# **County of El Dorado**



Funding New Sheriff's Facility





Presented by Lori Raineri November 10, 2014

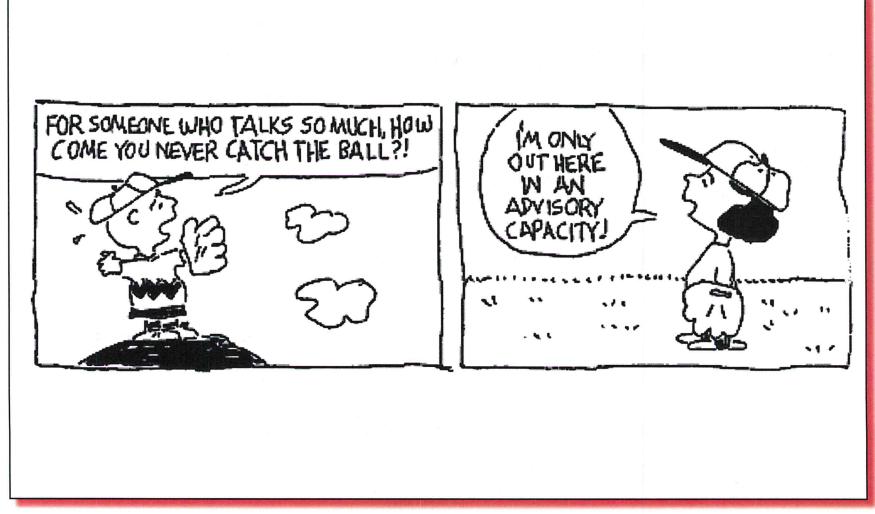
## **Government Financial Strategies**

- Financial Advisory Services fiduciary responsibility to clients
- Serving over 300 local agencies in California
- Located in Sacramento
- Completed over 800 financings totaling \$8.7 billion
- Professional certifications of staff include Certified Independent Public Finance Advisors and Certified Fraud Examiners
- Dozens of independent third party reviews of proposed financings and expert witness/consultant engagements of financings gone awry
- Recommendations guided by the Government Finance Officers Association Best Practices for Debt Management

## **Role of Financial Advisor**

- Fiduciary duty to the County
- Provide independent financial analysis and advice
- Activities *regulated* by the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board as a result of the Dodd-Frank Act of 2010
  - Government Financial Strategies is registered with both
     regulating agencies

## We Don't Just Advise from the Outfield

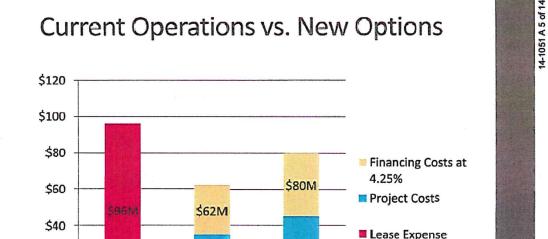


## Agenda

- The Challenge
  - What's Needed
- Responsive Strategies
  - Financing Options
  - Measure A Discussion
- Process
  - Next Steps



### What's Needed



✓ Project cost estimates range from \$42 million - \$50 million

**New Facility** 

**High Estimate** 

✓ Inflation will increase costs: more delay = higher costs

**New Facility** 

Low Estimate

\$20

\$0

Current Path

## **Goals for Construction Delivery**

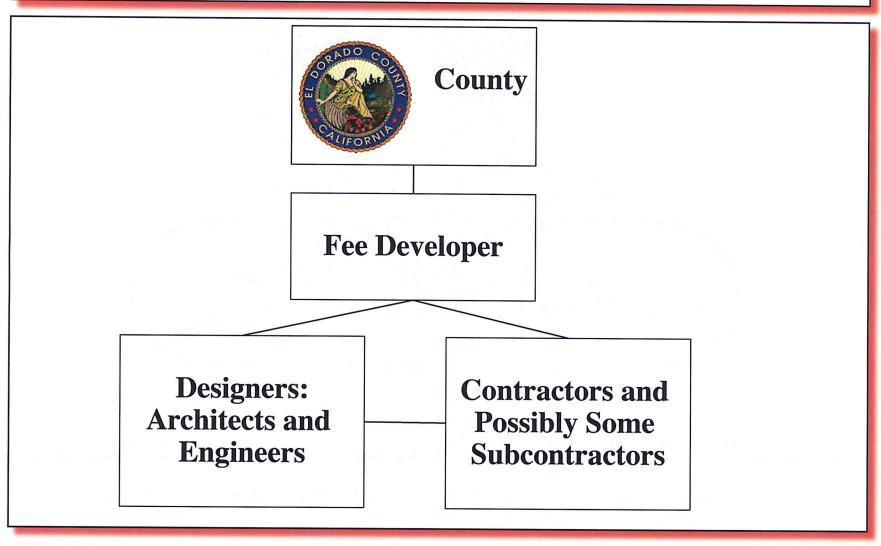
- Guaranteed Maximum Price
- Guaranteed Delivery Date
- County Site Already Selected
- Risk Management
- An outside party to serve as developer who will lead the project delivery and manage the architect/designer and contractor
- County staff will be able focus on functionality of building and long term affordability
- In the private sector, this is called "fee development"

## Fee Developer is in Contract with County

#### Fee Developer

- Takes responsibility for project delivery under a fee development contract
- Assembles and directs the project team, including architect, contractor, engineers, and other necessary professional services
  - Trades are employed by or contracted by the Fee
     Developer or members of the Fee Development Team
  - County can specify requirements for professionals and labor
- Primary point of contact for County staff

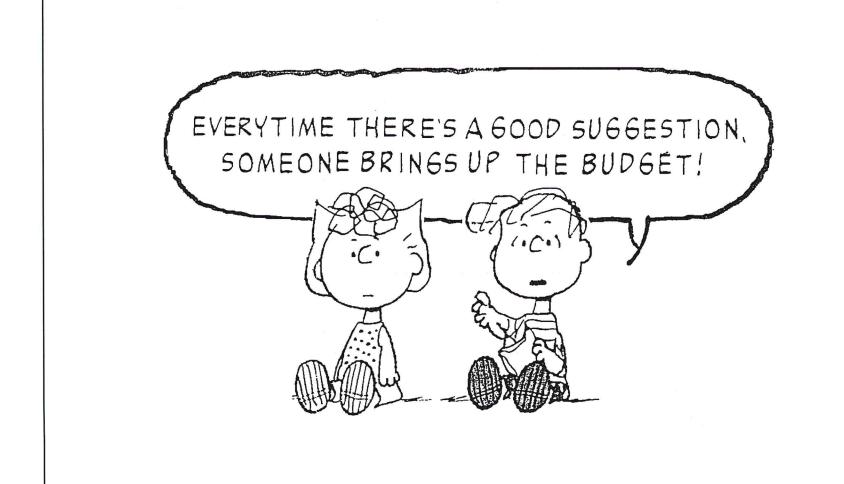
## **Relationship of Parties**



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## It Always Comes Back to the Budget



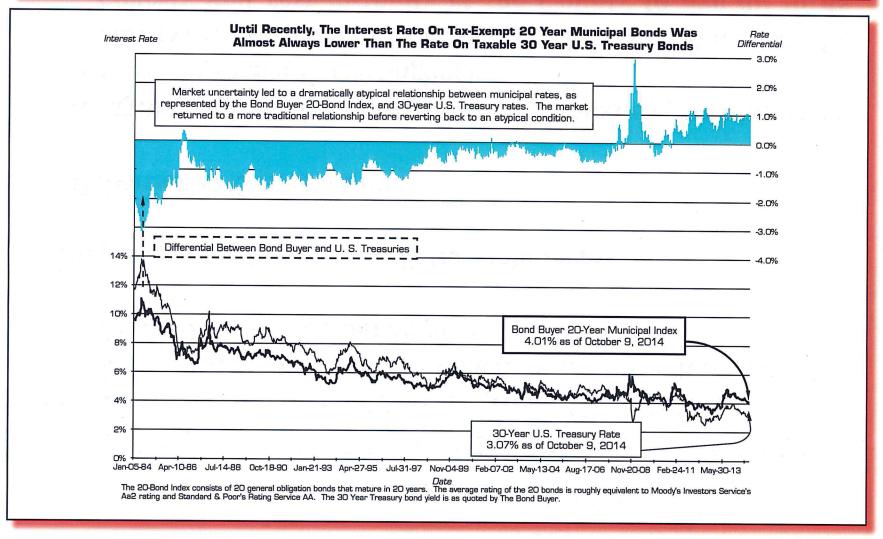
## There Are Three Sources of Money

- Money in the Cookie Jar
  - Cash on hand
- **Money to Come in the Future** 
  - Budget
- Someone Else's Money
  - Gifts, Grants, Taxes

## Money to Come in The Future

- County could redirect rental payments towards paying for County owned facility
- County's avoided future rental payments can be capitalized into dollars today by borrowing:
  - Lease-Purchase Agreements (including Certificates of Participation and Lease Revenue Bonds)
    - » No voter approval required (under California law)
    - » Issued by County
    - » Repaid from County budget
  - Revenue Ruling 63-20 Financing
    - » No voter approval required (under California law)
    - » Issued by nonprofit corporation
    - » Repaid from nonprofit corporation budget

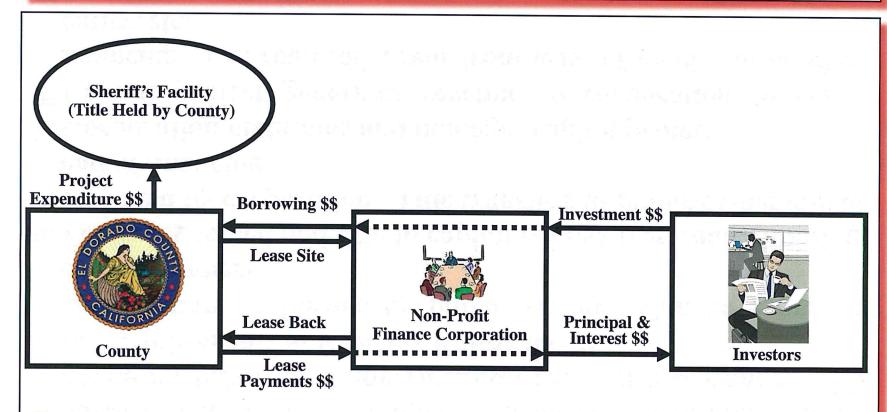
# **Interest Rates Are Historically Low**



## Background Re: Lease Financing

- Legal Maximum Term: 40 Years (Govt. Code 25371)
  - As a practical matter, weaker and uncertain investor demand for more than 30 years
- Requires asset to be "leased" (i.e. collateral)
- Obligation of General Fund
- Repayment obligation contingent on annual appropriation or "use and enjoyment" contingencies
  - However, the lenders/investors would be banking on the honesty and responsibility of the County to live up to its commitment to make payments in a timely fashion

## **Basic Lease Financing Structure**

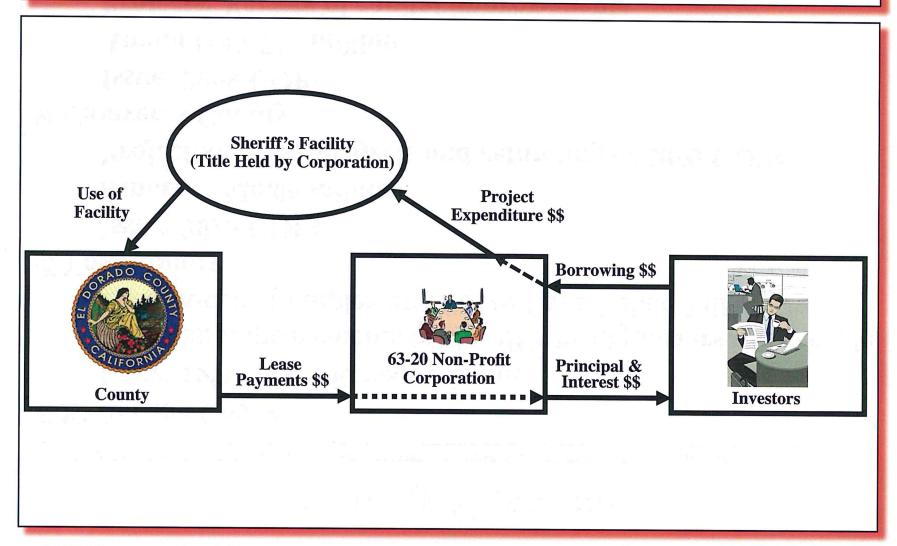


Particular types of lease financing, such as Certificates of Participation ("COPs") or Lease-Revenue Bonds, have more complex structures built on the basic structure foundation.

## **Revenue Ruling 63-20**

- 63-20 Corporation a nonprofit corporation considered to be acting on behalf of a governmental entity in accordance with the requirements of Revenue Ruling 63-20.
- Corporation established by public agency. Can have private entity members.
- Financing issued and title to capital project (e.g. road, building, etc.) held by corporation. Title transfers to public ownership at end of financing.
- Corporation maintains and manages capital project.
- Capital project generates revenue to corporation to repay financing e.g. road tolls, rent from lease of facility to another entity, etc.
- Examples: Virginia's Pocahontas Parkway, Las Vegas Monorail, California's SR 125 toll road, etc.

## 63-20 Structure



## **County Examples**

#### El Dorado County

- Issue: 1990 Lease-Revenue Bonds
- Projects: improvements to sheriff's headquarters, Placerville Government Complex and South Lake Tahoe Jail

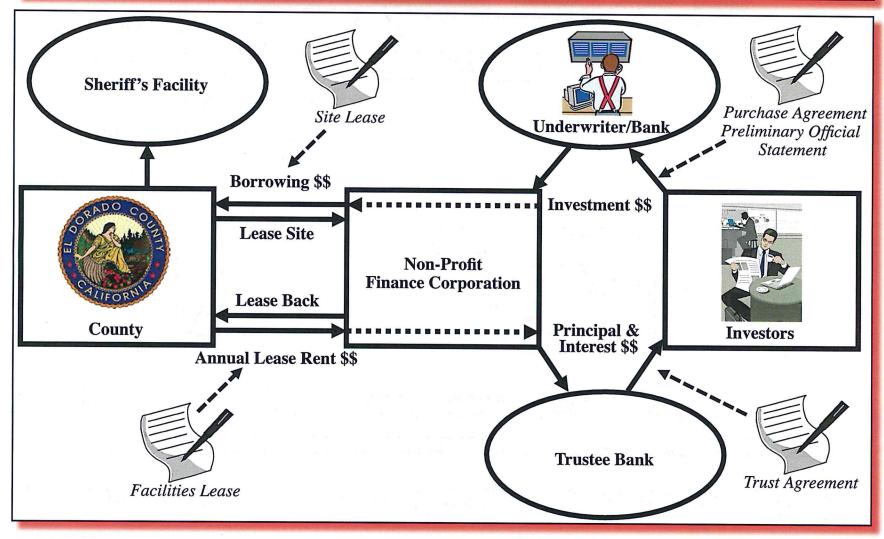
#### **■ Yolo County**

- **Issue: 2013 COPs**
- Amount: \$26.06 million
- Project(s): Solar projects and refunding of 2000 COPs

#### Calaveras County

- Issue: 2009 COPs
- Amount: \$7.715 million
- Projects: Variety of capital improvements

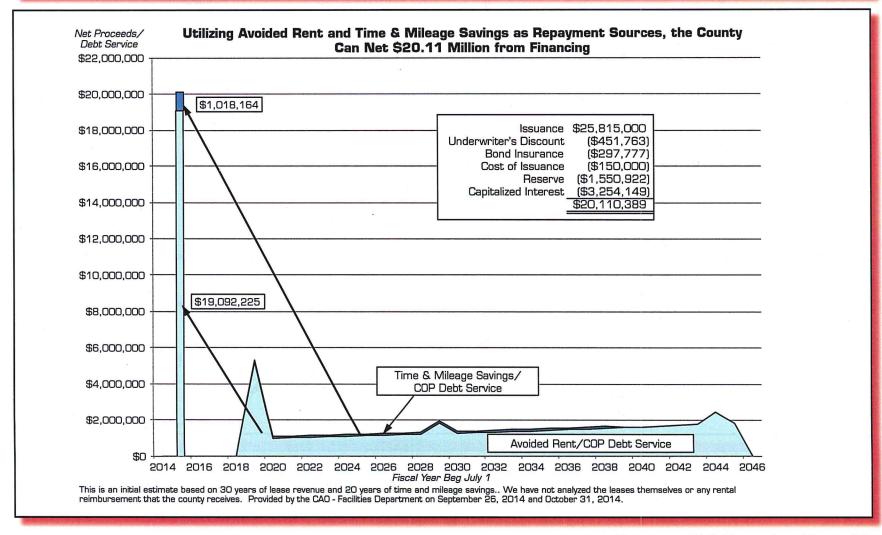
# **COP Financing Legal Structure**



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## 30 Yrs Avoided Lease Costs → \$20 Million Net \$



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#### **Discussion Re: Measure A**

## INITIATIVE TO REQUIRE COUNTY VOTER APPROVAL OF BOND FINANCING FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS EI Dorado County Messurs A

The County Counsel has prepared the following title and summary of the chief purpose and points of the proposed measure:

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This ordinance shall not be thect upon the date a majority of El Dorado County volves application its measure.

#### IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS BY COUNTY COUNSEL MEASURE A

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MEASURE A

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## Someone Else's Money

**General Obligation Bonds** 



- Special Taxes
  - Mello-Roos Community Facilities Districts
  - Govt. Code 53978
- **Other Types of Community Revenue** 
  - Sales Tax
  - Assessment Districts
  - Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts
  - Other?



# General Obligation ("G.O.") Bonds

- Traditional method of funding public projects in California (1879)
- "Full Faith and Credit" unlimited taxing authority
- "Ad Valorem" ( = according to value) taxation
- 2/3 voter approval
- No political discretion
- Bonding capacity = 5% of assessed value (for counties)
- Maximum term of each series of bonds 40 years

## **Special Taxes: Mello-Roos CFDs**

- The Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act authorizes the formation of a Community Facilities District ("CFD") covering a defined geographical area.
- An election may be held within the boundaries of the CFD to authorize Mello-Roos taxes and the issuance of bonds.
  - 2/3 voter approval.
- Allows for a flexible tax formula but must be reasonable and not ad valorem.
- Discretion to exempt types of property or taxpayers.
- Taxes may be used for facilities, furniture & equipment (with a useful life of at least five years) and certain types of services (e.g. police protection, fire protection, library, etc.).
- Mello-Roos bonds are a method for capitalizing Mello-Roos taxes (although lease financing can also be used).

## Special Taxes: Govt. Code 53978

- May be used for police protection services:
  - Constructing criminal justice facilities limited to jails, detention facilities, and juvenile halls
  - Equipment
  - Salaries and benefits to police protection personnel
  - Other necessary police protection expenses?
- Tax may be levied on a parcel, class of improvement to property, or use of property basis, or a combination thereof.
  - Tax cannot be ad valorem
- 2/3 voter approval required
- No specific related bonding method taxes can be capitalized with lease financing

# Other Types of Community Revenue: Sales Tax

- A county may levy a sales tax increase to pay for general expenditures or specific purposes
- The increase may be 1/8 of a cent or any multiple thereof
- The tax revenue may be used for any government purpose, including capital improvements, maintenance, etc.
- **Voter Approval Required:**
- 50% voter approval if for general purposes
- 2/3 voter approval if for specific purposes
- Can have general purpose sales tax measure accompanied by second advisory measure regarding use of tax proceeds

# Other Types of Community Revenue - Assessment Districts

- Local agency forms assessment district formed covering territory to receive benefit from proposed improvements
- Amount of assessment on each parcel based on the "special benefit" the parcel receives from the improvements
  - Value of any "general benefit" provided by the improvements <u>cannot</u> be assessed
- Landowner vote each ballot weighted by the amount of the proposed assessment
- Assessment passes if lack of majority protest "no" vote from property owners representing 50% of the dollars to be assessed
- Assessment bonds issued to capitalize assessment revenue

## Other Types of Community Revenue: Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts

- Local agency forms public financing authority and infrastructure financing district covering defined geographical area.
  - Requires pre-approval from each affected taxing entity proposed to be subject to division of taxes.
- Public financing authority may issue tax increment bonds upon approval of 55% of the qualified electors of the enhanced infrastructure financing district.
- Requirements for projects financed:
  - Acquisition or improvement of any real or other tangible property with an estimated useful life of 15 years.
  - Communitywide significance provide significant benefits to the district or the surrounding community.

# County GO Bond & Mello-Roos Examples

#### Calaveras County

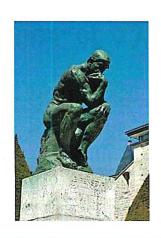
- Type: GO Bonds
- Bond Amount: \$31 million
- Pre-Election Projected Avg. Tax Levy: \$18.29/\$100K of AV
- Election Date: November 6, 2007
- Voter Approval: 67.18%
- Projects: Construct new jail, 911 dispatch center, and support facilities

#### **■ Yolo County**

- Type: Mello-Roos Tax & Bonds
- Bond Amount: \$6.405 million
- Pre-Election Determined Tax Levy: \$88/parcel
- Election Date: November 6, 2007
- Voter Approval: 73.2%
- Projects/Use of Funds: Library improvements & operations

### **Considerations**

- Current low interest rate environment for financing
- Ongoing costs (other than debt service) e.g. maintenance, etc.
- **Effect of inflation on construction costs**
- Other County priorities



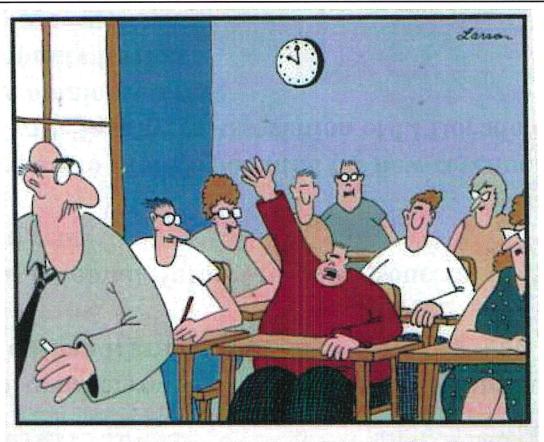
## **Next Steps**

- Research non-borrowing related potential funding sources e.g. cash on-hand, grants, etc.
- Research potential future revenue sources in addition to redirected rent.
- Consider how to explore potential for new revenue.
  - Meet with Taxpayers Association of El Dorado County?
  - Public opinion survey?
  - Community forums?



Research project delivery options to minimize cost - e.g. design-build, construction manager at-risk, etc.

## **Questions or Comments?**



"Mr. Osborne, may I be excused? My brain is full."