



May 10, 2013

Mr. James Purtee, Interim Assistant City Manager
City of Simi Valley
2929 Tapo Canyon Road
Simi Valley, CA 93063

Dear Mr. Purtee:

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 April 1, 2013. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 34179.6 (c), the City of Simi Valley Successor Agency (Agency) submitted an oversight board approved OFA DDR to Finance on January 14, 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 April 1, 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 April 24, 2013.

The Agency requested the Meet and Confer to discuss the property transfers identified in Finance's letter to the Agency dated April 1, 2013. We note, no monetary adjustments were made to the Agency's DDR; therefore, Finance will not revise the original determination of the following improper property transfers:

- Properties transferred to the City of Simi Valley (City) in the amount of \$1,231,755 for the Civic Center Site and 1031 Tank Site. Finance previously disallowed the transfer as the Agency did not provide supporting documentation to demonstrate the Civic Center Site and 1031 Tank Site was properly transferred or initially owned by the City. The City's 2012 Consolidated Annual Financial Report notes that some of the former redevelopment agency's capital assets were incorrectly recorded as the Agency's properties instead of the City's and we could not verify the information.

During the Meet and Confer process, the Agency provided documentation; however, we are unable to determine if the transfer of the properties in relation to the adjustment noted in the CAFR is proper. HSC section 34191.3 suspends the transfer of properties until Finance has approved a long-range property management plan. To the extent these properties do not meet criteria outlined in HSC section 34181 (a), they should be returned to the Agency and disposed of in a manner consistent with the Agency's Long Range Property Management Plan pursuant to HSC section 34191.5. Finance notes that the transfers to the City are subject to the California State Controller's Office review of asset transfers. Since these are non-liquid assets, Finance made no adjustments to the available balance to the affected taxing entities.

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 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: Mr. Brian Gabler, Assistant City Manager, City of Simi Valley
Ms. Sandra Bickford, Chief Deputy, Ventura County Auditor-Controller
California State Controller's Office