



November 15, 2013

Mr. Steve Franks, Director
Orange County Community Resources
Orange County
1770 North Broadway
Santa Ana, CA 92706

Dear Mr. Franks:

Subject: Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 34177 (m), the Orange County Successor Agency (Agency) submitted a Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule (ROPS 13-14B) to the California Department of Finance (Finance) on October 01, 2013 for the period of January through June 2014. Finance has completed its review of your ROPS 13-14B, which may have included obtaining clarification for various items.

HSC section 34171 (d) defines enforceable obligations. Based on a sample of line items reviewed and application of the law, the following do not qualify as enforceable obligations for the reasons specified:

- Item No. 3 – City of Lake Forest Annexation Agreement in the amount of \$611,795. It is our understanding the requested amount represents the total amount due to the Lake Forest Successor Agency for the period July through December 2013 (ROPS 13-14A) and the ROPS 13-14B period. Finance authorized \$758,853 in Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Fund (RPTTF) for Lake Forest Successor Agency enforceable obligations on the ROPS 13-14A, and zero for the ROPS 13-14B. Therefore, the excess, \$611,795 (\$1,370,648-\$758,853) is not eligible for RPTTF funding.
- The Agency's claimed administrative costs exceed the allowance by \$147,067. HSC section 34171 (b) limits the fiscal year 2013-14 administrative expenses to three percent of property tax allocated to the Agency or \$250,000, whichever is greater. The Orange County Auditor-Controller's Office distributed \$250,000 in administrative costs for the July through December 2013 period, thus leaving a balance of \$102,933 available for the January through June 2014 period. Although \$250,000 is claimed for administrative cost, only \$102,933 is available pursuant to the cap. Therefore, \$147,067 of excess administrative cost is not allowed.

Pursuant to HSC Section 34186 (a), successor agencies were required to report on the ROPS 13-14B form the estimated obligations and actual payments (prior period adjustments) associated with the January through June 2013 period. HSC Section 34186 (a) also specifies that the prior period adjustments self-reported by successor agencies are subject to audit by the county auditor-controller (CAC) and the State Controller. The amount of RPTTF approved in

the below table includes the prior period adjustment resulting from the CAC's audit of the Agency's self-reported prior period adjustment.

Except for the item denied in whole or in part as an enforceable obligation, Finance is not objecting to the remaining items listed on your ROPS 13-14B. If you disagree with the determination with respect to any items on your ROPS 13-14B, 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 maximum approved RPTTF distribution for the reporting period is \$5,861,844 as summarized below:

Approved RPTTF Distribution Amount For the period of January through June 2014	
Total RPTTF requested for non-administrative obligations	6,722,844
Total RPTTF requested for administrative obligations	250,000
Total RPTTF requested for obligations	\$ 6,972,844
Total RPTTF requested for non-administrative obligations	6,722,844
<u>Denied Items</u>	
Item No. 3	(611,795)
Total RPTTF approved for non-administrative obligations	6,111,049
Total RPTTF allowable for administrative obligations (see Admin Cost Cap table below)	102,933
Total RPTTF approved for obligations	6,213,982
ROPS III prior period adjustment	(352,138)
Total RPTTF approved for distribution	\$ 5,861,844
Administrative Cost Cap Calculation	
Total RPTTF for 13-14A (July through December 2013)	5,903,388
Total RPTTF for 13-14B (January through June 2014)	5,861,844
Total RPTTF for fiscal year 2013-14	11,765,232
Allowable administrative cost for fiscal year 2013-14 (Greater of 3% or \$250,000)	352,933
Administrative allowance for 13-14A (July through December 2013)	250,000
Allowable RPTTF distribution for administrative cost for ROPS 13-14B	102,933

Pursuant to HSC section 34177 (l) (1) (E), agencies are required to use all available funding sources prior to RPTTF for payment of enforceable obligations. Beginning with the ROPS 13-14B period, Finance required successor agencies to identify fund balances for various types of funds in its possession. During our ROPS 13-14B review, Finance requested financial records to support the fund balances reported by the Agency; however, Finance was unable to reconcile the financial records to the amounts reported. As a result, Finance will continue to work with the Agency after the ROPS 13-14B review period to properly identify the Agency's fund balances. If it is determined the Agency possesses fund balances that are available to pay approved obligations, the Agency should request the use of these fund balances prior to requesting RPTTF in ROPS 14-15A.

Please refer to the ROPS 13-14B schedule that was used to calculate the approved RPTTF amount:

[http://www.dof.ca.gov/redevelopment/ROPS/ROPS 13-14B Forms by Successor Agency/](http://www.dof.ca.gov/redevelopment/ROPS/ROPS%2013-14B%20Forms%20by%20Successor%20Agency/).

Absent a Meet and Confer, this is Finance's final determination related to the enforceable obligations reported on your ROPS for January 1 through June 30, 2014. This determination applies only to items where funding was requested for the six month period. Finance's determination is effective for this time period only and should not be conclusively relied upon for future periods. All items listed on a future ROPS are subject to a subsequent review and may be denied even if it was or was not denied on this ROPS or a preceding ROPS. The only exception is for those items that have received a Final and Conclusive determination from Finance pursuant to HSC 34177.5 (i). Finance's review of items that have received a Final and Conclusive determination is limited to confirming the scheduled payments as required by the obligation.

The amount available from the RPTTF is the same as the amount of property tax increment that was available prior to enactment of ABx1 26 and AB 1484. This amount is not and never was an unlimited funding source. Therefore, as a practical matter, the ability to fund the items on the ROPS with property tax is limited to the amount of funding available to the successor agency in the RPTTF.

To the extent proceeds from bonds issued after December 31, 2010 exist and are not encumbered by an enforceable obligation pursuant to HSC section 34171 (d), HSC section 34191.4 (c)(2)(B) requires these proceeds be used to defease the bonds or to purchase those same outstanding bonds on the open market for cancellation.

Please direct inquiries to Nichelle Thomas, Supervisor or Alex Watt, Lead Analyst at (916) 445-1546.

Sincerely,



JUSTYN HOWARD
Assistant Program Budget Manager

cc: Mr. Jeff Kirkpatrick, Administrative Manager, Orange County
Mr. Frank Davies, Property Tax Manager, Orange County
California State Controller's Office