DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

EDMUND G. BROWN JR. • GOVERNOR
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November 7, 2012

Mr. Bruce Foltz, Finance Director
City of Wasco
764 E Street
Wasco, CA 93280

Dear Mr. Foltz:

Subject: Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund Due Diligence Review

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 34179.6 (c), the City of Wasco Successor Agency (Agency) submitted an oversight board approved Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund Due Diligence Review (DDR) to the California Department of Finance (Finance) on October 15, 2012. The purpose of the review was to determine the amount of cash and cash equivalents available for distribution to the affected taxing entities. Pursuant to HSC section 34179.6 (d), Finance has completed its review of your DDR, which may have included obtaining clarification for various items.

HSC section 34179.6 (d) authorizes Finance to adjust the DDR's stated balance of Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund (LMIHF) available for distribution to the taxing entities. Finance reviewed the City of Wasco's Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2011 and noted a LMIHF fund balance of $512,593. Based on Attachment B of the DDR, the Agency experienced approximately $85,000 in expenditures during the Enforceable Obligation Payment Schedule (EOPS) period of July 1, 2012 through January 31, 2012. In an effort to verify these were valid LMIHF expenditures, we made multiple attempts to contact you but were unsuccessful. Although the EOPS does not identify a funding source, a review of the items listed in the EOPS did not appear to be housing related. Therefore, Finance is adjusting the LMIHF balance available for distribution to the taxing entities by $84,722.

If you disagree with Finance's adjusted amount of LMIHF balances available for distribution to the taxing entities, you may request a Meet and Confer within five business days of the date of this letter. The Meet and Confer process and guidelines are available at Finance's website below:

http://www.dof.ca.gov/redevelopment/meet_and_confer/

The Agency's LMIHF balance available for distribution to the affected taxing entities is $512,593 (see table below). Pursuant to HSC 34179.6 (h) (1) (B), any remittance related to unallowable transfers to a private party may also be subject to a 10 percent penalty if not remitted within 60 days.

LMIHF Balances Available For Distribution To Taxing Entities		
Available Balance per DDR:	$	427,871
Finance Adjustments		
Add:		
Adjustment to the June 30, 2012 balance:		84,722
Total LMIHF available to be distributed:	$	512,593

Absent a Meet and Confer request, HSC section 34179.6 (f) requires successor agencies to transmit to the county auditor-controller the amount of funds identified in the above table within five working days, plus any interest those sums accumulated while in the possession of the recipient.

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If funds identified for transmission are in the possession of the successor agency, and if the successor agency is operated by the city or county that created the former redevelopment agency, then failure to transmit the identified funds may result in offsets to the city's or the county's sales and use tax allocation, as well as its property tax allocation. If funds identified for transmission are in the possession of another taxing entity, that taxing entity's failure to remit those funds may result in offsets to its sales and use tax allocation or to its property tax allocation.

Failure to transmit the identified funds will also prevent the Agency from being able to receive a finding of completion from Finance. Without a finding of completion, the Agency will be unable to take advantage of the provisions detailed in HSC section 34191.4. Specifically, these provisions allow certain loan agreements between the former redevelopment agency (RDA) and the city, county, or city and county that created the RDA to be considered enforceable obligations. These provisions also allow certain bond proceeds to be used for the purposes in which they were sold and allows for the transfer of real property and interests into the Community Redevelopment Property Trust Fund once Finance approves the Agency's long-range property management plan.

In addition to the consequences above, willful failure to return assets that were deemed an unallowable transfer or failure to remit the funds identified above could expose certain individuals to criminal penalties under existing law.

Pursuant to HSC section 34167.5 and 34178.8, the California State Controller's Office (Controller) has the authority to claw back assets that were inappropriately transferred to the city, county, or any other public agency. Determinations outlined in this letter and Finance's Housing Assets Transfer letter dated August 31, 2012 do not in any way eliminate the Controller's authority.

Please direct inquiries to Kylie Le, Supervisor or Brian Dunham, Lead Analyst at (916) 445-1546.

Sincerely,

STEVE SZALAY
Local Government Consultant

cc: Ms. Vickie Hight, City Clerk, City of Wasco
Ms. Ann K. Barnett, Kern County Auditor-Controller
California State Controller's Office