

ordinance process required by the County Charter to issue bonds. The County plans to issue bonds to finance numerous capital improvement projects, each of which provides programs and services to the community. The racial equity impact is considered during the development of the associated programs and services for each capital project.

Community Participation Level and Impact

The bonds issued by Ramsey County pursuant to this proposed ordinance will be joint obligations of Ramsey and Washington Counties, with the proceeds loaned to Ramsey/Washington Recycling and Energy Board for enhancements to the R&E Center. The enhancements are the result of policy direction in the two county solid waste management master plans. Preparation of the Ramsey County plan included significant community engagement, as did the purchase of the R&E Center and discussion about the enhancements. The County Board also holds a public hearing as part of the Bond Ordinance process to afford the public an opportunity to comment on this proposed project.

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Fiscal Impact

The proposed 2021 Solid Waste Facility Bond Ordinance authorizes a maximum amount of \$43 million of bond issuance to finance the R&E Center enhancement loans. The actual amount of bonding may be less and the final bonding amount will be determined and considered by the County Board at a later date. The County expects to receive loan payments from the R&E Board and Washington County equal to the required debt service on the County Bonds resulting in no cost to Ramsey County. The expected term of the loans and bonds is 25 years.

County Manager Comments

The Ramsey County Home Rule Charter requires that every ordinance have two readings and a public hearing. Bond financing aligns with the County's Opportunity and Prosperity goals by facilitating strategic capital investments which cultivate economic development and prosperity in the community.

Last Previous Action

None.

Attachments

1. Draft Resolution
2. Proposed 2021 Solid Waste Facility Bond Ordinance
3. Public Hearing Notice
4. Proposed Schedule of Events - 2021 Solid Waste Facility Bond Sale