

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION**

DATE : February 13, 2026

TO : Supervisor Marcelia Nicholson-Bovell, Chairwoman, County Board of Supervisors

FROM : Pamela Bryant, Director of Capital Finance, Office of the Comptroller

SUBJECT: **Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of the Airport Revenue Refunding Bonds**

Request

The Office of the Comptroller is requesting the approval of the attached authorizing and parameters resolution for the issuance of a combined not-to-exceed amount of \$19,325,000 for the issuance of Airport Revenue Refunding Bonds. The Airport Revenue Refunding Bonds will refund the balance of the outstanding Airport Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2016A.

The attached resolution authorizes the issuance of the Airport Revenue Refunding Bonds, provides parameters for the issuances, authorizes appropriation transfers to facilitate the transaction, and delegates approval of the sale of the bonds to the Comptroller. The Comptroller’s approval is limited to results of the sales that fall within the parameters outlined in the resolutions.

Background

The County issued \$46,165,000 in Series 2016A Airport Revenue Refunding Bonds. The proceeds for the 2016 Airport Revenue Refunding Bonds were used to refund the outstanding balances of the Series 2005A, Series 2006A, and Series 2007A General Airport Revenue Bonds.

The 2026 Airport Revenue Refunding Bonds will refund the following outstanding maturities:

Series 2016A Airport Revenue Refunding Bonds	
Maturity	Amount
2026*	\$ 3,430,000.00
2027	\$ 3,600,000.00
2028	\$ 3,780,000.00
2029	\$ 3,975,000.00
2030	\$ 4,165,000.00
2031	\$ 2,195,000.00
2032	\$ 765,000.00
Total	\$ 21,910,000.00
Amount refunded by 2026A Revenue Refunding Bonds	\$ 18,480,000.00

*The appropriation for the payment due for the 2026 maturity is included in the 2026 Operating Budget.

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Estimated Debt Service Savings

The Office of the Comptroller has prepared an estimated debt service schedule for the issuance of \$17,415,000 of 2026 Airport Revenue Refunding Bonds with a premium of \$1,164,870 and \$462,000 of budgeted airport debt service funds. The schedule includes cost of issuance of \$174,150 and underwriter's discount of \$30,476.

The total combined estimated debt service cost is \$20,623,556, including \$3,208,556 in interest costs. The estimated present value savings is \$806,943.

Bond Sale Parameters

The parameters for the financing consist of the following:

- A total not-to-exceed amount of \$19,325,000.
- Final maturity – the final maturity cannot be later than 2032.
- Payment Schedule/Savings – The 2026 Airport Revenue Refunding Bonds shall mature in the years and in the amounts as the Comptroller shall determine; provided that the aggregate debt service on the 2026 Airport Revenue Refunding Bonds in all years combined shall not be greater than the aggregate debt service on the refunded bonds in all years combined.
- Call provision – The parameters resolution provides that the call provision will be determined by the Comptroller and will be set forth in the Approving Certificate.
- Minimum purchase price of 99 percent of the par amount of the bonds for each series – The price of the bond reflects the maximum price an investor would want to pay for the bond based on the coupon rate and the market rate. This is known as the yield or rate of return on the bond. When the coupon rate on the bond is equal to the market rate the purchase price is equal to the principal amount of the bond (par). If the coupon rate is lower than the market rate, the bonds will be purchased at a discount. If the coupon is higher than the market rate, the bonds will be purchased at a premium. If there is a premium paid, the amount of the premium would be used to reduce the amount of the refunding bond issue. Whether or not the bond purchase price is a par, discount or premium is dependent upon market conditions on the day of the sale.

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DEBT ISSUANCE EXPENSES

The attached resolution authorizes and directs the Comptroller to request credit ratings and to pay all professional services and other issuance expenses related to the issuance of the bonds. The resolution also appoints US Bank will continue to serve as the trustee and fiscal agent for the 2026 Airport Revenue Refunding Bonds as permitted by Wisconsin State Statute 67.10 (2). An administrative appropriation transfer may be processed to increase expenditure authority to pay for the cost of issuance. Anticipated expenses include bond counsel fees, airport consultant fees, financial advisory fees, credit rating fees and other issuance costs.

PUBLIC HEARING REQUIREMENTS FOR PRIVATE ACTIVITY BONDS

The 2026 Airport Revenue Refunding Bonds are private activity bond issues within the meaning of the federal tax code. The issuance of tax-exempt bonds for these purposes requires that a public hearing be scheduled to allow citizens to comment on the issuance of the bonds. A public hearing will need to be scheduled as an item for the March 12 meeting of the Finance Committee to allow for public comment on the projects.

RECOMMENDATION

The Office of the Comptroller requests that the Finance Committee approve and recommend approval by the full County Board of the attached resolution. The resolution authorizes the issuance of a not-to-exceed amount of \$19,325,000 in Airport Revenue Refunding Bonds and delegates, to the Comptroller, the authority to approve the final terms and conditions of the bond sale provided that those terms and conditions are within the parameters set forth in the resolution.

Pamela Bryant _____

Pamela Bryant
Director of Capital Finance

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cc: David Crowley, County Executive
Supervisor Willie Johnson, Jr., Chairman, Finance Committee
Mary Jo Meyers, Chief of Staff
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board
Liz Sumner, Milwaukee County Comptroller
Samta Bhatnagar, Deputy Director, MCDOT-Airport
Justin Rodriguez, Capital Project Manager
Vince Masterson, Capital Budget Manager
Stephen Cady, Research Director
Bridgette Keating, Quarles and Brady
Emile Banks, Emile Banks & Associates
Matthew Schnackenberg, Public Financial Management
Tionna Reed Pooler, Independent Public Advisors