

TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY

TOWN COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

To: Honorable Mayor and Town Council Date: August 11, 2015

From: Marc Puckett, Assistant Town Manager Item No: 9

Finance and Administration

Subject: ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2015-30, A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN

COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY, CALIFORNIA, OPPOSING

ASSEMBLY BILL 113 (AB 113)

Г.М. Approval:	Budgeted Item: ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A
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RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the Town Council of the Town of Apple Valley adopt Resolution No. 2015-30 Opposing AB 113.

SUMMARY:

AB 113, a budget trailer bill introduced on June 18, 2015 and amended July 9, 2015, reverses and revises key provisions of the redevelopment dissolution laws offered to local agencies as incentives for resolving issues with the Department of Finance and obtaining a "finding of completion". These were promises that were made to cities in AB 1484 of 2012. Agencies that did so would be rewarded with the ability to have previous city-RDA loans repaid at interest rates benchmarked against a conservative fund managed by the State Treasurer. Now that 85% of the successor agencies in the State have made the concessions to the Department of Finance necessary to obtain these findings, AB 113 seeks to change the rules. It is imperative that local agencies oppose the proposed changes of this bill.

BACKGROUND:

AB 113 would modify key provisions of the dissolution laws that were guaranteed to local agencies.

The two (2) provisions of AB 113 causing the most concern are:

 Reversing the Watsonville Court of Appeal decision that upheld the very common (and lawful) practice in which a city/town and its redevelopment agency agreed that the city/town would pay for public improvements or services needed to implement

the redevelopment project and be repaid by the redevelopment agency with tax increment funds.

2. Reversing the *Glendale* Court of Appeal decision that upheld the methodology described in AB 1484 for calculating accrued interest on loans between the redevelopment agency and the city/town that were reinstated after receiving a finding of completion.

Reversal of these two (2) Court decisions will cost successor agencies substantially more money than will be saved by any purported beneficial provisions included in AB 113. In addition, the Department of Finance, through AB 113, seeks to insulate itself from legal challenge to the decisions it makes about how to implement the law by; (1) exempting itself from the Administrative Procedures Act, and (2) denying successor agencies funding for legal representation to challenge the Department of Finance in court.

Since the introduction of AB 113, the Department of Finance has made a series of misleading and incomplete statements to cities and the Legislature on the impacts of AB 113. Most recently on August 3, 2015, the Department of Finance sent an email to numerous Successor Agencies describing the purported "administrative benefits" afforded to Successor Agencies in Assembly Bill 113. The Department of Finance is mainly referring to:

- 1. The change from a bi-annual to an annual filing of the Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule (ROPS); and
- 2. The opportunity to participate in the Last and Final ROPS process.

As the Department of Finance notes in its August 3 email, these proposals will purportedly reduce the administrative workload of our staff.

The potential, but difficult to quantify, benefits of reducing the administrative workload of complying with the Dissolution Law, are far out-weighed by the serious negative fiscal impact of other provisions of Assembly Bill 113, which the Department of Finance fails to mention in its email.

With respect to the impacts of AB 113 on the Town of Apple Valley, staff has identified the following specific concerns:

The Town has \$3,281,514 listed on its Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule (ROPS) at risk of loss if AB 113 is passed into law by the state legislature. This amount represents what has been termed by the Department of Finance as "reimbursement agreements." Loss of this funding would proportionally reduce total reserves in other funds now available to fund other projects and services by the same amount.

Loss of these funds affects all communities across the state that has not completed the Redevelopment Agency "wind down" process. It is estimated that over \$2 billion is at

risk negatively effecting approximately 150 cities and towns across the state. However, the Department of Finance has not provided anyone with a complete listing of affected agencies at this point. The Department of Finance has already done this analysis and has a complete list but apparently is reluctant to share that information.

In order to assist the Town's lobbyist and the League of California Cities in opposing this bill, I conducted a short survey of other communities across the state and was able to compile a listing of 53 affected communities with over \$956 million at risk (see attachment).

The listing crosses over Republican and Democratic districts throughout the State. It is believed that this listing represents approximately one third (1/3) of those cities that have reimbursement agreements at risk of loss.

Based on the foregoing, staff recommends adoption of Resolution No. 2015-30.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Town has \$3,281,514 listed on its Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule (ROPS) at risk of loss if AB 113 is passed into law by the state legislature. This amount represents what has been termed by the State Department of Finance as "reimbursement agreements."

Reimbursement agreements were the most common form of loans to RDAs. These loans from the sponsoring entity (City) were extended to allow the RDA to initiate implementation of projects outlined in the RDA plan with the anticipation of being repaid from future tax increments. This is an issue that affects most cities that have not completed the wind down of their RDAs. The total amount at risk across the state is well over \$2 billion affecting more than 100 cities.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Resolution No. 2015-30
- 2. Potential Losses Due to AB113 by Local Agency
- 3. Correspondence from League of California Cities

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-30

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY OPPOSING AB 113

WHEREAS, in 2011 the Legislature enacted AB 1X 26 which dissolved redevelopment agencies formed under the Community Redevelopment Law; and

WHEREAS, in 2012 the Legislature amended AB 1X 26 by enacting AB 1484 which required redevelopment agencies to make three (3) payments for the benefit of taxing entities; and

WHEREAS, AB 1484 included certain statutory provisions that were intended to provide incentives for the prompt and accurate submittal of these three (3) payments by the successor agencies to the former redevelopment agencies; and

WHEREAS, one (1) of these incentives allowed a successor agency's oversight board to approve the reinstatement of loan agreements, including the payment of accrued interest, between the city or county and the former redevelopment agency which had previously had been made unlawful by the terms of AB 1X 26; and

WHEREAS, subsequent to the enactment of AB 1484, approximately eighty-five (85) percent of successor agencies made the three (3) payments required by AB 1484 and received Findings of Completion; and

WHEREAS, the oversight boards of many of these successor agencies approved the reinstatement of loan agreements at the interest rate provided for in AB 1484 only to have those actions disapproved by the Department of Finance; and

WHEREAS, the courts of appeal have rejected the Department of Finance's interpretation of the phrase "loan agreement" and method of calculating the interest rate (*Watsonville* and *Glendale*); and

WHEREAS, the Department of Finance, in AB 113, is attempting to reverse and revise these key provisions of the dissolution laws offered to local agencies as incentives for making the required payments and resolving other issues with the Department of Finance; and

WHEREAS, in addition to undoing the promises made to local agencies in AB 1484, AB 113 contains several provisions that would tip the balance on matters of interpretation of dissolution laws even further by exempting the Department of Finance from the Administrative Procedures Act and eliminating language in the law that was previously agreed to by the Department of Finance and the Legislature in 2012 that enabled successor agencies to fund legal representation in the only due process forum where Department of Finance staff decisions could be reviewed-- Sacramento County Superior Court.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Apple Valley state as follows:

- 1. As locally elected legislators, we are committed to abiding by the promises we make. We urge the State Legislature to do the same by defeating AB 113, which breaks the promises the Legislature made to local agencies in the enactment of AB 1484.
- 2. One (1) of the purposes of our court system is to adjudicate the meaning and application of statutory enactments. We urge the State Legislature to accept the decisions of the courts of appeal in the *Watsonville* (definition of "loan agreement") and *Glendale* (methodology for calculating interest rate) and defeat AB 113, which seeks to reverse both of these court decisions.
- 3. We further urge the State Legislature to defeat AB 113 because it unfairly denies access to the court system for successor agencies by disallowing funding for legal representation.
 - 4. AB 113 will have the following impacts on the Town of Apple Valley:

The Town of Apple Valley will lose \$3,281,514 if this legislation passes. Passage of this legislation would result in the loss of resources for senior housing projects, police, street improvement projects, transportation projects including bus services, and recreation programming.

5. The provisions of AB 113 that are described as "streamlining" do not offset the negative impact of the provisions discussed in this resolution.

PASSED, APPROVED and **ADOPTED** by the Town Council of the Town of Apple Valley this 11th day of August, 2015.

	Larry Cusack, Mayor
ATTEST:	
La Vonda M-Pearson. Town Clerk	

Potential Losses Due to AB113 by Local Agency

Agency Name	Potential Loss
1. Town of Apple Valley	\$ 3,281,514
2. City of Barstow	\$ 1,800,000
3. City of Bellflower	\$ 12,300,000
4. City of Big Bear Lake	\$ 4,795,436
5. City of Brisbane	\$ 3,589,104
6. City of Capitola	\$ 618,000
7. City of Chino	\$ 15,400,000
8. City of Chula Vista	\$ 10,500,000
9. City of Cloverdale	\$ 826,600
10. City of Colton	\$ 3,627,033
11. City of Crescent City	\$ 1,203,719
12. City of Dinuba	\$ 12,500,000
13. City of Downey	\$ 192,500
14. City of Escondido	\$ 9,832,652
15. City of Fontana*	\$ 6,100,000
16. City of Fountain Valley	\$ 15,825,623
17. City of Fresno	\$ 83,000,000
18. City of Glendale	\$ 38,000,000
19. City of Gustine	\$ 285,451
20. City of Hayward	\$ 12,000,000
21. City of Hercules	\$ 12,637,422
22. City of Huntington Beach*	\$ 66,000,000
23. City of La Puente*	\$ 12,500,000
24. City of Lawndale	\$ 830,000
25. City of Lemon Grove*	\$ 4,200,000
26. City of Long Beach*	\$ 100,000,000
27. City of Modesto	\$
28. City of Montebello	\$ 4,000,000
29. City of Needles	\$ 1,104,648
30. City of Newark	\$ 385,000
31. City of Ontario	\$ 70,000,000

32. City of Oroville	\$	5,242,518
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33. City of Pasadena	•	25,600,000
34. City of Port Hueneme	\$	9,099,754
35. City of Poway	\$	14,800,000
36. City of Rancho Palos Verdes	\$	12,088,604
37. City of Rialto	\$	5,000,000
38. City of Ridgecrest	\$	3,185,616
39. City of Riverside	\$	18,801,393
40. City of San Bruno	\$	1,770,000
41. City of San Diego*	\$	200,000,000
42. City of San Dimas*	\$	14,630,304
43. City of Santa Rosa*	\$	6,331,000
44. City of Seaside	\$	2,833,000
45. City of South El Monte	\$	2,000,000
46. City of Suisun City	\$	1,750,000
47. City of Sunnyvale	\$	37,000,000
48. City of Torrance	\$	1,600,000
49. City of Tustin	\$	42,328,170
50. City of Ventura	\$	7,300,000
51. City of West Covina	\$	28,885,022
52. City of Winters	\$	2,575,510
53. City of Yorba Linda*	\$	6,000,000

Total Potential Loss from Reporting Cities

\$ 956,155,593

Potential losses from reimbursement agreements represent self-reported principal amounts unless otherwise noted.

^{*}Indicates data provided by a third party.

Attachment 3



1400 K Street, Suite 400 • Sacramento, California 95814 Phone: 916.658.8200 Fax: 916.658.8240 www.cacities.org

DATE: July 22, 2015

TO: Members, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee FROM: Dan Carrigg, League Legislative Director, (916) 658-8222

City Letters Received in Opposition to DOF Budget Proposal Affecting Redevelopment Dissolution as of July 22.

Legislators have been seeking an updated list of opposition to AB 113. Since January, many cities have submitted letters to the Legislature in opposition to the Department of Finance's (DOF) proposal affecting redevelopment dissolution. In its earliest forms this proposal was referenced by various "RN" numbers from Legislative Counsel, then on June 18th first appeared in print in AB 113. Over the last several weeks, the League has reached out to cities that had previously sent letters to confirm their position on AB 113 in its current form. We have checked with each city below on their position. While several cities have withdrawn opposition, as of July 22nd, the cities listed below report to us that they remain opposed unless the harmful provisions of AB 113 are removed. We have also encouraged cities to update their letters accordingly

RE:

n opp	osition:		
•	Alhambra	•	Highland
•	Baldwin Park		La Habra
•	Bell Garden		La Mirada
•	Big Bear Lake	•	La Palma
•	Brentwood	•	La Quinta
•	Buellton	•	Lafayette
•	Buena Park	•	Lake Forest
•	Capitola		Lakewood
•	Cerritos	•	Lancaster
•	Chino		Lawndale
•	Claremont		League's Latino Caucus
	Corona	•	Loma Linda
•	Coronado	•	Los Alamitos
•	Covina		Los Ang. Co. Div.
•	Crescent City		Merced
•	Culver City		Modesto
•	Cypress	•	Montebello
	Danville		Monterey
•	Dinuba		Monterey Park
•	Downey		Napa
	Duarte		Norco
	Dublin		Norwalk
•	Emeryville		Novato
	Fountain Valley		Oroville
	Fresno		Oxnard
	Fullerton		Paramount
	Garden Grove		Pasadena
	Glendale		Pico Rivera
	Glendora		Rancho Cucamonga
	Goleta		Rancho Palos
	Grand Terrace		Verdes
•	Greenfield		Rialto
	Gustine		Ridgecrest
	Hercules		San Carlos

San Marcos Santa Ana Santa Clarita Santa Cruz County Santa Fe Springs Santa Maria Santa Monica Santa Rosa Scotts Valley Seaside Selma Sonoma County Mayors & Councilmembers Association South El Monte South San Francisco Suisun City Sunnyvale

San Dimas

Tuolumne County COC GRC Union City Upland Vacaville Ventura Vernon West Covina Whittier Winters Yorba Linda Yucaipa

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Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

cc: Members: Assembly Democratic Caucus RDA Working Group Mark Ibele, Staff Director, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee Joseph Shinstock, Fiscal Consultant, Senate Republican Fiscal Office Katie Kolitsos, Special Assistant to Speaker Atkins Genevieve Morelos, Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee William Weber, Principal Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus

Council Meeting Date: 08/11/2015