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Contra Costa County

To: Board of Supervisors

From: David Twa, County Administrator

Date: March 28, 2017

Subject: REFER TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE ESTABLISHMENT OF A POLICY FOR REVIEWING MASTER COMPENSATION AGREEMENTS SUBMITTED BY SUCCESSOR AGENCIES TO FORMER RDAS

# **RECOMMENDATION(S):**

REFER to the Finance Committee the an evaluation of policy options for reviewing Master Compensation Agreements submitted for approval by Successor Agencies of former Redevelopment Agencies throughout the County.

## **FISCAL IMPACT:**

No fiscal impact.

## **BACKGROUND:**

As part of the 2011 Budget Act, and in order to protect funding for core public services at the local level, the Legislature approved the dissolution of the state's 400 plus Redevelopment Agencies (RDAs). After a period of litigation, RDAs were officially dissolved as of February 1, 2012. As a result of the elimination of the RDAs, property tax revenues are now being used to pay required payments on existing bonds, other obligations, and pass-through payments to local governments. The remaining property tax revenues that exceed the enforceable obligations are now being allocated to cities, counties, special districts, and school and community college districts, thereby providing critical resources to preserve core public services.

✓ APF	PROVE	OTHER
▼ RECOMMENDATION OF CNTY ADMINISTRATOR		
Action of Board On: 03/28/2017 APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED OTHER		
Clerks Notes:		
VOTE OF SUPERVISORS		
AYE:	Candace Andersen, District II Supervisor	
	Diane Burgis, District III Supervisor	I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the
	Karen Mitchoff, District IV Supervisor	Board of Supervisors on the date shown.  ATTESTED: March 28, 2017
	Federal D. Glover, District V Supervisor	David Twa, County Administrator and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
ABSENT:	John Gioia, District I Supervisor	By: June McHuen, Deputy
Contact: Timothy Ewell, 925-335-1036		

cc: Hon. Robert R. Campbell, Auditor-Controller, Lisa Driscoll, County Finance Director, Eric Gelston, Deputy County Counsel

# **BACKGROUND: (CONT'D)**

To help facilitate the wind-down process at the local level, successor agencies were established to manage redevelopment projects currently underway, make payments on enforceable obligations, and dispose of redevelopment assets and properties. Each Successor Agency has an Oversight Board that supervises its work. The Oversight Board is comprised of representatives of the local agencies that serve the redevelopment project area: the city, county, special districts, and K-14 educational agencies. Oversight Board members have a fiduciary responsibility to holders of enforceable obligations, as well as to the local agencies that would benefit from property tax distributions from the former redevelopment project area.

# FINDING OF COMPLETION

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code (HSC) Section 34179.7, the California Department of Finance (DOF) was authorized to issue a finding of completion to a Successor Agency, once the following conditions had been met and verified by December 31, 2015:

- The Successor Agency had paid the full amount as determined during the Due Diligence Reviews and the County Auditor-Controller has reported those payments to DOF, and
- The Successor Agency had paid the full amount as determined during the July True-Up process, or
- The Successor Agency had paid the full amount upon a final judicial determination of the amounts due and confirmation that those amounts have been paid by the County Auditor-Controller, or
- The Successor Agency had entered into a written installment payment plan with DOF for the payments owed from above.

Upon receiving the finding of completion, a Successor Agency is allowed to do the following:

- Place loan agreements between the former redevelopment agency and sponsoring entity on the Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule (ROPS), as an enforceable obligation, provided the oversight board makes a finding that the loan was for legitimate redevelopment purposes per HSC Section 34191.4 (b) (1) Loan repayments will be governed by criteria in HSC section 34191.4 9 (a) (2).
- Utilize proceeds derived from bonds issued prior to Jan. 1, 2011 in a manner consistent with the original bond covenants per HSC Section 34191.4 (c)
- However, if on a payment plan, and a Successor Agency fails to fully make one or more payments agreed to in the written installment plan, the benefits above may be revoked.

# LONG RANGE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 34191.5, within six months after receiving a Finding of Completion from DOF, a Successor Agency is required to submit for approval to it's Oversight Board and DOF a Long-Range Property Management Plan (LRPMP) that addresses the disposition and use of the real properties of the former redevelopment agency. If DOF had not approved a plan by January 1, 2016, then the Successor Agency was to have disposed of their property pursuant to 34177 (e).

#### **COMPENSATION AGREEMENTS**

Some LRPMPs prepared by successor agencies include a provision providing that certain real property of the former redevelopment agency would be retained and used for future development purposes pursuant to HSC 34179.5(c)(5)(C). As part of that, LRPMPs submitted by successor agencies have contemplated the use of "compensation agreements" between an individual successor agency and affected taxing entities (ATEs), the terms of which are not subject to approval by DOF, pursuant to HSC 34180(f)(1).

Specifically, HSC 34180(f)(1) states that:

If a city, county, or city and county wishes to retain any properties or other assets for future redevelopment activities, funded from its own funds and under its own auspices, it must reach a compensation agreement with the other taxing entities to provide payments to them in proportion to their shares of the base property tax, as determined pursuant to Section 34188, for the value of the property retained.

The County has received multiple requests to enter into compensation agreements from successor agencies and is likely to receive additional requests in the future. Today's action refers the issue of establishing policy guidelines for evaluating whether or not to enter into compensation agreements with successor agencies and under what terms. This will ensure that the County, including ATEs governed by the Board of Supervisors, receive appropriate financial compensation, consistent with the spirit of RDA dissolution.

## CONSEQUENCE OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

This issue will not be referred to the Finance Committee.

# CHILDREN'S IMPACT STATEMENT:

No impact.