DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

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March 18, 2016

Mr. Rene Vise, Administrative Services Director
City of Santa Maria
110 East Cook Street, Room 6
Santa Maria, CA 93454

Dear Mr. Vise:

Subject: 2016-17 Annual Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 34177 (o) (1), the City of Santa Maria Successor Agency (Agency) submitted a Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule for the period July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 (ROPS 16-17) to the California Department of Finance (Finance) on January 29, 2016. Finance has completed its review of the ROPS 16-17.

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

- Item No. 1 – 2003 Refunding Lease Revenue Bonds (Bonds) totaling $2,940,137 is not eligible for payment from Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Fund (RPTTF). The amount represents reimbursements the Agency claims are owed to the City of Santa Maria (City), due to the City making the required debt service payments on the Bonds. The Bonds are secured solely through lease payments made by the City and therefore, there is no requirement to reimburse the City through RPTTF. Therefore, this line item is not an enforceable obligation and is not eligible for RPTTF funding.

- The claimed administrative costs exceed the allowance by $20,622. HSC section 34171 (b) (3) limits the fiscal year 2016-17 Administrative Cost Allowance (ACA) to three percent of actual distributed RPTTF in the preceding fiscal year or $250,000, whichever is greater, not to exceed 50 percent of the distributed RPTTF in the preceding fiscal year. As a result, the Agency's maximum ACA is zero for the fiscal year 2016-17. Although $20,622 is claimed for administrative cost, there are no funds available pursuant to the cap. Therefore, $20,622 of excess administrative cost is not allowed.

Except for the items denied in whole, Finance is not objecting to the remaining items listed on your ROPS 16-17. If you disagree with Finance's determination with respect to any items on your ROPS 16-17, except for those items which are the subject of litigation disputing Finance's previous or related determinations, 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/

On the ROPS 16-17 form, the Agency reported cash balances and activity for the period of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. Finance performs a review of the Agency's self-reported cash balances on an ongoing basis. Be prepared to submit financial records and bridging documents to support the cash balances reported upon request. If it is determined the Agency possesses cash balances that are available to pay approved enforceable obligations, HSC section 34177 (l) (1) (E) requires these balances to be used prior to requesting RPTTF.

The Agency's maximum approved RPTTF distribution for the reporting period is zero as summarized in the Approved RPTTF Distribution table on page 4 (See Attachment).

ROPS distributions will occur twice annually, one distribution for the July 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016 (ROPS A period), and one distribution for the January 1, 2017 through June 30, 2017 (ROPS B period) based on Finance's approved amounts. Since Finance's determination is for the entire ROPS 16-17 period, the Agency is authorized to receive up to the maximum approved RPTTF through the combined ROPS A and B period distributions.

On the ROPS 16-17 form, the Agency was not required to report the estimated obligations versus actual payments (prior period adjustment) associated with the July 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 period (ROPS 15-16A). The Agency will report actual payments for ROPS 15-16A and ROPS 15-16B on the ROPS 18-19 form pursuant to HSC section 34186 (a) (1). A prior period adjustment will be applied to the Agency's future RPTTF distribution. Therefore, the Agency should retain any difference in unexpended RPTTF.

Please refer to the ROPS 16-17 schedule used to calculate the total RPTTF approved for distribution:

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

Absent a Meet and Confer, this is Finance's determination related to the enforceable obligations reported on your ROPS for the period July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017. This determination only applies to items when funding was requested for the 12-month period. Finance's determination is effective for this time period only and should not be conclusively relied upon for future ROPS periods. All items listed on a future ROPS are subject to review and may be denied even if it was not denied on this ROPS or a preceding ROPS. The only exception is for items that have received a Final and Conclusive determination from Finance pursuant to HSC section 34177.5 (i). Finance's review of Final and Conclusive items 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 available prior to the enactment of the redevelopment dissolution statutes. 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.

Please direct inquiries to Wendy Griffe, Supervisor, or Erika Santiago, Lead Analyst, at (916) 445-1546.

Sincerely,

for

JUSTYN HOWARD
Program Budget Manager

cc: Mr. Rick Haydon, City Manager, City of Santa Maria
Mr. Ed Price, Division Chief Property Tax Division, Santa Barbara County

Attachment

Approved RPTTF Distribution For the period of July 2016 through June 2017			
	ROPS A Period	ROPS B Period	Total
Requested RPTTF (excluding administrative obligations)	$ 1,470,068	$ 1,470,069	$ 2,940,137
Requested Administrative RPTTF	20,622	0	20,622
Total RPTTF requested for obligations on ROPS 16-17	1,490,690	1,470,069	**$ 2,960,759**
Total RPTTF requested	1,470,068	1,470,069	**2,940,137**
Denied Item Item No. 1	(1,470,068)	(1,470,069)	(2,940,137)
Total RPTTF authorized	0	0	**$ 0**
Total Administrative RPTTF requested	20,622	0	**20,622**
Administrative costs in excess of the cap (see Administrative Cost Allowance Cap table below)	(20,622)	0	(20,622)
Total Administrative RPTTF authorized	0	0	**$ 0**
Total RPTTF approved for distribution	0	0	**$ 0**

Administrative Cost Allowance Cap Calculation	
Actual RPTTF distributed for fiscal year 2015-16	0
Less sponsoring entity loan and Administrative RPTTF	0
Actual RPTTF distributed for 2015-16 after adjustment	0
Administrative Cap for 2016-17 per HSC section 34171 (b)	0
ROPS 16-17 Administrative RPTTF after Finance adjustments	20,622
Administrative Cost Allowance in excess of the cap	**$ (20,622)**