DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

EDMUND G. BROWN JR. • GOVERNOR

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April 17, 2014

Mr. David Belmer, Assistant City Manager
City of Lake Forest
25550 Commercenter Drive
Lake Forest, CA 92630

Dear Mr. Belmer:

Subject: Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 34177 (m), the City of Lake Forest Successor Agency (Agency) submitted a Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule (ROPS 14-15A) to the California Department of Finance (Finance) on March 3, 2014 for the period of July through December 2014. Finance has completed its review of your ROPS 14-15A, 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 does not qualify as an enforceable obligation for the reasons specified:

Item No. 12 – Statutory Payment to Successor Housing Entity in the amount of $150,000 from Reserve Balances. 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 RDA of the City of Lake Forest (City) is the City-formed Housing Authority (Authority) and the Authority operates under the control of the City, the Authority is considered the City under Dissolution Law pursuant to HSC section 34167.10. Therefore, $150,000 of housing entity administrative allowance is not allowed.

Pursuant to HSC section 34186 (a), successor agencies were required to report on the ROPS 14-15A form the estimated obligations and actual payments (prior period adjustments) associated with the July through December 2013 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 audit of the Agency's self-reported prior period adjustment.

Except for the items denied in whole or in part as enforceable obligations, Finance is not objecting to the remaining items listed on your ROPS 14-15A. If you disagree with the determination with respect to any items on your ROPS 14-15A, 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 zero as summarized below:

Approved RPTTF Distribution For the period of July through December 2014	
Total RPTTF requested for non-administrative obligations	0
Total RPTTF requested for administrative obligations	0
Total RPTTF requested for obligations*	**$0**
Total RPTTF authorized for non-administrative obligations	0
Total RPTTF authorized for administrative obligations	0
Total RPTTF authorized for obligations	**$0**
ROPS 13-14A prior period adjustment	0
Total RPTTF approved for distribution	**$0**

*The Agency requested the use of Reserve Balances to fund its obligations, and therefore did not request any RPTTF funding.

Please refer to the ROPS 14-15A 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, 2014. 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 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 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 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 Nichelle Thomas, Supervisor or Alexander Watt, Lead Analyst at (916) 445-1546.

Sincerely,

JUSTYN HOWARD
Assistant Program Budget Manager

cc: Mr. Keith D. Neves, Director of Finance, City of Lake Forest
Mr. Frank Davies, Property Tax Manager, Orange County
California State Controller's Office