

- Provides access to financing for:
  - Towns, cities, counties, incorporated villages
  - Special Districts (water, fire, solid waste, etc.)
- For water system infrastructure:
  - Drinking Water
  - Wastewater
  - Stormwater
- DEC manages the application and prioritization process, and the Bond Bank manages the underwriting and financing process

# **PLP Requirements and Terms**

#### **Program Requirements**

- Eligible borrowers are governmental units including: cities, towns, schools, villages and various districts
- Require evidence of voter approval and authority
- Legal opinion from local bond counsel
- Annual report for three years or three years of financial audits (preferred)
- Minimum requirement for financial audit from last completed year
- Term of financing and useful life of asset financed must align

	Description	Notes
Loan Amount	Up to 100% financing of project costs	No loan limits but the overall debt capacity of the borrower will be evaluated during underwriting.
Interest Rate	Market rate based on the Bond Bank's "AA+" rating	The Bond Bank issues bonds to fund loans, which will establish the loan rate. Rates are "locked-in" on the date the bonds are priced.
Loan Term / Amortization	<ul> <li>Must match useful life of asset(s) financed up to 30 years</li> <li>Applicants may request up to 5 years interest only</li> </ul>	Requested term will be reviewed by local bond counsel to ensure statutory compliance. Municipal and school district loans may have level or declining principal payments. Utilities and other qualifying local bonds may have level debt service payments.
Payment Dates	Payments are due semi-annually on May 1st (interest only) and November 1st (interest and principal)	Our bond trustee, US Bank, invoices 45 days prior to payment dates. Borrowers retain the responsibility to make payments with or without invoices.
Underwriting / Credit Review	We will review timing of supporting revenue vs debt service, financial statements, and local economic condition	
Fees	No fees are charged associated with applying receiving loans through the Bond Bank	

# **PLP Timeline**

# VBB Organizes Two Pools Annually – One in Winter and One in Spring

#### November / April

Bond Bank to host webinar on process and updates to application

Bond Bank available for on-going techinal assistance with application

#### December / May

Application due to Bond Bank

Bond Bank begins internal credit review

Underwriting may occur simultaneously

#### January / June

Board approves reccomended applications

Term sheet and commitment letter signed

Bonds that will find new loans prices and interest raters locked-in

Bonds and local loans closed 1-2 weeks after pricing

Loan agreements signed and released by bond counsel at closing

#### **Post Closing**

Funds available for requisition following closing

Post issuance compliance updates submitted (on use of proceeds)

Financial updates submitted as requested



Closing on or about February 28 and July 31

# **Illustrative Schedules**

Vermont Bond Bank
Illustrative Debt Service Schedule
Rates as of 1/17/2023



SOURCES & U	SES			ERVICE SCHEDU				ANNUAL DEBT SER	VICE SCHEDULE	
		Loan Payment	Principal	Coupon	Interest	Series D/S		Principal	Interest	Series D/S
Sources <u>Assumption</u>	_									
Par	\$4,100,000		4,100,000		1,663,397	5,763,397		4,100,000	1,663,397	5,763,397
Equity										
Total	\$4,100,000	5/1/2024	0	0.00%	38,369	38,369	6/30/2024	0	38,369	38,369
		11/1/2024	205,000	3.96%	81,251	286,251	6/30/2025	205,000	158,440	363,440
Uses		5/1/2025	0	0.00%	77,189	77,189	6/30/2026	205,000	150,315	355,315
Project	\$4,100,000	11/1/2025	205,000	3.96%	77,189	282,189	6/30/2027	205,000	142,190	347,190
COI		5/1/2026	0	0.00%	73,126	73,126	6/30/2028	205,000	134,065	339,065
Total	\$4,100,000	11/1/2026	205,000	3.96%	73,126	278,126	6/30/2029	205,000	125,940	330,940
		5/1/2027	0	0.00%	69,064	69,064	6/30/2030	205,000	117,815	322,815
Dated Date	3/6/2024	11/1/2027	205,000	3.96%	69,064	274,064	6/30/2031	205,000	109,689	314,689
I-Commencement Date	5/1/2024	5/1/2028	0	0.00%	65,001	65,001	6/30/2032	205,000	101,564	306,564
P-Commencement Date	11/1/2024	11/1/2028	205,000	3.96%	65,001	270,001	6/30/2033	205,000	93,439	298,439
Term	21 Years	5/1/2029	0	0.00%	60,939	60,939	6/30/2034	205,000	85,314	290,314
Amortization Period	20 Years	11/1/2029	205,000	3.96%	60,939	265,939	6/30/2035	205,000	77,189	282,189
Final Maturity	11/1/2043	5/1/2030	0	0.00%	56,876	56,876	6/30/2036	205,000	69,064	274,064
Avg Life	10.24 Years	11/1/2030	205,000	3.96%	56,876	261,876	6/30/2037	205,000	60,939	265,939
		5/1/2031	0	0.00%	52,813	52,813	6/30/2038	205,000	52,813	257,813
Statistics		11/1/2031	205,000	3.96%	52,813	257,813	6/30/2039	205,000	44,688	249,688
Net Interest Cost	3.96%	5/1/2032	0	0.00%	48,751	48,751	6/30/2040	205,000	36,563	241,563
		11/1/2032	205,000	3.96%	48,751	253,751	6/30/2041	205,000	28,438	233,438

# **Benchmarking**

#### **Operating Ratios – Governmental Activities**

Sub-Category	Draft 2022 Audit	2022 VBB Median	Moody's "A" Pop < 10k*	Notes
Unassigned General Fund Balance as % of Revenue	15.32%	13.6%	45.9%	Indictor of financial resources available to address investments and/or financial resiliency - typically lower in New England communities.
Cash as % of Revenue	133.47%	72.4%	48.4%	Cash available for on-going operations; cash typically higher in VT communities due to
Capital Asset Depreciation	51%	De	pt katios	<ul> <li>Governmental Activities</li> </ul>

#### (Ratio of Undepreciated Assets to

*	So	urce:	Moody	's Inv	estor	Services,	"Cities	and	Counties-	-US

<sup>\*\*</sup> All cities median from Moody's

Original Value)

Sub-Category	Draft 2022 Audit	Prior Audit + \$5 mm Debt	Prior Audit + \$10 mm Debt	Prior Audit + \$15 mm Debt	2022 VBB Median	Moody's "A" Pop < 10k*	Notes
Total Long-Term Debt (LTD)	\$19.03 million	\$24.03 million	\$29.03 million	\$34.03 million	\$849k	\$5.76 million	
Debt Service as % of Operating Expenses	10.14%	12.52%	14.86%	17.22%	6.2%	10.5%	Indication as to amount of budget consumed by debt service; higher amounts may indicate crowding out of other spending priorities or alternative capital spending (ex. PAYGO)
Debt Service as % of Revenue	10.16%	12.52%	14.89%	17.25%	5.9%		See above
Gov Activities LTD as % of Revenue	103.63%	130.86%	158.08%	185.30%	35.1%	110.0%	Indicator of debt relative to the size of annual spending of a community
Gov Activities LTD as % of Equalized Value	1.18%	1.49%	1.80%	2.11%	0.3%	1.5%	Indictor as to the amount of community wealth that is dedicated to repaying debt
Gov Activities 10-year Debt Payoff	61.01%	56.64%	53.77%	51.75%	83.3%		Indicator of how quickly existing debt pays down; may offset higher D/S as a % of operating expenses
Gov Activities Debt per Capita	\$1,781	\$2,249	\$2,717	\$3,185	\$382		Indication of how much general obligation debt that is attributed to

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