

December 3, 2012

Mr. Pedro R. Reyes Chief Policy Director California Department of Finance 915 L Street Sacramento, CA 95814-3706

RE: City of Oakland Support of Foothill and Seminary Avenue Property Disposition

Dear Mr. Reyes:

As approved by the Oversight Board and on behalf of the City of Oakland, I am requesting that the California Department of Finance allow the disposition of subject property by the Oakland Redevelopment Successor Agency (ORSA) to Sunfield Development, LLC, for the development of a neighborhood commercial retail shopping center. The former agency acquired and assembled and cleared the individual parcels over a period of several years for the purpose of bringing in much needed neighborhood retail to the surrounding community. The proposed commercial project includes a new Walgreen's pharmacy store in addition to 13,000 square feet of additional neighborhood-serving retail. By allowing the disposition of subject property, the project will ultimately help the City eliminate a blighting influence and will help facilitate putting these parcels back into productive reuse for the benefit of the surrounding neighborhood.

Moreover, the proposed project will generate financial benefits for Oakland and other taxing entities from increased property taxes, business license taxes, sales taxes, utility taxes and bring in much needed jobs. These new job opportunities will give and provide hope to our underserved communities with traditionally high unemployment rates. Ultimately, approval of the disposition of this property will help advance the project and will give Sunfield Development, LLC and their lenders, investors, and title insurers the certainty that the sale of the property can go forward in order to allow development to begin.

We strongly urge the Department of Finance to allow the property disposition to occur in order to deliver clear title for the development of the Foothill/Seminary property. We consider this to undoubtedly be a very important neighborhood retail node and will place a vacant blighted property into productive economic use. We are hopeful to be given the opportunity to continue our work on this vital economic project to revitalize our East Oakland community.

Sincerely,

Jean Quan,

Mayor of Oakland