AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 18, 2012

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 29, 2012

SENATE BILL No. 1335

Introduced by Senator Pavley

February 24, 2012

An act to amend Sections *34171*, 34177, 34180, and 34181 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to redevelopment.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1335, as amended, Pavley. Redevelopment: brownfield sites.

Existing law dissolved redevelopment agencies and community development agencies, as of February 1, 2012, and provides for the designation of successor agencies, as defined. Existing law imposes various requirements on successor agencies and subjects successor agency actions to the review of oversight boards. Existing law requires successor agencies to wind down the affairs of the dissolved redevelopment agencies and to, among other things, dispose of assets and properties of the former redevelopment agencies, as directed by the oversight board. Existing law requires proceeds from the sale of assets that are no longer needed to be transferred to the county auditor-controller for distribution as property tax proceeds to taxing entities, as prescribed.

This bill would authorize a successor agency to retain land of the former redevelopment agency that is a brownfield site, *as defined,* for specified remediation or removal purposes using available financing, funds, and grants. Upon completion of remediation, the bill would require the successor agency to dispose of the land pursuant to existing asset disposition provisions. The bill would make conforming changes.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 34171 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

34171. The following terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) "Administrative budget" means the budget for administrative costs of the successor agencies as provided in Section 34177.

(b) "Administrative cost allowance" means an amount that, subject to the approval of the oversight board, is payable from property tax revenues of up to 5 percent of the property tax allocated to the successor agency for the 2011–12 fiscal year and up to 3 percent of the property tax allocated to the Redevelopment Obligation Retirement Fund money that is allocated to the successor agency for each fiscal year thereafter; provided, however, that the amount shall not be less than two hundred fifty thousand dollars ($250,000) for any fiscal year or such lesser amount as agreed to by the successor agency. However, the allowance amount shall exclude any administrative costs that can be paid from bond proceeds or from sources other than property tax.

(c) "Designated local authority" shall mean a public entity formed pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 34173.

(d) (1) "Enforceable obligation" means any of the following:

(A) Bonds, as defined by Section 33602 and bonds issued pursuant to Section 58383 of the Government Code, including the required debt service, reserve set-asides, and any other payments required under the indenture or similar documents governing the issuance of the outstanding bonds of the former redevelopment agency.

(B) Loans of moneys borrowed by the redevelopment agency for a lawful purpose, to the extent they are legally required to be repaid pursuant to a required repayment schedule or other mandatory loan terms.

(C) Payments required by the federal government, preexisting obligations to the state or obligations imposed by state law, other than passthrough payments that are made by the county auditor-controller pursuant to Section 34183, or legally enforceable payments required in connection with the agencies' employees, including, but not limited to, pension payments, pension obligation debt service, unemployment payments, or other obligations conferred through a collective bargaining agreement.

(D) Judgments or settlements entered by a competent court of law or binding arbitration decisions against the former redevelopment agency, other than passthrough payments that are made by the county auditor-controller pursuant to Section 34183. Along with the successor agency, the oversight board shall have the authority and standing to appeal any judgment or to set aside any settlement or arbitration decision.

(E) Any legally binding and enforceable agreement or contract that is not otherwise void as violating the debt limit or public policy. However, nothing in this act shall prohibit either the successor agency, with the approval or at the direction of the oversight board, or the oversight board itself from terminating any existing agreements or contracts and providing any necessary and required compensation or remediation for such termination.

(F) Contracts or agreements necessary for the administration or operation of the successor agency, in accordance with this part, including, but not limited to, agreements to purchase or rent office space, equipment and supplies, and pay-related expenses pursuant to Section 33127 and for carrying insurance pursuant to Section 33134.

(G) Amounts borrowed from or payments owing to the Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund of a redevelopment agency, which had been deferred as of the effective date of the act adding this part; provided, however, that the repayment schedule is approved by the oversight board.

(2) For purposes of this part, "enforceable obligation" does not include any agreements, contracts, or arrangements between the city, county, or city and county that created the redevelopment agency and the former redevelopment agency. However, written agreements entered into (A) at the time of issuance, but in no event later than December 31, 2010, of indebtedness obligations, and (B) solely for the purpose of securing or repaying those indebtedness obligations may be deemed enforceable obligations for purposes of this part. Notwithstanding this paragraph, loan agreements entered into between the redevelopment agency and the city, county, or city and county that created it, within two years

of the date of creation of the redevelopment agency, may be deemed to be enforceable obligations.

(3) Contracts or agreements between the former redevelopment agency and other public agencies, to perform services or provide funding for governmental or private services or capital projects outside of redevelopment project areas that do not provide benefit to the redevelopment project and thus were not properly authorized under Part 1 (commencing with Section 33000) shall be deemed void on the effective date of this part; provided, however, that such contracts or agreements for the provision of housing properly authorized under Part 1 (commencing with Section 33000) shall not be deemed void.

(e) "Indebtedness obligations" means bonds, notes, certificates of participation, or other evidence of indebtedness, issued or delivered by the redevelopment agency, or by a joint exercise of powers authority created by the redevelopment agency, to third-party investors or bondholders to finance or refinance redevelopment projects undertaken by the redevelopment agency in compliance with the Community Redevelopment Law (Part 1 (commencing with Section 33000)).

(f) "Land of the former redevelopment agency that is a brownfield site" means contaminated parcels and surrounding or nearby related parcels that are considered part of the site for the purpose of financing the remediation and redevelopment of the site.

~~(f)~~

(g) "Oversight board" shall mean each entity established pursuant to Section 34179.

~~(g)~~

(h) "Recognized obligation" means an obligation listed in the Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule.

~~(h)~~

(i) "Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule" means the document setting forth the minimum payment amounts and due dates of payments required by enforceable obligations for each six-month fiscal period as provided in subdivision (m) of Section 34177.

~~(i)~~

(j) "School entity" means any entity defined as such in subdivision (f) of Section 95 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.

~~(j)~~

(k) "Successor agency" means the county, city, or city and county that authorized the creation of each redevelopment agency or another entity as provided in Section 34173.

~~(k)~~

(l) "Taxing entities" means cities, counties, a city and county, special districts, and school entities, as defined in subdivision (f) of Section 95 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, that receive passthrough payments and distributions of property taxes pursuant to the provisions of this part.

~~SECTION 1.~~

SEC. 2. Section 34177 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

34177. Successor agencies are required to do all of the following:

(a) Continue to make payments due for enforceable obligations.

(1) On and after February 1, 2012, and until a Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule becomes operative, only payments required pursuant to an enforceable obligations payment schedule shall be made. The initial enforceable obligation payment schedule shall be the last schedule adopted by the redevelopment agency under Section 34169. However, payments associated with obligations excluded from the definition of enforceable obligations by paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) of Section 34171 shall be excluded from the enforceable obligations payment schedule and be removed from the last schedule adopted by the redevelopment agency under Section 34169 prior to the successor agency adopting it as its enforceable obligations payment schedule pursuant to this subdivision. The enforceable obligation payment schedule may be amended by the successor agency at any public meeting and shall be subject to the approval of the oversight board as soon as the board has sufficient members to form a quorum.

(2) The Department of Finance and the Controller shall each have the authority to require any documents associated with the enforceable obligations to be provided to them in a manner of their choosing. Any taxing entity, the department, and the Controller shall each have standing to file a judicial action to prevent a violation under this part and to obtain injunctive or other appropriate relief.

(3) Commencing on May 1, 2012, only those payments listed in the Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule may be made by the successor agency from the funds specified in the Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule. In addition, commencing May 1, 2012, the Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule shall supersede the Statement of Indebtedness, which shall no longer be prepared nor have any effect under the Community Redevelopment Law.

(4) Nothing in the act adding this part is to be construed as preventing a successor agency, with the prior approval of the oversight board, as described in Section 34179, from making payments for enforceable obligations from sources other than those listed in the Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule.

(5) From February 1, 2012, to July 1, 2012, a successor agency shall have no authority and is hereby prohibited from accelerating payment or making any lump-sum payments that are intended to prepay loans unless such accelerated repayments were required prior to the effective date of this part.

(b) Maintain reserves in the amount required by indentures, trust indentures, or similar documents governing the issuance of outstanding redevelopment agency bonds.

(c) Perform obligations required pursuant to any enforceable obligation.

(d) Remit unencumbered balances of redevelopment agency funds to the county auditor-controller for distribution to the taxing entities, including, but not limited to, the unencumbered balance of the Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund of a former redevelopment agency. In making the distribution, the county auditor-controller shall utilize the same methodology for allocation and distribution of property tax revenues provided in Section 34188.

(e) (1) Dispose of assets and properties of the former redevelopment agency as directed by the oversight board; provided, however, that the oversight board may instead direct the successor agency to transfer ownership of certain assets pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 34181. The disposal is to be done expeditiously and in a manner aimed at maximizing value. Proceeds from asset sales and related funds that are no longer needed for approved development projects or to otherwise wind down the affairs of the agency, each as determined by the oversight board, shall be transferred to the county auditor-controller for distribution as property tax proceeds under Section 34188.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a successor agency may retain land of the former redevelopment agency that is a brownfield site for the purpose of the remediation or removal of the release of hazardous substances, as defined in Section 33459, on, under, or from the property, using available financing, funds obtained from a responsible party, existing state or federal grants, or any other funds at the disposal of the successor agency in order to maximize value of the asset. Upon completion of the remediation or removal of hazardous substances from the brownfield site, the successor agency shall dispose of the property pursuant to paragraph (1).

(f) Enforce all former redevelopment agency rights for the benefit of the taxing entities, including, but not limited to, continuing to collect loans, rents, and other revenues that were due to the redevelopment agency.

(g) Effectuate transfer of housing functions and assets to the appropriate entity designated pursuant to Section 34176.

(h) Expeditiously wind down the affairs of the redevelopment agency pursuant to the provisions of this part and in accordance with the direction of the oversight board.

(i) Continue to oversee development of properties until the contracted work has been completed or the contractual obligations of the former redevelopment agency can be transferred to other parties. Bond proceeds shall be used for the purposes for which bonds were sold unless the purposes can no longer be achieved, in which case, the proceeds may be used to defease the bonds.

(j) Prepare a proposed administrative budget and submit it to the oversight board for its approval. The proposed administrative budget shall include all of the following:

(1) Estimated amounts for successor agency administrative costs for the upcoming six-month fiscal period.

(2) Proposed sources of payment for the costs identified in paragraph (1).

(3) Proposals for arrangements for administrative and operations services provided by a city, county, city and county, or other entity.

(k) Provide administrative cost estimates, from its approved administrative budget that are to be paid from property tax revenues deposited in the Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Fund, to the county auditor-controller for each six-month fiscal period.

(*l*) (1) Before each six-month fiscal period, prepare a Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule in accordance with the requirements of this paragraph. For each recognized obligation, the Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule shall identify one or more of the following sources of payment:

(A) Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund.

(B) Bond proceeds.

(C) Reserve balances.

(D) Administrative cost allowance.

(E) The Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Fund, but only to the extent no other funding source is available or when payment from property tax revenues is required by an enforceable obligation or by the provisions of this part.

(F) Other revenue sources, including rents, concessions, asset sale proceeds, interest earnings, and any other revenues derived from the former redevelopment agency, as approved by the oversight board in accordance with this part.

(2) A Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule shall not be deemed valid unless all of the following conditions have been met:

(A) A draft Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule is prepared by the successor agency for the enforceable obligations of the former redevelopment agency by March 1, 2012. From October 1, 2011, to July 1, 2012, the initial draft of that schedule shall project the dates and amounts of scheduled payments for each enforceable obligation for the remainder of the time period during which the redevelopment agency would have been authorized to obligate property tax increment had such a redevelopment agency not been dissolved, and shall be reviewed and certified, as to its accuracy, by an external auditor designated pursuant to Section 34182.

(B) The certified Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule is submitted to and duly approved by the oversight board.

(C) A copy of the approved Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule is submitted to the county auditor-controller and both the Controller's office and the Department of Finance and be posted on the successor agency's Internet Web site.

(3) The Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule shall be forward looking to the next six months. The first Recognized

Obligation Payment Schedule shall be submitted to the Controller's office and the Department of Finance by April 15, 2012, for the period of January 1, 2012, to June 30, 2012, inclusive. Former redevelopment agency enforceable obligation payments due, and reasonable or necessary administrative costs due or incurred, prior to January 1, 2012, shall be made from property tax revenues received in the spring of 2011 property tax distribution, and from other revenues and balances transferred to the successor agency.

~~SEC. 2.~~

SEC. 3. Section 34180 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

34180. All of the following successor agency actions shall first be approved by the oversight board:

(a) The establishment of new repayment terms for outstanding loans where the terms have not been specified prior to the date of this part.

(b) Refunding of outstanding bonds or other debt of the former redevelopment agency by successor agencies in order to provide for savings or to finance debt service spikes; provided, however, that no additional debt is created and debt service is not accelerated.

(c) Setting aside of amounts in reserves as required by indentures, trust indentures, or similar documents governing the issuance of outstanding redevelopment agency bonds.

(d) Merging of project areas.

(e) Continuing the acceptance of federal or state grants, or other forms of financial assistance from either public or private sources, where assistance is conditioned upon the provision of matching funds, by the successor entity as successor to the former redevelopment agency, in an amount greater than 5 percent.

(f) (1) 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.

(2) If no other agreement is reached on valuation of the retained assets, the value will be the fair market value as of the 2011 property tax lien date as determined by the county assessor.

(g) Establishment of the Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule.

(h) A request by the successor agency to enter into an agreement with the city, county, or city and county that formed the redevelopment agency that it is succeeding.

(i) A request by a successor agency or taxing entity to pledge, or to enter into an agreement for the pledge of, property tax revenues pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 34178.

(j) The retention of land of the former redevelopment agency that is a brownfield site for purposes of remediation or removal, pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) of Section 34177.

~~SEC. 3.~~

SEC. 4. Section 34181 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

34181. The oversight board shall direct the successor agency to do all of the following:

(a) Dispose of all assets and properties of the former redevelopment agency that were funded by tax increment revenues of the dissolved redevelopment agency; provided, however, that the oversight board may instead direct the successor agency to transfer ownership of those assets that were constructed and used for a governmental purpose, such as roads, school buildings, parks, and fire stations, to the appropriate public jurisdiction pursuant to any existing agreements relating to the construction or use of such an asset or to retain land of the former redevelopment agency that is a brownfield site for purposes of remediation or removal, consistent with paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) of Section 34177. Any compensation to be provided to the successor agency for the transfer of the asset shall be governed by the agreements relating to the construction or use of that asset. Disposal shall be done expeditiously and in a manner aimed at maximizing value.

(b) Cease performance in connection with and terminate all existing agreements that do not qualify as enforceable obligations.

(c) Transfer housing responsibilities and all rights, powers, duties, and obligations along with any amounts on deposit in the Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund to the appropriate entity pursuant to Section 34176.

(d) Terminate any agreement, between the dissolved redevelopment agency and any public entity located in the same county, obligating the redevelopment agency to provide funding for any debt service obligations of the public entity or for the construction, or operation of facilities owned or operated by such public entity, in any instance where the oversight board has found that early termination would be in the best interests of the taxing entities.

(e) Determine whether any contracts, agreements, or other arrangements between the dissolved redevelopment agency and any private parties should be terminated or renegotiated to reduce liabilities and increase net revenues to the taxing entities, and present proposed termination or amendment agreements to the oversight board for its approval. The board may approve any amendments to or early termination of such agreements where it finds that amendments or early termination would be in the best interests of the taxing entities.

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