



April 14, 2013

Mr. Christopher J. Jicha, Senior Consultant, Kosmont Companies  
Merced Designated Local Authority  
865 South Figueroa Street, 35th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear Mr. Jicha:

Subject: Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 34177 (m), the Merced Designated Local Authority (Agency) submitted a Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule (ROPS 13-14A) to the California Department of Finance (Finance) on March 4, 2013 for the period of July through December 2013. Finance has completed its review of your ROPS 13-14A, 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 do not qualify as enforceable obligation(s):

- Item Nos. 8, 29, 34, 65, and 76 - Various costs totaling \$537,744 related to Project Area #2, Gateways, and R Street Remediation. Finance was unable to determine whether these items are enforceable obligations because the Agency was not able to provide any documentation to support the amounts claimed. Therefore, these items are not enforceable obligations at this time and not eligible for funding on this ROPS.
- Item No. 66 – Pass-through payments in the amount of \$375,000. Per HSC section 34183 (a) (1), the county auditor-controller will make the required pass-through payments starting with the July through December 2012 ROPS. Therefore, this item is not eligible for funding on the ROPS.
- Item Nos. 5, 73, and 74 – Legal and audit costs totaling \$81,353. These items are considered general administrative cost and have been reclassified. Although this reclassification increased administrative costs to \$220,642, the administrative cost allowance for the fiscal year has not been exceeded.

Except for items denied in whole or in part as enforceable obligations, Finance is not objecting to the remaining items listed on your ROPS 13-14A. This determination applies only to items where funding was requested for the six month period. If you disagree with the determination with respect to any items on your ROPS 13-14A, 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 Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Fund (RPTTF) distribution for the reporting period is: \$3,253,977 as summarized below:

<b>Approved RPTTF Distribution Amount</b>	
<b>For the period of July through December 2013</b>	
Total RPTTF funding requested for obligations	\$ 3,784,170
Minus: Six-month total for items denied or reclassified as administrative cost	
Item 5*	11,868
Item 8	110,146
Item 29	8,468
Item 34	2,630
Item 65	156,250
Item 66	375,000
Item 73*	19,473
Item 74*	15,000
Item 76	52,000
Total approved RPTTF for enforceable obligations	<u>\$ 3,033,335</u>
Plus: Allowable RPTTF distribution for ROPS 13-14A administrative cost	<u>220,642</u>
Minus: ROPS II prior period adjustment	<u>-</u>
<b>Total RPTTF approved for distribution:</b>	<b>\$ 3,253,977</b>

\*Reclassified as Administrative Cost

Pursuant to HSC Section 34186 (a), successor agencies were required to report on the ROPS 13-14A form the estimated obligations and actual payments (prior period adjustments) associated with the July through December 2012 period. 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. The amount of RPTTF approved in the above table includes the prior period adjustment resulting from the CAC's audit of the Agency's self-reported prior period adjustment.

Please refer to the ROPS 13-14A schedule that was used to calculate the approved RPTTF amount:

<http://www.dof.ca.gov/redevelopment/ROPS/ROPS 13-14A Forms by Successor Agency/>.

This is Finance's final determination related to the enforceable obligations reported on your ROPS for July 1 through December 31, 2013. 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

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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 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,



STEVE SZALAY

Local Government Consultant

cc: Mr. Michael Amabile, Chair, Merced Designated Local  
Ms. Sylvia Sanchez, Supervising Accountant, County of Merced  
California State Controller's Office