



Transmitted via e-mail

April 5, 2024

Veronica Chavez, Director of Finance  
City of Palm Desert  
73-510 Fred Waring Drive  
Palm Desert, CA 92260

### **2024-25 Annual Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule**

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 34177 (o) (1), the City of Palm Desert Successor Agency (Agency) submitted an annual Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 (ROPS 24-25) to the California Department of Finance (Finance) on January 18, 2024. Finance has completed its review of the ROPS 24-25.

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

- Item No. 43 – Agency Owned Properties maintenance costs in the amount of \$90,000 is partially allowed. The Agency provided documentation supporting maintenance costs for properties held for sale pursuant to the Agency's Long-Range Property Management Plan. However, the Entrada Del Paseo Lot property has been sold. The Agency is no longer responsible for maintenance costs at this location and the requested amount of \$5,000 is not allowed. Therefore, Finance is decreasing the requested Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Fund (RPTTF) amount by \$5,000 from \$90,000 to \$85,000.
- On the ROPS 24-25 form, the Agency reported cash balances and activity for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 (ROPS 21-22). According to our review, the Agency has approximately \$473,597 from Other Funds available to fund enforceable obligations on the ROPS 24-25. HSC section 34177 (l) (1) (E) requires these balances to be used prior to requesting RPTTF funding. This item does not require payment from property tax revenues; therefore, with the Agency's concurrence, the funding source for the following item has been reclassified in the amount specified below:
  - Item No. 192 – 2017 NHA Tax Allocation Refunding Bond Issue in the amount of \$8,388,750 is partially reclassified. Finance approves RPTTF in the amount of \$7,915,153 and the use of Other Funds in the amount of \$473,597, totaling \$8,388,750.

- The administrative costs claimed are within the fiscal year administrative cap pursuant to HSC section 34171 (b) (3). However, Finance notes the Oversight Board (OB) approved an amount that appears excessive, given the number and nature of the obligations listed on the ROPS. HSC section 34179 (i) requires the OB to exercise a fiduciary duty to the taxing entities. Therefore, Finance encourages the OB to apply adequate oversight when evaluating the administrative resources necessary to successfully wind-down the Agency.

Pursuant to HSC section 34186, successor agencies are required to report differences between actual payments and past estimated obligations (prior period adjustments) for the ROPS 21-22 period. The ROPS 21-22 prior period adjustment (PPA) will offset the ROPS 24-25 RPTTF distribution. The amount of RPTTF authorized includes the PPA resulting from the County Auditor-Controller's review of the PPA form submitted by the Agency, as adjusted by Finance. Specifically, Finance adjusted the actual values of payments made for administrative costs and Item No. 179 based on supporting documentation provided by the Agency. However, these adjustments did not change the PPA amount resulting from the CAC's review.

The Agency's maximum approved RPTTF distribution for the reporting period is \$19,854,356, as summarized in the Approved RPTTF Distribution table (see Attachment).

RPTTF distributions occur biannually, one distribution for the July 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 period (ROPS A period), and one distribution for the January 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025 period (ROPS B period), based on Finance's approved amounts. Since this determination is for the entire ROPS 24-25 period, the Agency is authorized to receive up to the maximum approved RPTTF through the combined ROPS A and B period distributions.

Except for the adjusted items, Finance approves the remaining items listed on the ROPS 24-25 at this time. If the Agency disagrees with our determination with respect to any items on the ROPS 24-25, except items which are the subject of litigation disputing our previous or related determinations, the Agency may request a Meet and Confer within five business days from the date of this letter. The Agency must use the RAD App to complete and submit its Meet and Confer request form. The Meet and Confer process and guidelines are available on our website:

[http://dof.ca.gov/Programs/Redevelopment/Meet\\_And\\_Confer/](http://dof.ca.gov/Programs/Redevelopment/Meet_And_Confer/)

Absent a Meet and Confer, this is our final determination regarding the obligations listed on the ROPS 24-25. This determination only applies to items when funding was requested for the 12-month period. If a determination by Finance in a previous ROPS is currently the subject of litigation, the item will continue to reflect the determination until the matter is resolved.

The ROPS 24-25 form submitted by the Agency and this determination letter will be posted on our website:

<http://dof.ca.gov/Programs/Redevelopment/ROPS/>

This determination is effective for the ROPS 24-25 period only and should not be conclusively relied upon for future ROPS periods. All items listed on a future ROPS are subject to Finance's review and may be adjusted even if not adjusted 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 law. Therefore, as a practical matter, the ability to fund the items on the ROPS with property tax increment is limited to the amount of funding available to the Agency in the RPTTF.

Please direct inquiries to [RedevelopmentAdministration@dof.ca.gov](mailto:RedevelopmentAdministration@dof.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Cheryl L. McCormick, CPA  
Chief, Office of State Audits and Evaluations

cc: Sarah Sullivan, Accountant, City of Palm Desert  
Jennifer Baechel, Deputy Auditor-Controller, Riverside County  
Imelda Delos Santos, Countywide Oversight Board Representative

<b>Approved RPTTF Distribution July 2024 through June 2025</b>			
	<b>ROPS A</b>	<b>ROPS B</b>	<b>Total</b>
RPTTF Requested	\$ 9,423,201	\$ 10,527,810	\$ 19,951,011
Administrative RPTTF Requested	209,849	310,056	519,905
<b>Total RPTTF Requested</b>	<b>9,633,050</b>	<b>10,837,866</b>	<b>20,470,916</b>
<b>RPTTF Requested</b>	<b>9,423,201</b>	<b>10,527,810</b>	<b>19,951,011</b>
<u>Adjustment(s)</u>			
Item No. 43	0	(5,000)	(5,000)
Item No. 192	(473,597)	0	(473,597)
<b>RPTTF Authorized</b>	<b>8,949,604</b>	<b>10,522,810</b>	<b>19,472,414</b>
<b>Administrative RPTTF Authorized</b>	<b>209,849</b>	<b>310,056</b>	<b>519,905</b>
ROPS 21-22 prior period adjustment (PPA)	(137,963)	0	(137,963)
<b>Total RPTTF Approved for Distribution</b>	<b>\$ 9,021,490</b>	<b>\$ 10,832,866</b>	<b>\$ 19,854,356</b>