



April 15, 2019

Ms. Lori Waterman, City Manager
City of Atwater
750 Bellevue Road
Atwater, CA 95301

Dear Ms. Waterman:

Subject: 2019-20 Annual Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 34177 (o) (1), the City of Atwater Successor Agency (Agency) submitted an annual Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule for the period of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 (ROPS 19-20) to the California Department of Finance (Finance) on January 28, 2019. Finance has completed its review of the ROPS 19-20.

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

- Item No. 4 – Supplemental Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund Housing Fund loan repayment in the amount of \$342,593 is partially allowed. Further, the total outstanding amount of \$342,593 is overstated. The total outstanding loan balance includes unallowed accrued interest and no documentation has been provide to support the original loan repayment terms included an interest rate. Therefore, the total outstanding loan balance reported on the Agency's ROPS Detail Form has been reduced by \$83,328 to \$259,265.

Furthermore, HSC section 34191.4 (b) (3) (A) allows repayment to be equal to one-half of the increase between the ROPS residual pass-through distributed to the taxing entities in the preceding fiscal year and the ROPS residual pass-through distributed to the taxing entities in the fiscal year 2012-13 base year.

According to the Merced, County Auditor-Controller's (CAC) report, the ROPS residual pass-through amount distributed to the taxing entities for fiscal year 2012-13 and 2018-19 are \$471,826 and \$712,627, respectively. Pursuant to the repayment formula, the maximum repayment amount authorized for the ROPS 19-20 period is \$120,401. Therefore, of the \$342,593 requested, \$222,192 (\$342,593 – \$120,401) is not eligible for Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Fund (RPTTF). The Agency may be eligible for additional funding on a subsequent ROPS.

- 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) has 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. Reported differences in RPTTF are used to offset current RPTTF distributions. The amount of RPTTF approved in the table on Page 3 includes the prior period adjustment resulting from the CAC's review of the prior period adjustment form submitted by the Agency.

Except for the item adjusted, Finance is not objecting to the remaining items listed on the ROPS 19-20. If the Agency disagrees with our determination with respect to any items on the ROPS 19-20, 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 of the date of this letter. 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/)

The Agency's maximum approved RPTTF distribution for the reporting period is \$1,362,602 as summarized in the Approved RPTTF Distribution table on Page 3 (see Attachment).

RPTTF distributions occur biannually, one distribution for the July 1 through December 31 period (ROPS A period), and one distribution for the January 1 through June 30 period (ROPS B period) based on Finance approved amounts. Since this determination is for the entire ROPS 19-20 period, the Agency is authorized to receive up to the maximum approved RPTTF through the combined ROPS A and B period distributions.

Absent a Meet and Confer, this is our final determination regarding the obligations listed on the ROPS 19-20. This determination only applies to items when funding was requested for the 12-month period. If a denial by Finance in a previous ROPS is currently the subject of litigation, the item will continue to be denied until the matter is resolved.

The ROPS 19-20 form submitted by the Agency and this determination letter will be posted on our website:

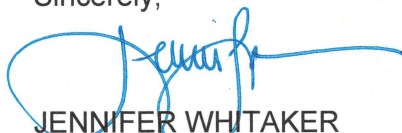
<http://dof.ca.gov/Programs/Redevelopment/ROPS/>

This determination is effective for the ROPS 19-20 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 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 RPTTF is the same as the amount of property tax increment available prior to the enactment of 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 RPTTF.

Please direct inquiries to Cindie Lor, Supervisor, or Amy Xu, Analyst, at (916) 322-2985.

Sincerely,


JENNIFER WHITAKER
Program Budget Manager

cc: Mr. Dima Galkin, Consultant, City of Atwater
Ms. Sylvia Sanchez, Supervising Accountant, Merced County

Attachment

Approved RPTTF Distribution			
For the period of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020			
	ROPS A Period	ROPS B Period	ROPS 19-20 Total
RPTTF Requested	\$ 432,685	\$ 954,142	\$ 1,386,827
Administrative RPTTF Requested	200,278	0	200,278
Total RPTTF Requested	632,963	954,142	1,587,105
RPTTF Requested	432,685	954,142	1,386,827
<u>Adjustment</u>			
Item No. 4	(222,192)	0	(222,192)
RPTTF Authorized	210,493	954,142	1,164,635
Administrative RPTTF Authorized	200,278	0	200,278
Total RPTTF Authorized for Obligations	410,771	954,142	1,364,913
Prior Period Adjustment	(2,311)	0	(2,311)
Total RPTTF Approved for Distribution	\$ 408,460	\$ 954,142	\$ 1,362,602