



National Council of  
State Housing Agencies

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# 2019 NCSHA

## Attacking the Gaps: Strategies for Financing Affordable Multifamily Housing

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October 21, 2019

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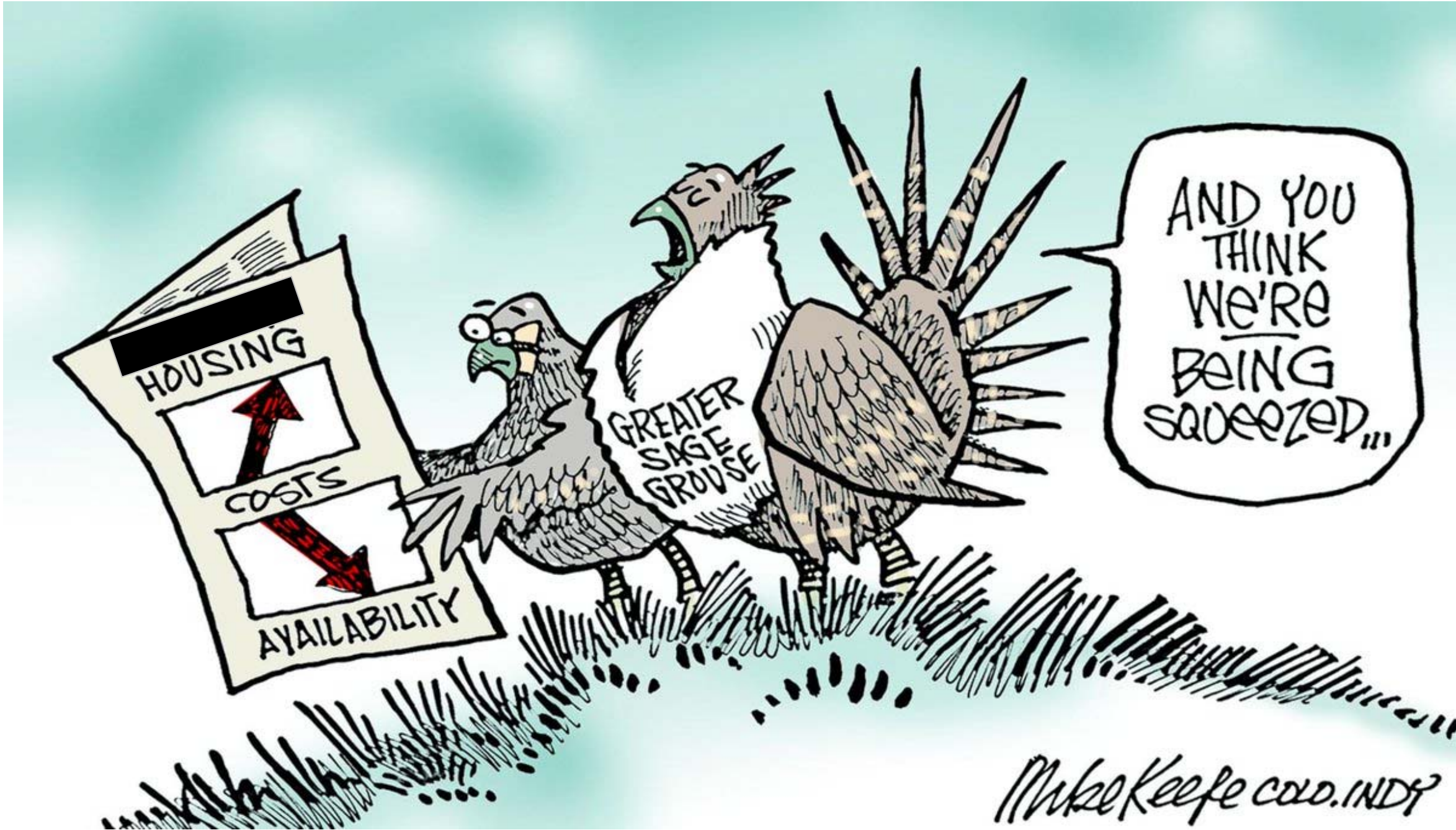
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# Addressing the Gap Requires a Concerted Effort: Federal, State, Local and Private Partners

## ■ Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act

### – Increasing 9% Tax Credits by 50%

- Typically reserved for new construction and substantial rehab
- Created to provide 70% subsidy to a project on a PV basis
- Fixed at 9% in 2015

### – Stabilizing 4% Tax Credits

- Available for rehab and new construction projects
- Created to provide 30% subsidy to a project on a PV basis
- Since June 2011, 4% tax credit rates have reset at 3.15% -3.32%<sup>1</sup>
- Stabilizing the 4% tax credit provides predictability and more production

### – 50% Equity Boost for Properties with Tenants Earning <30% AMI

- States currently can award up to 30% Basis Boost to provide additional housing credit for most needed developments
- The 50% basis boost would apply only to the portion of a development reserved for extremely low-income tenants



<sup>1</sup> Source: National Housing & Rehabilitation Association



# Addressing the Gap Requires a Concerted Effort: Federal, State, Local and Private Partners

- Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act (cont'd)**

- Reforming Multi-Family Recycling**

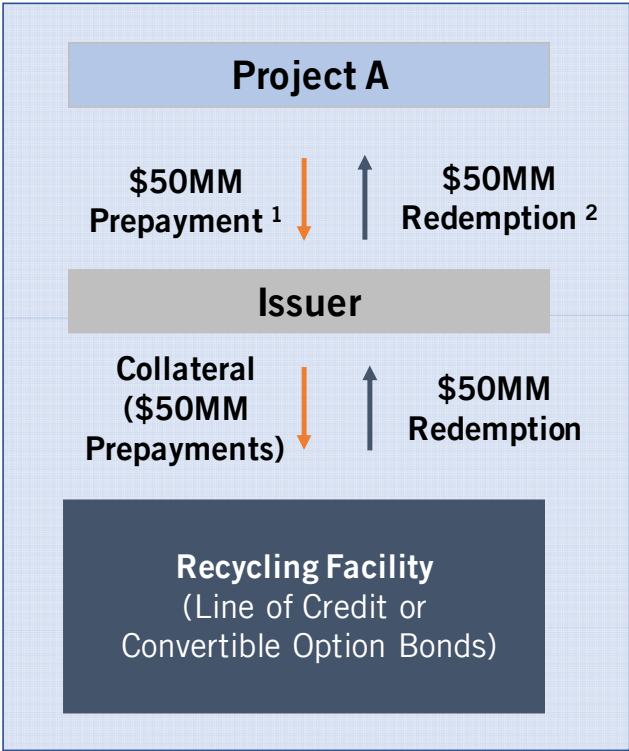
- Allow recycled volume cap to be used for single-family financings**

New volume cap can be diverted to multi-family financings, which comes with 4% tax credits as a bonus

- Extend the 6-month recycling window to 12 months**

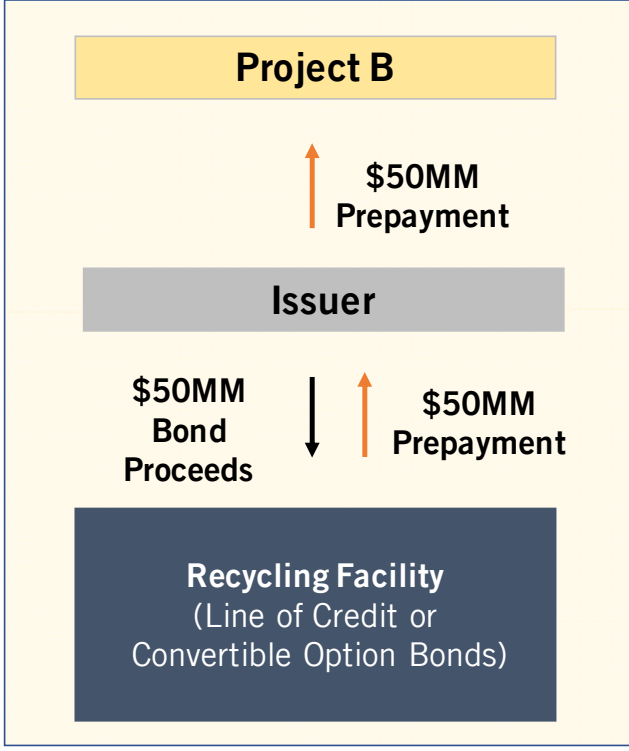
Mitigates one of the challenges in utilizing recycled cap

Recycling Volume Cap is Created Via a Refunding



Up to 6 months later....

There is a 6 Month Window to Use Recycled Volume Cap



1. Prepayments are received 4 years from original issuance  
 2. Original bonds are redeemed through a refunding note issuance or bank facility draw

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## ■ **Rental Assistance Demonstration (“RAD”) Program**

### – **Public Private Partnership Brings in Private Capital to Public Housing**

- Public housing is typically funded with Section 9 money which funds the Operating Fund and Capital Fund
- RAD converts Section 9 to project based Section 8
  - Greater funding certainty and access to private capital
  - Well established program

### – **No New Volume Cap will be used in the NYCHA RAD Conversion**

- NYCHA supplies 175,000+ units or 8% of NYC’s rental housing stock<sup>1</sup>
- NYCHA’s plan calls for the conversion of 62,000 public housing units over 10 years
- Taxable Bonds, recycled volume cap, NYCHDC’s resources, and governmental purpose bonds are available financing tools

### – **In addition to RAD, the City of New York plans to provide \$3.6 in capital contributions over 10 years to preserve NYCHA’s housing stock**

<sup>1</sup> Source: NYCHA 2.0 Plan

# Addressing the Gap Requires a Concerted Effort: Federal, State, Local and Private Partners

## ■ **Volume Cap Preservation Strategies**

- **Evaluate Allocating New Volume Cap for Multi-Family Financings**
  - As-of-rights tax credits can stretch that resource
- **Allocate New Volume Cap for New Construction over Permanent Financings**
  - New construction typically requires more capital than preservation
- **Use Recycled Volume Cap or Taxable Bonds to Finance Costs over the 50% Test**
  - Additional volume cap over the 50% test does not grant more tax credit production
  - \$10MM qualified basis that receives \$7MM in volume cap receives approximately \$3MM in subsidy. The additional \$2MM in volume cap allocated creates a loss of about \$600,000 in subsidy for another project

# Addressing the Gap Requires a Concerted Effort: Federal, State, Local and Private Partners

- **Workforce and Middle-Income Housing Alleviates Pressure on Lower Income Housing Stock**



- **Mixed Middle (M2)**
  - (i) 20 at 50 or 25 at 60
  - (ii) min. 30 at 80-100
  - (iii) the rest at 130-160
- **Mix and Match**
  - (i) 50 at 80-165
  - (ii) 50 at up to 60
- **Mixed Income**
  - (i) 50 at Market Rate
  - (ii) 30 at 80-165
  - (iii) 20 at up to 60
- **Recycled Cap for 1<sup>st</sup> loans for Middle Income units**
- **Corporate reserves and City/State funds for Subordinate loans**



- **Workforce Housing Fund launched in 2016, \$100MM**  
Subordinate loans provided for projects with incomes at 60% to 120% of AMI
- **Funding from Working Capital Fund**



- **Building Homes and Jobs Act (SB2)**  
Effective January 1, 2018, SB2 established a permanent ongoing source of funding for affordable housing development
- **Beginning 2019, CalHFA receives 15% of the SB2 annually**
  - Expected to be \$30-45MM
  - Provides subordinate loans to newly constructed residential mixed income housing with unit restrictions between 30% and 120% of AMI

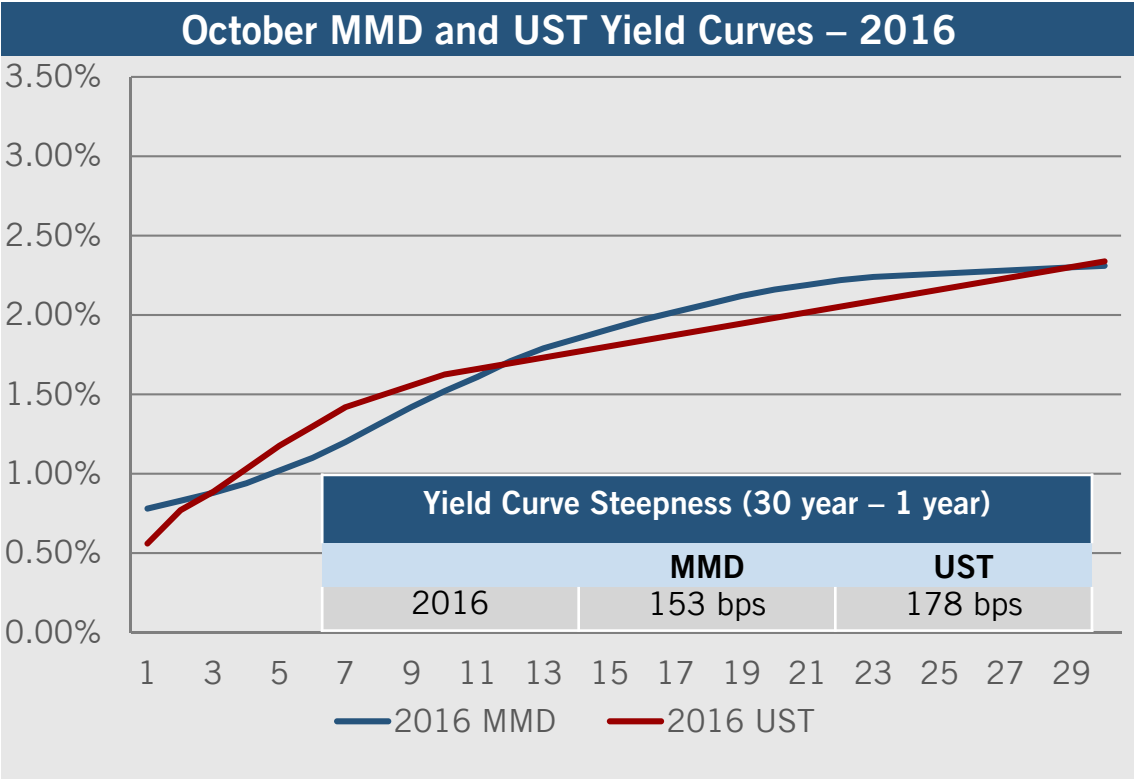
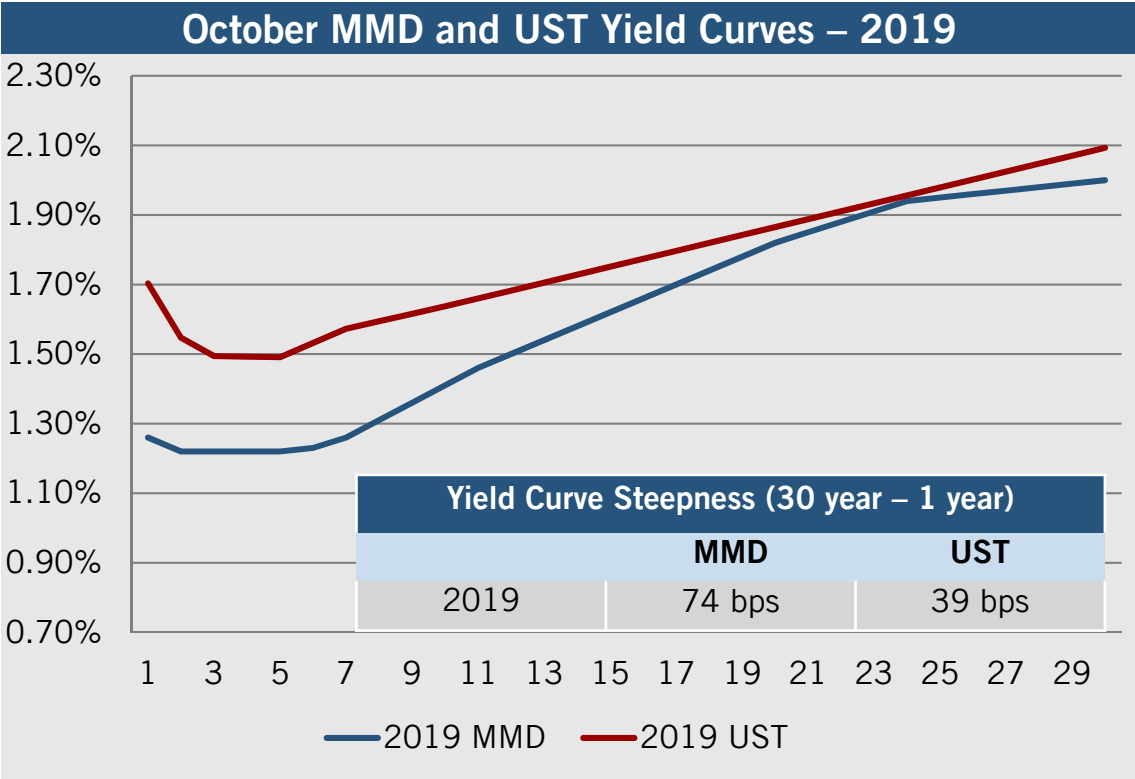


- **Workforce housing investments funded from balance sheet**
- **CHFA is an equity participant**



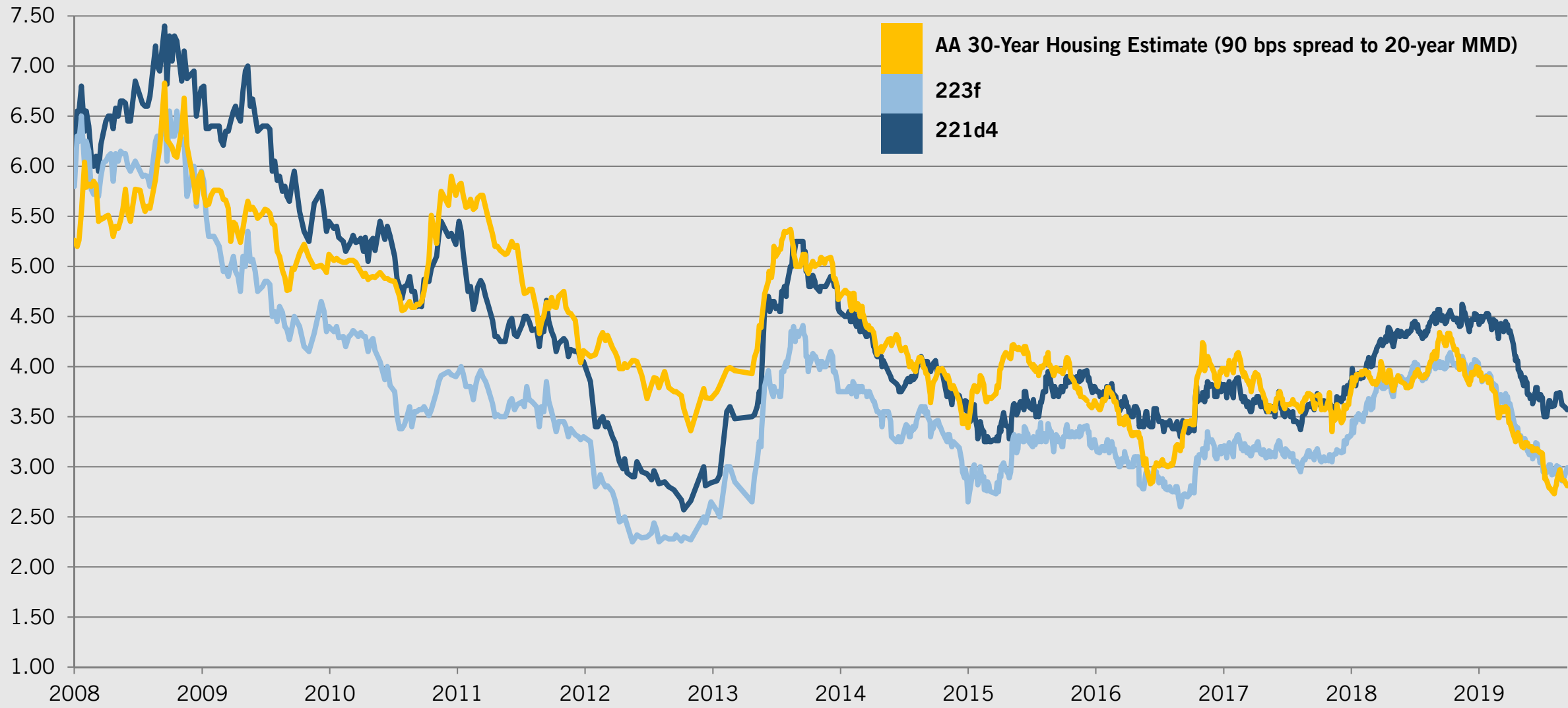
# Addressing the Gap Requires a Concerted Effort: Federal, State, Local and Private Partners

- **Building an HFA's Balance Sheet Can Contribute to a Wider Array of Affordability**
  - **Seize market opportunities**
    - Current market creates an opportunity to utilize mortgage revenue bonds



# Multi-Family Cost of Funds Comparison

Tax-Exempt Multifamily Bond Rates



Source: Thomson Reuters and Berkadia.

# HFA Direct Lending Models

	General Obligation Bonds	Structured Finance	Open Indenture	FHA Risk-Share
<b>Overview</b>	Use G.O. rating to fund loans through debt issuance	Structure to rating agency criteria to achieve ratings	Over-collateralized Indenture with insured and uninsured loans	Use unique insurance product for HFA loans to secure debt
<b>Strengths</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Direct underwriting</li> <li>✓ Potentially more straightforward disclosure</li> <li>✓ Structuring flexibility</li> <li>✓ No DSRF</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Minimal capital</li> <li>✓ Favorable rating agency view of affordable housing</li> <li>✓ Criteria change risk</li> <li>✓ Challenges with more depressed areas</li> <li>✓ Can be paired with tax credits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Build up of wealth through spread earnings over time</li> <li>✓ Program underwriting flexibility</li> <li>✓ Structuring flexibility</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Unique tool with 100% federal guarantee</li> <li>✓ Programmatic efficiency with 50/50 program</li> <li>✓ Can be paired with bank cash-collateralized structure</li> <li>✓ 40 year term</li> </ul>
<b>Challenges</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✗ G.O. capacity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✗ Typically lower leverage</li> <li>✗ A rating cap</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✗ Need for capital</li> <li>✗ Value takes time</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✗ Davis-Bacon wages or need to cover construction risk</li> <li>✗ Initial set-up with FHA/HUD</li> </ul>
<b>Cost of Capital</b>	2.90--3.30%	3.10--3.55%	2.95--3.35%	2.90--3.30%

# The HFA Model is Working

## COST OF FUNDS

- ✓ With recent yield curve shifts, tax-exempt advantage is back

## RISK-SHARE

- ✓ Unique loan enhancement product with longer term (40 years), providing up to 5% of additional value in proceeds or reduced debt service

## NEGATIVE CARRY

- ✓ Reduced benefit of competing drawdown products likely to continue as yield curve flattens

## SUBSIDY CAPITAL

- ✓ Greater need for subsidy due to higher costs and reduced LIHTCs brings HFAs to the table

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING MANDATES

- ✓ Regulatory focus on affordable housing increases need for HFAs as partners