



REPORT TO SUCCESSOR AGENCY

To: Honorable Chair and Members of the Successor Agency

From: Jason Simpson, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2026

Subject: **First Amendment to Legal Services Agreement with Leibold McClendon & Mann, PC**

Recommendation

Approve and authorize the Executive Director to execute the First Amendment to Legal Services Agreement with Leibold McClendon & Mann, PC for ongoing legal services to the Successor Agency.

Background

Leibold McClendon & Mann PC (LMM) served as General Counsel to the former Redevelopment Agency of the City of Lake Elsinore from July 1, 1997, until the Agency was dissolved by law on January 31, 2012. Since dissolution, LMM has and continues to provide legal services to the Successor Agency.

Discussion

LMM routinely advises the Successor Agency in connection with its enforceable obligations, including the Summerly DDA and the Diamond Stadium, and compliance with the Dissolution Act. LMM also routinely represents the Successor Agency in matters before the Riverside Countywide Oversight Board and the California Department of Finance.

In 2024, the Department of Finance requested that the Agreement for legal services to the Successor Agency be documented in a separate standalone agreement distinct from the Legal Services Agreement to the City ("City Agreement"). The Agreement for Legal Services to the Successor Agency was approved by the Successor Agency on October 22, 2024.

First Amendment to Legal Services Agreement

On January 27, 2026, the City Council met in Closed Session to review the performance of the City Attorney and authorized and directed the City Attorney to prepare an update to the City LMM routinely advises the Successor Agency in connection with its enforceable obligations, including the Summerly DDA and the Diamond Stadium, and compliance with the Dissolution Act. LMM also routinely represents the Successor Agency in matters before the Riverside Countywide Oversight Board and the California Department of Finance.

In 2024, the Department of Finance requested that the Agreement for legal services to the Successor Agency be documented in a separate standalone agreement distinct from the Legal Services Agreement to the City ("City Agreement"). The Agreement for Legal Services to the Successor Agency was approved by the Successor Agency on October 22, 2024.

On January 27, 2026, the City Council met in Closed Session to review the performance of the City Attorney and authorized and directed the City Attorney to prepare an update to the City Agreement. The Amended and Restated City Agreement is included on the City Council Consent Calendar.

The purpose of the proposed First Amendment is to conform the Successor Agency Legal Services Agreement to the City Agreement and to continue the relationship with LMM as Agency Counsel. There is no change to the scope of services which includes all matters relating to the Recognized Obligations Payment Schedule (ROPS), implementation of enforceable obligations (including the Summerly DDA and Stadium obligations), and real property transactions.

LMM has provided excellent services to the Successor Agency and has successfully defended the Successor Agency's interests against Department of Finance challenges. LMM possesses the expertise and institutional knowledge necessary to serve the best interests of the Successor Agency.

Fiscal Impact

Funds for these services to the Successor Agency are paid with RPTTF allocated for administrative costs and enforceable obligations through the ROPS process.

Attachments

Attachment 1 – First Amendment
Attachment 2 – Legal Services Agreement