Summary: Hennepin Cnty, MN; General Obligation, Local Lease Mar 97

Description: Abstract
The ratings on Hennepin County, Minn.'s debt reflect: * A strong and well diversified economic base, which includes the city of Minneapolis ('AAA' G.O. debt); * Consistently strong financial operations; and * Superior management performance in addressing capital needs while maintaining manageable debt. Hennepin County is the center of a strong regional economy that continues to outperform the nation. Renewed strength in the downtown commercial tax base compliments ongoing gains in suburban property values. The county saw a 6.5% increase in market value in 1997, with a 5% increase in Minneapolis. Downtown Minneapolis office vacancy rates have fallen to 8% in 1996 from 22% in 1992, and several office developments are currently being discussed. Labor force growth is steady, while...

Companies mentioned in this report are:
- Hennepin Cnty

Action: New Rating

Standard and Poors RatingsXpress Credit Research provides in-depth coverage of international corporates, financial institutions, insurance companies, utilities, sovereigns and structured finance programs. RatingsXpress Credit Research lets users determine the credit rating of holdings and identify key factors underlying an issuer's creditworthiness, distinguishes the different risk exposures for new and existing deals, and provides an understanding of how their analysts interpret key regulatory, political and environmental events and their economic impact.

This product consists of a Summary Analysis: Bi-annual (at least). An abbreviated analysis containing Standard & Poor's issuer credit ratings as of the time the article was published. The analysis includes a rating rationale - the basis on which the rating was assigned - and an outlook section if the issuer is not on CreditWatch. Financial statistics are not included.

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