

April 15, 2019

Ms. Laura Gutierrez, Finance Director City of Imperial 420 South Imperial Avenue Imperial, CA 92251

Dear Ms. Gutierrez:

Subject: 2019-20 Annual Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 34177 (o) (1), the City of Imperial 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 31, 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. 37 6<sup>th</sup> Street Apartment Property maintenance costs in the total outstanding amount of \$200,000 is not allowed. Finance continues to deny this item. It is our understanding these costs are for maintenance of various housing properties owned by the Housing Successor Agency.
  - HSC section 34176 (a) (1) states if a city, county, or city and county elect to retain the authority to perform housing functions previously performed by a Redevelopment Agency, all rights, powers, duties, obligations, and housing assets shall be transferred to the city, county, or city and county. The City of Imperial assumed the housing functions; therefore, the property maintenance costs associated with housing properties are the responsibility of the Housing Successor Agency. As a result, this item is not an enforceable obligation and the requested amount of \$200,000 in Other Funds is not allowed.
- On the ROPS 19-20 form, the Agency reported cash balances and activity for the period July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 (ROPS 16-17). According to our review, the Agency has approximately \$55,092 from Other Funds available to fund enforceable obligations on the ROPS 19-20. HSC section 34177 (I) (1) (E) requires these balances to be used prior to requesting Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Fund (RPTTF). Therefore, the funding source for the following items have been reclassified in the amounts specified below:
  - Item No. 30 2016 Series A Refunding Bonds in the amount of \$412,050 is partially reclassified. This item does not require payment from property tax revenues. Therefore, Finance is approving RPTTF in the amount of \$356,958 and the use of Other Funds in the amount of \$55,092, totaling \$412,050.

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• 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 4 includes the prior period adjustment resulting from the County Auditor-Controller's review of the prior period adjustment form submitted by the Agency.

Except for the items 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/

The Agency's maximum approved RPTTF distribution for the reporting period is \$1,302,896 as summarized in the Approved RPTTF Distribution table on Page 4 (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.

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Please direct inquiries to Cindie Lor, Supervisor, or Mathew Rios, Lead Analyst, at (916) 322-2985.

Sincerely,

JENNIFER WHITAKER
Program Budget Manager

cc: Mr. Jeorge Galvan, Planning & Development Director, City of Imperial Ms. Ann McDonald, Property Tax Manager, Imperial County

## **Attachment**

Approved RPTTF Distribution For the period of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020				
	RO	PS A Period	ROPS B Period	ROPS 19-20 Total
RPTTF Requested	\$	1,102,641	\$ 324,354	\$ 1,426,995
Administrative RPTTF Requested		125,000	125,000	250,000
Total RPTTF Requested		1,227,641	449,354	1,676,995
RPTTF Requested		1,102,641	324,354	1,426,995
<u>Adjustment</u>				
Item No. 30	*Water Environment and Control of	(55,092)	0	(55,092)
RPTTF Authorized		1,047,549	324,354	1,371,903
Administrative RPTTF Authorized		125,000	125,000	250,000
Total RPTTF Authorized for Obligations		1,172,549	449,354	1,621,903
Prior Period Adjustment		(319,007)	0	(319,007)
Total RPTTF Approved for Distribution	\$	853,542	\$ 449,354	\$ 1,302,896