



Swap Policy. State law does not empower the County to enter into interest rate exchange agreements (i.e., swaps). The Nassau County Interim Finance Authority (“NIFA”) and the Nassau Health Care Corporation (“NHCC”) are each statutorily empowered, under certain circumstances, to enter into swaps. NIFA and NHCC have each executed several LIBOR-based swaps to hedge their respective variable rate debt exposures and to enhance the savings generated by refundings of outstanding debt, which conform to the County’s swap policy described below.

To the extent that the swaps into which NIFA has entered do not perform as expected, the County’s financial position will be positively or negatively affected. Pursuant to the Stabilization Agreement dated as of September 22, 2004 and the Successor Agreement dated as of November 1, 2007 entered into by the County and NHCC, the interest and net swap payments are made by the County on behalf of NHCC, and are secured by offsets of service payments and other amounts owed to NHCC and liens on certain of NHCC’s assets.

The County utilizes a swap policy to guide its decisions regarding swaps. The policy identifies six reasons for entering into swaps: optimize the County’s capital structure; achieve appropriate asset/liability match; actively manage or reduce interest rate risk; provide greater financial flexibility; generate interest rate savings; and enhance investment yields.

The County’s swap policy puts forth a series of recommended terms for swap agreements. The policy recommends the use of ISDA swap documentation, including the Schedule to the Master Agreement, the Credit Support Annex, and a Swap Confirmation. The policy recommends that swaps should provide for optional termination at market at any time and in the event of a counterparty credit downgrade. The policy also recommends that swap agreements should only be made with qualified swap counterparties, and that the County should seek to diversify counterparty credit risk.

LIBOR-based interest rate swaps carry certain risks, notably basis risk, counterparty risk, rollover risk, tax risk, and termination risk. Working with NIFA and NHCC, respectively, the County has made efforts to mitigate these risks. As recommended by the swap policy, the County regularly monitors these risks.