



# **UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON**

## **Debt Management Annual Report**

**Board of Regents Finance and Asset Management  
Committee**

**May 10, 2018**

# AGENDA

---

- > External Borrowing
  - Portfolio Overview
  - Approach to Variable Rate Debt
  - Debt Capacity Update
- > Internal Lending
  - Portfolio Overview
  - Rate Recommendation

# EXTERNAL BORROWING AND INTERNAL LENDING OVERVIEW

The University manages two separate but related portfolios

## External Borrowing

### Mission

- > Achieve the lowest risk adjusted cost of capital
- > Assure continued access to capital markets

### Regental Roles

- > Adopt Debt Policy
- > Approve annual Bond Resolution
- > Review portfolio performance
- > Guide University credit and issuance standards, including debt capacity

### Reporting

- > Bondholders Report including audits to investors
- > Periodic Debt Reports to Regents
- > Future debt issuance and liquidity information to rating agencies

## Internal Lending

### Mission

- > Offer stable and predictable interest rates to campus borrowers and allow for capital funding in a rising rate environment

### Regental Roles

- > Approve and monitor ILP loans
- > Approve distributions and ILP rate
- > Approve use of Capital Assets Pool
- > Approve Financial Stability Plans

### Reporting

- > Semi-Annual Borrower Reports
- > Semi-Annual ILP Report
- > Debt Management Annual Report
- > Annual ILP Audit



# External Borrowing

# EXTERNAL DEBT PORTFOLIO

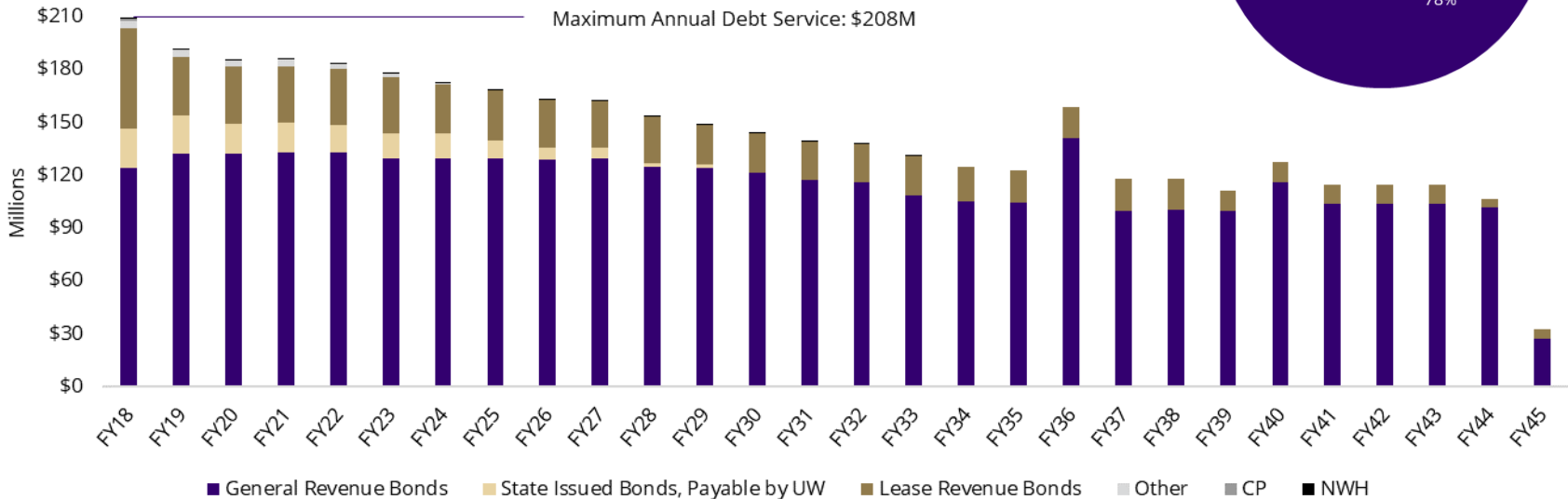
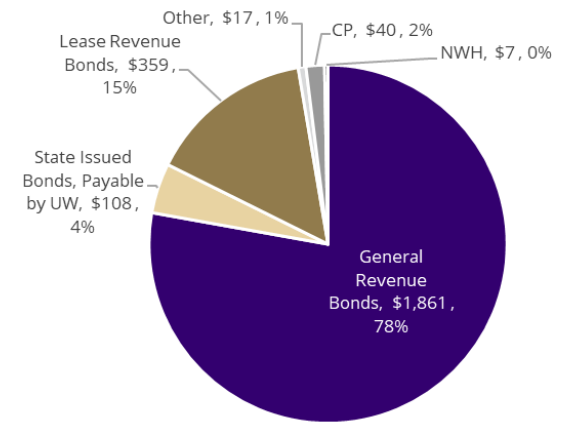
## The University has a large and conservative debt portfolio

- > The debt portfolio consists primarily of \$2.4 billion fixed rate debt with \$40 million of variable rate debt through the Commercial Paper program (CP)
- > Average borrowing rate for portfolio is 3.89%
- > There is \$100 million in authorized debt remaining to be issued in 2019
- > Approximately \$80-\$100 million of principal is repaid annually
- > Nearly 80% of debt has been issued as General Revenue Bonds

### Outstanding Debt by Type

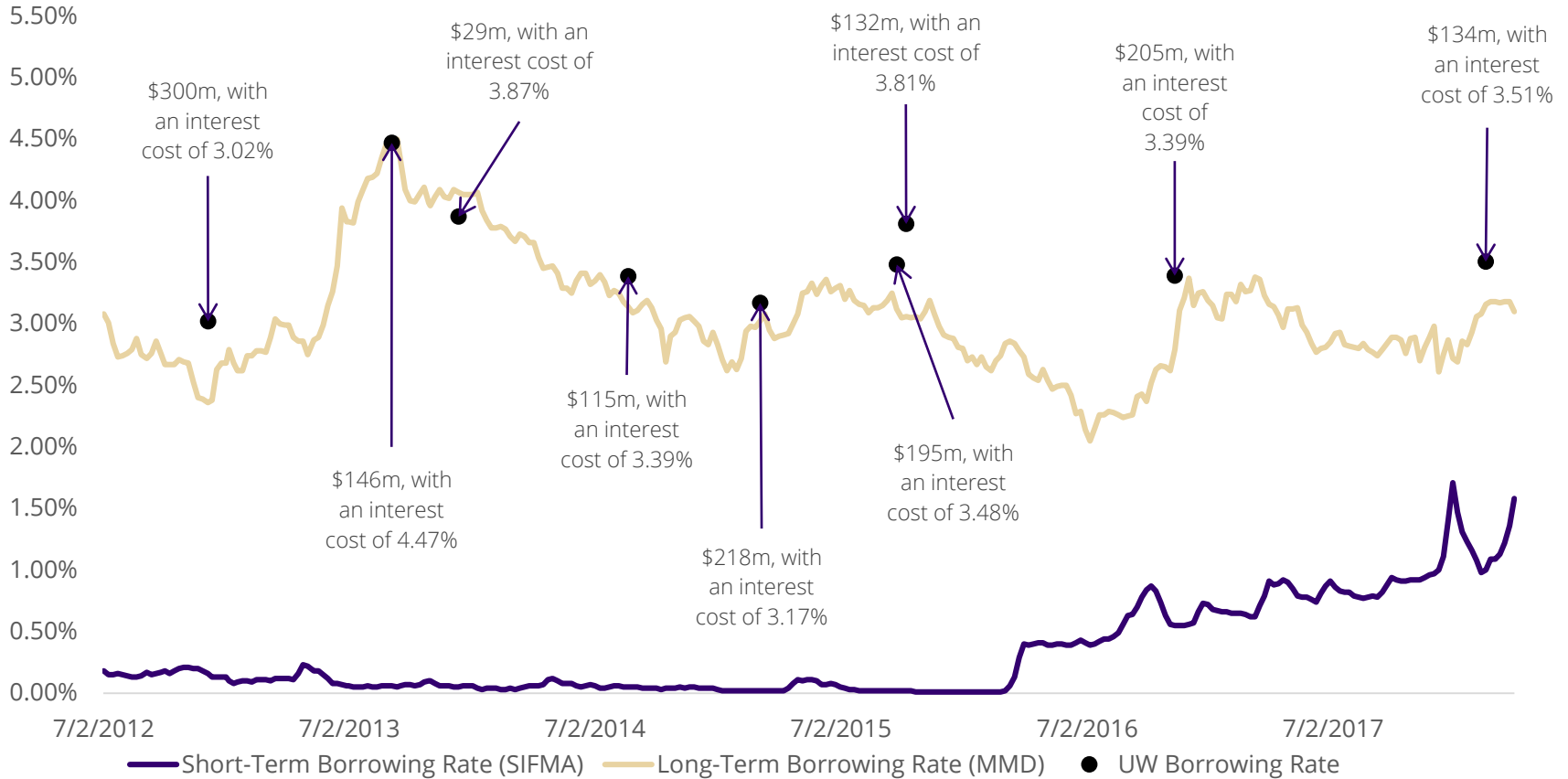
**Total Debt: \$2,392**

(In millions as of March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018)



# ISSUANCE HISTORY

Long and short-term rates have increased in the past year



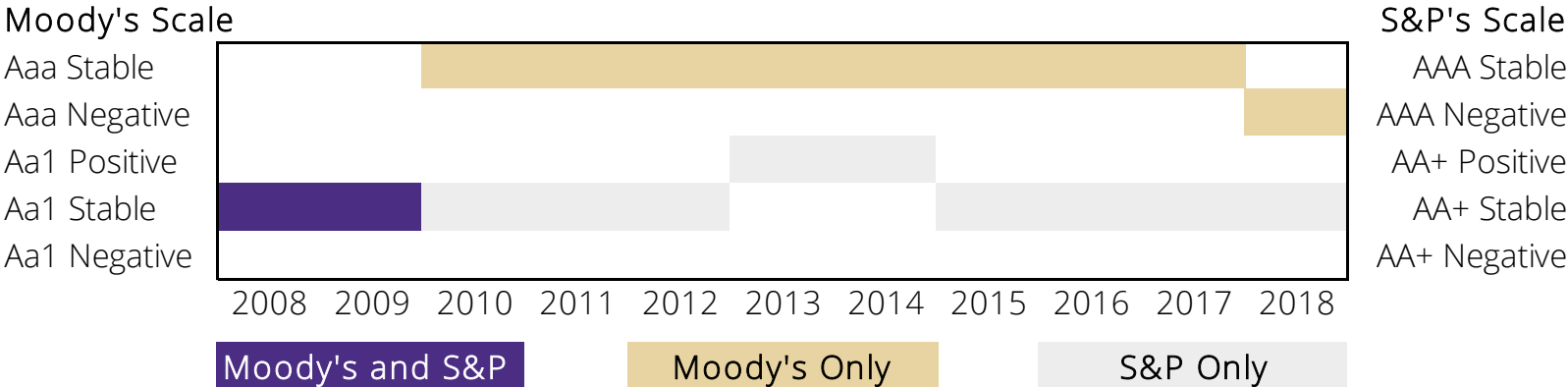
- > Since fiscal year 2013, the University has borrowed \$1,474 million (includes refundings of \$412 million) at an average rate just under 3.5%
- > The University's borrowing rate is impacted by a variety of factors including market conditions, term, debt type, tax status, couponing, etc.
- > The University issued \$134 million in 2018 to (a) fund Life Sciences and Housing and Food Services Phase 4a and (b) refund CP for HR Payroll

# CREDIT RATING OVERVIEW

In January 2018, Moody's changed the University's outlook from stable to negative

- > The University's ratings remain at Aaa/AA+ (Moody's/S&P). The change in outlook did not have a measureable impact on borrowing cost
- > Factors that could lead to a downgrade:
  - Failure to improve consolidated and health system operations in fiscal 2018 and beyond
  - Further declines in unrestricted liquidity
  - Material debt plans beyond those outlined
  - Significant reduction in research funding and revenue

Agency Credit Rating by Year



# VARIABLE RATE DEBT

Many issuers use variable rate debt to lower the cost of external borrowing

- > Under policy the University has a maximum variable rate of 20% of the external portfolio
- > The University’s use of variable rate debt is currently limited to its commercial paper (CP) program
  - \$25 million as a permanent variable rate allocation (1% of portfolio)
  - Remaining CP (up to \$225 million) is used to manage project cash flows between long-term bond issuances

Benefits	Risks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Historically lower cost of capital                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Floating rates on average have been 45% of fixed rate debt since 1989</li> </ul> </li> <li>&gt; Prepayment flexibility                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Typically payable at any time without penalty</li> <li>- Internal loan prepayments able to directly pay off debt</li> </ul> </li> <li>&gt; May reduce institutional risk by matching variable rate liabilities (debt) with variable rate assets (investments)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Continuous exposure to changes in short-term rates</li> <li>&gt; Changes in tax law can increase borrowing cost after issuance</li> <li>&gt; Counterparty risk</li> <li>&gt; Liquidity support may be required</li> <li>&gt; Additional reporting and operating requirements</li> </ul>

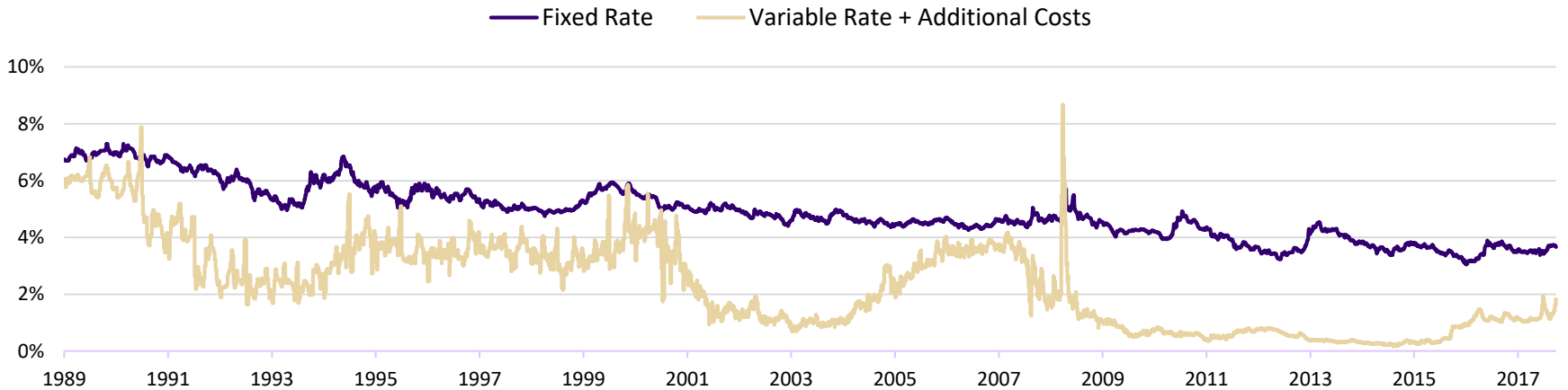


# FIXED vs VARIABLE RATES

Variable rates have historically been lower than fixed rates

- > The current interest rate differential of issuing variable rate debt is significant
- > The University is considering issuing \$100 million of variable rate debt in early 2019
- > After this \$100 million issuance, variable rate exposure would be at 5% and well below target levels

**Rates History  
(1989 – Present)**



**Trailing Averages from Prior Years to Present**

	20	15	10	7	5	3	2	1
<b>Fixed Rate</b>	4.4%	4.2%	3.9%	3.7%	3.7%	3.5%	3.5%	3.6%
<b>Variable Rate</b>	1.8%	1.4%	0.8%	0.7%	0.7%	0.9%	1.1%	1.2%

# ESTIMATING DEBT CAPACITY

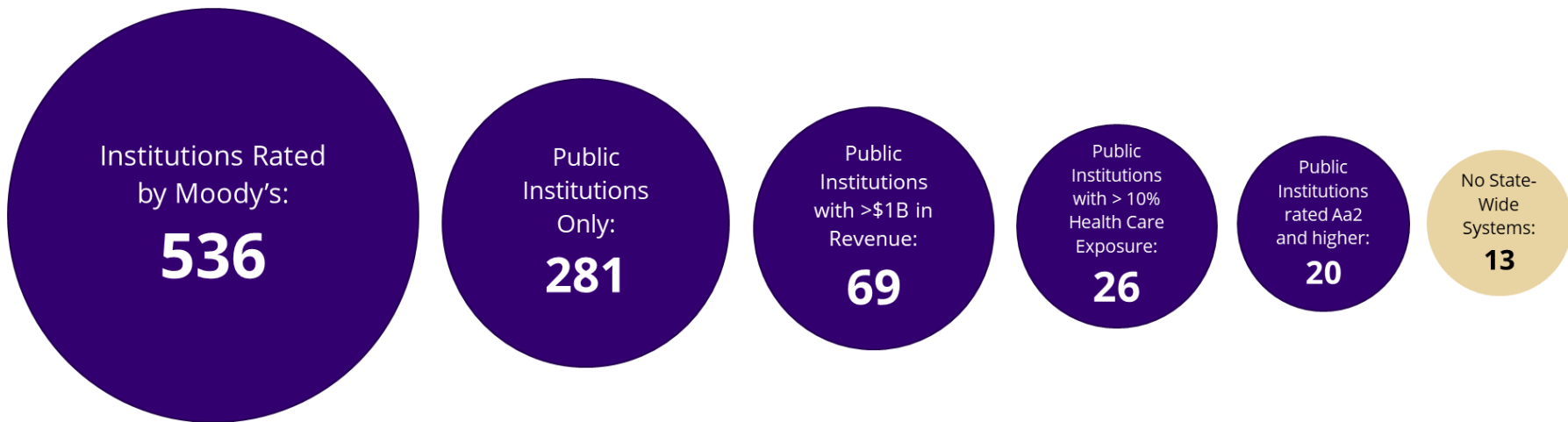
The University estimates debt capacity by projecting institutional growth and benchmarking to peers

- > Debt capacity is estimated semi-annually
  - In the spring as part of Debt Management Annual Report, and
  - In the fall after fiscal year results become known
  
- > 4 main drivers of the quantitative analysis are:
  - Forecast assumptions (Planning Case)
  - Peers
  - Financial Ratios
  - Weighting

# PEER GROUP BENCHMARKS

## Benchmarking criteria helps identify schools similar to the University

- > Moody's rates over 500 colleges and universities
- > The peer group is evaluated annually
- > 13 schools meet peer criteria:
  - Ohio State University
  - Pennsylvania State University
  - State University of Iowa
  - University of Alabama at Birmingham
  - University of Arkansas
  - University of Colorado
  - University of Kentucky
  - University of Michigan
  - University of New Mexico
  - University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
  - University of Utah
  - University of Virginia
  - University of Washington



Note: The University of Nebraska was removed from the peer group due to a significant decrease in healthcare exposure

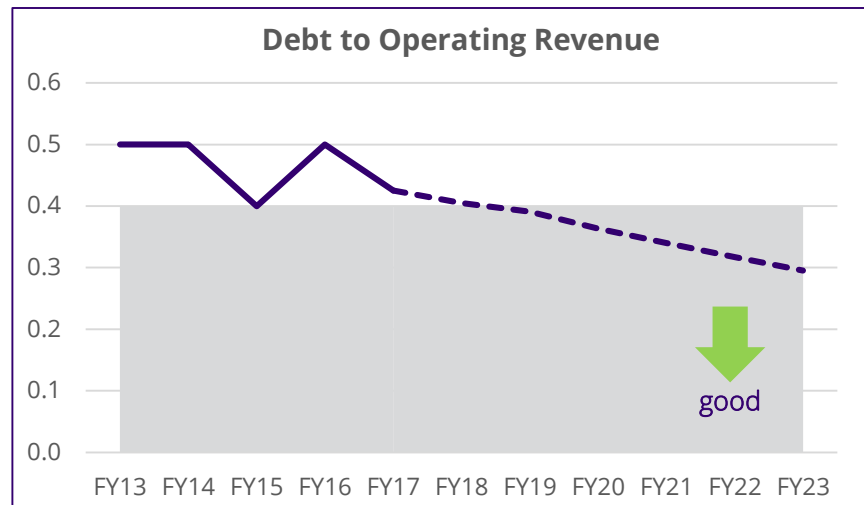
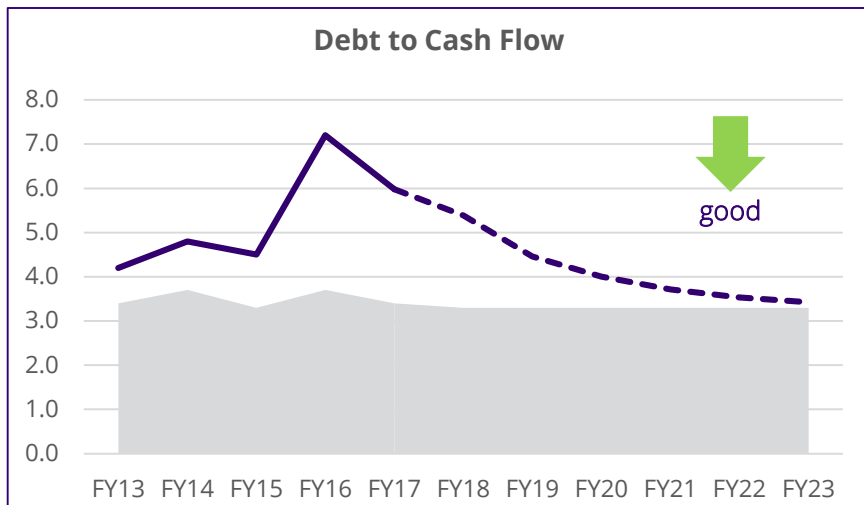
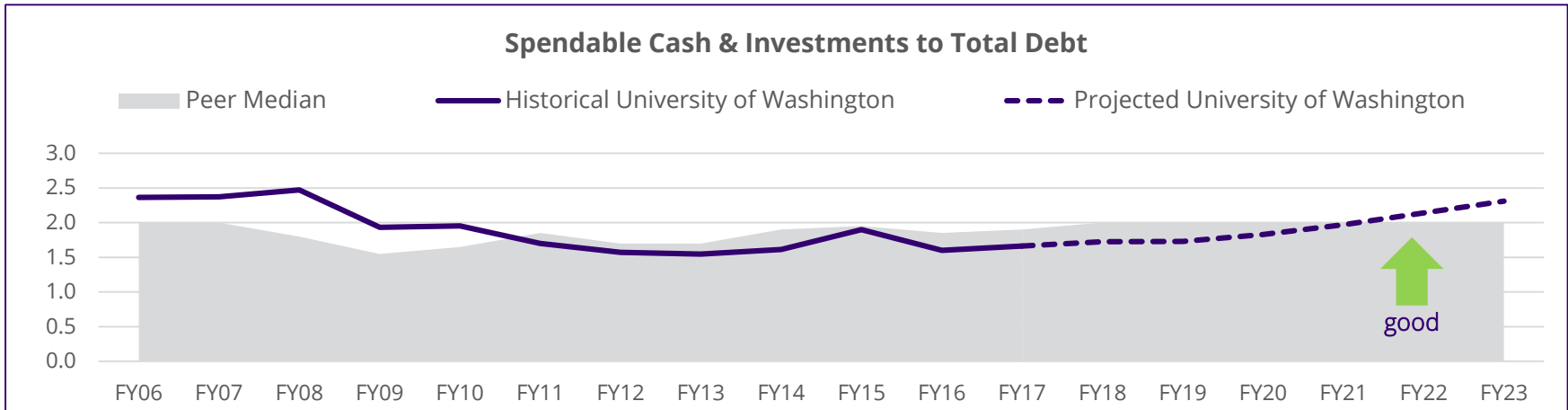
# RATIO WEIGHTING

Weighting ratio approximates rating agency decisions

	FY20 – FY23 Incremental Capacity		Weighting
Spendable Cash and Investments to Debt	\$319 M	×	60%
Debt to Operating Revenue	\$716 M	×	30%
Debt to Cash Flow	-\$67 M	×	10%
	<b>Total Incremental Capacity</b>	=	<b>\$400 M</b>
	Authorized Debt Issued in 2019	+	\$100 M
	<b>Total Debt Capacity</b>	=	<b>\$500 M</b>

# RATIO TRENDS

Under the Planning Case, the University’s debt capacity ratios are projected to increase compared to the 2018 peer median<sup>(1)</sup>



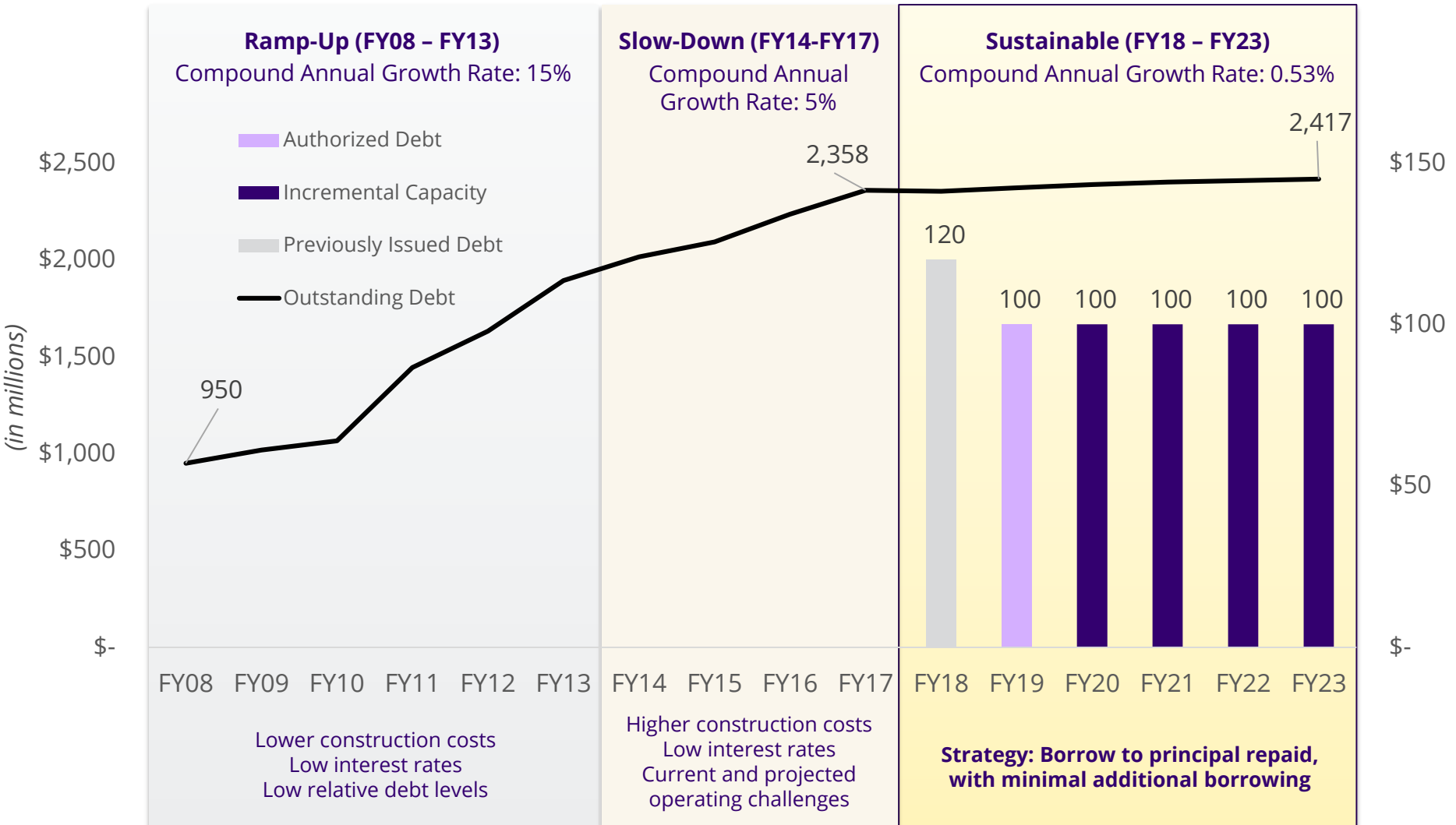
# DEBT CAPACITY ESTIMATES

The University issued \$120 million in new debt during FY18 to support previously authorized projects. It will issue an additional \$100 million in FY19

- > In November 2017, the 5-year estimated project (FY18-FY22) capacity was \$550M, including \$220M in funding for authorized projects
- > Based on the updated analysis, 5-year debt capacity (FY19-FY23) is \$500M, including \$100M in funding for authorized projects
- > 5-year estimates will be revised this winter based on FY18 actual results and the Planning Case forecast

Projected Debt Balances FY19-FY23						
<i>(in millions)</i>						
	Beginning Balance	Debt Retired	Authorized Issuance	Estimated Incremental Capacity	Ending Balance	
FY19	2,354	(83)	100	0	2,371	
FY20	2,371	(82)	0	100	2,388	
FY21	2,388	(88)	0	100	2,400	
FY22	2,400	(91)	0	100	2,409	
FY23	2,409	(92)	0	100	2,417	
<b>Totals</b>		<b>(437)</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>400</b>		

# DEBT HISTORY AND FUTURE





# Internal Lending



# LENDING PROGRAMS

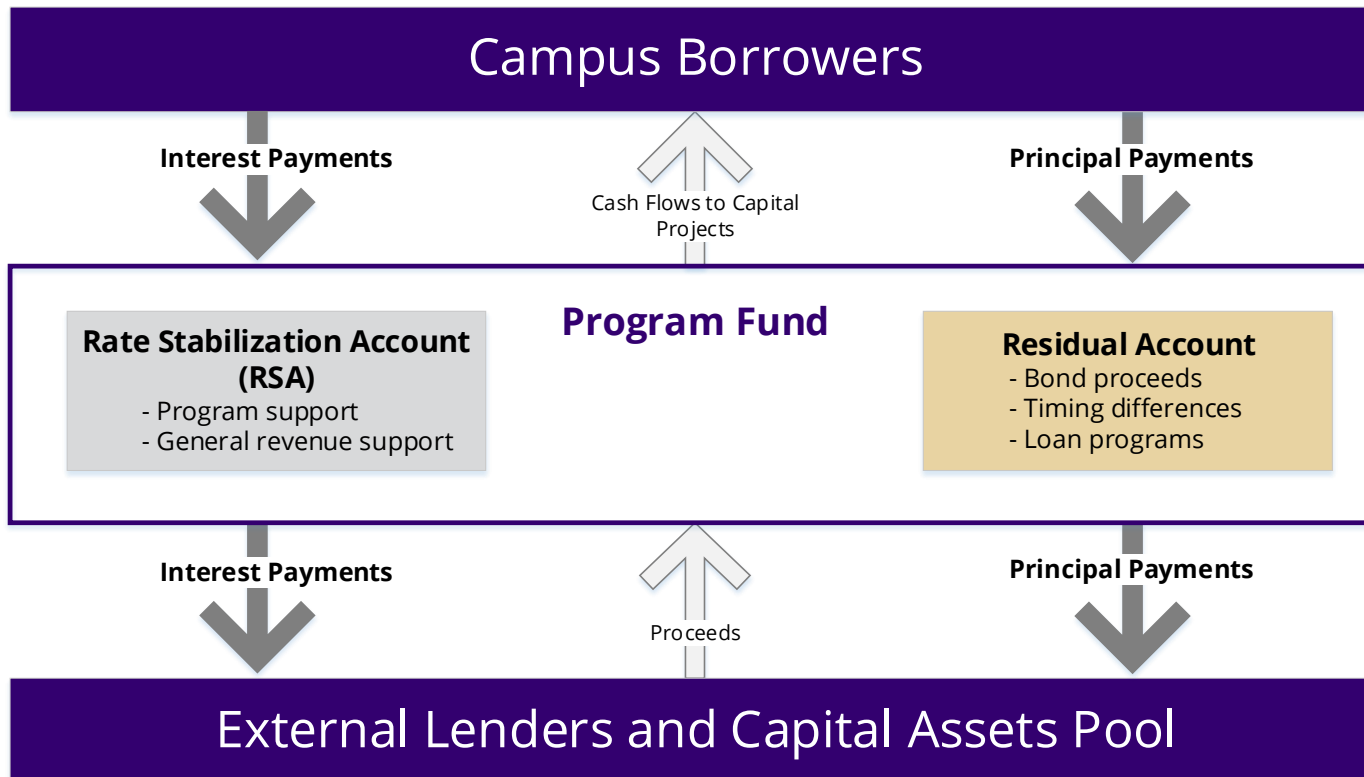
Treasury offers a variety of loan programs to meet the needs of campus borrowers

Program	Internal Lending Program (ILP)	Short-Term Financing Program (FAST)	Bridge Program
Purpose	Provide stable long-term rate to campus borrowers	Finance short-term assets at low cost of funds	Short-term loans for gift funded capital projects (up to 5 years)
Program Description	Loans for long-lived capital assets	Provide small short-term (up to 10 years) fixed rate loans to campus borrowers	Fund timing gap of construction cash flows and gifts
Financing Rate	ILP Rate, currently 4.50%	Short-term market rate	Short-term market rate
Funded By	Debt and CAP	ILP Balances and External Debt	ILP Balances
Recent Examples	Childbirth Center	IT Servers	CSE II

# MECHANICS OF LENDING PROGRAMS

External borrowing and internal lending come together in the Program Fund. The Program Fund is the mechanism used to facilitate University lending

- > Benefits of the ILP
  - Provides stable long-term rate to campus borrowers
  - Generates balances that can be used for short-term financing programs such as BRIDGE



# ILP RESERVE EVALUATION

## UW Treasury Office recommends no change to the ILP rate

- > The Rate Stabilization Account (RSA) is used to maintain the ILP lending rate in a rising external rate environment
  - > As of FY18, the RSA has 12 years of sufficiency
- > The Residual Account (RA) is used for a variety of purposes, including debt service payments and funding ILP loan programs (e.g. the "Bridge" program)
  - > RA balances are expected to grow over time as bond premium is realized
- > An extensive evaluation is underway to identify future calls on reserves. Available funding above minimum could be redeployed with Regental approval
- > The Board must approve any changes to the ILP rate or distributions from the ILP

