

## Vermont Bond Bank



## PRESENATION TO HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE JANUARY 31, 2024

## Bond Bank history

REQUISITION AS TO LOANS FROM LOAN ACCOUNTS

## Vermont Municipal Bond Bank <br> (d/b/a Vermont Bond Bank)

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 2.1, 1970, you are hereby instructed to pay from the following loan accounts the amounṭs to the respective municipalities as shown
below: below

| Han Accounts | Amounts | Municipalities |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |
| Hire Town School Distriet | \$ 260,000 | Berkshire Town School District |
| 'Town School District | 520,000 | Berlin Town School Distriet |
| Hon Town School District | 370,000 | Brighton Town School District |
| 1 Town School District | 430,000 | Cabot Town School District |
| S Town School District | 215,000 | Calais Town School Distriet |
| don Town School District | 700,000 | Castleton Town School Di triet |
| keton Town School Distriet | 400,000 | Charleston Town School Distriet |
| lotte Town School District | 300,000 | Charlotte Town School District |
| idon Town School District | 440,000 | Clarendon Town School District |
| pester Town School District | 1,500,000 | Colchester Town School District |
| - Town School District | 575,000 | Dover Town School Distriet |
| T Toinn School District | 1,235,000 | Essex Town School District |
| Junction Graded School District | 3,160,000 | Essex Junction Graded School Distriet |
| Isse Town School Distriet | 135,000 | raded School District |
| and Town School District | 500,000 |  |
| Wrg Town School District | 450,000 |  |
| Town School Distriet | 90,000 | Peacham Town School District |
| as Town School Distriet | 300,000 |  |
| mabury Town School Distriet , | 1,035,000 | St. Johnsbury Town Sclool District |
| ane Town School District | 1,120,000 | Shelburne Town School District |
| Burlington School Distriet | 465,000 | Sherburne Town School District |
| Durlington Town School District | 1,440,000 | South Burlington Town School District |
| mond Town School District | 440,000 | South Burlington Town School District |
|  | 200,000 | Sunderland Town School District |
| Ston Town School District, Inc. | 325,000 | Underlinll Graded School Distriet, Inc. |
| Pro. Randol ph UHSD District | 655,000 | Wilmington Town School District |
| Colk UHSD No. 4 | 970,000 | Braintree-Randolph UHSI) No. 2 |
| Woi Valley UHSD 4 | 870,000 | Woodstock UHSD No. 4 |
| Poi Valley UHSD No. 7 | 345,000 | Missisquei Valley UHSD No. 7 |
| Wfield UHSD ND No. 7 | 2,000,000 | Missisquoi Valley UHSD Ne. 7 |
| UHSD No. 18 | 3,875,000 | Mt. Mansfield UHSD No. 17 |
|  | 680.000 | Lamoille UHSD No. 18 |

- Bond Bank was created in Fiftieth Biennial Session (1969 / 1970) by the General Assembly
- 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


## Outstanding Balance

\$173,251,697 33\% 3\%
\$17,694,971

$\$ 341,1$
$64 \%$

Berkshire Town School District Berlin Town School Distriet Con Lown School Distriet Calais Town Sclool Ditric Castleton Town School Distric Charleston Town School Distric Clarendon Town School District Colchester Town School District Dover Town School District
Essex Town School District Essex Junction Graded School Distriet Grand Isle Town School District Hartland Town School District Hinesburg Town School District St. Albans Town School Distriet St. Johnsbury Town School District Shelburne Town School District Sherburne Town School District South Burlington Town School District Sunderland Town School District Underlinll Graded School Distriet, Ine. Wilmington Town School District Braintrec-Randolph UHSI) No. 2 Woodstock UHSD No. 4 Missisquoi Valley UHSD No. 7 Lamoille UHSD No. 18
(200000 . .,

Borrowers


61\% Local District

## Bond Bank Priorities for School Construction Aid

## Vermont's school facilities are a liability that requires a policy solution

The current system is not keeping pace with depreciation, which increases financial risk to school districts.

## Schools are social infrastructure with and without students

In the process of finding efficiency, Vermont cannot make this a zero-sum decision for communities and should assist communities in preserving social infrastructure with planning and capital grants alongside subsidies for new school construction. Adaptive reuse of schools for housing has occurred throughout the state and is one example of a potential "win-win" outcome.

Vermont has an economic mechanism but not a political economy for financing school construction The political economy of school construction must be changed through financial incentives. The Bond Bank regularly provides estimated debt service schedules for schools considering bond votes. It also regularly receives notice that the bond votes failed.

## The State of Vermont's credit rating should be leveraged through the Bond Bank

The Bond Bank's public credit rating is derived from the State of Vermont but its debt issuance has minimal impacts on the state's rating. This is not an accident, and the Bond Bank took significant steps over the past several years to restructure the security structure of its bonds to allow this flexibility.

## The Bond Bank's state intercept should be perfected by modifying the flow of educational property taxes

On paper, every school district in Vermont should benefit given a statewide educational tax system but the Bond Bank can only intercept dollars that come from the State of Vermont to borrowers and not dollars transferred from town tax collectors to school districts directly. Rerouting this flow of funds from town tax collectors to the state would allow the Bond Bank to "perfect" the intercept credit enhancement and ensure every school district would benefit while also allowing every borrower to benefit from this enhancement.

## State support should be optimized when other low-cost sources are unavailable

Energy efficiency and renewable energy components of projects will benefit from incentives through the Inflation Reduction Act and energy efficiency utilities within the state. Financial support for schools should be directed to the aggregate project cost rather than specific uses for this reason.

## Historical Bond Issuance Activity (Nominal \$)

## NOMINAL VT SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION SPENDING - 1971 TO PRESENT



Sources: VT Bond Bank; VTJFO

- Unadjusted dollars
- Exclusively reflects Bond Bank data for loan activity (i.e. loans through private banks or other sources not part of dataset)
- Bond Bank made $\$ 807.08$ million in loans over past 52 years
- Total activity of shown of $\$ 1.316$ billion (61\% Bond Bank; 22\% State Aid)


## Historical Bond Issuance Activity (Real \$)

NE URBAN CPI ADJUSTED VT SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION SPENDING - 1971 TO PRESENT


Sources: VT Bond Bank; VTJFO

- Dollars adjusted using Northeast Urban CPI from BLS; does not consider construction cost indices
- Exclusively reflects Bond Bank data for issuance activity (i.e. loans through private banks or other sources not part of dataset)
- On inflation adjusted basis, Bond Bank made $\$ 1.69$ billion in loans over past 52 years
- Total activity shown of $\$ 2.416$ billion (70\% Bond Bank; 21\% State Aid)


## School Related Debt Service in Bond Bank Portfolio

## Aggregate School District Debt Service for Loans Held by the Bond Bank

## As of January 20, 2023

[Note] Does not include sequestration related interest on qualified school construction bonds; adjusted for escrowed loans
Savings rebates provided when Bond Bank refunds underlying bonds for savings--passed to borrowers without new loan agreement

| FISCAL YEAR PAYMENT |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Principal | Interest | Savings <br> Rebates | Net Debt <br> Service |
| 6/30/2023 | $20,177,278$ | $6,043,150$ | $(728,321)$ | $25,492,107$ |
| $6 / 30 / 2024$ | $19,843,553$ | $5,457,580$ | $(668,221)$ | $24,632,912$ |
| $6 / 30 / 2025$ | $17,633,403$ | $4,850,150$ | $(722,002)$ | $21,761,552$ |
| $6 / 30 / 2026$ | $15,858,167$ | $4,297,959$ | $(783,044)$ | $19,373,082$ |
| $6 / 30 / 2027$ | $14,687,012$ | $3,782,116$ | $(395,381)$ | $18,073,747$ |
| $6 / 30 / 2028$ | $12,753,009$ | $3,321,602$ | $(305,228)$ | $15,769,384$ |
| $6 / 30 / 2029$ | $11,490,518$ | $2,913,315$ | $(140,567)$ | $14,263,266$ |
| $6 / 30 / 2030$ | $10,578,793$ | $2,542,478$ | $(98,964)$ | $13,022,308$ |
| $6 / 30 / 2031$ | $9,025,149$ | $2,220,970$ | $(59,984)$ | $11,186,135$ |
| $6 / 30 / 2032$ | $8,914,349$ | $1,932,317$ | $(45,906)$ | $10,800,761$ |
| $6 / 30 / 2033$ | $8,659,933$ | $1,640,223$ | $(28,200)$ | $10,271,956$ |
| $6 / 30 / 2034$ | $7,008,853$ | $1,371,543$ | $(12,458)$ | $8,367,938$ |
| $6 / 30 / 2035$ | $6,229,236$ | $1,144,262$ | 0 | $7,373,498$ |
| $6 / 30 / 2036$ | $6,032,236$ | 935,745 | 0 | $6,967,981$ |
| $6 / 30 / 2037$ | $5,935,736$ | 731,565 | 0 | $6,667,300$ |
| $6 / 30 / 2038$ | $4,916,552$ | 543,915 | 0 | $5,460,467$ |
| $6 / 30 / 2039$ | $3,796,550$ | 394,881 | 0 | $4,191,431$ |
| $6 / 30 / 2040$ | $2,414,661$ | 292,812 | 0 | $2,707,474$ |
| $6 / 30 / 2041$ | $2,013,560$ | 220,924 | 0 | $2,234,484$ |
| $6 / 30 / 2042$ | $1,435,160$ | 162,404 | 0 | $1,597,565$ |
| $6 / 30 / 2043$ | $1,010,160$ | 117,096 | 0 | $1,127,256$ |
| $6 / 30 / 2044$ | 488,183 | 87,046 | 0 | 575,229 |
| $6 / 30 / 2045$ | 463,823 | 66,762 | 0 | 530,585 |
| $6 / 30 / 2046$ | 463,823 | 46,949 | 0 | 510,772 |
| $6 / 30 / 2047$ | 463,823 | 27,135 | 0 | 490,958 |
| $6 / 30 / 2048$ | 383,823 | 8,614 | 0 | 392,437 |
| $6 / 30 / 2049$ |  | 0 |  | 0 |

Historical Yield Data


## National Financial Ratio Comparison

|  |  | Median | Moody's Median* |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Category | Definition (Adopted from Moody's Investor Services Definitions) | Bond Bank | All | "A" Rated |
| w/Enrollment |  |  |  |  |
| >1k and <=5k |  |  |  |  |,

[^0]
## Intercept Programs to Support Schools

- Nearly every state has some sort of credit enhancement for school construction financings
- Most programs structured around a state intercept program
- Typically "notched" off the GO rating of the state
- Vermont State Intercept Program rated "Aa2"


## Vermont Municipal Bond Bank

Update to credit analysis

## Summary

The Vermont Municipal Bond Bank (Aa2 stable) demonstrates strong pool program characteristics including a stable and overall credit quality of pool participants, many of which are supported by the Vermont State Aid Intercept Program (Aa2 stable); large size and diversity of the pool; and the program's sound governance structure and legal provisions. The program also benefits from strong and proactive management and oversight. The bond bank's annual debt service is structured to yield just over 1 times coverage supported by a large debt service reserve fund that yields an adequate default tolerance provided by loan repayments and other available funds. Legal provisions include additional support by the State of Vermont's (Aa1 stable) moral obligation to restore the debt service reserve fund if its is drawn on, subject to appropriation.

## Credit strengths

» Large size and diversity of pool participants
" Experienced management team
" State aid intercept provision enhances credit quality on large portion of pool participants

## Moody's

INVESTORS SERVICE
Rating Action: Moody's assigns Aa3 enhanced rating to RIHEBC's \$34 million Series 2022 A bonds (City of Pawtucket)

08 Dec 2021
NOTE: On December 14, 2021, the press release was corrected as follows: In the first sentence of the press release, the sale description was changed to "Public Schools Revenue Bond Financing Program Revenue Bonds, Series 2022 A (City of Pawtucket Issue)." Revised release follows.
NOTE: On December 10, 2021, the press release was corrected as follows: The Rating Outlook section was removed. Revised release follows.

New York, December 08, 2021 -- Moody's Investors Service has assigned an Aa3 enhanced rating to the Rhode Island Health and Educational Building Corporation's (RIHEBC) $\$ 34$ million Public Schools Revenue Bond Financing Program Revenue Bonds, Series 2022 A (City of Pawtucket Issue).
RATINGS RATIONALE
The Aa3 enhanced rating is based on the mechanics of the Rhode Island Health and Educational Building Corporation (RIHEBC) Intercept Program (monthly pay), which is informed by the State of Rhode Island's (Aa2 Corporation (RIHEBC) Intercept Program (monthly pay), which is informed by the State of Rhode Island's (Aa2 State Basic Education and State Housing Aid on RIHEBC obligations.
Annually, Basic Education aid ( $\$ 95.4$ million) plus existing and projected Housing Aid ( $\$ 5.9$ million) equals $\$ 101$ million and would provide $14.7 \times$ pro forma annual debt service of $\$ 6.89$ million.

TABLE 4: State Aid Intercept Programs

| Program Name | Program Ratings | State Ratings |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Missouri School District Direct Deposit | Aa1/AA+ / AA + | Aaa / AAA / AAA |
| Georgia School District Intercept | Aa1/AA+ / AA + | Aaa / AAA / AAA |
| Indiana School District Enhancement | NR / AA + / AA + | Aaa / AAA / AAA |
| Virginia Localities Intercept | Aa1 / NR / NR | Aaa / AAA / AAA |
| Ohio School District Credit Enhancement | Aa2 / AA / AA | Aa1/ AA + / AA+ |
| Massachusetts Qualified Bond | Aa2 / AA / NR | Aa1 / AA / AA + |
| Arkansas School District Intercept | Aa2 / NR / NR | Aal / AA / NR |
| Colorado School District Credit Enhancement | Aa2 / AA- / AA | Aal / AA / NR |
| Dormitory Authority of State of New York School District Intercept | Aa3 / NR / NR | Aa2 / AA $+/$ AA + |
| New Mexico School District Intercept | Aa3 / NR / NR | Aa2 / AA / NR |
| Mississippi School District Debt Enhancement | NR / AA- / NR | Aa $2 / A A / A A$ |
| Pennsylvania School District Intercept | A $2 / \mathrm{NR} / \mathrm{A}+$ | Aa3 / A $/$ / AA |
| Kentucky School District Enhancement | A1 / A- -+ ] / ${ }^{+}$ | Aa3 / A [ + / / AA- |
| New Jersey Qualified Bond | $3 / \mathrm{BBB}[+] / \mathrm{BBB}+[+]$ | A2 / BBB $+[+] / \mathrm{A}-[+]$ |

[-] Negative Outlook; [+] Positive Outlook; NR = Not Rated
Source: Moody's Investors Service, S\&P Global Ratings, Fitch Ratings, FCM, as of March 11, 2022.
Source: Fidelity Capital Markets; State School District Credit

## Implicit Equity in the Bond Bank's Structure

## Vermont Bond Bank

Vermont Bond Bank; State Revolving Funds/Pools<br>Credit Profile<br>US $\$ 30.92$ mil local investment bnds ser 20322 due 12/01/2053<br>Long Term Rating AA+/Stable New<br>US $\$ 20.585$ mil rfdg bnds ser 20233 due 12/01/2033<br>Long Term Rating AA+/Stable New

## Vermont Municipal Bond Bank

Update to credit analysis

## Summary

The Vermont Bond Bank (VBB, Aa2 stable) demonstrates strong pool program characteristics including an overall stable credit quality of pool participants, many of which are supported by the Vermont State Aid Intercept Program (Aa2 stable). The bond bank's pool of participants is large and very diverse with a sound governance structure and legal provisions. The program also benefits from strong and proactive management and oversight. The bond bank's annual debt service is structured to yield just over one times coverage supported by a large debt service reserve fund that results in an adequate default tolerance provided by loan repayments and other available funds. Legal provisions include additional support by the State of Vermont's (Aa1 stable issuer rating) moral obligation pledge to restore the debt service reserve fund.

Stability and expertise despite local staffing challenges - consolidated debt expertise despite wider financial officer recruitment challenges

## Local School Bond Issuance Capacity

## High Potential for Market Absorption

Market Absorption. Sustained loan portfolio growth and bond issuance growth will help the Bond Bank find better market access and investor focus, even with a split structure of Senior and Subordinate bonds. The Bond Bank has been prudent
in utilizing bank loans for smaller financings and also recently evaluated its ability to access the competitive market with success. As the Bond Bank's longstanding senior manager, owner of the largest retail presence in the market, and leading institutional distribution capabilities, we have ummatched knowledge of how investors evaluate the Bond Bank. We do not think there is a specificic limit to market absorption of the Bond Bank' $\$$ bonds now or in the future. Many of the Bond Bank's peers have significantly more debt outstanding. VRA has about $\$ 5.5$ billion of debt outstanding across its Infrastucture
and Moral Obligation program which is roughly 10 x the amount of debt the Bond Bank has outstanding. As a long-standing senior manager for VRA, we can firmly state that VRA has strong market access and regularly utilizes a combination of negotiated and competitive bond sales with tight pricing results.
As discussed with the Bond Bank and its financing team in advance of the Summer 2022 sale, we also think it's important to state that investors are well aware of the changes the Bond Bank is making. Certain investors asked questions regarding the General Resolution modifications to simply help understand what was changing and there were no concerns raised. The Summer 2022 and Winter 2023 sales went well, and we are not aware of any investors that did not purchase the bonds due to the prort the VBB and its underlying borrowers.
19. Provide an overview of the current buy-side environment for municipal-specific funds that cater to social or environmental criteria. Discuss what, if anything, the Bond Bank should consider changing to benefit from these fiund

| RELATIONSHIP OF SUBSIDY AMOUNT AND TOTAL DEBT |  |  |  |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  | Debt Service Aid / Subsidy |  |
|  |  | $\mathbf{2 0 \%}$ |  |
| School Debt | Annual PMT | $\mathbf{4 0 \%}$ |  |
| $\$ 100$ | $\$ 5.78$ | $\$ 1.16$ | $\$ 2.31$ |
| $\$ 1,000,000$ | $\$ 57,830$ | $\$ 11,566$ | $\$ 23,132$ |
| $\$ 10,000,000$ | $\$ 578,301$ | $\$ 115,660$ | $\$ 231,320$ |
| $\$ 100,000,000$ | $\$ 5,783,010$ | $\$ 1,156,602$ | $\$ 2,313,204$ |
| $\$ 1,000,000,000$ | $\$ 57,830,099$ | $\$ 11,566,020$ | $\$ 23,132,040$ |

## But...at what cost?

- Downgrades to either the State of Vermont or Bond Bank's credit rating would impact all governmental units across the state
- National school medians for $\mathrm{d} / \mathrm{s}$ to operating revenue is 5.5\%
- Applied to statewide education spending in FY 23 (\$1.56 b) the above ratio would support approximately $\$ 86$ million in annual $\mathrm{d} / \mathrm{s}$, which equates to approximately $\$ 1.2$ billion in debt using Moody's methodology (i.e. 20 year level d/s at current market rates)
- Combined debt outstanding of the Bond Bank and State of Vermont equals approximately $\$ 1.1$ billion (following Bond Bank's anticipated winter bond sale)


## Concurrent Statewide Goals

- Growing Vermont's workforce and reversing an aging population
- Improving housing options by lowering geographic disparities in access to quality educational facilities
- Access to climate resilient social infrastructure to support community needs


## V

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Bond Bank


[^0]:    *from financial statements not facilities assessment

