



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Bexar County receives top bond rating

Bexar County's long-term debt rating has increased from Aa1 to Aaa after Moody's Investor Services adjusted its governmental evaluation process. Aaa is the highest available credit rating from Moody's; it enables the lowest borrowing cost in the market today and saves taxpayer dollars.

The County's Finance team estimates that for a debt portfolio of similar size to the County's, the difference between having a rating of Aa1 and a rating of Aaa could save anywhere from \$6 million to \$10 million over the life of the debt.

"With this Aaa rating, Bexar County will be able to continue to improve our community's economy and standard of living through important capital projects, such as our \$500 million flood control program and our Visitors Tax projects," County Judge Nelson W. Wolff said.

"The financial planning and forecasting process that Commissioners Court and I initiated more than a decade ago is continuing to pay dividends to the taxpayers, as this is now the second time in three years that the County's bond rating has been increased," Commissioner Paul Elizondo said. "Our commitment to sound fiscal policy is one reason that the County has been able to reduce our tax rate by nearly 16 percent since 1994."

Commissioner Tommy Adkisson said: "The savings from the County's Aaa rating will benefit both current and future taxpayers by reducing the annual cost of our debt. At this time of unprecedented economic challenge, the Commissioners Court's strong management of taxpayer funds is more important than ever."

"The Aaa rating is a reflection of the County's fiscal policy and stable economic base," Commissioner Sergio "Chico" Rodriguez said. "As the representative of one of the fastest growing areas of the County, I am pleased that this new rating will help us continue to deliver the infrastructure that our growing job base will require."

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Commissioner Kevin Wolff said: “In part, this credit rating increase is due to the County’s leadership on economic development projects, such as the recruitment of Medtronic to relocate here. I want to thank my colleagues on the Court for helping make these and other important job-creating projects happen.”

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