



April 14, 2015

Ms. Christa Elms, Asst. Finance Director
City of Blythe
235 North Broadway
Blythe, CA 92225

Dear Ms. Elms:

Subject: Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 34177 (m), the City of Blythe Successor Agency (Agency) submitted a Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule (ROPS 15-16A) to the California Department of Finance (Finance) on March 3, 2015 for the period of July 1 through December 31, 2015. Finance has completed its review of your ROPS 15-16A, 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 No. 20 – Property Tax Audit Services in the amount of \$32,500 is not allowed. Pursuant to correspondence with the Agency, the Agency is requesting funding to recoup the administrative allowance penalty administered during ROPS 13-14B. Additionally, the Agency was not able to provide documentation to support Agency's obligation to pay for property tax audit services. Therefore, Item No. 20 is not an enforceable obligation and not eligible for funding.
- Item No. 30 – Debt service reserves totaling \$185,000 for payments due January through June 2016 is not allowed. HSC section 34171 (d) (1) (A) allows successor agencies to hold a reserve for debt service payments when the next property tax allocation will be insufficient to pay all obligations due under the provisions of the bond for the next payment due in the following half of the calendar year. Therefore, the request to fund payments due for the first half of the calendar year is not allowed.

During our review, which may have included obtaining financial records, Finance determined the Agency possesses funds that should be used prior to requesting RPTTF. Pursuant to HSC section 34177 (l) (1) (E), Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Fund (RPTTF) may be used as a funding source, but only to the extent no other funding source is available or when payment from property tax revenues is required by an enforceable obligation. The Agency provided financial records that displayed available Other Funds totaling \$1,586.

Therefore, the funding source for the following item has been reclassified to Other Funds and in the amount specified below:

- Item No. 19 – Auditing Services in the amount of \$1,586. The Agency requests \$10,000 of RPTTF; however, Finance is reclassifying \$1,586 to Other Funds. This item is an enforceable obligation for the ROPS 15-16A period. However, the obligation does not require payment from property tax revenues and the Agency has \$1,586 in available Other Funds. Therefore, Finance is approving RPTTF in the amount of \$8,414 and the use of Other Funds in the amount of \$1,586, totaling \$10,000.

Pursuant to HSC section 34186 (a), successor agencies were required to report on the ROPS 15-16A form the estimated obligations and actual payments (prior period adjustments) associated with the July through December 2014 period. HSC section 34186 (a) also specifies 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 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 items denied in whole or in part or items that have been reclassified, Finance is not objecting to the remaining items listed on your ROPS 15-16A. If you disagree with the determination with respect to any items on your ROPS 15-16A, 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/](http://www.dof.ca.gov/redevelopment/meet_and_confer/)

The Agency's maximum approved RPTTF distribution for the reporting period is \$1,036,929 as summarized in the Approved RPTTF Distribution table below:

Approved RPTTF Distribution	
For the period of July through December 2015	
Total RPTTF requested for non-administrative obligations	1,338,040
Total RPTTF requested for administrative obligations	125,000
Total RPTTF requested for obligations on ROPS	\$ 1,463,040
Total RPTTF requested for non-administrative obligations	1,338,040
<u>Denied Items</u>	
Item No. 20	(32,500)
Item No. 30	(185,000)
	(217,500)
<u>Cash Balances - Item reclassified to Other Funds</u>	
Item No. 19	(1,586)
	(1,586)
Total RPTTF authorized for non-administrative obligations	\$ 1,118,954
Total RPTTF requested for administrative obligations	125,000
Total RPTTF authorized for administrative obligations	\$ 125,000
Total RPTTF authorized for obligations	\$ 1,243,954
ROPS 14-15A prior period adjustment	(207,025)
Total RPTTF approved for distribution	\$ 1,036,929

Please refer to the ROPS 15-16A 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 July 1 through December 31, 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 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 Beliz Chappuie, Supervisor or Satveer Ark, Lead Analyst at (916) 445-1546.

Sincerely,



JUSTYN HOWARD
Program Budget Manager

cc: Ms. Pam Elias, Chief Accountant Property Tax Division, Riverside County
California State Controller's Office