

Appendix F

Debt Service

Debt service is the cost of repayment of debt, including principal, interest and agent fees.

The debt service included in the General Government Operating Budget typically represents debt incurred in the following ways:

- General Obligation (GO) Bonds (voter approval required to incur debt)
- Revenue Bonds (assembly approval required to incur debt)
- Short Term Borrowing Programs (STBP) (assembly approval required to incur debt)
- Lease/Purchase Agreements (assembly approval required to incur debt)
- Tax Anticipation Notes (TANs) (assembly approval required to incur debt)

GO Bonds

A GO Bond is a municipal bond backed by the full faith, credit and taxing power of the Municipality. GO bonds appear as a proposition on a general election ballot for covering the cost of capital expenditures. They require authorization by the assembly and approval by a majority of Anchorage voters as well as a majority of voters in that service area. The debt is repaid by property tax payers in that service area.

The Municipality generally issues 20 year bonds but makes sure that there is sufficient principal being paid off to cover the shorter useful life assets in the bond package.

The amount of GO bond debt that the Municipality can incur is limited only by GO bond amounts approved by voters. GO bond debt service is included in the Tax Cap Calculation for the 5 Major Funds - the mill rate for these funds is increased to accommodate the GO bond debt service. The debt service for service areas that set their own mill rate must fall within the maximum mill rate for the service area in which the debt is incurred, unless an increase for debt service payment is approved by voters on the bond proposition.

The Municipality's GO Bond Ratings and Outlook are as follows:

Standard & Poor's	AAA	Outlook: Stable
Fitch Ratings	AA+	Outlook: Stable

Revenue Bonds

A Revenue Bond is a bond supported solely by the revenues generated from a specific project or enterprise. These are not supported by the full taxing power of the Municipality. An example would be the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts where ticket surcharges pay for that facilities' debt service on the bonds issued to finance replacement of the roof in 2004.

Short Term Borrowing Programs (STBP)

Short Term Borrowing Programs are similar to a bank loan or credit line, used to offer interim financing under flexible terms until they are paid off, generally with Revenue Bonds.

Lease/Purchase Agreements

Agreement between the Municipality and Key Government Finance, Inc. or Sun Trust that provides market rate loans to the Municipality for the purchase and eventual ownership of specific assets. The Agreements are entered into on an as-needed basis and the loans are typically repaid over the life of the asset. The debt service related to Lease/Purchase Agreements is not limited, but must fall within the maximum mill rate for the service area in which the Lease/Purchase Agreement is made.

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TANs

Tax Anticipation Notes (TANs) are short term notes issued by the Municipality for the purpose of raising funds to pay ongoing operating expenses. They are issued in anticipation of receiving property taxes and other revenues scheduled to be collected during the year. TANs are retired prior to the current year end. The debt service related to TANs is not limited but must fall within the maximum mill rate for the service area for which the TANs are made.