



March 22, 2013

Ms. Wendy Cosin, Deputy Planning Director
City of Berkeley
2118 Milvia Street, 3rd Floor
Berkeley, CA 94704

Dear Ms. Cosin:

Subject: Other Funds and Accounts Due Diligence Review

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 34179.6 (c), the City of Berkeley Successor Agency (Agency) submitted an oversight board approved Other Funds and Accounts (OFA) Due Diligence Review (DDR) to the California Department of Finance (Finance) on January 15, 2013. 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 OFA available for distribution to the taxing entities. Based on our review of your DDR, the following adjustments were made:

- Balances restricted for funding of enforceable obligations in the amount of \$1,560,000. The Agency contends the retention of \$1,560,000 is necessary to meet obligations related to the City of Berkeley \$1 million Bond project during fiscal years 2012-13 and 2013-14. However, the maturity date of the bonds was listed as December 15, 2012 and no payment was listed on the Recognized Obligation Payment Schedules (ROPS) for the period January 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013. Therefore, Agency's request to retain funding for future obligations is not allowed. The Agency may request RPTTF funding if the obligation is enforceable in the period it is requested for payment.
- A loan receivable in the amount of \$275,000. The development loan agreement was executed between Jubilee Senior Homes and the City of Berkeley. Since the former Redevelopment Agency (RDA) was not a party to the agreement, the loan is not considered an asset of the former RDA. Therefore, the \$275,000 loan is deducted from the DDR asset balance of \$5,174,477 and an offsetting adjustment is made to the non-liquid asset balance. The adjustments made have a net zero effect on the balance available to the taxing entities.

If you disagree with Finance's adjusted amount of OFA 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 OFA balance available for distribution to the affected taxing entities is \$786,102. (see table below).

OFA Balances Available For Distribution To Taxing Entities	
Available Balance per DDR:	\$ (773,898)
Finance Adjustments	
Add:	
Requested retained balance not supported:	1,560,000
Total OFA available to be distributed:	\$ 786,102

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. Upon submission of payment, it is requested you provide proof of payment to Finance within five business days.

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, the successor agency is required to take diligent efforts to recover such funds. A failure to recover and remit those funds may result in offsets to the other taxing entity's sales and use tax allocation or to its property tax allocation. If funds identified for transmission are in the possession of a private entity, HSC 34179.6 (h) (1) (B) states that 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.

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 do not in any way eliminate the Controller's authority.

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Please direct inquiries to Beliz Chappuie, Supervisor or Todd Vermillion, Lead Analyst at (916) 445-1546.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Szalay', with a stylized flourish extending to the left.

STEVE SZALAY
Local Government Consultant

cc: Ms. Danita Hardaway, Associate Management Analyst, City of Berkeley
Ms. Carol A. Orth, Division Chief, Tax Analysis, County of Alameda
California State Controller's Office