



April 19, 2013

Ms. Anne Haraksin, Deputy City Manager
City of La Mirada
13700 La Mirada Boulevard
La Mirada, CA 90638

Dear Ms. Haraksin:

Subject: Other Funds and Accounts Due Diligence Review

This letter supersedes the California Department of Finance's (Finance) original Other Funds and Accounts (OFA) Due Diligence Review (DDR) determination letter dated March 19, 2013. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 34179.6 (c), the City of La Mirada Successor Agency (Agency) submitted an oversight board approved OFA DDR to Finance on January 11, 2013. The purpose of the review was to determine the amount of cash and cash equivalents available for distribution to the affected taxing entities. Finance issued an OFA DDR determination letter on March 19, 2013. Subsequently, the Agency requested a Meet and Confer session on one or more items adjusted by Finance. The Meet and Confer session was held on March 28, 2013.

Based on a review of additional information and documentation provided to Finance during the Meet and Confer process, Finance has completed its review of those specific items being disputed. Specifically, the following adjustments were made:

- Transfers in the amount of \$5 million. Our review indicates that \$5 million was transferred to the City of La Mirada (City) for principal and interest payments on City loans. HSC section 34179.5 states "enforceable obligation" includes any of the items listed in subdivision (d) of section 34171. HSC section 34171 (d) (2) states "enforceable obligation" does not include any agreements, contracts, or arrangements between the city that created the RDA and the former RDA. Therefore, the transfer was not made pursuant to an enforceable obligation and is not permitted.
- Cash transfers in the amount of \$2,452,795. Our review indicated cash was transferred to the City as reimbursement for the Foster Park project. According to Finance's letter dated November 15, 2012, this contract is not an enforceable obligation because the Foster Park contract is between the City and Sialic Contractors Corporation; the Agency is not a party to the agreement. However, the Agency provided documentation that cash transferred consisted of bond proceeds. Although Finance continues to assert the payment was not made in accordance with an enforceable obligation, for DDR purposes, these disallowed transactions will not affect the amount available for distribution to the affected taxing entities because bond proceeds are restricted assets. However, these improper transfers should be reversed, and the Agency should recover the bond proceeds.

We note that pursuant to HSC section 34191.4 (c), successor agencies that have been issued a Finding of Completion by Finance will be allowed to use excess proceeds from bonds issued prior to December 31, 2010 for the purposes for which the bonds were issued. Successor Agencies are required to defease or repurchase on the open market for cancellation any bonds that cannot be used for the purpose they were issued or if they were issued after December 31, 2010.

The Agency's OFA balance available for distribution to the affected taxing entities is \$2,308,980.

OFA Balances Available For Distribution To Taxing Entities	
Available Balance per DDR:	\$ (2,672,140)
Finance Adjustments	
Add:	
Disallowed transfers:	\$ 4,981,120
Total OFA available to be distributed:	\$ 2,308,980

This is Finance's final determination of the OFA balances available for distribution to the taxing entities. 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 sections 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

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city, county, or any other public agency. Determinations outlined in this letter do not in any way eliminate the Controller's authority.

Please direct inquiries to Evelyn Suess, Supervisor or Danielle Brandon, Analyst at (916) 445-1546.

Sincerely,



STEVE SZALAY
Local Government Consultant

cc: Ms. Alison Moore, Community Development Manager, City of La Mirada
Ms. Kristina Burns, Manager, Los Angeles County Department of Auditor-Controller
California State Controller's Office