goldfarb lipman attorneys

1300 Clay Street, Eleventh Floor Oakland, California 94612

510 836-6336

M David Kroot

January 19, 2016

Lvnn Hutchins

Karen M. Tiedemann

Thomas H. Webber Contra Costa County

651 Pine Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Dianne Jackson McLean

Michelle D. Brewer Jennifer K. Bell

Robert C. Mills

Isabel L. Brown

James T. Diamond, Jr.

Margaret F. Jung

Heather J. Gould

William F. DiCamillo

Amy DeVaudreuil

Barbara E. Kautz

Erica Williams Orcharton

Luis A. Rodriguez

Rafael Yaquián

Celia W. Lee

Dolores Bastian Dalton

Joshua J. Mason

Vincent L. Brown

Hana A. Hardy

Caroline Nasella

Eric S. Phillips

Elizabeth Klueck

Daniel S. Maroon

Justin D. Bigelow

Sharon Anderson, County Counsel

Martinez, CA 94553

**Eve Stewart** 

Director of Housing Development

Satellite Affordable Housing Associates

1835 Alcatraz Ave.

Berkeley, CA 94703

Re: Consents to Potential Conflict of Interest – Tabora Gardens

Dear Ms. Anderson and Ms. Stewart:

We write this letter in response to the request of Contra Costa County (the "County") that Goldfarb & Lipman LLP ("Goldfarb & Lipman") represent the County in connection with the County's loan of HOME, HOPWA, NSP1, and Summer Lake Trust funds to a limited partnership affiliate of Satellite Affordable Housing Associates ("SAHA") for the construction of an affordable housing project on property located at 3557 Tabora Drive, Antioch, California.

The primary purpose of this letter is to disclose to the County and SAHA our representation of the County and to request your acknowledgment of and consent to the potential conflict of interest that arises from Goldfarb & Lipman's representation of the County in this transaction. SAHA will be represented by separate counsel in this transaction.

#### I. Existing Relationships.

The County is an existing client. We represent the County on numerous housing loan transactions throughout the County.

SAHA is also an existing client. We represent SAHA in affordable housing developments as well as providing on-going advice on property management issues.

#### II. Current Transaction.

San Francisco 415 788-6336 Los Angeles 213 627-6336

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Goldfarb & Lipman LLP

Satellite Affordable Housing Associates Property Management ("Current Owner") owns the real property located at 3557 Tabora Drive, Antioch, California (the "Property"). The Current Owner intends to transfer the Property to a limited partnership in which the general partner will be controlled by SAHA (the "Partnership"). The Partnership intends to construct an 85-unit senior affordable housing development on the Property (the "Improvements") (collectively, with the Property, the "Development").

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The County HOME, HOPWA, NSP1, and Summer Lake Trust funds will be used to fund predevelopment activities of the Partnership and the construction of the Development by the Partnership. The County loan will be in an amount not to exceed Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) (Five Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$550,000) in NSP funds, Six Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$650,000) in HOPWA funds, Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$700,000) in HOME funds, and One Million One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,100,000) in Summer Lake Trust funds) (the "County Loan"). The County Loan will be evidenced by a Regulatory Agreement and Declaration of Restrictive Covenants and a Deed of Trust with Assignment of Rents, Security Agreement, and Fixture Filling to be recorded against the Property. The County Loan will have a term of fifty-five (55) years.

The City of Antioch (the "City") previously provided financing for the Development and will provide new financing for the construction of the Development (the "City Loan"). It is our understanding that both the City Loan and County Loan will be repayable from excess cash flow from the Development. To effect that, the City and the County will enter into an Intercreditor Agreement that will set out their agreement as to the sharing of Development cash flow for the repayment of the City Loan and the County Loan, in proportion to the amount of the City Loan and the County Loan.

The County has requested that Goldfarb & Lipman represent the County in all aspects of its role in the Development including the drafting and negotiating the documents evidencing the County Loan.

# III. Potential Conflict of Interest.

As mentioned above, we understand that SAHA has retained separate legal counsel to represent it in the Development. Nevertheless, our representation of the County could potentially create a conflict of interest for Goldfarb & Lipman related to, among other matters, our duty of loyalty to existing clients. The interests of the County and SAHA in the Development are potentially adverse because each party has different objectives and goals in the Development. In addition, it is conceivable that that we may have obtained confidential information from SAHA that may in the future be material to our representation of the County in the Development.

### IV. Rules of Professional Conduct

At this time, we feel that we can competently represent the County in the Development and still maintain our duty of loyalty to SAHA in the unrelated matters in which we represent them. In addition, we do not feel we have obtained any confidential information from SAHA which is material to our representation of the County in the Development. However, if an actual conflict should arise related to the Development in which (i) we could not maintain our duty of loyalty to SAHA in the unrelated matters,

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(ii) the issue of dispute is substantially related to the same issue in which we represented SAHA, or (iii) we have obtained any confidential information from SAHA which is material to our representation of the County as it relates to the Development, we would require the <u>additional written consent</u> of the County and SAHA before we could continue to represent the County in the Development. In the unlikely event of litigation between SAHA and the County on this matter, we would not represent either party in the litigation.

As attorneys we are governed by specific rules relating to our representation of clients where we have a relationship with both parties and therefore a potential conflict of interest. Rules 3-310(A), (B), (C), and (E) of the Rules of the Professional Conduct of the State Bar of California govern conflicts of interest. Accordingly, we must obtain the informed written consent of the County and SAHA before proceeding with our representation of the County in connection with the Development.

# V. Consents

If, after considering the foregoing, the County and SAHA are so inclined, please sign and return to us a copy of this letter (i) acknowledging that we have informed you of our existing and continuous relationship with the County and SAHA in matters unrelated to this Development, (ii) acknowledging that the County and SAHA have been advised of Rules 3-310(A), (B), (C), and (E) and the potential conflict of interest associated with our representing the County in connection with the Development, and (iii) indicating that SAHA and the County, as applicable, nevertheless consents to our representation of the County in connection with the Development.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or our representation of the County please call us before signing and returning a copy of this letter.

Sincerely,

ISABEL BROWN

KAREN TIEDEMANN

#### **CONSENT**

Goldfarb & Lipman LLP ("Goldfarb & Lipman") has explained to each of the undersigned the potential conflicts of interest that could arise from Goldfarb & Lipman's representation of the County in connection with the Development. We acknowledge the disclosure of: (i) Goldfarb and Lipman's past and continuing representations of the County and SAHA in matters unrelated to the Development, (ii) the potential conflicts arising from such representation, and (iii) the consequences of any actual conflicts that may arise. The undersigned nevertheless consent to Goldfarb & Lipman's representation of the County in connection with the Development.

We understand that we have the right to seek independent counsel before signing this consent or at any future time.

Dated:	COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA
	By: Sharon Anderson, County Counsel
Dated:	SATELLITE AFFORDABLE HOUSING ASSOCIATES
	By:  Eve Stewart, Director of Housing Development