

The Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (MSRB) believes that the availability of timely disclosure of additional debt in any form and debt-like obligations is beneficial to foster market transparency and to ensure a fair and efficient municipal market. The MSRB is concerned that investors and other market participants are often unaware of the potential impact of bank loans and other debt-like obligations on the seniority status of existing bondholders and the credit or liquidity profile of an issuer, among other implications. The MSRB developed the below resources to enhance disclosure of bank loans and other debt-like obligations of municipal securities issuers.

- ▶ **MSRB Letter to Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) on Improving Disclosure of Direct Borrowing**  
*April 2016*  
In support of the GASB's research on disclosure of direct borrowing, the MSRB submitted a letter outlining its previous efforts to increase voluntary debt disclosure by issuers and explore regulatory alternatives.  
[Read the letter.](#)
- ▶ **MSRB and Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) Offer Bank Loan Disclosure Guidance**  
*April 2016*  
The MSRB and FINRA issued a joint regulatory notice reminding firms of their obligations to consider the applicability of federal securities laws in connection with private placements of municipal securities and the use of bank loans in the municipal securities market.  
[Read the regulatory notice.](#)
- ▶ **MSRB Issues Concept Proposal to Improve Disclosure of Direct Purchases and Bank Loans**  
*March 2016*  
The MSRB requested public comment on a concept proposal to require municipal advisors to disclose information regarding the direct purchases and bank loans of their municipal entity clients.  
[Read the regulatory notice.](#)
- ▶ **MSRB Market Advisory on Disclosure of Bank Loans**  
*January 2015*  
The MSRB advocated for enhanced transparency of undisclosed debt and provided best practices to support voluntary disclosure of bank loan information through the MSRB's EMMA website.  
[Read the advisory.](#)
- ▶ **MSRB Comment Letter on Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12**  
*January 2015*  
The MSRB urged the SEC to revisit its municipal market disclosure rule, Rule 15c2-12, and

to consider changes to improve its operation and reflect current market practices. The letter encouraged the SEC to look to its disclosure standards for the corporate market as a precedent for disclosure of off-balance sheet obligations such as bank loans.

[Read the comment letter.](#)

▶ **MSRB Notice Concerning Voluntary Disclosure of Bank Loans to EMMA®**

*April 2012*

The MSRB first encouraged state and local governments in 2012 to make information about their bank loans publicly available on a voluntary basis on the EMMA website.

[Read the regulatory notice.](#)

▶ **MSRB Notice on Potential Applicability of MSRB Rules to Certain “Direct Purchases” and “Bank Loans”**

*September 2011*

The MSRB advised the market that bank loans could, depending on the nature of the transaction, be a private placement of municipal securities and therefore subject to specific regulatory requirements, including disclosure. Because determining whether these products are loans or securities is not a straightforward analysis, the MSRB encouraged the SEC to provide further guidance on this issue.

[Read the regulatory notice.](#)