



# Rural Water Financing Agency

Financing Alternatives for Utilities & Governmental Borrowers July 2024

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# Section 1

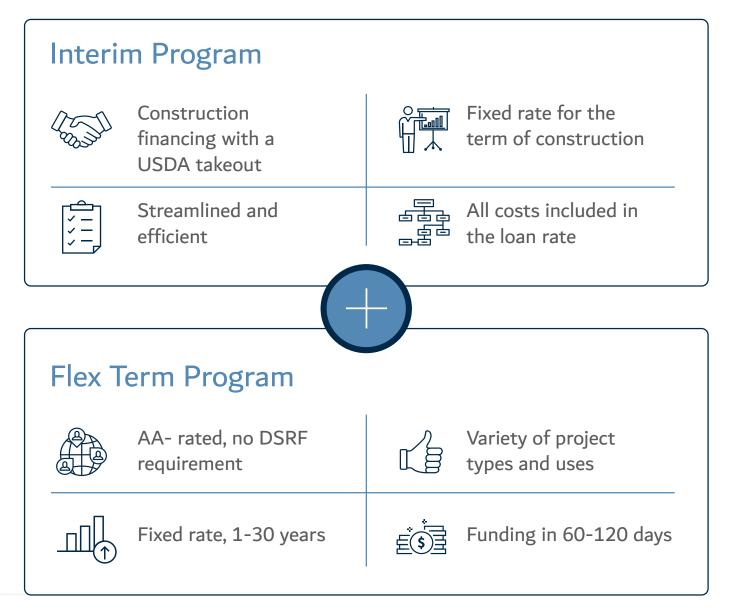
OVERVIEW OF RURAL WATER FINANCING AGENCY



The Rural Water Financing Agency is a public agency designed to allow borrowers of the Agency to join together for the purposes of financing projects on a pooled basis.

The Agency can lend to governmental entity borrowers in all 50 states.

RuralWaterFinance.com



## A Rural Water Partner

The Agency is headquartered in Bowling Green, KY and has partnership agreements in place with 15 state rural water associations

> Gary Larimore is President/CEO of RWFA and the former Executive Director of KRWA





## Rural Water Financing Agency

**Program Case Studies** 



## \$1,115,000,000 Rural Water Financing Agency\*

Interim Program 1995 – Present

- Funded 495 loans
- MIG-1 rated Program
- Assisted other states in setting up similar programs (\$2.7 billion, 760 projects)

\$550,000,000 Rural Water Financing Agency\* Flex-Term Program 2001 – Present

- Funded 306 loans
- AA- rated Program
- No borrower reserve requirement
- \$23M Program-level Reserve

## Rural Water Financing Agency

## Finance Team

					Log Control Co
RURAL WATER FINANCING AGENCY	ILLINOIS RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION	BORROWER MA & BOND COUNSEL	RAYMOND JAMES	RUBIN & HAYS	REGIONS BANK
Issuer of Debt Program Oversight Approvals	Sponsor Broadcast to Borrowers Broadcast to Engineers Broadcast to Counsels and other state organizations	Counsel prepares legal documents and guides Borrower through the approval process Advisor guides Borrower on terms, structure, etc.	Program management, financials & cashflows Lead continuing disclosure Rating presentations Borrower coordination Investor coordination	RWFA Bond Counsel Provide tax-exempt opinion Draft legal docs Review underlying loans	RWFA Trustee Debt service payments Loan disbursements Loan payoffs

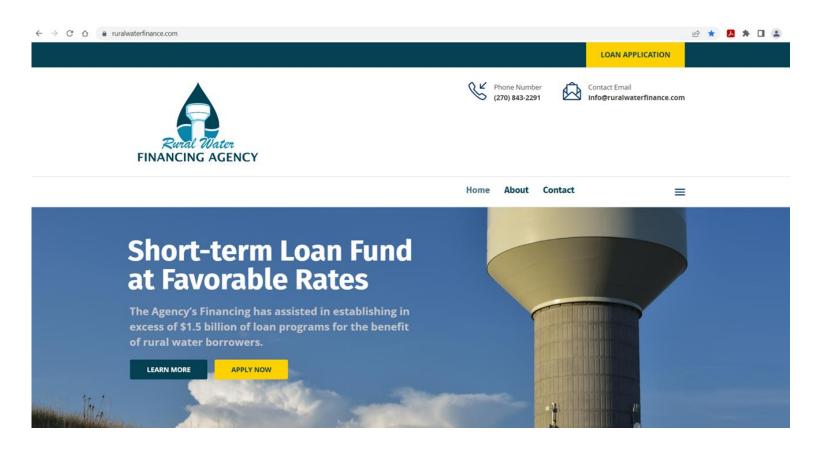
## Submit an application at <u>RuralWaterFinance.com</u>

#### Interim Program:

- ✓ Finance team contact info
- ✓ USDA Letter of Conditions
- ✓ Latest audit

#### Flex Term Program:

- ✓ Finance team contact info
- ✓ Operating information
- ✓ Last three audits



# Section 2

**INTERIM PROGRAM** 



## Purposes & Benefits

COMPETITIVE RATES & TERMS	ECONOMIES OF SCALE	MEETS REGULATIONS	CASHFLOW BENEFIT
<ul> <li>Est. 2-year rate: 5.15%</li> <li>Est. investment rate: 5.25%</li> <li>Includes all RWFA costs (underwriting, RWFA bond counsel, rating, etc.)</li> <li>Fixed rate for the term of construction</li> <li>Average cost on closed loans: <b>1.95%</b></li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Standardized and consistent loan process</li> <li>Benefits to borrowers, counsels, advisors, USDA and others</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Meets USDA regulations</li> <li>USDA does not provide construction financing; USDA requires the borrower to obtain from other sources</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Serves as an interest rate hedge</li> <li>Borrower can defer principal</li> </ul>

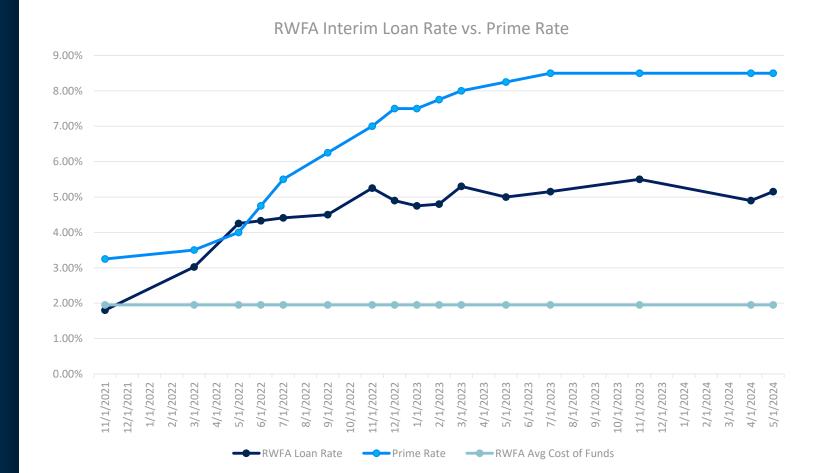
## Interim Program: Loan Rate History

## RWFA Interim Loan Rate vs. Prime Rate

5.15% Current RWFA Loan Rate

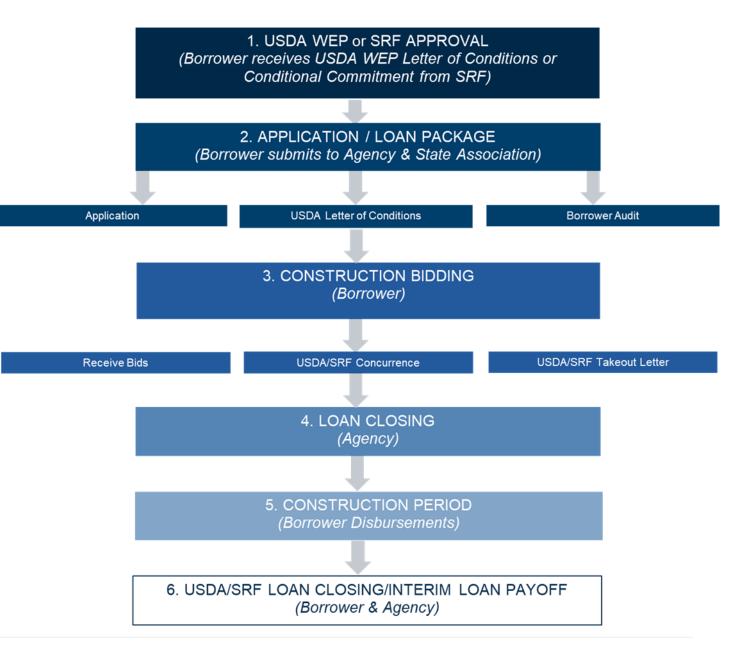
**1.95%** Average RWFA Cost of Funds

**8.50%** Current Prime Rate



## Interim Program: Process

Streamlined & Efficient



## Interim Program: Details

Anticipated market issuances of 3-4 times per year





### Security

- Loan agreements between Borrower and Agency
- Loans will be secured by the proceeds of the USDA loan. If the USDA does not close, the loan will be secured by revenues of the system, or in some cases, a general obligation of the borrower

## Market Access

- Rating
  - All the Agency's issuances have been rated MIG-1 (highest short-term rating from Moody's)
- Underwriting
  - Raymond James has been underwriting MIG-1 rated notes with USDA takeouts since 2003 and has developed a substantial group of institutional investors

### Terms

- Maturity
  - Generally 18-36 months
- Loan Size
  - No minimum, no maximum
- Optional Call
  - Yes, after 6-9 months

- Interest
  - Capitalized from loan proceeds
- USDA Oversight
  - Approves all disbursements, onsite monthly during construction and provides oversight throughout the process

## Millville City, Utah



Rural Water Financing Agency Interim Loan to: Millville City, Utah

May 2022 – March 2024

#### Contacts

Nick Roederer Raymond James // 502.560.1274

Dale Pierson Rural Water Assoc of Utah // 801.756.5123

#### Background

• Millville, UT received the following funding commitments to install a wastewater collection system throughout the City:

Total Project	\$30,300,000
Applicant	220,000
DEQ Grant	5,500,000
DEQ Loan	500,000
USDA Grants	9,349,000
USDA Loans	\$14,731,000

- The City applied to RWFA for a \$14,731,000 Interim Loan on 3/24/22
- RWFA had funds available from an earlier pool at 1.80% and on 5/11/22, RWFA made the following loans:
  - \$8,250,000 RWFA Loan #1 @ 1.80% / 5.30%
  - \$6,481,000 RWFA Loan #2 @ 4.25%
- As the project progressed, USDA closed out on the first \$8,250,000 Loan in August 2023 and the second \$6,481,000 loan in March 2024

	Loan #1	Loan #2	Total
Project Draws	\$7,830,660	\$6,316,570	\$14,147,230
Plus: Loan Interest	310,544	517,985	828,529
Less: Interest Earnings	(196,667)	(355,850)	(552,517)
Total Payoff	\$7,944,537	\$6,478,705	\$14,423,242

#### Successful outcome

- \$8,250,000 RWFA Loan cost: 1.06%
- \$6,481,000 RWFA Loan cost: 1.33%
- Blended cost of funds: 1.18%

# Section 3

FLEX TERM PROGRAM



## Flex Term Program

Borrower & Project Eligibility

## **Eligible Borrowers**

Public Agencies (non-profits are not eligible)

- Revenue supported: have and maintain a 1.20x debt service coverage ratio (rate and tax increases can be taken into consideration in the analysis)
- General Obligation supported: analysis of the governmental entity
- No population restrictions

## Eligible Projects

Any governmental-type project

Projects are not subject to Davis Bacon, BABAA, American Iron and Steel

## Flex Term Program: Purposes & Benefits

QUICK ACCESS TO FLEXIBLE TERMS	HIGHLY RATED	RESERVE BENEFIT	VARIETY OF PROJECT TYPES
<ul> <li>1-30 Year Maturity</li> <li>Fixed Rate</li> <li>Amortization options</li> <li>Access to funds in 60-120 days</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>AA- rated by S&amp;P</li> <li>As of 6/28/24, the average true interest cost is estimated at:         <ul> <li>3.90% (15 Year)</li> <li>4.40% (30 Year)</li> </ul> </li> <li>The interest rate is locked in on the day the Program Bonds are sold</li> <li>Costs of issuance vary by size of borrower; a detailed estimate is available upon request</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>No reserve fund requirement for Borrower</li> <li>Borrower has access to RWFA Program Reserve (approx. \$24M)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Acquisition, construction, improvement</li> <li>Refinancing</li> <li>Interim funding prior to USDA takeout letter</li> <li>Match funding &amp; cost overruns</li> <li>Secured by G.O., taxes or revenue</li> </ul>

## Villages of Hutsonville & Louisville, Illinois

## \$700,000 & \$715,000

Rural Water Financing Agency Flex Term Loans to:

Village of Hutsonville (IL) & Village of Louisville (IL)

Series 2024B

#### Contacts

Will Glass Raymond James // 309.750.0899

#### Don Craig IL Rural Water Assoc // 217.561.1061

#### Village of Hutsonville Background

- The Village of Hutsonville in Crawford County, Illinois sent an RFP to several financing firms, including Raymond James, for ideas for financing the costs of capital improvements to the waterworks and sewerage system. The Village and their municipal advisor ultimately decided to move forward with Raymond James and Rural Water Financing Agency.
- The Village wanted a fixed rate loan that could be amortized over a long period of time that they could pay from the net water and sewer revenues received from system users.
- Raymond James provided the idea to work through the RWFA and the Flexible Term Program because of their unique capabilities and specialization helping rural communities finance water infrastructure needs and their track record of providing fixed rate low interest cost loans that can be repaid over a longer period than is typical from a commercial bank.

#### Successful outcome

#### Village of Louisville Background

- The Village of Louisville in Clay County, Illinois had a need for sewer lagoon improvements for which they had already started work on and had taken out a line of credit to provide the required financing.
- The Village wanted to pay off this line of credit and amortize the costs of the project over a longer period of time and lower their interest costs.
- Raymond James was brought in by the Village to look at available financing options and the Rural Water Financing Agency was identified as a loan provider that could provide a fixed rate loan for up to 30 years.

- Both Villages benefitted from Rural Water Financing Agency Flexible Term Program by applying for loans for their projects and were ultimately able to get their financing in place quickly (approx. 90 days).
- The loans each had 25-year terms and are able to be refinanced at no penalty after ten years.
- The net interest cost of the loans was under 4.5% over 25 years at a fixed interest rate.
- The loan proceeds remain invested until they are needed for the project and the current investment rate is greater than 5% which provides a lower cost of funds based on when the funds are needed.
- Economies of scale were achieved by combining these two loans into one offering from Rural Water Financing Agency thereby lowering issuance expenses and passing on the lower costs to the Villages.



# Questions?

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