



# **Bonds as the Bedrock** of Development Finance

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Patrick A. Ray Juan Salgado

pat.ray@kutakrock.com jsalgado@phoenixida.com



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# CAN I FINANCE MY PROJECT THROUGH A BOND ISSUE?

Yes! If permitted by those pesky...

- Lawyers
- State laws
- Federal tax laws
- Practical market forces





#### THE BIG PICTURE

- Bond is nothing more than a "fancy loan"
- Capital markets as lender
- Result is a low interest rate and flexible terms
- Typically \$3-4 million minimum
- Public offering or private placement





# PARTICIPANTS IN A TYPICAL BOND ISSUE

- Issuer
- Borrower
- Underwriter
- Trustee
- Bond Counsel





# **TYPICAL BOND PROJECTS**

- Manufacturing or commercial facilities
- Office buildings
- Health care institutions
- Housing (single family and multifamily)
- Convention or trade show facilities
- Airports, docks, wharves, transportation, parking facilities
- Water/sewer, solid waste disposal, electric energy, or gas facilities

- Industrial park facilities
- Air or water pollution control facilities
- Educational facilities, including charter schools
- Public-private partnership (P3) projects
- 501(c)(3) projects
- Detention or correctional facilities
- Anything else that generates a revenue stream





# **DOCUMENTS IN A TYPICAL BOND ISSUE**

- Trust Indenture
- Loan Agreement
- Official Statement (OS)





#### STATE PRIVATE ACTIVITY BOND (PAB) ALLOCATION

- 2014 PAB cap is \$662,662,400 for Arizona
- About \$500,000,000 of unused cap
- Applies to most PABs other than 501(c)(3) bonds and current refundings
- 10% Director's discretion, 35% MRBs,10% MF, 20% student loans,15% IDBs, 10% other
- January 1 first lottery; cap of \$35 million; valid for 90 days; repooling July 1; all done December 17





# **STEPS ASSOCIATED WITH BOND ISSUANCE**

- Preliminary resolution of issuer
- Apply for PAB cap allocation
- TEFRA notice and hearing
- Draft bond documents
- Final resolution of issuer
- Print and mail official statement
- Price the bonds
- Close and fund





#### WHAT IS AN IDA?

- The IDA Act gives IDAs specific statutory authority to issue bonds for numerous projects that most local governments do not have the authority to do
- Can issue tax-exempt bonds under the Federal Tax Code
- An alternative to traditional bank loans, allows borrowers access to credit from the capital markets
- Ability to borrow at a lower rate, bond buyers are willing to accept in recognition of tax-exempt nature of the interest
- Think of it as a coupon for approximately 30-35% reduction in interest costs prior to adjustment for higher cost of issuance





#### **ABOUT THE PHOENIX IDA**

- Established in 1981
- Serves as a conduit issuer of private activity bonds
- Provides access to capital for community and economic development
- Strives to increase job opportunities within our communities
- Provides affordable housing for underserved communities
- **Does not** rely on taxpayer or general fund dollars





# **CHARACTERISTICS OF IDA BONDS**

- IDA serves as a conduit issuer of bonds; once the bonds are issued, the IDA has limited ongoing involvement
- Bond investors deal primarily with the conduit borrower and the bond trustee
- IDAs, the State, nor the host jurisdiction (i.e. City, County) have any payment obligation on the bonds
- Borrower is typically required to pay annual fees to the issuer, usually through the trustee





#### **CASE STUDIES**

Project Name	Amount Financed	Bond Type
JMF-Higley 2012, LLC Project	\$70,630,000	Education Facility Revenue Bonds
Vieste SPE, LLC – Glendale, AZ Project	\$28,395,000	Solid Waste Disposal Facility Revenue Bonds





# **CASE STUDY #1: HIGLEY**

- Project: 2 new middle schools in Gilbert & Queen Creek for the Higley Unified School District No. 60
- **Borrower:** sole member, The James Megellas Foundation, LLC [501(c)(3)]
- Real property: owned by the District, with 40-year lease to the Borrower; ground subleased & facilities leased back to District (40 years w/annual nonrenewal right)
- Design Builder: CORE Construction
- Underwriters: Lawson Financial and HJ Sims
- **Trustee:** Bank of Arizona
- Bond Counsel: Kutak Rock LLP
- Political Subdivisions: Phoenix IDA, Higley School District, the cities of Phoenix, Gilbert and Queen Creek, Maricopa County, State Attorney General
- Result: 2 new middle schools built (1,600 students), no debt incurred, no school bond election required





# **CASE STUDY #2: VIESTE**

- **Project:** New materials recovery facility owned by Vieste SPE, LLC (special purpose LLC) in Glendale, AZ; Phase I: Renewable energy production facility
- **Real property:** owned by City of Glendale, 30-year lease to Developer
- Under Waste Supply Agreement: City supplies waste, recyclables and pays tipping fees
- Underwriter: HJ Sims and Lawson Financial
- Trustee: Bank of Arizona
- Bond Counsel: Kutak Rock LLP
- Political Subdivisions: Phoenix IDA, the cities of Phoenix and Glendale, State Attorney General
- Result: Approx. 180,000 tons of solid waste processed annually at reduced cost to City; no reliance on landfills





# Questions & Answers