



# City of Emeryville

C A L I F O R N I A

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** January 19, 2021  
**TO:** Christine Daniel, City Manager  
**FROM:** Brad Farmer, Finance Director  
Michael Guina, City Attorney  
**SUBJECT:** Resolution Of The City Of Emeryville As Successor Agency To The Emeryville Redevelopment Agency Approving And Adopting The Administrative Budget And Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule For The Period Of July 1, 2021 Through June 30, 2022 (ROPS 21-22) Pursuant To Health And Safety Code Section 34177

### RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the City of Emeryville as Successor Agency to the Emeryville Redevelopment Agency ("Successor Agency") adopt the attached resolution approving the Administrative Budget and Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule (ROPS) for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 (ROPS 21-22) pursuant to Health and Safety Code Sections 34177(j) and 34177(o), respectively.

### BACKGROUND

Pursuant to the Dissolution Act<sup>1</sup>, the Successor Agency is responsible for preparing and obtaining Oversight Board approval of an Administrative Budget and a Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule ("ROPS") that describes payments required pursuant to "enforceable obligations" of the former Redevelopment Agency. The annual Administrative Budget and ROPS must be presented to and approved by the Oversight Board and transmitted to the State of California, Department of Finance ("DOF") on or before February 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

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<sup>1</sup> On December 29, 2011, the California Supreme Court issued its decision in the matter of *California Redevelopment Association et.al. vs. Ana Matosantos et.al.* finding Assembly Bill 26 (the "Dissolution Act") constitutional and ABX1 27 (the "Voluntary Redevelopment Program Act") unconstitutional. The Supreme Court's ruling also postponed all deadlines outlined in the Dissolution Act before May 1, 2012 by four months. As a result, the Emeryville Redevelopment Agency ("Redevelopment Agency") was dissolved on February 1, 2012.

On January 17, 2012, the Emeryville City Council adopted Resolution No. 12-12 electing to have the City of Emeryville serve as the Successor Agency. The Successor Agency is responsible for winding down the affairs of the Redevelopment Agency under the direction of an Oversight Board, including paying off the Redevelopment Agency's obligations, preparing administrative budgets and disposing of the former Redevelopment Agency's assets. The Emeryville City Council also adopted Resolution No. 12-15 electing to have the City of Emeryville retain the housing assets and functions previously performed by the former Redevelopment Agency.

Administrative Budget 21-22 and ROPS 21-22, governing Successor Agency expenditures for the July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 fiscal year, is presented for consideration and action of the Successor Agency at its regular meeting of January 19, 2021; thereafter, Administrative Budget 21-22 and ROPS 21-22 will be presented to the Alameda County Oversight Board<sup>2</sup> (“Oversight Board”) at their regular meeting on January 20, 2021.

### **ROPS Approval Process**

Since enacting the Dissolution Act in 2011, the California state legislature has amended it on several occasions. Generally, with respect to the ROPS, the following requirements apply:

- All ROPS must be completed “in the manner provided for by” the DOF (Section 34177(o) (1) (A))<sup>3</sup>. The DOF Internet Web site publishes the form and instructions that are to be used by a successor agency.
- Staff must submit an electronic copy of the proposed ROPS approved by the Successor Agency to the Alameda County Administrative Officer (“CAO”), the Alameda County Auditor-Controller (“A/C”), and the DOF at the same time that the proposed ROPS is submitted to the Oversight Board for approval. (Section 34177(l) (2) (B).)
- For ROPS 21-22, the deadline for the Successor Agency to submit an Oversight Board approved ROPS to DOF, the California State Controller’s Office (“SCO”) and A/C is February 1, 2021. Each successive annual ROPS is due on February 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. (Section 34177(l) (2) (C) & (o) (1).)

The review process for an Oversight Board approved ROPS by DOF is as follows:

- The deadline for DOF to request review of an Oversight Board action approving a ROPS is five business days (Section 34179(h)).
- DOF is required to make its determination of the enforceable obligations and the amounts and funding sources of the enforceable obligations no later than April 15, 2021 and each April 15<sup>th</sup> thereafter for succeeding years after the ROPS has been submitted by a successor agency (Section 34177(o)(1)).
- DOF has the authority to eliminate or modify any item on the ROPS being reviewed prior to DOF approval (Section 34179(h)).

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<sup>2</sup> Pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 34179(j), commencing on July 1, 2018, in each county where more than one oversight board was created by operation of the Dissolution Act, such as in Alameda County, there shall be only one oversight board, which will be staffed by the county auditor-controller. Accordingly, as of June 30, 2018, the Emeryville Oversight Board was disbanded and replaced with the Alameda County Oversight Board.

<sup>3</sup> All citations to “Section” are to Health and Safety Code unless otherwise indicated.

- A successor agency may request additional review by the DOF and an opportunity to “meet and confer” on disputed items, but such a request must be made within five business days of the successor agency’s receipt of a DOF determination (Section 34177(o) (1)). Given this short time frame, the Successor Agency resolution approving ROPS 21-22 provides staff the authority to request the review and “meet and confer” with the DOF should they reject an item on ROPS 21-22.
- DOF is required to notify a successor agency and the A/C of the outcome of its review at least 15 days before the date of the Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Fund (RPTTF) property tax distribution (presumably by May 17 for the June 1 RPTTF distribution) (Section 34177(o)(1)). Thus, if there is a need for staff to request a meet and confer with the DOF as to ROPS 21-22, then the outside date for receipt of DOF’s determination would be no later than May 17, 2021.
- A successor agency and Oversight Board may approve amendments to a ROPS to reflect the resolution of a dispute with DOF, but such amendments will not affect a past allocation of property taxes or create a liability to any affected taxing entity with respect to past allocations (Section 34179(h)).
- An annual ROPS may be amended once, provided it is processed and approved by the Successor Agency and Oversight Board and submitted to DOF no later than October 1<sup>st</sup> (Section 34177(o)(1)(E)).

The A/C has the authority to review and object to the inclusion of any items that are not demonstrated to be enforceable obligations and/or may object to the funding source of any items on the ROPS. While the A/C may review and object either before or after the Oversight Board approval of a ROPS, the A/C must give notice of objections at least 60 days prior to the RPTTF distribution date. (Section 34182.5.)

### **ROPS 21-22 Enforceable Obligations**

The remaining enforceable obligations of the Successor Agency listed in ROPS 21-22 generally fall within three (3) broad categories as follows: (I) Administrative Costs/Expenses; (II) Bond Debt; and (III) Hazardous Materials Remediation and Monitoring.

#### ***I. Administrative Costs/Expenses (ROPS Item 1)***

ROPS item 1 provides for payment to the City of Emeryville for its administrative costs and expenses outlined in the Administrative Budget associated with the oversight of activities in connection with winding down the obligations of the Successor Agency. The Administrative Budget for ROPS 21-22 is \$486,531. The Administrative Budget is enclosed as Exhibit B to Attachment 1 to this report.

#### ***II. Bond Debt/Financial Services (ROPS Items 62, 63, 64, 67, 103, 104, 116, 117)***

- **Item 62: Audit Services**
- **Item 63: Mechanics Bank – Bank Fees**
- **Item 64: Bank of New York Mellon – Bond Trustee Services**
- **Item 67: MuniServices – Real Property Tax Audit Services**
- **Item 103: Wildan Financial – Bond Annual Continual Disclosure Reporting**
- **Item 104: PFM Group – Bond Arbitrage/Rebate Calculations**
- **Item 116: Bank of New York Mellon – Bond 2014A Annual Debt Service Payment**
- **Item 117: Bank of New York Mellon – Bond 2014B Annual Debt Service Payment**

The former Emeryville Redevelopment Agency entered into loan agreements in 1995, 1998, 2001, 2002 and 2004 which pledged tax increment and low- and moderate-income housing revenues as security for bonds issued by the Emeryville Public Finance Authority. The bond funds were then used by the Redevelopment Agency to finance redevelopment activities and affordable housing projects.

Section 34177.5 (a) of the Dissolution Act provides that the Successor Agency may proceed to issue bonds to refund existing bonds or other indebtedness of its former redevelopment agency to provide savings. In 2014, the Successor Agency determined that bond market conditions allowed for the issuance of refunding bonds to refinance all of the former Redevelopment Agency's outstanding bonds. The estimated average annual debt service savings was calculated to be approximately \$500,000 per year. Since the debt service on the bonds is not level, the savings will be greater in years 2015 to 2026 and declining in years 2027 to 2034 due to the different final maturities on the existing bonds. Accordingly, in April 2014, the Successor Agency and Oversight Board approved the transaction to refund the former Redevelopment Agency's existing bonds.

The refinancing of the outstanding indebtedness of the former Redevelopment Agency generated net present value savings of approximately \$6.0 million over the remaining life of the bonds. ROPS line items 116 and 117 reflects the annual debt service payment due for the refunding bonds of \$9,760,750 and \$1,352,416 during the ROPS 21-22 cycle. ROPS line items 103 and 104 relate to professional services for continuing disclosure reporting and arbitrage calculations required in connection with the refunding bonds. ROPS line item 64 relates to annual fees paid to the bond trustee. These line items will be retired after all bond debt is fully repaid in September 2034.

ROPS line items 62, 63 and 67 relate to other financial aspects of the Successor Agency. ROPS line item 62 relates to required financial auditing services for the Successor Agency. ROPS line item 63 relates to bank fees paid in connection with the Successor Agency's accounts. Finally, ROPS line item 67 relates to property tax audit services as needed. These line items will also be retired once all Successor Agency obligations have been satisfied and the Successor Agency is dissolved.

### **III. *Hazardous Materials Remediation and Monitoring***

Actions taken to remediate hazardous materials in soil and groundwater was one of the many appropriate activities that redevelopment agencies could pursue. The City of Emeryville had a long history of industrial activity dating back to the late 1800s which left behind a legacy of contamination in soil and groundwater upon the exodus of industry from the City in the 1960s through the 1980s. The former Emeryville Redevelopment Agency was very active in the remediation of hazardous materials within the City and the following three (3) projects fall in that category. The map attached to this report as **Attachment 2** outlines the boundaries of the three (3) project sites known as South Bayfront Site A, South Bayfront Site B, and the Corporation Yard.

#### **A. *South Bayfront Site A Monitoring (ROPS Items 44, 45, 46, 47)***

- **Item 44: EKI - Environmental Engineering Services**
- **Item 45: CalEPA DTSC – Environmental Oversight Agreement**
- **Item 46: The Sherwin-Williams Company Settlement Agreement & Order**
- **Item 47: 5616 Bay Street Investors LLC – Site A Disposition & Development Agreement**

#### **Background**

South Bayfront Site A, also known as Bay Street, is bound by the IKEA home furnishings store to the south, Shellmound Street to the west, Union Pacific railroad tracks to the east, and South Bayfront Site B to the north, and is bisected by the Temescal Creek channel. Beginning in the mid-1990s, the former Redevelopment Agency commenced the process of acquisition of several parcels of real property making up South Bayfront Site A in order to bring about the remediation of hazardous materials impacting and curtailing the beneficial use of those parcels and redevelop the site with a mix of retail, theatre, restaurant, hotel and residential uses that currently exist today.

In 1999, the California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) approved the final Remedial Action Plan (RAP) prepared by the Redevelopment Agency for South Bayfront Site A. The RAP prepared by the Redevelopment Agency did not include a portion of South Bayfront Site A located to the south of the Temescal Creek channel, which was previously owned by the Myers Drum Container Corporation (“Myers Drum”) and remediated by Myers Drum under the oversight of DTSC. Subsequent to the approval of the final RAP prepared by the Redevelopment Agency, the Agency implemented the cleanup of hazardous materials in soil and groundwater. Once the required soil and groundwater remediation under the RAP was completed, the Redevelopment Agency thereafter prepared an Environmental Risk Management Plan (RMP) for all of South Bayfront Site A, including the former Myers Drum property, consistent with the requirements of the final RAP. The RMP was approved by DTSC on July 26, 2000.

The approved final RAP required the implementation of extensive soil removal and the RMP a multi-year groundwater and surface water monitoring program (the “RMP Monitoring Program”) on South Bayfront Site A. The RMP Monitoring Program approved by DTSC required the installation of 17 groundwater monitoring wells located both north and south of Temescal Creek, two temporary groundwater monitoring wells, surveying of all sampling locations, quarterly sampling at all well locations, sampling within storm drains located within Shellmound Street, sampling of surface waters within the Temescal Creek channel, and preparation and submittal of a quarterly monitoring report of the sampling results. Currently, the groundwater monitoring required by DTSC has been reduced to annual monitoring and reporting.

### **The Sherwin-Williams Company Settlement Agreement & Order**

As part of the eminent domain actions filed by the Redevelopment Agency to acquire some of the parcels comprising South Bayfront Site A, the Redevelopment Agency also initiated an action utilizing the Polanco Redevelopment Act to recover its costs of hazardous materials remediation from responsible parties. In the matter of City of Emeryville, Emeryville Redevelopment Agency v. Elementis Pigments, Inc., The Sherwin-Williams Company, Pfizer, Inc., A&J Trucking Company, Inc., Baker Hughes, Inc., Arthur M. Sepulveda and Josephine Sepulveda, United States District Court, Case No. C99-03719 WHA, the City and Redevelopment Agency entered into settlement agreements with the responsible parties to pay for their appropriate share of the costs of remediation and ongoing groundwater monitoring, which settlement agreements were approved by order of the Court.

The Settlement Agreement with The Sherwin-Williams Company is on file with the City Clerk<sup>4</sup>. As provided in Section VI of the Settlement Agreement with The Sherwin-Williams Company, the Redevelopment Agency agreed that it would pay for the first \$200,000 of costs associated with the groundwater RMP Monitoring Program<sup>5</sup>, and the next \$1,314,000 of such costs would be shared equally with The Sherwin-Williams Company. Any costs in excess of \$1,514,000 are shared 95% by The Sherwin-Williams Company and 5% by the Redevelopment Agency. The Settlement Agreement with The Sherwin-Williams Company constitutes an enforceable obligation of the Successor Agency pursuant to Section 34171(d)(1)(D). The obligation of the Successor Agency set forth in the Settlement Agreement is reflected in ROPS line item 46.

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<sup>4</sup> The Settlement Agreement with The Sherwin-Williams Company was attached as **Appendix B** to the January 15, 2019 staff report to the Successor Agency regarding consideration of ROPS 19-20, and can be viewed at <https://emeryville.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=6964105&GUID=630010D6-9FE3-4F1A-99DC-491DA6A855FC>.

<sup>5</sup> Pursuant to the terms of the purchase agreement between the Redevelopment Agency and Myers Drum, Myers Drum is obligated to implement the groundwater RMP Monitoring Program south of Temescal Creek; accordingly, the Successor Agency's obligation is limited to implementing the groundwater RMP Monitoring Program north of Temescal Creek.

### **Site A Disposition and Development Agreement**

The Redevelopment Agency sold South Bayfront Site A to Bay Street Partners LLC, successor-in-interest to the South Bayfront Redevelopment Project Partnership, on June 12, 2001, pursuant to the Disposition and Development Agreement (Site A DDA) dated September 23, 1999. Bay Street Partners thereafter redeveloped South Bayfront Site A with the Bay Street project comprising over 300,000 square feet of retail/restaurant/theatre space, approximately 350 housing units (rental and ownership), a hotel and structured parking. As provided in Section 212, subsection 1 of the Site A DDA, as between the Redevelopment Agency and Bay Street Partners and any future property owner, the Redevelopment Agency retained the responsibility for ongoing groundwater monitoring and remediation<sup>6</sup>. The Site A DDA constitutes an enforceable obligation of the Successor Agency pursuant to Section 34171(d)(1)(E). The current owner of South Bayfront Site A is 5616 Bay Street Investors LLC, and this obligation of the Successor Agency is reflected in ROPS line item 47.

### **Environmental Engineering Services**

ROPS line item 44 relates to the Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with the firm of Erler & Kalinowski, Inc. (EKI), to provide services on behalf of the Successor Agency that are set forth in the RMP Monitoring Program north of Temescal Creek as required by the terms of the Settlement Agreement with The Sherwin-Williams Company and to fulfill its obligation under the Site A DDA to the owner of South Bayfront Site A. The PSA constitutes an enforceable obligation of the Successor Agency pursuant to Sections 34171(d) (1) (E) and 34171(d) (1) (F).

The costs of annual groundwater monitoring and reporting have been averaging \$30,000 to \$50,000 per year. The amount tends to increase in the years coinciding with the Five-Year Review required by the RMP Monitoring Program. For the ROPS 21-22 cycle and as reflected in ROPS line item 44, it is estimated that the Successor Agency will incur approximately \$30,000 for groundwater monitoring and reporting services provided by EKI pursuant to the RMP Monitoring Program.

As of January 1, 2021, the Successor Agency and The Sherwin-Williams Company have collectively spent \$747,764.73 on RMP Monitoring Program costs, leaving a balance of \$766,235.27 in shared (50/50) costs before the obligation shifts to a 95/5 split. Thus, as of January 1, 2021, the Successor Agency's allocation of the remaining shared costs is one half of \$766,235.27, or \$383,117.64. This is the total outstanding obligation reflected in the

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<sup>6</sup> The DDA for South Bayfront Site A has been amended 15 times, the last occurring on January 6, 2011. The applicable provision of Section 212, subsection 1, of the Site A DDA is provided in the First Implementation Agreement between the Redevelopment Agency and the South Bayfront Redevelopment Project Partnership, dated September 8, 2000. A copy of the First Implementation Agreement to the DDA is attached as **Appendix C** to the January 15, 2019 staff report to the Successor Agency regarding consideration of ROPS 19-20, and can be viewed at <https://emeryville.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=6964105&GUID=630010D6-9FE3-4F1A-99DC-491DA6A855FC>.

PSA with EKI and on ROPS line item 44.

At present the Redevelopment Agency/Successor Agency, The Sherwin-Williams Company and the Myers Drum Container Corporation have conducted over 17 years of groundwater monitoring and reporting for South Bayfront Site A and the monitoring and reporting activities will continue for some indeterminate time. At some point in the future, depending on the data reflected in the annual monitoring and reporting, DTSC can require further groundwater remediation activities, continued groundwater monitoring, or some combination thereof, or discontinuance and termination of the RMP Monitoring Program in total or as to that part conducted to the north of Temescal Creek or that part conducted to the south of Temescal Creek. As noted above, pursuant to the Settlement Agreement with The Sherwin-Williams Company, any costs in excess of \$1,514,000 are shared 95% by Sherwin-Williams and 5% by the Successor Agency. However, any such costs in excess of this \$1,514,000 figure are not reflected in the total outstanding obligation under the PSA with EKI and shown on ROPS line item 44.

### **Environmental Regulatory Oversight**

Oversight of the remediation of South Bayfront Site A as required by the final RAP and the ongoing groundwater monitoring required by the RMP has been provided by DTSC pursuant to a Voluntary Cleanup Agreement between DTSC and the former Redevelopment Agency that was entered into effective July 20, 1998, as amended on March 13, 2007. The environmental oversight agreement with DTSC constitutes an enforceable obligation of the Successor Agency pursuant to Sections 34171(d) (1) (C), 34171(d)(1)(E), and 34171(d)(1)(F). Thus, for the ROPS 21-22 cycle and as reflected in ROPS line item 45, it is estimated that the Successor Agency will incur approximately \$20,000 for the reimbursement of DTSC's costs of oversight.

### **B. *South Bayfront Site B Remediation and Monitoring (ROPS Items 39, 40, 41, 121)***

- **Item 39: Cox Castle & Nicholson - Legal Services**
- **Item 40: Chevron USA/Union Oil Settlement Agreement & Order**
- **Item 41: EKI – Environmental Engineering Services**
- **Item 121: CalEPA DTSC – Environmental Oversight Agreement**

### **Background**

As noted above, the former Redevelopment Agency sold South Bayfront Site A to Bay Street Partners for redevelopment in June 2001 and thereafter the site was the location of significant construction activity for the next several years. On August 9, 2004, a certificate of completion was issued by the Redevelopment Agency for the South Bayfront Site A project. With the completion of redevelopment of South Bayfront Site A, the Redevelopment Agency turned its attention to the South Bayfront Site B ("Site B")



properties.

In early 2004 the former Redevelopment Agency commenced actions to acquire and remediate the properties known collectively as Site B (i.e. five parcels previously owned by 4 different owners bounded by Shellmound Street to the west, Powell Street to the north, Union Pacific railroad tracks to the east, and South Bayfront Site A to the south) for redevelopment into a mixed-use endcap to the South Bayfront Site A project. Given the knowledge gained from the process of studying, investigating, evaluating and remediating South Bayfront Site A, the Redevelopment Agency engaged the firm of Erler & Kalinowski, Inc. ("EKI") as its environmental engineer for addressing Site B, and entered into a Professional Services Agreement ("PSA") with EKI on October 6, 2004. In addition, in order to secure regulatory oversight services for the remedial process at Site B, the former Redevelopment Agency also entered into an environmental oversight agreement with DTSC in 2004.

After an extensive process of environmental study, investigation and evaluation, in June 2008 the Redevelopment Agency awarded a contract for soil remediation of hazardous materials contamination at Site B. Soil remediation activities at Site B were conducted in accordance with the Final Feasibility Study/Remedial Action Plan ("FS/RAP") and Final Remedial Design and Implementation Plan ("RDIP") prepared by EKI and approved by DTSC. Soil remediation activities at Site B were completed in the fall of 2009 and the Soil Remediation Completion Report was approved by DTSC on June 15, 2010.

### **The Chevron USA/Union Oil Settlement Agreement & Order**

As part of the eminent domain actions filed to acquire four of the five parcels comprising Site B, the Agency also initiated an action utilizing the Polanco Redevelopment Act to recover its costs of hazardous materials remediation from responsible parties. On July 23, 2010, a month after the soil remediation had been completed, in the matter of Emeryville Redevelopment Agency v. Howard F. Robinson and Jeanne C. Robinson, PG&E, Wilson Associates, Chevron Corporation, Union Oil, Sherwin-Williams Company, Mary Lou Adam as Trustee, Christopher D. Adam, Hilary A. Jackson; Bank of America, trustee of Koeckritz Trust, Alameda County Superior Court, Consolidated Case Nos. RG-06-267600, RG-06-267594, RG-07-332012, the Alameda County Superior Court approved an Order On Joint Motion For Good Faith Determination Of Settlement and Settlement Allocations ("Settlement Order")<sup>7</sup> approving the settlements with several defendants and approving the allocation of \$22,400,000 in settlement proceeds.

The settlement proceeds covered **known** costs incurred up to that point for soil remediation and the Redevelopment Agency's legal fees, as well as an estimate of

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<sup>7</sup> The only defendant that did not initially settle was The Sherwin-Williams Company. The Redevelopment Agency and Sherwin-Williams went to trial, and on October 11, 2011, a judgment was entered in favor of the Redevelopment Agency resulting in a total recovery of approximately \$3.5 million. Altogether, the Redevelopment Agency recovered \$25.9 million from all defendants for costs incurred for soil remediation, legal fees and future anticipated costs of groundwater remediation at Site B.

approximately \$9.6 million for future groundwater remediation costs. The Settlement Order confirmed the Court's prior approval of the Chevron USA/Union Oil Settlement Agreement, and approved the Koeckritz Settlement Agreement, the Robinson Settlement Agreement, and the Adam Settlement Agreement. Completion of the **soil and groundwater** remediation in accordance with the FS/RAP and Final RDIP is an obligation of the former Redevelopment Agency pursuant to the terms of the settlement agreements approved by the Settlement Order. The settlement agreements approved by the Settlement Order constitute an enforceable obligation of the Successor Agency pursuant to Section 34171(d)(1)(D) and 34171(d)(1)(E). This obligation is reflected in ROPS line item 40<sup>8</sup>.

### **Environmental Engineering Services**

Upon completion of the soil remediation, the next phase of remediation related to groundwater contamination commenced. With respect to groundwater remediation, the approved FS/RAP anticipated that the Redevelopment Agency would implement a remedy involving the construction of a containment trench around the northeast edge of Site B and then continuously pump the contaminated groundwater and treat it before disposal. The FS/RAP also contained as an alternative a bio-remediation concept.

Based on the results of the extensive soil remediation and its favorable impact to groundwater, the Redevelopment Agency and DTSC agreed to pursue the bio-remediation alternative rather than the construction of the containment trench and pumping and treating of contaminated groundwater. Further, given that the soil remediation had been successfully completed and the Redevelopment Agency was about to commence the next stage of site remediation related to the groundwater beneath Site B, the Redevelopment Agency and DTSC entered into a new Environmental Oversight Agreement on June 27, 2011, for DTSC to provide regulatory oversight services related to the remediation of groundwater. The Environmental Oversight Agreement with DTSC is an enforceable obligation of the Successor Agency pursuant to Sections 34171(d) (1) (E) and 34171(d) (1) (F).

Thereafter, to advance the bio-remediation remedy, EKI undertook a pilot study of enhanced reductive dechlorination ("ERD"), involving injecting organic amendments into the groundwater in order to address tetrachloroethene ("PCE"), trichloroethene ("TCE"), and its breakdown products, including vinyl chloride ("VC"). Based on the favorable results from the pilot study, the RDIP was amended to authorize the bioremediation of groundwater contamination across Site B.

With respect to groundwater remediation, the concern relates to hazardous material impacts to both the shallow groundwater and deeper groundwater. Generally, impacts to

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<sup>8</sup> A copy of the Chevron USA/Union Oil Settlement Agreement and the Settlement Order are attached as **Appendix D** and **Appendix E**, respectively, to the January 15, 2019 staff report to the Successor Agency regarding consideration of ROPS 19-20, and can be viewed at <https://emeryville.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=6964105&GUID=630010D6-9FE3-4F1A-99DC-491DA6A855FC>.

shallow groundwater are of a greater concern because of the possibility that vapors from contaminants can more readily negatively impair indoor air within buildings constructed on the site. In the summer of 2013, EKI implemented ERD to address impacts from PCE, TCE and VC to shallow groundwater. Subsequent groundwater monitoring results have shown that ERD has been very effective at reducing the contaminant levels in shallow groundwater of PCE, TCE and VC. Given the very favorable results of ERD on shallow groundwater, in the summer of 2016 the DTSC approved the utilization of ERD to address contaminants in the deeper groundwater zone. The initial injections to deeper groundwater on Site B were completed in the fall of 2016.

In the spring of 2017 groundwater monitoring was undertaken of the shallow and deep groundwater zones to document the effectiveness of the fall 2016 ERD injections on contaminant levels in groundwater of PCE, TCE and VC. Based on the data from the spring 2017 sampling activities, it was evident that additional buffer needed to be injected in order to facilitate the further degradation of PCE, TCE and VC. Thus, in late spring 2017 supplemental injections of buffer was approved by DTSC and thereafter implemented. In the fall of 2017, sampling of monitoring wells was undertaken to ascertain the effectiveness of the supplemental injections.

As reflected in the completion report and recent Annual Groundwater Monitoring Reports, notwithstanding the effectiveness of the ERD injections to both shallow and deeper groundwater, it is evident that contaminants in groundwater from off-site sources will continue over time to migrate onto and impact the groundwater beneath Site B. Thus, in late 2019 additional injections of ERD were implemented and unless and until off-site sources of contamination from the Corporation Yard are addressed, there may need to be continued injections of ERD into the groundwater under Site B for the foreseeable future. As noted, one such off-site source is the Corporation Yard site discussed in section III.C. below and, as will be discussed, implicates the terms of the Chevron USA/Union Oil Settlement Agreement approved by the Settlement Order.

Accordingly, with respect to Site B, in calendar year 2019, EKI undertook activities to evaluate post-injection baseline soil vapor conditions to assess whether long-term injections will be required since the data indicates the primary ongoing source of CVOCs in shallow groundwater are up-gradient, off-site sources (i.e., the Corporation Yard). If this assessment shows that impacts from soil vapor conditions to indoor air of structures built on the site can be adequately and appropriately mitigated with engineering controls (e.g., vapor barriers, passive/active vapor systems) and thereby eliminate the need for more costly on-going ERD injections, then this evaluation will serve to inform the preparation of the long-term Operation and Maintenance Plan ("O&M Plan") for Site B.

In calendar year 2020, EKI prepared a draft of the O&M Plan which is currently being reviewed by DTSC. The O&M Plan will address the installation of engineering controls, location of groundwater monitoring wells as well as a schedule for on-going groundwater monitoring obligations, and a soil management plan governing any future on-site excavation activities associated with site redevelopment. Further, the O&M Plan may

require the placement of wells for the on-going injection of ERD until such time as impacts from off-site sources (i.e., the Corporation Yard) are controlled at the source by the responsible parties. The Successor Agency also anticipates DTSC will seek an update of the groundwater cleanup and monitoring reports submitted in 2019 and 2020. The Successor Agency also anticipates receiving comments from DTSC on data previously provided on soil vapor sampling. Finally, there will be a need to enter into a land use covenant ("LUC") with the DTSC that will place restrictions on use of groundwater beneath Site B, as well as future uses of Site B. As will be discussed below, DTSC has issued a cleanup order to the Successor Agency for the Corporation Yard which will now allow the Successor Agency to take actions to control and remediate hazardous materials contamination at the Corporation Yard. Accordingly, if off-site source of impact to Site B could be controlled, these activities can be completed during the remainder of the ROPS 20-21 cycle and the ROPS 21-22 cycle.

The PSA with EKI has been amended several times throughout the remedial process and is an enforceable obligation of the Successor Agency pursuant to Sections 34171(d)(1)(E) and 34171(d)(1)(F). For the ROPS 21-22 cycle and as reflected in ROPS line item 41, it is estimated that the Successor Agency will incur approximately \$400,000 for the environmental engineering services provided by EKI. These services will include the second semi-annual groundwater monitoring event and report to DTSC for 2021, and the first such semi-annual event and report for 2022. Further, if approval of the O&M Plan by DTSC occurs in calendar year 2021, services related to the appropriate abandonment and destruction of numerous monitoring and injection wells located on Site B, rehabilitation of certain wells for continued future use, and installation of new wells along the Site B easterly and southern boundary perimeter in anticipation of eventual site redevelopment are included. Finally, services of EKI required in connection with securing DTSC certification of the Site B FS/RAP as complete are also included.

### **Legal Services**

ROPS line item 39, a Professional Services Agreement with the firm of Cox, Castle & Nicholson and an enforceable obligation of the Successor Agency pursuant to Section 34171(d)(1)(F), may be utilized by the Successor Agency to fund the costs of legal services incurred in reviewing the O&M Plan, preparing and negotiating the terms of the O&M Agreement, if required, and LUC with DTSC, obtaining the confirmation of the immunity under the Polanco Act from DTSC. For the ROPS 21-22 cycle and as reflected in ROPS line item 39, it is estimated that the Successor Agency will incur approximately \$50,000 for the services provided by Cox, Castle & Nicholson.

### **Environmental Regulatory Oversight**

As noted earlier, an environmental oversight agreement with DTSC was executed in 2011 governing the groundwater remedial process and was amended several times over the years. The oversight agreement with DTSC constitutes an enforceable obligation of the

Successor Agency pursuant to Section 34171(d) (1) (E) and Section 34171(d) (1) (F) and was listed on each ROPS since the inception of the dissolution process.

Health and Safety Code Section 34177.3(a) provides that the Successor Agency “shall lack the authority to, and shall not, create new enforceable obligations or begin redevelopment work, **except in compliance with an enforceable obligation**, as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 34171, that existed prior to June 28, 2011”. DTSC’s services are necessary in order for the Successor Agency to complete the remediation of groundwater at Site B, which is an enforceable obligation of the Successor Agency pursuant to the terms of the settlement agreements approved by the Settlement Order of the Alameda County Superior Court on July 23, 2010.

Therefore, pursuant to authority provided by Section 34177.3(a), on January 15, 2019, the Successor Agency approved and authorized the execution of an Environmental Oversight Agreement with the California Environmental Protection Agency, Department Of Toxic Substances Control, to provide regulatory oversight of groundwater remediation and monitoring at Site B. The Environmental Oversight Agreement with DTSC is an enforceable obligation of the Successor Agency pursuant to Section 34171(d) (1) (F), and provides for the reimbursement of DTSC’s costs of oversight and review of the ongoing groundwater monitoring.

Thus, for the ROPS 21-22 cycle and as reflected in ROPS line item 121, it is estimated that the Successor Agency will incur approximately \$50,000.00 for DTSC oversight.

**C. Corporation Yard Remediation/Cost Recovery (ROPS Items 49, 122, 123)**

- **Item 49: Cox Castle & Nicholson – Legal Services**
- **Item 122: DTSC – Imminent and/or Substantial Endangerment Order and Remedial Action Order**
- **Item 123: EKI – Environmental Engineering Services**
- **Item 125: City-Successor Agency Loan**
- **Item 126: EKI – Environmental Engineering Services**

**Introduction**

ROPS line items 122 and 123 were each included and approved by the Successor Agency and Oversight Board as part of ROPS 19-20. ROPS line item 122 was included in anticipation of receipt of an order from DTSC to clean-up the Corporation Yard; however, no such order was received by the Successor Agency from DTSC prior to completion of the meet and confer process and DOF denied the item. Since no order had actually been issued by DTSC prior to completion of the meet and confer process, DOF’s denial of the item was based solely on the fact that no documents were submitted to DOF in support of the matter and not based on any substantive determination that an order was not an enforceable obligation.

Further, as part of ROPS 19-20, line item 123 (a contract with EKI) was also denied by DOF by letter dated May 17, 2019, which the Successor Agency contested as part of the ROPS 19-20 meet and confer process. Thereafter, on May 21, 2019, the Successor Agency filed a Petition For Writ of Mandate (“Petition”) with the Superior Court in Sacramento County challenging DOF’s decision to deny line item 123 on ROPS 19-20, in Successor Agency To The Redevelopment Agency of the City of Emeryville v California Department of Finance, Keely Bosler, Case No. 34-2019-8000149. On February 27, 2020, the Sacramento County Superior Court granted the Petition and upheld the Successor Agency’s position that the agreement with EKI for environmental engineering services at the Corporation Yard is an enforceable obligation pursuant to Health and Safety Code 34171(d)(1)(E) and (F). However, DOF has since appealed the decision to the California Court of Appeal.

Nevertheless, on August 13, 2020, DTSC issued its Imminent and/or Substantial Endangerment Determination Order and Remedial Action Order (“Order”) to the Successor Agency to remediate hazardous substances contamination in soil and groundwater at the Corporation Yard. A copy of the Order is enclosed herein as **Attachment 3**. The Order is an enforceable obligation pursuant to Health and Safety Code 34171(d) (1) (C) and therefore is included in line item 122 of ROPS 21-22. Therefore, as provided by Section 34177.3 (b), the Successor Agency is authorized to enter into contracts with EKI, an enforceable obligation pursuant to Health and Safety Code 34171(d)(1)(E) and (F), in order to implement the terms of the Order, which itself is an enforceable obligation pursuant to 34171 (d)(1)(C).

### **Background**

The former Redevelopment Agency acquired the property located at 5679 Horton Street, Emeryville, in July 1999 from the Lozick Trust in order to facilitate the connection of Horton Street with former Landregan Street (“Horton Street Extension Project”), as called out in the circulation element of the City’s General Plan. A portion of the property was dedicated by the Redevelopment Agency to the City for the Horton Street Extension Project, and the remainder, which includes a large warehouse structure and surface parking, was utilized by the City as a temporary location for the Public Works Department’s corporation yard (hereinafter, the “Corporation Yard”)<sup>9</sup>.

The City and Redevelopment Agency subsequently entered into a Purchase and Sale Agreement dated June 4, 2009 (“Purchase Agreement”) regarding the transfer of the Corporation Yard, which was amended on February 25, 2011. Thereafter, title to the Corporation Yard was transferred to the City on March 4, 2011.

The Dissolution Act was enacted on June 28, 2011, and Health and Safety Code Section

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<sup>9</sup> Note that the Corporation Yard is also referred to as the Former Marchant Whitney (FMW) Site, in reference to the prior owners who are believed to be the main contributors to the contamination at the Corporation Yard (Marchant Calculating Machine Company and Whitney Tool).

34167.5 obligated the State Controller to review the activities of redevelopment agencies in the state to determine whether an asset transfer has occurred after January 1, 2011, between a city or county, or city and county that created a redevelopment agency, and the redevelopment agency. If an asset transfer did occur during that time period, and the City was not contractually committed to a third party for the expenditure or encumbrance of those assets, then to the extent not prohibited by state or federal law, the Controller was required to order the available assets to be returned to the Successor Agency. On April 20, 2012, the State Controller did in fact issue such an order the City of Emeryville. Accordingly, the Corporation Yard was returned to the Successor Agency on July 6, 2017 as required by the State Controller's order.<sup>10</sup>

First and foremost, as the owner of the Corporation Yard site, the Successor Agency is a responsible party under state and federal law for the remediation of hazardous materials on the site (42 U.S.C. §9607(a) and Cal. Health & Safety Code §25323.5(a)(1)). Obligations imposed by state law are an enforceable obligation (Cal. Health & Safety Code §34171(d) (1) (C)). However, the Successor Agency notes that under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act ("CERCLA"), local governmental agencies are excluded from the realm of "owner/operator" by 42 U.S.C. §9601(20) (D) and by the combined operation of 42 U.S.C. §9607(b) (3) and §9601(35) (A) (ii); see *City of Emeryville v. Elementis Pigments, Inc.*, 2001 WL 964230 (N.D. Cal.) (confirming no liability for public agencies that acquire property through use of eminent domain authority).

Second, aside from its putative obligation under state and federal law noted above, to understand the obligation to remediate the Corporation Yard, we need to start with the obligation to remediate Site B located to the west and downgradient of the Corporation Yard, as they are inextricably intertwined. Further, as noted in the prior discussion related to Site B, failure to address the contamination at the Corporation Yard will only allow it to continue to migrate onto South Bayfront Site B and impair the ability of the Successor Agency to obtain site closure from DTSC and pursue site redevelopment activities, as well as onto South Bayfront Site A and thereby trigger obligations of the Successor Agency under the terms of the Site A Disposition and Development Agreement. A site map showing South Bayfront Site A and Site B in relation to the Corporation Yard is enclosed as **Attachment 2**.

### **The Chevron USA/Union Oil Settlement Agreement**

As part of settling the Site B litigation, the former Redevelopment Agency secured \$15.5 million from Chevron pursuant to the terms of the Chevron USA/Union Oil Settlement Agreement. In the settlement negotiations for Site B, Chevron was quite focused on the required groundwater remediation. They were savvy enough to see that as a real issue,

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<sup>10</sup> Also worth noting that the Corporation Yard is not listed in, and thus not governed by, the LRPMP. Further, as provided by Section 34191.3 (b), the time in which to have the Department of Finance consider and approve an amendment to the LRPMP expired as of July 1, 2016. Accordingly, Sections 34177(e) and 34181(a) are the operative provisions with respect to disposition of the Corporation Yard.

and the Redevelopment Agency's demand at the outset of the mediation included a range of \$8-17 million to deal with the ongoing groundwater issues at/near Site B. The Redevelopment Agency's demand thus reinforced Chevron's focus on groundwater impacts at and flowing toward Site B.

As explained in the Responsiveness Summary dated January 2008 and prepared by DTSC in response to public comments on the Site B Draft Feasibility Study/Remedial Action Plan, *"the proposed remedy includes a remedial component to address upgradient impacted off-site groundwater migrating onto Site B to protect human health for potential future land uses at Site B. This component of the proposed remedy may not be necessary if the upgradient impacted off-site groundwater is remediated or mitigated by the responsible party prior to migrating onto Site B."*<sup>11</sup> Note that the soil remediation component of the Site B cleanup was completed on September 4, 2009 and thus for purposes of the settlement discussions the parties had actual costs of the soil remediation component, whereas the cost of future groundwater was still an estimate.

Not surprisingly, when Chevron agreed to pay \$15.5M to the former Redevelopment Agency (a sum significantly driven by future groundwater work), they extracted a commitment by the former Redevelopment Agency to spend a good bit of that pot of money on the problem for which they were paying, i.e., groundwater contamination and the related soil vapor problem. More specifically, they required a firm contractual commitment that the former Redevelopment Agency would either take on directly, or cause third parties to take on, and finish the investigation and remediation of groundwater contamination at Site B, including groundwater contamination flowing to Site B from upstream source properties. Section VI.B. of the Chevron USA/Union Oil Settlement Agreement provides in relevant part as follows<sup>12</sup>:

*"....the Redevelopment Agency shall – without cost to the Settling Defendants (or any of the released parties herein) other than the Settlement Payment – perform or cause to be performed all environmental work reasonably required to study, investigate, evaluate, and remediate the Hazardous Substances or contamination within, on, under, at, or emanating from and/or migrating to or from Site B and the Powell Street CVOC Remediation to the satisfaction of DTSC. ...."*

Once the settlements with Chevron and other defendants had been approved by the Court in July 2010, and the completion report for the soil remediation was approved by DTSC on June 15, 2010, the Redevelopment Agency turned its attention to the remediation of the groundwater at Site B. In June 2011 the Redevelopment Agency submitted groundwater

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11 The Responsiveness Summary is attached as Appendix F to the January 15, 2019 staff report to the Successor Agency regarding consideration of ROPS 19-20, and can be viewed at <https://emeryville.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=6964105&GUID=630010D6-9FE3-4F1A-99DC-491DA6A855FC>. See Response 25 to Comment 25 on page 20 and 21.

12 The Chevron USA/Union Oil Settlement Agreement is attached as Appendix D to the January 15, 2019 staff report to the Successor Agency regarding consideration of ROPS 19-20, and can be viewed at <https://emeryville.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=6964105&GUID=630010D6-9FE3-4F1A-99DC-491DA6A855FC>. See Appendix D, pages 14 and 15.



monitoring reports and investigation reports to DTSC, which were approved by DTSC by letter dated July 12, 2011<sup>13</sup>, while noting that it “*agrees that off-site sources of CVOCs affect groundwater at the site. However, DTSC feels that current data indicates that CVOCs in groundwater appear to also have come from historic on-site sources*”. Thus, as obligated by the Site B FS/RAP and the Chevron USA/Union Oil Settlement Agreement, in addition to on-site work at Site B, the former Redevelopment Agency continued with its off-site investigation of upgradient properties through the late summer/early fall of 2011 and collected samples from within the public right of way to the east of Site B (Powell Street, Horton Street, Peladeau Street and Haruff Street), as well as the Corporation Yard site.

The upgradient investigation noted above further established “that off-site sources of CVOCs affect groundwater at” Site B and that the Corporation Yard is a main source. In the late fall of 2011 the former Redevelopment Agency was in possession of the initial results of its upgradient off-site investigations within the aforementioned public rights of way and the Corporation Yard (aka FMW Site) and came to appreciate that the Corporation Yard was significantly contributing to groundwater contamination on Site B. The former Redevelopment Agency staff and EKI then met with DTSC on December 13, 2011 to share the initial results and DTSC confirmed that the contamination was a significant concern that needed to be addressed expeditiously. In fact, given the level of contamination at the Corporation Yard/FMW Site and its impact to indoor air at the existing facility, the building has been vacated in order to protect the health and safety of any building occupants and remains unoccupied since 2012.

Further, roughly a year later when DTSC reviewed and approved the Draft Remedial Action Plan Amendment and Remedial Design and Implementation Plan for Shallow Groundwater at Site B by letter dated March 7, 2013, it directed as follows<sup>14</sup>:

*“In addition, it should be clearly stated in the Draft RAP that investigations conducted since the time that the Feasibility Study/Remedial Action Plan was approved have revealed the presence of CVOCs in deeper groundwater on the southeastern portion of Site B, and that these CVOCs are the result of releases from the Former Marchant Whitney (FMW) and/or potentially other upgradient sources.”*

Thus, in response to the December 2011 meeting with DTSC and the significant concerns they expressed, as the presumed property owner, the City filed a claim<sup>15</sup> against the

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13The DTSC letter dated July 12, 2011 is attached as Appendix G to the January 15, 2019 staff report to the Successor Agency regarding consideration of ROPS 19-20, and can be viewed at <https://emeryville.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=6964105&GUID=630010D6-9FE3-4F1A-99DC-491DA6A855FC>.

14 The DTSC letter dated March 7, 2013 is attached as Appendix H to the January 15, 2019 staff report to the Successor Agency regarding consideration of ROPS 19-20, and can be viewed at <https://emeryville.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=6964105&GUID=630010D6-9FE3-4F1A-99DC-491DA6A855FC>.

15 The Claim filed by the City against the former Redevelopment Agency on January 27, 2012 is attached as Appendix I to the January 15, 2019 staff report to the Successor Agency regarding consideration of

Redevelopment Agency on January 27, 2012, seeking to enforce the terms of Section 10 of the June 4, 2009 Purchase and Sale Agreement<sup>16</sup>, as amended on February 25, 2011, which obligates the Redevelopment Agency to indemnify the City from all claims related to the presence of hazardous materials on the Corporation Yard/FMW Site. The former Redevelopment Agency considered the City's claim on January 31, 2012, in closed session<sup>17</sup>. Thereafter, at its regular meeting<sup>18</sup> of January 31, 2012, in order to resolve the claim filed by the City and consistent with its obligation under the Site B FS/RAP to "*address upgradient impacted off-site groundwater migrating onto Site B*" and the Chevron USA/Union Oil Settlement Agreement to "*perform or cause to be performed all environmental work reasonably required to study, investigate, evaluate, and remediate the Hazardous Substances or contamination within, on, under, at, or emanating from and/or migrating to or from Site B .... to the satisfaction of DTSC*", the Redevelopment Agency adopted a resolution authorizing a Voluntary Cleanup Agreement with DTSC to address the contamination at the Corporation Yard which is migrating to Site B<sup>19</sup> and a contract with EKI to perform the environmental engineering services<sup>20</sup>.

Health and Safety Code Section 34167(f) provides "[n]othing in this part shall be construed to interfere with a redevelopment agency's authority, pursuant to **enforceable obligations** as defined in this chapter, to (1) make payments due, (2) enforce existing covenants and obligations, and (3) **perform its obligations**." The term "enforceable obligations" is defined in Section 34167(d) (4) to include "judgements or settlements entered by a competent court of law". Similarly, Section 34169 (b) provides that redevelopment agencies shall

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ROPS 19-20, and can be viewed at

<https://emeryville.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=6964105&GUID=630010D6-9FE3-4F1A-99DC-491DA6A855FC>.

16 The June 4, 2009 Purchase and Sale Agreement, as amended on February 25, 2011, is attached as Appendix J to the January 15, 2019 staff report to the Successor Agency regarding consideration of ROPS 19-20, and can be viewed at <https://emeryville.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=6964105&GUID=630010D6-9FE3-4F1A-99DC-491DA6A855FC>.

17 The Closed Session agenda of the former Redevelopment Agency of January 31, 2012 is attached as Appendix K to the January 15, 2019 staff report to the Successor Agency regarding consideration of ROPS 19-20, and can be viewed at

<https://emeryville.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=6964105&GUID=630010D6-9FE3-4F1A-99DC-491DA6A855FC>.

18 The Regular Meeting agenda of the former Redevelopment Agency of January 31, 2012 is attached as Appendix L to the January 15, 2019 staff report to the Successor Agency regarding consideration of ROPS 19-20, and can be viewed at <https://emeryville.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=6964105&GUID=630010D6-9FE3-4F1A-99DC-491DA6A855FC>.

19 The Resolution of the former Redevelopment Agency adopted on January 31, 2012, approving a Voluntary Cleanup Agreement with DTSC for the Corporation Yard is attached as Appendix M to the January 15, 2019 staff report to the Successor Agency regarding consideration of ROPS 19-20, and can be viewed at <https://emeryville.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=6964105&GUID=630010D6-9FE3-4F1A-99DC-491DA6A855FC>.

20 The Resolution of the former Redevelopment Agency adopted on January 31, 2012, approving a contract with EKI for environmental engineering services for the Corporation Yard is attached as Appendix N to the January 15, 2019 staff report to the Successor Agency regarding consideration of ROPS 19-20, and can be viewed at <https://emeryville.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=6964105&GUID=630010D6-9FE3-4F1A-99DC-491DA6A855FC>.

“perform obligations required pursuant to any enforceable obligations....” Thus, in order to perform its obligations under the Chevron USA/Union Oil Settlement Agreement to remediate hazardous materials which are migrating to Site B, the Redevelopment Agency appropriately approved contracts with DTSC and EKI on Jan 31, 2012 relating to the remediation of the Corporation Yard site. Likewise, Section 34177.3 authorizes the Successor Agency to create new enforceable obligations, including those with DTSC and EKI, as required by an existing enforceable obligation, such as the Chevron USA/Union Oil Settlement Agreement.

No one can reasonably dispute that the Chevron USA/Union Oil Settlement Agreement is a valid contract; indeed, it was approved by the Alameda County Superior Court as a good faith settlement in the 2010 Settlement Order<sup>21</sup>. Further, no one can reasonably dispute that the Redevelopment Agency received very substantial consideration (\$15.5 million and the end of litigation with Chevron), in exchange for the commitments made by the Redevelopment Agency in relation to undertaking (or causing others to undertake) the necessary investigation and cleanup work of contamination flowing onto Site B. Finally, no one can dispute the relevant chronology—the Chevron USA/Union Oil Settlement Agreement was executed by the parties and approved by the Superior Court years before the redevelopment dissolution bills were passed by the legislature and signed by the Governor.

Furthermore, Section 34169 (d) provides that redevelopment agencies shall “consistent with the intent declared in subdivision (a) of Section 34167, preserve all assets, minimize all liabilities, and preserve all records of the redevelopment agency.” The actions of the Redevelopment Agency to address the contamination at the Corporation Yard, irrespective of the fact it is contractually obligated to do so under the Chevron USA/Union Oil Settlement Agreement, is also consistent with the directive to minimize liabilities of the former Redevelopment Agency in order that the intent of 34167(a) is fulfilled – i.e. preserve, to the maximum extent possible, the revenues and assets of redevelopment agencies so that those assets and revenues that are not needed to pay for enforceable obligations may be used by local governments to fund core governmental services. Remediation of the Corporation Yard site, which was vacated in 2012 due to concerns of impacts to indoor air from subsurface contamination on the health and safety of building occupants, is intended to not only preserve the real property asset but also to minimize liability associated with the site by (i) trying to shift liability for the nuisance that exists there to the historic polluter parties and (ii) limiting the extent to which the contamination migrates off site to adjoining properties, including South Bayfront Site A and South Bayfront Site B.

As revealed by data collected by EKI, the concentrations of TCE on the Corporation Yard site are up to 100,000 times the drinking water standard. As more particularly set forth in the draft Feasibility Study/Remedial Action Plan submitted to DTSC for the Corporation Yard site, the cleanup of the Corporation Yard involves several steps to not only excavate and remove contaminated soil that is the source of the groundwater contamination, but to

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<sup>21</sup> See footnote 9.

also treat the groundwater to further remove contaminants in groundwater both on site and off site.

In the ensuing years since the onset of redevelopment dissolution, with funding provided pursuant to the ROPS, the Successor Agency studied, investigated, and evaluated the hazardous substances at the Corporation Yard under the oversight of DTSC. In early 2017, the Successor Agency and DTSC were preparing to approve the Feasibility Study/Remedial Action Plan ("FS/RAP") for the Corporation Yard, which set forth the means by which the hazardous substance at the Corporation Yard would be remediated. Up to that point in time, the Successor Agency had expended approximately \$7 million over the previous 5 years studying, investigating, and evaluating the hazardous materials at the Corporation Yard.

Thus, as the Successor Agency was preparing ROPS 17-18 in late 2016/early 2017, it was also readying to embark on a several year remedial process at the Corporation Yard that would start in the summer of 2017. The most expensive component of the remediation would be in the first few years. Accordingly, the requested expenditures in ROPS 17-18 for remediation of the Corporation Yard reflected that reality.

ROPS 17-18 was approved by the Successor Agency and the Emeryville Oversight Board, but following a lengthy meet and confer process, on April 14, 2017, the DOF rejected funding for the remediation of the Corporation Yard that was set forth in a contract between the Successor Agency and EKI and previously listed on ROPS line item 51.

While the DOF did recognize that the Chevron USA/Union Oil Settlement Agreement entered into by the former Redevelopment Agency in connection with Site B obligated the Successor Agency to address groundwater contamination, they nevertheless dismissed the settlements as an obligation of the Successor Agency with respect to the Corporation Yard because the settlements did not specifically identify the Corporation Yard as a site to be addressed. DOF's position necessarily glosses over the fact that the Corporation Yard was not a known source of contamination to Site B at the time the settlement agreements were executed as to Site B. Thus, the Site B settlement agreements obligated the former Redevelopment Agency to investigate the sources of contamination to Site B, an obligation DOF recognized in discussions with staff. However, DOF conveniently disregarded language in the Site B settlement agreements requiring the Successor Agency to thereafter "remediate" any identified source of contamination migrating to Site B. Notwithstanding the fact the Corporation Yard is adjacent and up-gradient to Site B (see **Attachment 2**), the DOF reasoned that remediation of the Corporation Yard site "seems to go beyond the scope of the Agency's obligation".

Accordingly, with no funding for EKI (ROPS 17-18 line item 51) to pursue the cleanup of the Corporation Yard site, following a meeting with DTSC in June 2017, the Successor Agency terminated the voluntary cleanup agreement with DTSC (ROPS 17-18 line item 50).

### **Site A Disposition and Development Agreement**

As noted above, the Redevelopment Agency/Successor Agency has conducted over 17 years of groundwater monitoring and reporting at South Bayfront Site A. While concentrations of contaminants of concern have decreased over time, the data at some monitoring points on South Bayfront Site A located down-gradient from the Corporation Yard have seen recent increases in the levels of TCE. Indeed, the Third Five Year Review Report conducted for South Bayfront Site A, dated June 2018, determined that *“the results of the investigations conducted at FMW and on downgradient properties (including the northern end of the Bay Street Project Area) indicate that FMW is likely the source of VOCs detected in shallow and deeper groundwater in this area.”*

The ninth full paragraph in Section 12, subsection 1, of the Site A DDA<sup>22</sup> provides in relevant part as follows:

“The Agency has prepared an Environmental Risk Management Plan (hereinafter referred to as the “Long-Term Risk Management Plan”) for the entire Site and obtained approval of the Long-Term Risk Management Plan from the DTSC on July 26, 2000. Developer hereby acknowledges it had an opportunity to review and comment on the Long-Term Risk Management Plan and does hereby advise the Agency that it has no objection to the Long-Term Risk Management Plan for the entire Site. As between Agency and Developer and subject to paragraph 7 hereof, Developer shall be responsible and liable for all costs and expenses of complying with the terms and conditions of the Long-Term Risk Management Plan, provided however, that, **as between the Agency and Developer as respects groundwater and/or surface water monitoring and any remediation for the Site the Agency shall be responsible for performing and paying the costs of all monitoring, remediation and other response actions for groundwater** and/or surface water required under the Long-Term Risk Management Plan, and the Remedial Action Plan for the Sepulveda/McKinley/Harcros Site, and the Remedial Action Plan for the Myers Drum Site. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Agency shall have no responsibility whatsoever for performing or paying the costs of the design, construction, fabrication, installation, repair, reconstruction or maintenance of engineering controls, barriers, or systems necessary to prevent the migration of hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S) and/or other organic vapors into structures placed on the Site.”

Thus, to the extent contamination from the Corporation Yard impacts groundwater at South Bayfront Site A, irrespective of what remedial activities occur at the Corporation Yard, if any, the DTSC can order remedial actions to be undertaken at South Bayfront Site A to address hazardous materials in the groundwater. Under the terms of the Site A DDA, the obligation to undertake those remedial actions would arguably fall to the Successor

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<sup>22</sup> See footnote 7.

Agency.

### **Imminent & Substantial Endangerment Order**

In the June 2017 meeting with DTSC noted earlier, given the levels of contamination uncovered in soil and groundwater at the Corporation Yard, DTSC expressed deep concern about leaving the site unaddressed and that they intended to issue a cleanup order to the Successor Agency. Thus, rather than immediately challenge DOF's erroneous decision denying funding for remediation activities at the Corporation Yard, the Successor Agency opted to delay remedial activities and wait for DTSC to issue an order specific to the Corporation Yard which would clearly constitute an enforceable obligation pursuant to Section 34171(d)(1)(C). On August 13, 2020, DTSC issued its Order to remediate the Corporation Yard (Attachment 3). The Order requires the Successor Agency to undertake environmental remediation activities at the Corporation Yard, including preparation of a proposed cleanup plan, obtaining DTSC approval of the plan, and then implementing the cleanup pursuant to the approved plan.

The Order from DTSC addressed specifically to the Corporation Yard constitutes an "***obligation imposed by state law***" and hence an enforceable obligation as set forth in Section 34171(d) (1) (C). The Imminent and/or Substantial Endangerment Determination Order and Remedial Action Order relating to the Corporation Yard is reflected in ROPS 21-22 line item 122, and an expenditure of \$100,000 for the ROPS 21-22 cycle is included to reimburse DTSC for their anticipated costs of regulatory oversight.

### **Environmental Engineering Services**

In an effort to promptly restart the final stages of the FS/RAP approval process and begin implementation of remedial activities during the ROPS 21-22 cycle commencing July 1, 2021, pursuant to authority provided by Section 34177.3, at their December 15, 2020, regular meeting the Successor Agency authorized an initial contract with EKI in the amount of \$39,000 to commence implementation of the Order. This contract is anticipated to cover services for an approximate 2 ½ month period commencing mid-April 2021 through June 30, 2021, which is before the ROPS 21-22 cycle commencing July 1, 2021, and is reflected in ROPS 21-22 line item 123.

The EKI contract listed on line item 123 provides for the following services:

- Initial scoping meeting with DTSC (preparation of detailed chronology of work completed at the Site; documents prepared by EKI and DTSC; draft schedule for work to be conducted beginning in July 2021);
- General Environmental Project Management Services (project management and ongoing technical and legal support services; budget updates; monthly progress reports for the DTSC and Client per the Order will summarize tasks completed in the previous month and planned for the coming month; attendance of EKI representatives at meetings and conference calls with Client, its staff, other

- consultants, regulatory agencies, and legal counsel, when requested;
- Groundwater and Subsurface Vapor Monitoring Plan - this task includes preparation and submittal of a groundwater and subsurface vapor monitoring ("GWM & SVM") plan. It is anticipated DTSC will require the resumption of GWM & SVM after the initial scoping meeting with DTSC as part of the review and approval process of the FS/RAP;
- Multi-Phase Extraction ("MPE") Pilot Tests Work Plan – a draft Work Plan for Multi-Phase Extraction Pilot Tests was previously prepared and submitted for DTSC review in February 2017 and DTSC provided one round of review comments in March 2017 prior to termination of funding by DOF. This task includes updating and re-submitting the MPE Pilot Tests Work Plan ("PTWP") prior to the start of the ROPS 21-22 period. It is assumed that response to DTSC comments on and finalizing the PTWP will be conducted at the beginning of the ROPS 21-22 period. MPE was a component of each remedial alternative in the 2016 Draft FS/RAP; accordingly no assumption is being made regarding which remedial alternative in the FS/RAP will be implemented through these steps to set up the MPE system and commence with pilot testing activities.

At present, the Successor Agency is operating pursuant to the ROPS encompassing fiscal year July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 ("**ROPS 20-21**"), approved by the Successor Agency and Alameda County Oversight Board in January 2020, and thereafter by the DOF. However, the Order is not included as an obligation of the Successor Agency on ROPS 20-21 because the Order was issued after the approval of ROPS 20-21. Therefore, the Successor Agency could not add the Order, and a contract for professional services with EKI for environmental engineering services needed to implement the Order, as an obligation thereon on ROPS 20-21

An alternative approach involves the extension of a loan to the Successor Agency by the City in which the loan proceeds would only be extended by the City to the Successor Agency and expended by the Successor Agency once the loan agreement and ROPS 21-22, which includes a line item for repayment of the loan with RPTTF, are both approved by the Oversight Board and DOF. Under this scenario, the Successor Agency could commence remedial activities in response to the Order in approximately mid-April 2021. Accordingly, on December 15, 2020, the City of Emeryville and the Successor Agency approved a loan agreement providing for a loan of up to \$250,000 by the City to the Successor Agency for expenditures related to the remediation of the Corporation Yard. As indicated in the notes to line item 125, these loan proceeds from the City would be expended by the Successor Agency to pay for EKI services listed on line item 123. The loan agreement between the City and Successor Agency is listed as line item 125 on ROPS 21-22 and provides \$45,000 of RPTTF funding to repay the loan.

A loan between the Successor Agency and the City is authorized pursuant to H&S section 34173(h)(1) when the loan proceeds are used for payment of enforceable obligations. The Order constitutes an enforceable obligation pursuant to H&S section 34177.3(b). Because the loan agreement involves the creation of an enforceable



obligation between the City and Successor Agency, H&S section 34180(h) requires the loan agreement to be separately approved by resolution of the Oversight Board, in addition to being included as a line item on a ROPS that is also approved by resolution of the Oversight Board. Furthermore, the loan agreement is not valid unless and until it is included on an approved ROPS.

Additionally, in relation to environmental engineering services required to respond to and implement the Order commencing July 1, 2021, pursuant to authority provided by Section 34177.3, the Successor Agency will consider a professional services agreement with EKI at their January 19, 2021, regular meeting in an amount of \$2,710,000. If this agreement is approved by the Successor Agency, then for ROPS 21-22 cycle and as reflected in ROPS line item 126, it is estimated that the Successor Agency will incur approximately \$2,710,000 for environmental engineering services to be provided by EKI related to the remediation of the Corporation Yard and pursuant to the Order.

### **Legal Services**

During calendar year 2015 and 2016, potential responsible parties (“PRPs”) were notified of the existence of the contamination at the Corporation Yard and provided the opportunity to undertake the cleanup themselves. Notices were sent by the City and Successor Agency to PRPs pursuant to authority contained in the Gatto Act (AB 440) and the Polanco Redevelopment Act. None of the PRPs responded to the City and Successor Agency’s notice with a stated desire to assume the responsibility to clean up the Site. Accordingly, the Successor Agency and City Council authorized the filing of a complaint<sup>23</sup> against the PRPs to obtain an order requiring said parties to implement the site cleanup and to also recover costs of remediation, which includes all the aforementioned investigative costs and attorney fees.

ROPS line item 49 provides funding to the Successor Agency’s legal counsel (Cox Castle & Nicholson) to pursue this action to recover costs expended and/or to require the PRPs to clean up the site or provide the funds to do so. An important hearing on the question of jurisdiction over one of the PRPs, Hanson Building Materials Limited (“Hanson”), was heard on December 12, 2018; the Court denied Hanson’s motion to dismiss the complaint against them<sup>24</sup>.

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23 A copy of the Second Amended Complaint filed in the matter of *Successor Agency To The Former Emeryville Redevelopment Agency, City of Emeryville v Swagelok Company, an Ohio corporation; Whitney Research Tool Co., a dissolved California corporation; Hanson Building Materials Limited, a British Corporation; and Catherine Lennon Lozick, an individual residing in Ohio*; United States District Court, Northern District of California, Case No. 17-cv-00308-WHO, is attached as Appendix S to the January 15, 2019 staff report to the Successor Agency regarding consideration of ROPS 19-20, and can be viewed at <https://emeryville.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=6964105&GUID=630010D6-9FE3-4F1A-99DC-491DA6A855FC>.

24 The Court order denying Hanson’s motion to dismiss the complaint is attached as Appendix T to the January 15, 2019 staff report to the Successor Agency regarding consideration of ROPS 19-20, and can be viewed at <https://emeryville.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=6964105&GUID=630010D6-9FE3-4F1A-99DC-491DA6A855FC>.



In connection with the litigation, the PRPs identified by the Successor Agency have, in fact, already staked out their position that the Successor Agency is liable for the groundwater contamination at the Corporation Yard site, and accordingly have filed cross-complaints against the Successor Agency. Thus, for the ROPS 21-22 cycle and as reflected in ROPS line item 49, it is estimated that the Successor Agency will incur approximately \$2,750,000 to pursue the Successor Agency's claims against these PRPs and to defend against their counter-claims.

### **Report of Estimated Available Cash Balances – July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019**

This section of the ROPS requires available cash balances by funding source to be reported over a twelve-month period.

The report shows that as of June 30, 2019 there are no bond proceeds being held by the Successor Agency.

The report also shows that as of June 30, 2019, the Reserve Balance and Other Funds are \$223,301 and \$3,524,658, respectively. The Reserve Balance reflects RPTTF funds previously requested on prior ROPS and not fully expended, whereas Other Funds reflect revenues received by the Successor Agency (e.g., Street Site A Note Repayment; interest income).

Of the \$223,301 Reserve Balance, \$141,004 was scheduled to be expended on enforceable obligations during the ROPS 20-21 period (July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021), leaving an estimated available Reserve Balance of \$82,297 for the ROPS 21-22 period. Of the \$3,524,658 in Other Funds, \$1,277,527 was scheduled to be expended on enforceable obligations during the ROPS 20-21 period, leaving an estimated available Other Funds balance of \$2,247,131 for the ROPS 21-22 period. Note that all available Reserve Balance and Other Funds must be allocated to enforceable obligations before requesting additional RPTTF funds.

### **ROPS 21-22 Summary**

The ROPS 21-22 has a cover sheet called "ROPS 21-22 Summary" which details the amounts requested by the Successor Agency for July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. This summary states a request for DOF to approve total obligations of \$17,828,247, with \$82,297 to be funded from Reserve Balance, \$2,247,131 to be funded from Other Funds, and \$15,498,819 from new Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Fund (RPTTF) money. It should be noted that the A/C may also make adjustments during its review of the ROPS.

## RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Successor Agency consider the information contained in this report and all public testimony, and thereafter adopt the attached resolution thereby approving the Administrative Budget and Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule of the City of Emeryville as Successor Agency to the Emeryville Redevelopment Agency for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 (ROPS 21-22).

**PREPARED BY:** Brad Farmer, Finance Director  
Michael Guina, City Attorney

## APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EMERYVILLE AS SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE EMERYVILLE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY



Christine Daniel, City Manager

## ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution Approving Administrative Budget 21-22 And ROPS 21-22  
**Exhibit A** to Resolution - Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 (ROPS 21-22)  
**Exhibit B** to Resolution – Administrative Budget 21-22
2. Map of South Bayfront Site A, South Bayfront Site B and Corporation Yard
3. Imminent and/or Substantial Endangerment Determination Order and Remedial Action Order, 5679 Horton Street, Emeryville CA; DTSC, August 13, 2020