

November 14, 2014

Mr. Will Kaholokula, Director of Finance and Administrative Services
City of Bell Gardens
7100 Garfield Avenue
Bell Gardens, CA 90201

Dear Mr. Kaholokula:

Subject: Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 34177 (m), the City of Bell Gardens Successor Agency (Agency) submitted a Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule (ROPS 14-15B) to the California Department of Finance (Finance) on October 2, 2014 for the period of January 1 through June 30 2015. Finance has completed its review of your ROPS 14-15B, which may have included obtaining clarification for various items.

Based on a sample of line items reviewed and application of the law, Finance made the following determinations:

- Item Nos. 40, 42, and 49 through 51 – Reserves for debt service payments totaling \$922,758. Finance notes that pursuant to HSC section 34183 (a) (2) (A), debt service payments have first priority for payment from distributed Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Fund (RPTTF) funding. As such, the \$922,758 requested to be held in reserve along with the amounts required for the current ROPS period should be transferred upon receipt to the bond trustee(s). The amounts approved for debt service payments on this ROPS are restricted for that purpose and are not authorized to be used for other ROPS items. Any requests to fund these debt service items again in the ROPS 15-16A period will be denied unless insufficient RPTTF was received to satisfy the approved annual debt service payments.
- Item No. 52 – City Reimbursement in the amount of \$381,083 is not allowed. Pursuant to HSC sections 34173 (h), the city, county, or city and county that authorized the creation of a redevelopment agency may loan or grant funds to an Agency for administrative costs, enforceable obligations, or project-related expenses at the city's discretion. However, in order for it to be considered a loan, the Agency should execute a loan agreement with terms identifying the loan amount, ROPS items paid for, and loan repayment terms. The loan agreement should also be approved by the oversight board. It is our understanding the City of Bell Gardens did not enter into a loan agreement with the Agency. As such, the item is not eligible for RPTTF funding.

Pursuant to HSC section 34186 (a), successor agencies were required to report on the ROPS 14-15B form the estimated obligations and actual payments (prior period adjustments) associated with the January through June 2014 period. HSC section 34186 (a) also specifies prior period adjustments self-reported by successor agencies are subject to review by the

county auditor-controller (CAC) and the State Controller. The amount of RPTTF approved in the table below includes the prior period adjustment resulting from the CAC's review of the Agency's self-reported prior period adjustment.

Except for the item denied in whole or in part, Finance is not objecting to the remaining items listed on your ROPS 14-15B. If you disagree with the determination with respect to any items on your ROPS 14-15B, 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 \$1,732,817 as summarized in the Approved RPTTF Distribution Table below:

Approved RPTTF Distribution For the period of January through June 2015	
Total RPTTF requested for non-administrative obligations	2,084,868
Total RPTTF requested for administrative obligations	250,540
Total RPTTF requested for obligations on ROPS	\$ 2,335,408
Total RPTTF requested for non-administrative obligations	2,084,868
<u>Denied Item</u>	
Item No. 52	(381,083)
Total RPTTF authorized for non-administrative obligations	\$ 1,703,785
Total RPTTF requested for administrative obligations	250,540
Administrative costs in excess of the cap (see Admin Cost Cap table below)	(540)
Total RPTTF authorized for administrative obligations	\$ 250,000
Total RPTTF authorized for obligations	\$ 1,953,785
ROPS 13-14B prior period adjustment	(220,968)
Total RPTTF approved for distribution	\$ 1,732,817

Administrative Cost Cap Calculation	
Total RPTTF for 14-15A (July through December 2014)	1,856,943
Total RPTTF for 14-15B (January through June 2015)	1,703,785
Total RPTTF for fiscal year 2014-2015	3,560,728
Allowable administrative cost for fiscal year 2014-15 (Greater of 3% or \$250,000)	250,000
Administrative allowance for 14-15A (July through December 2014)	0
Allowable RPTTF distribution for administrative cost for ROPS 14-15B	250,000
Total RPTTF administrative obligations after Finance adjustments	250,540
Administrative costs in excess of the cap	\$ (540)

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. During the ROPS 14-15B review, Finance requested financial records to support the cash balances reported by the Agency; however, the Agency was unable to support the amounts reported for RPTTF. Agency did not provide trial balance. As a result, Finance will continue to work with the Agency after the

ROPS 14-15B review period to properly identify the Agency's cash balances. If it is determined the Agency possesses cash balances that are available to pay approved obligations, the Agency should request the use of these cash balances prior to requesting RPTTF in ROPS 15-16A.

Please refer to the ROPS 14-15B schedule that was used to calculate the approved RPTTF amount:

<http://www.dof.ca.gov/redevelopment/ROPS>

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, 2015. This determination only applies 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 section 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.

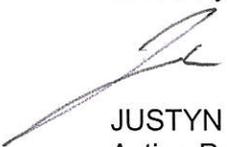
The amount available from the RPTTF is the same as the amount of property tax increment that was available prior to the enactment of ABx1 26 and AB 1484. This amount is not and never was an unlimited funding source. Therefore, as a practical matter, the ability to fund the items on the ROPS with property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

Pursuant to HSC section 34177 (a) (3), only those payments listed on an approved ROPS may be made by the successor agency from the funds specified in the ROPS. However, if for whatever reason the Agency needs to make payments for approved obligations from another funding source, HSC section 34177 (a) (4) requires the Agency to first obtain oversight board approval.

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 Cindie Lor, Supervisor or Veronica Green, Lead Analyst at (916) 445-1546.

Sincerely,



JUSTYN HOWARD
Acting Program Budget Manager

cc: Mr. John Oropeza, Assistant City Manager, City of Bell Gardens
Ms. Kristina Burns, Manager, Department of Auditor-Controller, Los Angeles County
California State Controller's Office