



May 17, 2016

Mr. Robert Mescher, Finance Director
City of Avalon
410 Avalon Canyon Road
P.O. Box 707
Avalon, CA 90704

Dear Mr. Mescher:

Subject: 2016-17 Annual Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule

This letter supersedes the California Department of Finance's (Finance) Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule (ROPS) letter dated April 10, 2016. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 34177 (o) (1), the City of Avalon 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 issued a ROPS determination letter on April 10, 2016. Subsequently, the Agency requested a Meet and Confer session on one or more of the determinations made by Finance. The Meet and Confer session was held on April 25, 2016.

Based on a review of additional information and documentation provided to Finance during the Meet and Confer process, Finance has completed its review of the specific determination being disputed.

- Item No. 24 – Housing administrative cost allowance in the total outstanding amount of \$2,550,000. The Agency requests \$150,000 of administrative Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Fund (RPTTF) ROPS period. Finance continues to deny this item. Finance denied this item because pursuant to HSC section 34171 (p), the housing entity administrative cost allowance is applicable only in cases where the city, county, or city and county that authorized the creation of the redevelopment agency (RDA) elected to not assume the housing functions. Because the housing entity to the former redevelopment agency of the City of Avalon (City) is the City-formed Housing Authority (Authority), the Authority operates under the control of the City and is considered the City under Dissolution Law (ABx1 26 and AB 1484).

The Agency contends that the City elected not to retain the housing functions, but the Authority, as a separate legal entity from the City, did elect to retain the housing functions pursuant to HSC section 34176 (b) and should therefore be eligible for the housing entity administrative allowance. However, pursuant to HSC section 34167.10 (a), the definition of "city" includes, but is not limited to, any reporting entity of the city for purposes of its comprehensive annual financial report, any component unit of the city, or any entity controlled by the city or for which the city is financially responsible or accountable. HSC section 34167.10 (a) defines "city" for purposes of all of Dissolution Law, which includes HSC section 34171, as amended by AB 471, and HSC

section 34176. The Authority is controlled by the City because the City was involved in the formation of the Authority and they share common governing boards, which are factors for consideration when determining if an entity is controlled by the city pursuant to HSC section 34167.10 (b).

Although the Authority is a separate legal entity from the City, HSC section 34167.10 (c) states that it shall not be relevant that the entity is formed as a separate legal entity. It should also be noted that HSC section 34167.10 (c) goes on to state that "the provisions of this section are declarative of existing law as the entities described herein are and were intended to be included within the requirements of this part [Part 1.8] and Part 1.85...and any attempt to determine otherwise would thwart the intent of these two parts." Therefore, based on our review, the City, by way of the Authority, elected to retain the housing functions pursuant to HSC section 34176 (a) and is not eligible for \$150,000 of housing entity administrative allowance requested on ROPS 16-17 and the total outstanding amount of \$2,550,000 is not allowed.

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 (I) (1) (E) requires these balances to be used prior to requesting Redevelopment Property Tax trust Fund (RPTTF).

The Agency's maximum approved RPTTF distribution for the reporting period is \$2,741,045 as summarized in the Approved RPTTF Distribution Table on Page 3 (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>

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 Evelyn Suess, Dispute Resolution Supervisor, or Satveer Ark, Analyst at (916) 445-1546.

Sincerely,



JUSTYN HOWARD
Program Budget Manager

cc: Ms. Suzy Kim, Associate, City of Avalon
Ms. Kristina Burns, Manager, Department of Auditor-Controller, Los Angeles 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)	\$ 1,515,666	\$ 975,379	\$ 2,491,045
Requested Administrative RPTTF	200,000	200,000	400,000
Total RPTTF requested for obligations on ROPS 16-17	1,715,666	1,175,379	\$ 2,891,045
Total RPTTF authorized	1,515,666	975,379	\$ 2,491,045
Total Administrative RPTTF requested	200,000	200,000	400,000
<u>Denied Item</u>			
Item No. 24	(75,000)	(75,000)	(150,000)
Total Administrative RPTTF authorized	125,000	125,000	\$ 250,000
Total RPTTF approved for distribution	1,640,666	1,100,379	\$ 2,741,045