

# Rating Action: Moody's Ratings assigns Aaa to New Providence, NJ's Series 2025 GOs

30 Jun 2025

New York, June 30, 2025 -- Moody's Ratings (Moody's) has assigned a Aaa rating to the Borough of New Providence, NJ's proposed \$16.5 million General Improvement Bonds, Series 2025 (Callable). We maintain the borough's Aaa issuer rating, the Aaa rating on its outstanding general obligation unlimited tax (GOULT) bonds and the MIG 1 rating on its short-term notes. Following the issuance, the borough will have an estimated \$26.3 million of total debt outstanding.

# RATINGS RATIONALE

The Aaa issuer rating reflects the borough's favorable location near New York City (Aa2 stable) and its stable local economy with high resident wealth and income levels. While the borough is largely developed, it has experienced modest tax base growth, with a five-year compound annual growth rate in equalized value of 4.4% from 2019 to 2024. The rating also reflects the borough's strong and stable financial standing. At the close of 2023, the borough boasted an adjusted available fund balance of \$11.8 million, representing a strong 47.2% of its revenue. Preliminary figures for 2024 indicate sustained positive performance, with the available fund balance increasing to \$12.6 million, or 49.1% of revenue. For 2025, operations are aligning closely with the budget, and management anticipates fully replenishing any utilized fund balance, maintaining stable reserves. Additionally, the rating considers the borough's manageable long-term liabilities and fixed costs. In the near term, the borough plans to issue approximately \$14.0 million for police and public works projects, which is expected to modestly increase debt service as existing bonds mature.

The absence of distinction between the Aaa issuer and GOULT ratings reflects the borough's general obligation full faith and credit pledge as well as an unlimited property tax that is payable to debt service.

The MIG 1 rating reflects the borough's strong underlying credit quality (reflected in its Aaa long-term rating) and demonstrated history of market access.

#### RATING OUTLOOK

We do not assign outlooks to local governments with this amount of debt outstanding.

## FACTORS THAT COULD LEAD TO AN UPGRADE OF THE RATINGS

- Not applicable

### FACTORS THAT COULD LEAD TO A DOWNGRADE OF THE RATINGS

- Decrease in the available fund balance ratio to 30% or lower
- Increase in the long-term liabilities ratio to 350% or higher

#### **PROFILE**

New Providence, NJ is a high-wealth suburb of New York City with a population of approximately 13.577.

#### **METHODOLOGY**

The principal methodology used in this rating was US Cities and Counties published in July 2024 and available at <a href="https://ratings.moodys.com/rmc-documents/425429">https://ratings.moodys.com/rmc-documents/425429</a>. Alternatively, please see the Rating Methodologies page on <a href="https://ratings.moodys.com">https://ratings.moodys.com</a> for a copy of this methodology.

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