



November 15, 2013

Ms. Sally Traylor, Secretary
City of Westmorland
P.O. Box 699
Westmorland, CA 92281

Dear Ms. Traylor:

Subject: Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 34177 (m), the City of Westmorland Successor Agency (Agency) submitted a Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule (ROPS 13-14B) to the California Department of Finance (Finance) on October 03, 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 does not qualify as an enforceable obligation for the reasons specified:

- Item No. 13 – 2013 Loan to pay Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund (LMIHF) shortage in the amount of \$36,900. Finance continues to deny this item. It is our understanding the Agency uses the same account for both the housing and non-housing funds. As a result, the former Redevelopment Agency (RDA) inadvertently used \$36,900 in non-housing funds for LMIHF obligations. As a result, during the LMIHF Due Diligence Review (DDR) process, the unencumbered LMIHF funds were swept and distributed to the taxing entities. The Agency does not agree with this action.

Finance's LMIHF Meet and Confer letter dated December 15, 2012, disallowed the Agency's request to use a portion of their January 2013 Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Fund (RPTTF) distribution to make the full LMIHF DDR payment. The request was denied; however, our letter recommended the Agency to consider other financing options to fund the remaining \$36,900 due to the County Auditor Controller for LMIHF DDR process. To fund the shortfall, the Agency obtained a City loan which does not meet the criteria defined in HSC section 34173 (h). Furthermore, the Agency did not submit the oversight board action approving this loan to Finance for review pursuant to HSC section 34179 (h).

The Agency further states on ROPS 13-14B the item is an enforceable obligation pursuant to HSC Section 34171 (d) (1) (G). However, this section refers to amounts borrowed from or owing to the LMIHF of a RDA which had been deferred; therefore, the payment of unencumbered LMIHF funds for the disbursement to the taxing entities does not apply and is not eligible for RPTTF.

Pursuant to HSC Section 34186 (a), successor agencies were required to report the estimated obligations and actual payments (prior period adjustments) associated with the January through June 2013 period. The amount of RPTTF approved in the table below includes the prior period adjustment that was self-reported by the Agency. 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. Any proposed CAC adjustments were not received in time for inclusion in this letter. Therefore, the amount of RPTTF approved in the table below includes only the prior period adjustment that was self-reported by the Agency.

Except for the item denied in whole or in part as enforceable obligations, 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 \$52,557 as summarized below:

Approved RPTTF Distribution Amount For the period of January through June 2014	
Total RPTTF requested for non-administrative obligations	54,457
Total RPTTF requested for administrative obligations	35,000
Total RPTTF requested for obligations	\$ 89,457
Total RPTTF requested for non-administrative obligations	54,457
Denied Items	
Item No. 13	(36,900)
Total RPTTF approved for non-administrative obligations	17,557
Total RPTTF requested for administrative obligations	35,000
Total RPTTF for administrative obligations	35,000
Total RPTTF approved for obligations	52,557
ROPS III prior period adjustment	-
Total RPTTF approved for distribution	\$ 52,557

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.

Ms. Sally Traylor
November 15, 2013
Page 3

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

Sincerely,



JUSTYN HOWARD
Assistant Program Budget Manager

cc: Mr. Henry Graham, Chair, City of Westmorland
Ms. Ann McDonald, Property Tax Manager, Imperial County
California State Controller's Office