

Rating Action: Moody's Assigns Aa2 to Miramar, FL's Utility Sys. Ref. Rev.

Bonds, Ser. 2017

Global Credit Research - 05 Oct 2017

New York, October 05, 2017 -- Issue: Utility System Refunding Revenue Bonds, Series 2017; Rating: Aa2; Rating Type: Underlying LT; Sale Amount: \$33,880,000; Expected Sale Date: 10/17/2017; Rating Description: Revenue: Government Enterprise;

Summary Rating Rationale

Moody's Investors Service has assigned an initial rating of Aa2 to the City of Miramar's (FL) Water and Sewer Enterprise's \$33.9 million Utility System Refunding Revenue Bonds, Series 2017.

The Aa2 rating incorporates the system's established and stable, mostly residential service area, well-managed financial operations supported by annual rate increases, low debt burden with healthy debt service coverage, and adequate legal provisions including no debt service reserve fund.

Rating Outlook

Outlooks are not usually assigned to local government credits with this amount of debt outstanding.

Factors that Could Lead to an Upgrade

Significant and sustained growth in customer base and demand

Material improvement in debt service coverage and liquidity

Factors that Could Lead to a Downgrade

Deterioration of debt service coverage and/or liquidity

Significant increase in debt or capital needs

Legal Security

The bonds are secured by the net revenues and connection fees of the water and wastewater system. Adequate legal provisions include a rate covenant of net revenues equal to 1.00 times annual debt service (or net revenues, connection fees, and fund balance equal to 1.10 times annual debt service and 1.20 times as long as the Series 2015 bond is outstanding), and an additional bonds test equal to 1.20 times MADS (1.30 times as long as the Series 2015 bond is outstanding). This issue does not have a debt service reserve fund.

Use of Proceeds

Proceeds from this issue will be used to refund the Series 2007 bonds (maturity 2037) for an estimated net present value savings of \$4.4 million, or 11.5% of refunded principal with no extension of maturities.

Obligor Profile

The utility provides combined water and sewer services for the City of Miramar and serviced approximately 33,896 water customers and 33,827 sewer customers in fiscal 2016.

Methodology

The principal methodology used in this rating was US Municipal Utility Revenue Debt published in December 2014. Please see the Rating Methodologies page on www.moodys.com for a copy of this methodology.

Regulatory Disclosures

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