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26	Trustee for ABFC 2002-OPT1 Trust, ABFC 2005-OPT1	COMPLAINT BOD DEGLAD LEODY
27	Trust, ABFC 2006-OPT1 Trust, Asset Backed Securities Corporation Home Equity Loan	COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF
28	Trust, Series 2003-HE6, Asset Backed	

1	Securities Corporation Home Equity Loan
1	Trust, Series 2004-HE2, Asset Backed
2	Securities Corporation Home Equity Loan
3	Trust, Series AMQ 2007-HE2, Banc of America)
3	Funding 2005-B Trust, Banc of America
4	Funding 2005-G Trust, Banc of America
_	Funding 2006-E Trust, Banc of America
5	Funding 2007-E Trust, BCAP LLC TRUST (2006-AA1, BNC Mortgage Loan Trust 2007-4, )
6	Banc of America Alternative Loan Trust 2003-
_	8, Banc of America Alternative Loan Trust 2005
7	2006-5, Banc of America Alternative Loan
8	Trust 2003-10, Banc of America Alternative
	Loan Trust 2003-11, Banc of America
9	Alternative Loan Trust 2003-4, Banc of
10	America Alternative Loan Trust 2003-5, Banc
	of America Alternative Loan Trust 2003-6,
11	Banc of America Alternative Loan Trust 2003- )
12	8, Banc of America Alternative Loan Trust
	2003-9, Banc of America Alternative Loan
13	Trust 2004-1, Banc of America Alternative
14	Loan Trust 2004-11, Banc of America
17	Alternative Loan Trust 2004-6, Banc of America Alternative Loan Trust 2004-7, Banc
15	of America Alternative Loan Trust 2004-7, Bank
16	Banc of America Alternative Loan Trust 2005-
10	7, Banc of America Alternative Loan Trust
17	2006-2, Banc of America Alternative Loan
18	Trust 2006-3, Banc of America Alternative
19	Loan Trust 2006-5, Banc of America
19	Alternative Loan Trust 2006-7, Banc of
20	America Mortgage 2003-6 Trust, Banc of
20	America Mortgage 2003-D Trust, Banc of
21	America Mortgage 2003-H Trust, Banc of
	America Mortgage 2003-K Trust, Banc of
22	America Mortgage Trust 2004-11, Banc of
23	America Mortgage Trust 2004-6, Banc of America Mortgage Trust 2004-8, Banc of
	America Mortgage Trust 2004-9, Banc of  America Mortgage Trust 2004-9, Banc of
24	America Mortgage 2004-B Trust, Banc of
25	America Mortgage 2004-C Trust, Banc of
	America Mortgage 2004-D Trust, Banc of
26	America Mortgage 2004-I Trust, Banc of
27	America Mortgage 2004-K Trust, Banc of
	America Mortgage 2004-L Trust, Banc of
28	America Mortgage Trust 2005-10, Banc of

1	America Mortgage Trust 2005-11, Banc of
	America Mortgage Trust 2005-4, Banc of
2	America Mortgage Trust 2005-7, Banc of
3	America Mortgage 2005-A Trust, Banc of America Mortgage 2005-E Trust, Banc of
	America Mortgage 2005-J Trust, Banc of
4	America Mortgage 2007-1 Trust, Banc of
5	America Mortgage 2007-2 Trust, Banc of
	America Mortgage 2004-J Trust, Banc of
6	America Mortgage 2005-D Trust, Banc of
7	America Mortgage 2005-E Trust, Banc of
	America Mortgage 2007-3 Trust, Bear Stearns \
8	Asset Backed Securities, Inc. 2000-2, Bear
9	Stearns Mortgage Funding Trust 2006-AR1,
"	Bear Stearns Mortgage Funding Trust 2006-
10	AR2, Bear Stearns Mortgage Funding Trust
	2006-AR3, Bear Stearns Mortgage Funding
11	Trust 2006-AR4, Bear Stearns Mortgage
12	Funding Trust 2006-AR5, Bear Stearns )
	Mortgage Funding Trust 2007-AR1, Bear
13	Stearns Mortgage Funding Trust 2007-AR2,
14	Bear Stearns Mortgage Funding Trust 2007- AR3, Bear Stearns Mortgage Funding Trust
	2007-AR4, Bear Stearns Mortgage Funding
15	Trust 2007-AR5, Bear Stearns ARM Trust
16	2007-3, Carrington Mortgage Loan Trust,
10	Series 2006-FRE2, Carrington Mortgage Loan
17	Trust, Series 2006-NC2, Carrington Mortgage
10	Loan Trust, Series 2006-NC3, Carrington
18	Mortgage Loan Trust, Series 2006-NC3,
19	Carrington Mortgage Loan Trust, Series 2006-
	NC5, Carrington Mortgage Loan Trust, Series
20	2006-OPT1, Carrington Mortgage Loan Trust,
21	Series 2006-RFC1, First Franklin Mortgage
	Loan Trust 2004-FF11, First Franklin Mortgage
22	Loan Trust 2006-FF15, Freddie Mac Securities
23	REMIC Trust 2005-S001, GMACM Home )
	Equity Loan Trust 2003-HE2, GreenPoint MTA) Trust 2005-AR3, GreenPoint Mortgage Funding
24	1
25	Trust 2005-AR4, GreenPoint Mortgage Funding Trust 2005-AR5, GreenPoint Mortgage Funding
<b>_</b>	Trust 2006-AR1, GreenPoint Mortgage Funding)
26	Trust 2006-AR1, GreenPoint Mortgage Funding)
<sub>27</sub>	Trust 2006-AR3, HarborView Mortgage Loan
27	Trust 2006-10, HarborView Mortgage Loan
28	Trust 2006-12, HarborView Mortgage Loan
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1	Trust 2007-1, HarborView Mortgage Loan
,	Trust 2007-3, Impac CMB Trust Series 2004- 11, Impac CMB Trust Series 2004-6, Impac
2	CMB Trust Series 2005-6, Irwin Home Equity
3	Loan Trust 2007-1, Impac Secured Assets
4	Corp., Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates,
·	Series 2005-2, Lehman Mortgage Trust 2006-9,
5	Lehman Mortgage Trust 2007-4, MASTR Asset
6	Backed Securities Trust 2003-OPT2, MASTR () Asset Backed Securities Trust 2007-NCW, ()
	Merrill Lynch Mortgage Investors Trust, Series
7	2004-WMC5, Merrill Lynch Mortgage
8	Investors Trust, Series 2005-WMC2, Merrill
9	Lynch Mortgage Investors Trust Series MLCC )
9	2004-B, Merrill Lynch Mortgage Investors
10	Trust Series MLCC 2006-1, Merrill Lynch
11	Mortgage Investors Trust Mortgage Loan
11	Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-HE1, Morgan Stanley ABS Capital I Inc. Trust 2005-)
12	WMC2, Morgan Stanley ABS Capital I Inc. 1
13	Trust 2005-WMC3, Morgan Stanley ABS
	Capital I Inc. Trust 2005-WMC4, Morgan
14	Stanley ABS Capital I Inc. Trust 2006-WMC1,
15	MSCC HELOC Trust 2007-1, National City
	Mortgage Capital Trust 2008-1, Option One
16	Mortgage Loan Trust 2003-5, Option One
17	Mortgage Loan Trust 2003-6, Option One Mortgage Loan Trust 2005-3, Option One
	Mortgage Loan Trust 2005-4, Option One
18	Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-1, Option One
19	Mortgage Loan Trust 2007-1, Option One
20	Mortgage Loan Trust 2007-3, Option One
20	Mortgage Loan Trust 2007-4, Option One
21	Mortgage Loan Trust 2007-5, Option One
22	Mortgage Loan Trust 2007-6, Option One
22	Mortgage Loan Trust 2007CP1, Option One Mortgage Loan Trust 2007-FXD2, Park Place
23	Securities, Inc., Asset-Backed Pass-Through
24	Certificates, Series 2004-MCW1, Park Place
4	Securities, Inc., Asset-Backed Pass-Through
25	Certificates, Series 2004-WHQ1, Park Place
26	Securities, Inc., Asset-Backed Pass-Through
	Certificates, Series 2004-WHQ2, Park Place
27	Securities, Inc., Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-WCH1, Park Place
28	Securities, Inc., Asset-Backed Pass-Through
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<b>a</b>	Certificates, Series 2005-WCW2, Park Place	)
1	Securities, Inc., Asset-Backed Pass-Through	)
2	Certificates, Series 2005-WCW2, Park Place	) )
	Securities, Inc., Asset-Backed Pass-Through	)
3	Certificates, Series 2005-WHQ1, Park Place	)
4	Securities, Inc., Asset-Backed Pass-Through	) \
_	Certificates, Series 2005-WHQ3, Park Place	<i>)</i>
5	Securities, Inc., Asset-Backed Pass-Through	)
6	Certificates, Series 2005-WHQ4, RESI Finance	)
	Limited Partnership 2003-B, RESI Finance	) )
7	Limited Partnership 2003-C, RESI Finance	)
8	Limited Partnership 2003-CB1, RESI Finance Limited Partnership 2003-D, RESI Finance	)
°	Limited Partnership 2003-D, RESI Finance Limited Partnership 2004-B, RESI Finance	)
9	Limited Partnership 2004-C, RESI Finance	) )
10	Limited Partnership 2005-A, RESI Finance	)
10	Limited Partnership 2005-B, RESI Finance	)
11	Limited Partnership 2005-C, RESI Finance	) \
	Limited Partnership 2005-D, RESI Finance	, )
12	Limited Partnership 2006-A, RMAC Pass-	)
13	Through Trust, Series 2010-A, Securitized	)
	Asset Backed Receivables LLC Trust 2006-	) )
14	HE1, Securitized Asset Backed Receivables	)
15	LLC Trust 2006-HE2, SABR Mortgage Loan	)
13	2008-1 Grantor Trust, Structured Asset	) \
16	Investment Loan Trust 2003-BC12, Structured	<i>)</i>
17	Asset Mortgage Investments II Trust 2007-	)
17	AR4, Structured Adjustable Rate Mortgage	)
18	Loan Trust, Series 2004-10, Structured	) )
	Adjustable Rate Mortgage Loan Trust, Series	, )
19	2004-16, Structured Adjustable Rate Mortgage	)
20	Loan Trust, Series 2004-18, Structured	)
	Adjustable Rate Mortgage Loan Trust, Series	) )
21	2004-9XS, Structured Adjustable Rate Mortgage Loan Trust, Series 2005-12,	)
22	Structured Adjustable Rate Mortgage Loan	)
	Trust, Series 2005-17, Structured Adjustable	) \
23	Rate Mortgage Loan Trust, Series 2007-3,	, )
24	Structured Adjustable Rate Mortgage Loan	)
24	Trust, Series 2007-4, Structured Asset	)
25	Securities Corporation Pass-Through	) )
	Certificates, Series 2002-AL1, Structured Asset	)
26	Securities Corporation Mortgage Pass-Through	)
27	Certificates, Series 2003-15A, Structured Asset	) \
	Securities Corporation Mortgage Pass-Through	, )
28	Certificates, Series 2003-26A, Structured Asset	)

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ا د	Mortgage Loan Trust 2005-NC4, Carrington
1	Mortgage Loan Trust 2005-NC5, Encore Credit
2	Receivables Trust 2005-3, Downey Savings and
	Loan Association Mortgage Loan Trust 2004-
3	AR2, Downey Savings and Loan Association
4	Mortgage Loan Trust 2005-AR3, Soundview
- T	Home Equity Loan Trust 2005-OPT4, First
5	Franklin Mortgage Loan Trust 2005-FFH3,
	HarborView Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-14,
6	Downey Savings and Loan Association )
7	Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-AR1, Fremont
_	Home Loan Trust 2006-3, HarborView
8	Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-3, Soundview Home
9	Equity Loan Trust 2006-OPT5, Soundview
	Home Loan Trust 2007-WMC1, Downey
10	Savings and Loan Association Mortgage Loan
11	Trust 2007-AR1, HarborView Mortgage Loan
11	Trust 2007-4, HarborView Mortgage Loan
12	Trust 2007-7, GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-)
	4, GSAA Home Equity Trust 2007-6, GSR
13	Mortgage Loan Trust 2007-AR2, GSR
14	Mortgage Loan Trust 2007-OA2, STARM Mortgage Loan Trust 2007-4, HSI Asset
	Securitization Corporation Trust 2005-OPT1,
15	HSI Asset Securitization Corporation Trust
16	2006-OPT1, HSI Asset Securitization
10	Corporation Trust 2006-OPT2, HSI Asset
17	Securitization Corporation Trust 2007-NC1,
10	HSI Asset Securitization Corporation Trust
18	2007-WF1, HSI Asset Securitization
19	Corporation Trust 2007-HE1, Impac CMB
	Trust 2005-5, Impac Secured Assets Corp.
20	2006-3, Impac Secured Assets Corp. 2006-5,
21	Impac Secured Assets Corp. 2007-1, Impac
	Secured Assets Corp. 2007-2, IndyMac
22	Residential Asset Securities Trust (RAST)
23	2004-A5, IndyMac INDX Mortgage Loan Trust)
23	2005-AR1, IndyMac INDX Mortgage Loan
24	Trust 2005-AR8, IndyMac INDX Mortgage
	Loan Trust 2005-AR12, IndyMac INDX
25	Mortgage Loan Trust 2005-AR13, IndyMac
26	INDX Mortgage Loan Trust 2005-AR14,
	IndyMac INDX Mortgage Loan Trust 2005-
27	AR25, IndyMac INDX Mortgage Loan Trust
28	2006-AR2, IndyMac INDX Mortgage Loan Trust 2006, AR6, IndyMac INDX Mortgage
40	Trust 2006-AR6, IndyMac INDX Mortgage

1	Loan Trust 2006-AR14, IndyMac INDX
	Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-AR29, IndyMac
2	INDA Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-AR3, IndyMac Residential Asset Securities Trust
3	(RAST) 2007-A3, IndyMac INDX Mortgage
4	Loan Trust 2007-AR5, IndyMac INDX
•	Mortgage Loan Trust 2007-AR211P, IndyMac \
5	INDA Mortgage Loan Trust 2007-AR1,
6	IndyMac INDA Mortgage Loan Trust 2007-
	AR8, IndyMac INDX Mortgage Loan Trust
7	2007-FLX1, IndyMac INDX Mortgage Loan Trust 2007-FLX6, J.P. Morgan Mortgage
8	Acquisition Trust 2007-CH3, J.P. Morgan
	Mortgage Acquisition Trust 2007-CH5, Long
9	Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2005-WL1, Long
10	Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2005-WL2, Long
_ ,	Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-6, Long
11	Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-7, Long
12	Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-8, Long
	Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-10, Long
13	Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-WL1, Long
14	Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-WL2, Mortgage IT Trust 2005-3, Morgan Stanley
	ABS Capital I Trust 2004-NC7, Morgan
15	Stanley ABS Capital I Trust 2004-HE8, Morgan
16	Stanley ABS Capital I Trust 2006-NC3,
	Morgan Stanley ABS Capital I Trust 2006-
17	NC5, Morgan Stanley ABS Capital I Trust
18	2006-HE5, Morgan Stanley ABS Capital I Trust)
.	2006-HE7, Morgan Stanley ABS Capital I Trust
19	2006-HE8, Morgan Stanley ABS Capital I Trust 2006-WMC2, Morgan Stanley Home Equity
20	Loan Trust 2006-1, Morgan Stanley Home
21	Equity Loan Trust 2006-2, Morgan Stanley
21	ABS Capital I Trust 2007-NC4, Morgan
22	Stanley ABS Capital I Trust 2007-HE7, New
23	Century Home Equity Loan Trust 2005-4, New )
<sup>23</sup>	Century Home Equity Loan Trust 2005-B, New )
24	Century Home Equity Loan Trust 2005-D,
25	Novastar Mortgage Funding Trust 2007-1, Saxon Asset Securities Trust 2007-2, Thornburg)
د	Mortgage Securities Trust 2007-2, Thornburg)  Mortgage Securities Trust 2004-4, WaMu )
26	Mortgage Pass- Through Certificates, Series
27	2004-AR6, WaMu Mortgage Pass-Through
<i>- 1</i>	Certificates, Series 2005-AR6, WaMu
28	Mortgage Pass- Through Certificates, Series
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1	2005-AR11, WaMu Mortgage Pass-Through	)
2	Certificates, Series 2005-AR12, WaMu Mortgage Pass- Through Certificates, Series	$\dot{)}$
	2005-AR13, WaMu Mortgage Pass-Through	)
3	Certificates, Series 2005-AR15, WaMu	į
4	Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, WMALT	)
5	Series 2006-AR1, Washington Mutual Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, WMALT	)
	Series 2006-AR5, WaMu Asset-Backed	5
6	Certificates 2007-HE; and	)
7	DEUTSCHE BANK TRUST COMPANY	$\dot{)}$
8	AMERICAS, solely in its capacity as Trustee	)
9	for	į
	Residential Accredit Loans Inc. 2005-QA10, Residential Accredit Loans Inc. 2006-QO2,	<i>)</i>
10	Residential Accredit Loans Inc. 2006-QO2, Residential Accredit Loans Inc. 2006-QO3,	į
11	Residential Accredit Loans Inc. 2006-QO4,	)
12	Residential Accredit Loans Inc. 2006-QO6,	)
	Residential Accredit Loans Inc. 2006-QO10,	)
13	Residential Accredit Loans Inc. 2006-QS3, Residential Accredit Loans Inc. 2006-QS10,	)
14	Residential Accredit Loans Inc. 2006-QS17,	)
15	Residential Accredit Loans Inc. 2007-QA3,	)
	Residential Accredit Loans Inc. 2007-QO1, Residential Accredit Loans Inc. 2007-QO4,	)
16	Residential Accredit Loans Inc. 2007-Q04, Residential Accredit Loans Inc. 2007-Q05,	)
17	Residential Accredit Loans Inc. 2007-QS3,	)
18	Residential Funding Mortgage Securities I	)
	2007-S4, Saxon Asset Securities Trust 2003-3,	)
19	Saxon Asset Securities Trust 2006-3;	)
20	Plaintiffs,	)
21	v.	)
22		)
	CITY OF RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, a municipality; and MORTGAGE	)
23	RESOLUTION PARTNERS LLC;	)
24		)
25	Defendants.	)
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#### INTRODUCTION

- 1. Plaintiffs serve as trustees for hundreds of residential mortgage-backed securitization ("RMBS") trusts (the "RMBS Trusts" or the "Trusts") that hold mortgage loans that are targeted by an elaborate profit-driven scheme being implemented by Defendant City of Richmond, California ("Richmond" or the "City") and its partner Defendant Mortgage Resolution Partners LLC ("MRP"), a for-profit California investment firm. Richmond and MRP seek to impermissibly use Richmond's power of eminent domain to seize certain mortgage loans located outside of Richmond in order to generate profits for Richmond, MRP, and MRP's investors (the "Richmond Seizure Program" or the "Program"). If Defendants' unconstitutional scheme is permitted to go forward, the RMBS Trusts and their beneficiaries, the investors in certificates issued by the RMBS Trusts (also referred to as "certificateholders") – which include a vast number of public and private pension plans, college savings plans, 401(k) plans, insurance companies, mutual funds, university endowments, and government-sponsored enterprises – would suffer severe irreparable economic harm, as would hundreds of other similarly situated RMBS trusts and their beneficiaries, and potentially the entire U.S. mortgage industry. Accordingly, Plaintiffs seek declaratory and injunctive relief declaring that the Richmond Seizure Program violates the United States Constitution, the California Constitution, and other state laws, and enjoining Defendants from implementing the Program.
- 2. Defendants Richmond and MRP have entered into an agreement, pursuant to which Defendants will use Richmond's eminent domain power primarily to seize *performing* mortgage loans owned by RMBS trusts located outside of Richmond for the benefit of their certificateholders at steeply discounted prices, typically 80% of the value of the home or less, rather than the outstanding loan amount owed by the borrowers. Upon information and belief, MRP then plans to refinance those loans with new federally insured loans in amounts substantially above the amounts paid by Richmond to seize the original loan. According to MRP's published statements, this profit strategy would generate profits of up to 20% for MRP and its investors. Richmond would be paid a portion of the profits for allowing MRP to use Richmond's eminent domain powers in furtherance of MRP's strategy, and select

Richmond homeowners would receive a windfall by having their debt permanently discharged because they meet a borrowing profile that is profitable to Richmond and MRP.

- 3. The Program is a profit-driven strategy designed to enrich Richmond, a private investment firm (MRP) and its financial backers, and select Richmond homeowners, at the expense of private-label RMBS trusts located outside of Richmond and the beneficiaries of those trusts. Such a program does not involve a legitimate "public use" for which the government's eminent domain power is expressly reserved. Additionally, the entire business model that drives the profits generated by the Program is predicated on paying for the seized performing loans at artificially low prices that are substantially less than the loan's actual value. Thus, the Richmond Seizure Program would, if allowed to proceed, result in huge losses to the Trusts and their beneficiaries and violate the constitutional requirement of "just compensation" for any taking.
- 4. Moreover, implementing the Richmond Seizure Program would result in a massive transfer of wealth from the beneficial owners of the mortgage loans targeted by the Program (who are all located outside of Richmond and the vast majority of whom are located outside of California) to a few preferred private parties, and would threaten to severely disrupt the United States mortgage industry a major sector of interstate commerce. Thus, the Program also violates state and federal constitutional prohibitions against the extraterritorial reach of Richmond's regulatory authority.
- 5. Richmond and MRP seek to disguise the Program as a legitimate public use of eminent domain power by asserting that they are aiming to seize "underwater" mortgages (i.e., those where the value of the home is less than the outstanding principal amount of the mortgage), which they claim will prevent future defaults and foreclosures in Richmond, and therefore prevent their attendant consequences of home abandonment, blight, and economic depression. But that characterization is a mere facade, as the Program principally targets performing loans i.e., the loans of homeowners who have been making their monthly payments for years despite being "underwater," and who have good credit ratings, as opposed to those loans that are in default or at serious risk of default. The Program targets performing

loans *because they are not at serious risk of default* and therefore can be easily re-financed with a new Federal Housing Authority ("FHA") insured loan for an amount significantly greater than the price paid by Richmond to seize the original loan. Thus, contrary to Defendants' assertions, the vast majority of the loans at issue are not at imminent risk of default, and the homeowners in question are not at risk of having their loans foreclosed and having to move out of their homes. Indeed, it is the relative safety of these loans that allows the Defendants to generate the huge profits they seek, which is the actual purpose of the Program.

- 6. Federal agencies have expressed serious concerns about the constitutionality of the Program and its potential impacts on the U.S. mortgage industry if it is allowed to go forward. In a public statement dated August 9, 2012, the Federal Housing Finance Administration ("FHFA"), the conservator of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac (the two Government–Sponsored Enterprises ("GSEs") that are among the largest investors in RMBS trusts), stated that "FHFA has significant concerns about the use of eminent domain to revise existing financial contracts" and that "resulting losses from such a program would represent a cost ultimately borne by taxpayers" and would have "a chilling effect on the extension of credit to borrowers seeking to become homeowners and on investors that support the housing market." 77 FR 47652 (August 9, 2012). FHFA noted that "[a]mong questions raised regarding the proposed use of eminent domain are the constitutionality of such use," "the effects on holders of existing securities," "the impact on millions of negotiated and performing mortgage contracts," and "critical issues surrounding the valuation by local governments of complex contractual arrangements that are traded in national and international markets." *Id*.
- 7. Likewise, the U.S. House of Representatives, House Financial Services Committee, recently issued a draft reform bill, one of the stated purposes of which is: "To combat constitutionally-suspect 'eminent domain' schemes by local municipalities to seize mortgages out of legally binding securities for purposes of rewriting their terms, prohibit the GSEs from purchasing or guaranteeing loans originated in municipalities where such practices have been employed during the last ten years." Executive Summary of the Protecting American

Homeowners (PATH) Act, July 11, 2013, available at <a href="http://financialservices.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=342165">http://financialservices.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=342165</a>, at 2.

- 8. The concerns expressed by FHFA and by the House Financial Services Committee are well founded. The Program violates numerous provisions of the United States Constitution, the California Constitution, and California state law. Defendants' own public statements concerning the purpose of the Program and the details of how it would be used to target performing loans and then flip them to generate profits for MRP confirm that it would violate the "public use" and "just compensation," requirements of the "Takings Clause" of the U.S. and California Constitutions. U.S. Const. amend. V; Cal. Const. art. I, § 1. Moreover, because the mortgage loans that would be seized are notes held in locations outside of Richmond by non-Richmond creditors, the Program would also violate the Takings Clause and California statutory prohibitions against extraterritorial seizures. The implementation of the Program should be enjoined for those reasons.
- 9. Additionally, the Program, if fully implemented, would have a significant impact on interstate commerce, and therefore would violate the U.S. Constitution's Commerce Clause and Contract Clause in a number of ways.
- prevents local governments from discriminating against out-of-state investors or otherwise erecting barriers to interstate commerce to benefit in-state economic interests. As noted above, Richmond, MRP, and MRP's financial backers would realize huge profits from this scheme by sharing in the spread between the price at which the homeowner's current mortgage loan is seized and the revenue gained by Richmond/MRP by giving the homeowner a new smaller mortgage loan and then selling that loan to a government-backed securitized pool. The select Richmond homeowners chosen to participate in the Program because they meet a borrowing profile that would be profitable to Richmond and MRP also would profit by having their underwater loans and mortgage debts extinguished and replaced with newly refinanced loans. But these economic benefits to a relatively small group of investors and Richmond homeowners would come at the expense of RMBS Trusts located outside of Richmond, and ultimately their

certificateholders. These RMBS Trusts and their certificateholders would experience significant losses as a result of each loan seized: losses of approximately the unpaid principal balance of the seized loans or more, minus the price paid by Richmond for the seizure. Such losses could amount to many tens of millions of dollars. This transfer of wealth from the beneficiaries of RMBS Trusts, who in most cases are located entirely outside of California, to Richmond and MRP, not only violates the Commerce Clause of the U.S. Constitution; it also violates the Contract Clause of the U.S. Constitution, which prohibits a local government from abrogating debts of local residents held by creditors.

11. Second, while the actual benefits of the Program to Richmond as a whole are questionable (as the Program primarily targets performing loans at low risk of default and has the potential to harm the community by limiting available future mortgage financing), the potential negative effects of the Richmond Seizure Program on the national mortgage industry would be significant and widespread. The number of loans meeting the MRP profile in Richmond alone – approximately 1,000 to 2,000 mortgage loans – would cause many tens of millions of dollars in losses, potentially \$200 million or more if the Program is allowed to go forward. If Richmond were allowed to proceed, other local governments would follow suit, with the result that these damages across RMBS trusts would exceed billions of dollars. Upon information and belief, several other local governments – including, among others, the municipalities of North Las Vegas, Nevada; El Monte, California; La Puente, California; San Joaquin, California; Orange Cove, California; Newark, New Jersey; and Seattle, Washington – are seriously considering the Program or have already engaged MRP or otherwise taken steps toward implementing the Program. This wealth transfer from the RMBS Trusts and their beneficiaries to MRP, local governments, and select homeowners, would seriously adversely impact the national housing market.

12. Richmond would advance its local concerns at the expense of an entire sector of interstate commerce that is critical to the health of the national economy. The Program would severely disrupt the interstate market for mortgage-backed securities, which, in turn, is an essential part of the home loan industry that enables a large percentage of Americans to realize

the dream of owning their own homes. Lenders enter into mortgage loans, and those loans are conveyed to RMBS trusts in interstate commerce, with the expectation that a large percentage of homeowners will stay in their homes and continue to pay their mortgages or pay them off early at full value, even as the housing market goes through cycles. These expectations are based on careful analysis of historical payment trends. The Program being carried out in Richmond, by itself, poses a direct threat to the economic expectations and underpinnings of the RMBS market, but the threat is even more dire when coupled with the prospect that other cities around the Nation would enter into similar agreements with MRP. If even the highest performing mortgage loans are at risk of being seized at substantial discounts from face value whenever the housing market enters a downward cycle, then the market will reflect that risk by sharply reducing the price at which secondary-market buyers will be willing to purchase mortgage loans in general. If the value of loans on the secondary market plummets, then lending banks likely will reflect that change by offering new loans on more onerous terms than those currently offered. And such more demanding terms will exclude many would-be home purchasers from the market. Thus, by participating in the Program, Richmond would be using its sovereign powers in a manner that effectively compels lenders to alter the terms of credit they offer to account for greater risk. It is beyond question that Richmond could not directly adopt regulations governing the interstate market in home mortgage loans that would have so devastating an effect on the Nation's economy, and it cannot do so indirectly, under the guise of "taking" the contract rights that are at the core of this important sector of interstate commerce.

- 13. The beneficiaries of the RMBS Trusts include state and local pension plans, 401(k) plans, college savings plans, insurance companies, mutual funds, university endowments, and government sponsored enterprises. The economic harm would extend to those entities and ultimately to their individual participants, including a vast number of individual retirees nationwide.
- 14. At the very least, the Program, if permitted to go forward, would have a serious negative effect on the housing market and the local economy of Richmond. Among other things, lenders will take into account Richmond's capricious use of eminent domain

powers to seize performing mortgage loans by reducing the available residential mortgage loan credit to Richmond borrowers and increasing interest rates for residential mortgage loans. The Program provides a windfall to a select group of Richmond residents who are paying their mortgages, but harms the residential real estate market in Richmond across the board, and effectively appropriates assets from, among others, a vast number of individual retirees nationwide whose retirement vehicles are beneficiaries of RMBS trusts.

15. As is noted above, the Plaintiffs are the trustees for the RMBS Trusts (also listed on Schedules A-C hereto), which hold mortgage loans of homeowners in Richmond that are being targeted by the Program. Plaintiffs request declaratory and injunctive relief against Defendants' implementation of the Program. Moreover, because Defendants have taken substantial steps toward implementing the Program, including sending offer letters to the Plaintiffs and loan servicers for the RMBS Trusts to acquire the loans and publicly declaring their intentions to soon begin seizing mortgage loans using Richmond's eminent domain powers, Defendants should be preliminarily enjoined from implementing the Program, which would be exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to unwind after it has begun.

#### THE PARTIES

#### A. Plaintiffs

16. Plaintiff Wells Fargo Bank, National Association ("Wells Fargo"), as trustee for each of the RMBS Trusts listed on Schedule A hereto, is a national banking association organized under the laws of the United States with its main office in South Dakota and its principal place of trust administration in Maryland. Plaintiff Deutsche Bank National Trust Company ("DBNTC"), as trustee for the RMBS trusts listed on Schedule B hereto, is a national banking association organized to carry on the business of a limited purpose trust company under the laws of the United States with its main office in Los Angeles, California, and its principal place of trust administration in Santa Ana, California. Plaintiff Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas ("DBTCA"), as trustee for the RMBS Trusts listed on Schedule C hereto, is a New York Banking Corporation organized and existing under New York law with its principal place of business and its principal place of trust administration in New York.

- 17. None of Wells Fargo, DBTCA, or DBNTC is incorporated in California or otherwise organized under the laws of California. None of the Trustees is headquartered in Richmond, or has any corporate trust services office or employees in Richmond. Of the three Plaintiff trustees, only DBNTC has a principal place of corporate trust administration in California.
- 18. The Plaintiffs serve as trustees for the RMBS Trusts, which hold mortgage loans targeted by the Richmond Seizure Program due to their geographic location and loan profile. The beneficiaries or certificateholders of the RMBS Trusts include a variety of institutional investors investing in the Trusts for their own accounts and on behalf of clients, including federal, state and local pension plans, 401(k) plans, college savings plans, insurance companies, mutual funds, university endowments and other institutional or individual investors.
- 19. Although, as of the time of filing of this Complaint, Plaintiffs do not know all of the loans the Program will target, loans of the type being targeted by the Richmond Seizure Program are held in approximately 1,100 RMBS trusts, including the Trusts listed on Schedules A-C hereto.
- 20. The physical notes evidencing the targeted mortgage loans held by the Trusts all are located outside of Richmond, and in most cases, are located outside of California.
- 21. The certificateholders or beneficial owners of the Trusts are located across the country and the world.

#### B. Defendants

- 22. The Defendants including MRP, a San Francisco-based investment firm are located in California.
- 23. Defendant MRP is a limited liability company registered under the laws of Delaware, and its registered agent for service of process in Delaware is The Corporation Trust Company, Corporation Trust Center, 1209 Orange St., Wilmington, Delaware, 19801. It is headquartered in San Francisco, California.
- 24. MRP is a privately-owned, for-profit company that seeks to partner with local governments to seize certain residential mortgage loans under the power of eminent

domain and to then restructure those loans. On information and belief, MRP has no other business operations.

- 25. To date, MRP has attempted to partner with numerous municipalities in California and other states to implement its program. While several of these municipalities have taken steps towards implementing MRP's program, Richmond is believed to be furthest along.
- 26. MRP proposes to manage and facilitate the loan restructuring process, including (a) raising funds to finance the seizures of the mortgage loans; (b) identifying mortgage loans to be acquired through eminent domain; and (c) arranging for the refinancing of the seized loans. MRP and its investors would profit handsomely from this arrangement with municipalities. MRP would receive a \$4,500 fee for each loan seized and refinanced. In addition, on information and belief, MRP's investors would receive the profit spread between the seizure price and the price at which the new loan to the homeowner is refinanced and sold to a securitized pool, net of MRP's fee, the fee paid the City of Richmond, and any expenses incurred with the seizure of the loan that MRP has agreed to pay.
- 27. On or about April 2, 2013, Richmond, through its City Council and upon the recommendation of its City Manager, voted to enter into an "Advisory Services Agreement" with MRP, under which MRP would advise Richmond about avenues of mortgage relief for Richmond homeowners, including the possibility of acquiring existing mortgage loans through eminent domain. It is not clear whether this is the only written agreement between Richmond and MRP or if there are other undisclosed oral or written arrangements or understandings between them.
- 28. Defendant City of Richmond, a municipality, is located in Contra Costa County in the State of California.

#### **JURISDICTION**

29. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 (federal question jurisdiction) and 1343(a)(3) and (4) (jurisdiction over actions for violations of constitutional and federal rights secured by 42 U.S.C. § 1983), and over Plaintiffs' declaratory relief causes of action under 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201 and 2202. Plaintiffs' state law claims are so

related to their federal law claims that they form part of the same case or controversy. Accordingly, this Court has supplemental jurisdiction over Plaintiffs' state law claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a).

- 30. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant Richmond, as a municipality located in this judicial district. The Court also has personal jurisdiction over Richmond because Plaintiffs' claims arise out of actions taken by Richmond in this judicial district.
- 31. The Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant MRP, because MRP is an investment firm doing business in this judicial district, and Plaintiffs' claims arise out of MRP's transaction of business in this judicial district.

#### **VENUE**

32. Venue is proper in this judicial district based on 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b). Defendant Richmond resides in this district, Defendant MRP conducts business in this judicial district, and a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims asserted herein occurred in this district.

#### INTRADISTRICT ASSIGNMENT

33. Pursuant to Civil Local Rules 3-2(c) and 3-2(d), this action is properly assigned to either the San Francisco or Oakland Division of this Court, because a substantial part of the events giving rise to the claims asserted herein occurred in Contra Costa County (where Richmond is located) and the County of San Francisco (where MRP is headquartered).

#### FACTUAL BACKGROUND

#### I. Richmond and MRP's Profit Scheme

34. Defendants Richmond and MRP seek to enrich themselves through a profit-driven scheme under which Richmond would use its eminent domain powers, and the threat of eminent domain litigation, primarily to seize performing residential mortgage loans owned by outside-of-Richmond RMBS Trusts and their beneficiaries at steeply and unjustifiably discounted prices that do not reflect the current value of the loans, and then refinance those

loans with new federally insured loans for amounts substantially above the amounts paid by Richmond to seize the homeowners' existing loans.

35. Richmond and MRP would profit by sharing in the spread between the price paid by Richmond to seize the loans and the proceeds received by Richmond (through MRP) for selling the new refinanced loans to the homeowners to a new securitized pool. The outside-of-Richmond RMBS Trusts whose mortgage loans would be seized under this Program would lose significant value – potentially hundreds of thousands of dollars on some seized loans – causing substantial harm to the Trusts and their certificateholders. Thus, the Program amounts to a seizure and transfer of wealth from private parties outside of Richmond, on the one hand, to other private parties, on the other hand, with Richmond receiving a small cut of the profits as its fee for renting out its eminent domain powers.

#### A. The Richmond Seizure Program's Targeting of Performing Loans

- 36. The Program primarily targets, for eminent domain seizure, mortgage loans that meet a specific profile: (a) performing loans (meaning the borrower is not in default); (b) that are underwater (meaning that the loan value is worth more than the underlying home value); and (c) that are held by "private-label" securitization trusts (meaning that the trusts are sponsored by a private entity, rather than by a government-sponsored enterprise). <sup>1</sup>
- 37. The Program seeks to cherry-pick loans held by borrowers with the best credit ratings. In MRP's own words, it seeks loans that are "relatively current (not in default)," and only from "borrowers who appear likely to repay their loans." Exhibit A (MRP Homeownership Protection Program Presentation) at 9 (emphasis added). Thus, as MRP admits, the Program does not target loans for which there is a serious risk of default (much less a serious risk of foreclosure).
- 38. The reasons why MRP is targeting performing loans with low risks of default are obvious and implicit in the MRP business model. Under that model, a loan seizure

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Program has been described in several public sources, including in presentations by MRP to Richmond and others, attached hereto as Exhibits A (MRP Homeownership Protection Program Presentation), B (MRP FAQ Sheet), C (Richmond CARES Presentation), and D (North Las Vegas CARES Presentation).

cannot be profitable unless the seized loan can be refinanced. Without such refinancing, the amount paid to compensate the targeted RMBS Trust and its certificateholders for the eminent domain seizure would be unreimbursed (and the City would remain the de facto holder of the seized mortgage loan). Thus, the Program necessarily targets homeowners who can qualify for new loans with good credit ratings that could be sold to a new securitized trust guaranteed by the Federal Housing Administration ("FHA").

- 39. To put it simply, MRP cannot realize the huge profits it seeks on the backend of its strategy unless it targets performing homeowners with good credit ratings and repayment histories. Otherwise, MRP will not be able to sell the new loan to a securitized pool and obtain the revenue from that sale that provides MRP with the profit spread for this scheme.
- 40. For similar strategic reasons, the Program targets loans held only by private-label RMBS trusts, which are located outside of Richmond. On information and belief, MRP believes the RMBS Trusts are too dispersed, and their certificateholders too dispersed, to coordinate any meaningful resistance to MRP's scheme.
- 41. The Program, by contrast, avoids seizing loans held by trusts sponsored and guaranteed by Freddie Mac or Fannie Mae, in order to avoid provoking the ire of the federal government. It similarly avoids seizing loans held directly by banks.
- 42. In addition, MRP and Richmond attempt to justify the Program as correcting what they claim to be a market inefficiency that exists with respect to loans held in private-label RMBS Trusts: that the governing documents of some RMBS trusts prohibit the loan servicers for the Trusts from permanently reducing a borrower's principal balance. *See*, *e.g.*, Exhibit C (Richmond CARES Presentation), at 5.
- 43. Finally, while the Program targets "underwater" loans, to purportedly avoid foreclosures and their attendant economic costs, this justification is a false pretense for the Program's money-making scheme. The performing loans targeted by the Program are unlikely to go into default, let alone foreclosure, and the targeted homeowners are not about to abandon or be forced out of their homes.

#### B. The Seizure and Refinancing of the Targeted Loans

- 44. Under the Program, once a loan is selected, Richmond will attempt to seize the loan through eminent domain powers for approximately 80% or less of the underlying *home value*. Because these are underwater loans (i.e., those with home values below the outstanding principal balance of the mortgage), a payment of 80% of the home value is far lower than the unpaid principal balance of the loan.
- 45. Because the mortgage loans targeted by Richmond are performing and have a low risk of default, and (as is described below) generally cannot legally be sold out of the RMBS Trusts, those loans are properly valued at an amount worth substantially above the underlying current home value. A proper valuation of the loans would take into account their remaining principal and interest payments. The actual value of such loans would be the loan's unpaid principal balance, which for most of the targeted loans far exceeds 80% of the home's current value.
- 46. Additionally, it is unclear that the Program will even assess the current value of the underlying home at a fair market value for purposes of pricing its compensation for the seizure. Because Defendants are incentivized to pay as low a seizure price as possible, the Program could value the underlying home at an artificial or deflated price, leading to an even lower seizure price.
- 47. On information and belief, once Defendants secure the loan at a steeply discounted price, they then intend to replace it with a new loan to be sold into a FHA securitized pool in an amount equal to approximately 95% of the underlying home value. Richmond, MRP, and their investors and partners thus would instantly profit by sharing in the spread between the 80% seizure price and the 95% refinancing price.
- 48. In an example provided by MRP, an underwater loan on a home worth \$200,000 would be seized by eminent domain for \$160,000 (or 80% of the home's value), and then refinanced into a new FHA loan for \$190,000 (or 95% of the home's value). The \$30,000 spread between the seizure price and the refinancing price would be divided (after expenses) among Richmond, MRP, and MRP's investors.

- 49. In this example, Richmond would receive a flat fee of 5% of the refinancing value (or \$9,500), MRP would receive a flat fee of \$4,500 for each loan seizure, and MRP's investors would receive the remainder of the spread between the seizure price and the refinancing price. *See* Ex. C hereto. MRP may also be entitled to additional compensation in connection with the Program, including fees for arranging the financing for the seizure and/or in connection with the refinancing.
- 50. MRP has claimed that the loans the Program seeks to target do actually trade, and one can pull the trading histories and determine that, for example, a performing \$300,000 loan on a \$200,000 house is worth about 80% of the value of the house. But this is inaccurate. There is no trading market for performing underwater loans held by private-label RMBS trusts. Indeed, the Trusts are structured under federal tax laws as "real estate mortgage investment conduits," or "REMICs," and, as such, are prohibited from selling performing loans. Regardless, the value of such performing loans to the RMBS Trusts is clearly not the current value of the underlying home.
- 51. Additionally, the entire Program is premised on undercompensating the owners of the loans. It could not function in any other way, because the Program is profitable for its participants only because the loans are seized for heavily discounted prices and are then refinanced with a new loan purportedly worth more than the amount for which the homeowner's existing loan was seized. The new loan can be sold to a new securitized pool, creating a profit spread. So compensation for the seized loans under the Program must, *ipso facto*, be at an artificially deflated value and hardly the "just" compensation that is constitutionally required.
- 52. In fact, not only is the 80% price not a fair value for a performing underwater loan with a low risk of default owned by an RMBS Trust, it would not even be a fair price for Richmond loans not part of RMBS Trusts that are in default or foreclosure. On information and belief, *defaulted* residential mortgage loans available for sale have recently traded at far above 80% of the underlying home value.

#### C. The Program Will Have a Minimal Impact on Richmond's Foreclosure Rate

- 53. MRP and the City attempt to justify the Program as a proper use of the City's eminent domain powers by asserting that the seizure of underwater mortgage loans will prevent defaults and foreclosures in Richmond, and thus reduce the economic fallout from the mortgage crisis, which began in 2008. Additionally, Richmond and MRP have touted the Program as fixing a "traditional" type of "market failure": the inability of borrowers to obtain a reduction in the principal balance of loans held by private-label RMBS trusts.
- 54. For example, Richmond claims that the Program will reduce foreclosures in Richmond, create "more stable neighborhoods," add "more money in our local economy to stimulate community wealth," and save homeowners money on their mortgage payments and put that money in "homeowners' pockets" to spend on local businesses. Likewise, the Program would purportedly "preserv[e] home ownership, restor[e] homeowner equity and stabiliz[e] the communities' housing market and economy by allowing many homeowners to remain in their homes." Exhibit E (MRP Advisory Services Agreement) at 1. MRP claims that the homes that would be seized under the Program are "highly likely" to be foreclosed upon.
- 55. But such purported justifications for the Program are inconsistent with the Program's business model, which, as noted above, primarily targets performing loans that are not at serious risk of default, let alone foreclosure.
- 56. These are loans where the borrowers have not gone into foreclosure or otherwise walked away from their mortgages throughout a serious economic downturn that started in 2008. The likelihood that such borrowers would default and be foreclosed upon now, after weathering a years-long financial storm, with property values on the rise nationwide (including in California), is minimal. With real estate prices in California having risen significantly in the past year and expected to increase in the next 12 months, homeowners who have performed their mortgage loan contracts for years have no reason to suddenly walk away from their homes.
- 57. The actual reality in Richmond contradicts the parade of horribles of widespread defaults, foreclosures, home abandonments, blight and economic depression that

MRP and Richmond claim will occur if they are not allowed to seize performing underwater loans and refinance them for their own profit.

- 58. For example, MRP claims that 50% of the private label mortgages in Richmond will go into foreclosure, and that "[t]hese foreclosures will cost Richmond \$25 million." Exhibit C (Richmond CARES Presentation) at 2. This is a gross exaggeration that is completely inconsistent with historical trends and experts' predictions for what will occur in the future.
- MRP will go into default over the next year is exceptionally low, and any such default would almost certainly be due to a change in economic circumstances of the borrower, like the unexpected loss of a job, and not due to a decision by the homeowner to abandon their home because it is currently underwater. Any loan that were to go into default in Richmond in the next year would most likely qualify to obtain a modification or other type of work-out, and would not be foreclosed upon. Indeed, on information and belief, a significant percentage of the Richmond loans being targeted by the Program have already been modified or refinanced since 2008. Under current California law, lenders are required to attempt to negotiate a modification with homeowners before they can resort to foreclosure. In the rare case where a modification or work-out cannot be done, it currently takes a minimum of one year in California before any defaulting loan can be foreclosed upon.
- 60. Thus, the Richmond Seizure Program would have little or no effect on the foreclosure rate in Richmond, and would instead cause substantial economic harm in Richmond and beyond.

### D. MRP and The City Have Taken Substantial Steps Towards Implementing the Program

- 61. To date, several other municipalities (in California and other states) have contemplated entering into a partnership with MRP to implement its Program.
- 62. MRP first targeted municipalities in California as potential partners for its Program. The California local governments of San Bernardino County and the Cities of

Fontana and Ontario were the first to consider the Program. They formed a Joint Powers Authority ("JPA") to study the issue. After more than seven months of extensive review, the JPA Board voted unanimously on January 24, 2013 not to consider any proposals that involved the use of eminent domain.

- 63. At the time, JPA Board Chairman Greg Devereaux publicly remarked that the JPA Board's decision was informed by the fact that experts warned that the use of eminent domain would destabilize an already weak local housing market and worsen the mortgage crisis, and that few local homeowners and other stakeholders expressed support for the use of eminent domain, with many affirmatively opposing such a strategy.
- 64. Although, to Plaintiffs' knowledge, no loans have yet been seized by Richmond, Defendants have taken substantial steps toward implementing the Program and seizing the loans. In April 2013, Richmond entered into an "Advisory Services Agreement" with MRP, which apparently is the operative agreement between Richmond and MRP with respect to the Program.
- 65. On multiple occasions over the past months, the Mayor of Richmond or other Richmond officials have publicly discussed Richmond's implementation of the Program, including confirming that the City Council entered into a partnership with MRP to implement the Program and discussing MRP and Richmond's readiness to begin implementing the Program.
- other trustees and loan servicers making offers to purchase loans held in RMBS trusts, which offers are a prerequisite under California eminent domain law before a local government can seize property. The offer letters purported to attach a list of 624 mortgage loans held by various RMBS trusts (including many held by the RMBS Trusts for which Plaintiffs serve as trustees) that Defendants offered to acquire, "at the present time." Upon information and belief, approximately two-thirds of the loans on this list are performing, thus indicating that the Program seeks to target performing loans. It is unclear whether Richmond intends to seize the nonperforming loans listed on the offer letters. The letters state that the offers are nonbinding

on Richmond, and provide a deadline of August 13, 2013 for responses to the offers, after which Richmond may "decide[] to proceed with the acquisition of the loans through eminent domain." Upon information and belief, Richmond's offer letters constitute a first wave of offers, and if Defendants are successful in acquiring or seizing these loans, it is expected that they will attempt to acquire or seize many other loans that meet their targeted profile.

- 67. If the offers to sell the loans are not accepted, Richmond could quickly seize possession of the loans. Richmond must first hold a condemnation hearing, and immediately thereafter could file an eminent domain lawsuit in California state court and use a California state law procedure known as a "Quick Take" to immediately obtain a court order giving Richmond possession of the property. MRP has indicated that the "Quick Take" procedure is a critical component of its scheme. *See* Exhibit B (MRP FAQ Sheet), at 3. Once Richmond receives possession of the loans, it could then extinguish, restructure, and refinance them, causing immediate and irreparable harm to the Trusts that will be exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to unwind.
- 68. Thus, there is a high likelihood that Defendants will soon exercise the City's eminent domain powers to seize possession of the mortgage loans under the Program.

### II. Implementation of the Richmond Seizure Program Would Result in Significant Economic Harm to Plaintiffs and Will Impact Interstate Commerce

#### A. Economic Harm to the Trusts and their Beneficiaries

#### 1. Organization of the Trusts

- 69. Defendants intend to potentially target for seizure under the Program any performing loan secured by property in Richmond that is held by a "private label" RMBS trust. MRP has estimated that approximately 1,500 such mortgage loans exist in Richmond. *See* Exhibit C (Richmond CARES Presentation) at 2.
- 70. The RMBS Trusts are investment vehicles created as part of the residential mortgage loan securitization process, whereby financial and economic risks are distributed by pooling mortgage loans and issuing securities or certificates for which the mortgages serve as collateral. Certificates of the RMBS Trusts are issued to certificateholders

on whose behalf Plaintiffs hold the mortgage loans. Under the typical governing documents for the RMBS Trusts, the Plaintiffs, solely in their trustee capacity, hold legal title to the mortgage loans on behalf of and for the benefit of the Trusts' certificateholders.

- 71. The most common form of securitization of mortgage loans involves a "sponsor" an entity that acquires or originates the mortgage loans and initiates the securitization. A "private label" securitization is one that is sponsored by a private entity, rather than a GSE such as Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac.
- 72. Sponsors do not always originate the mortgage loans themselves, but frequently acquire the mortgage loans from loan originators or others that have title to the loans. For a loan to be conveyed from the point of origination to an RMBS trust involves a complex series of sales transactions that often occur across state lines.
- 73. The prices paid for the mortgage loans that are deposited into the RMBS Trusts are contingent on the quality and value of the mortgage loans. Economic and financial risk are distributed because the pool of loans in an RMBS trust typically is geographically diverse. Thus, the Trusts do not exclusively contain loans secured by California real property (or exclusively loans from any other single state), but rather each Trust contains mortgage loans secured by real property located in a variety of states and localities.
- 74. The certificates issued by the Trusts represent beneficial ownership interests in the principal and interest from the cash flow generated by the mortgage loan pool in accordance with specific payment rules. The assets of the Trusts are serviced by "loan servicers" whose responsibilities include collecting payments by borrowers and managing borrower defaults.
- 75. The certificates are purchased by investors typically referred to as "certificateholders" who seek a particular risk profile of the Trust's mortgage loans. The certificates in the Trusts typically are issued pursuant to offering memoranda, which explain the general structure of the investment and the risks involved and contain detailed descriptions of the collateral groups underlying the certificates.

76. Pursuant to the governing documents for the Trusts, the performing loans held by the Trusts generally cannot be sold. Therefore, there is no trading market for performing private-label loans like those targeted by Richmond and MRP. Investors in RMBS trusts expect those loans to perform until maturity, unless the loan is paid off by the borrower early or goes into default.

#### 2. Harm to the Trusts and their Beneficiaries

- 77. If implemented, the Richmond Seizure Program would cause significant harm to the RMBS Trusts and their certificateholders, who ultimately bear the substantial harm imposed by the Takings Program.
- 78. First, the targeting of performing loans within the Trusts' portfolios would, by itself, completely upend the purpose of the securitization process, which is based upon loan diversification and on the stable and non-saleable nature of performing loans within the pool.
- 79. Second, the number of loans targeted in Richmond alone hundreds of mortgage loans would cause tens of millions of dollars in losses to the RMBS Trusts for which Plaintiffs serve as trustees, and other RMBS trusts holding those loans (with an average estimated loss of approximately \$100,000 to \$200,000 per seized loan), potentially as high as \$66 million or more in losses to the Trusts for which the Plaintiffs are trustees, and \$200 million or more to all RMBS trusts. Indeed, upon information and belief, the first wave of 624 loans targeted by Defendants could potentially cause losses to RMBS trusts holding those loans of \$90 million or more.
- 80. Third, on information and belief, Richmond is a test case for the Program. Many municipalities have been approached by MRP, but, upon information and belief, Richmond has taken the most significant steps towards seizing loans under the Program. On information and belief, those municipalities, and many others, are watching to see whether Richmond is able to carry out its scheme. If even a few other municipalities of Richmond's size implement the Program, then losses could range in the billions of dollars. If more than a few implement the Program, losses could mount far higher. This widespread transfer of substantial

wealth from the RMBS Trusts and their certificateholders, on the one hand, to MRP, local governments, and select local homeowners, on the other hand, could destabilize the national housing market.

#### B. The Effect on Interstate Commerce and the National Housing Market

- 81. The Program would also cause significant harm to interstate commerce and the national housing market. In addition to the damages caused to RMBS Trusts and their beneficiaries by the seizure of performing residential mortgage loans at artificially low prices, the Program would have a chilling effect on the future extension of mortgage credit to homeowners. Lenders would have reduced willingness to underwrite mortgages in Richmond or other municipalities in which they perceive a risk that similar programs will be implemented. To the extent lenders chose to continue lending in such municipalities at all, they necessarily would lower the loan-to-value (of the home) ratio at which they would lend, and charge a higher interest rate on the loans they do make, to take into account the new risk that the loan would be seized by eminent domain whenever the housing market enters a cyclical downturn. Potential borrowers in those jurisdictions would therefore suffer by the tightening of credit in their communities. With diminished access to credit, many prospective homeowners would be unable to obtain loans, and housing prices would fall across the board.
- 82. Further, the Program would undermine investor confidence in the residential mortgage-backed securities market, and by extension, the national housing market and national economy. The securitization market would be upended, as investors in residential mortgage-backed securities would be unable to adequately evaluate underlying mortgage pools that collateralize their investment, and prices for affected securities would decrease. A broad range of investors hold interests in residential mortgage-backed securitizations as part of common diversification strategies. Thus, the detrimental effects of a valuation crisis as to the securities evidencing those interests would flow through the national housing market, and likewise, the national economy.

83. Likewise, industries dependent on a vibrant housing market and an active home lending environment would suffer, such as the home building, construction, and realty industries.

84. In comments published in the Federal Register, 77 FR 47652 (August 9, 2012) discussing the "Use of Eminent Domain To Restructure Performing Loans," the FHFA recognized the harm that programs like the Richmond Seizure Program would cause. Among other things, FHFA has explained that the GSEs, as well as the multiple Federal Home Loan Banks for which FHFA acts as a regulator, because they are substantial holders of RMBS, would be harmed, as well as the communities themselves that attempt to use eminent domain. According to FHFA:

FHFA has significant concerns about the use of eminent domain to revise existing financial contracts and the alteration of the value of Enterprise or Bank securities holdings. In the case of the Enterprises, resulting losses from such a program would represent a cost ultimately borne by taxpayers. At the same time, FHFA has significant concerns with programs that could undermine and have a chilling effect on the extension of credit to borrowers seeking to become homeowners and on investors that support the housing market.

FHFA has determined that action may be necessary on its part as conservator for the Enterprises and as regulator for the Banks to avoid a risk to safe and sound operations and to avoid taxpayer expense.

Among questions raised regarding the proposed use of eminent domain are the constitutionality of such use; the application of federal and state consumer protection laws; the effects on holders of existing securities; the impact on millions of negotiated and performing mortgage contracts; the role of courts in administering or overseeing such a program, including available judicial resources; fees and costs attendant to such programs; and, in particular, critical issues surrounding the valuation by local governments of complex contractual arrangements that are traded in national and international markets.

85. Likewise, the U.S. House of Representatives Financial Services

Committee, which has oversight of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, recently issued a draft reform bill, a stated purpose of which is to implement the following reform: "To combat constitutionally-suspect 'eminent domain' schemes by local municipalities to seize mortgages out of legally binding securities for purposes of rewriting their terms, prohibit the GSEs from purchasing or guaranteeing loans originated in municipalities where such practices have been

employed during the last ten years." Executive Summary of the Protecting American Homeowners (PATH) Act, July 11, 2013, at 2.

86. The concerns expressed by the FHFA and the House Financial Services Committee are well-founded. Indeed, if fully implemented, the Program could have a devastating effect on interstate commerce, including on the mortgage-backed securities market and the national housing market, and would detrimentally affect both borrowers and lenders.

#### C. The Damages to the City of Richmond and Its Homeowners

- 87. Richmond, and its citizens, would not be spared from the harm caused by Richmond's wrongful use of eminent domain powers to seize mortgage loans under the Program. Lenders would be less willing to write mortgages for Richmond citizens, and property values would plummet and homeownership rates would drop.
- 88. The relatively small number of select Richmond homeowners who could receive a windfall under the Program by having their underwater mortgages refinanced will not offset the devastation to the local housing market and economy due to the Program's chilling effect on future mortgage credit.

## III. Injunctive Relief Is Necessary to Prevent the Immediate and Irreparable Harm <u>That Will Occur if the Program Is Allowed to Go Forward</u>

- 89. Defendants should be enjoined from implementing the Richmond Seizure Program. As demonstrated herein, the Program would cause significant and widespread economic harm, and, if carried out, the transactions that the Program contemplates will be exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to unwind.
- 90. Under the Program, once new loans are issued to refinance the original loans, they would be securitized: sold by Richmond/MRP to another residential mortgage loan pool backed by the FHA. Thus, to unwind these transactions would require extinguishing the new loan, thereby harming the FHA trust that holds that loan, and its certificateholders. The homeowner whose loan has been seized and refinanced would be put in a situation where their underwater mortgage has been extinguished, refinanced for a lower rate, and then reinstated again at the old rate and their new home equity from the refinancing taken away.

1	91. Moreover, money damages would be inadequate to compensate the
2	RMBS Trusts and their certificateholders for Defendants' wrongdoings. First, widespread
3	seizure and extinguishment of the loans will, among other things, affect the credit rating of
4	certain tranches of the Trusts' certificates, which could cause systemic problems for the
5	mortgage-backed securities industry – including the RMBS Trusts and their certificateholders –
6	that cannot be compensated by money damages.
7	92. Second, it is unlikely that MRP or Richmond (which has obtained an
8	indemnification from MRP for any liabilities arising from the Program) would have the
9	financial means necessary to compensate the RMBS Trusts and their certificateholders for the
10	potentially hundreds of millions of dollars in losses caused by the Program, in which case the
11	Trusts and their beneficiaries will be left without recourse for their loss.
12	JUSTICIABLE DISPUTE
13	93. By reason of the foregoing, there now exists a justiciable dispute and
14	controversy for which immediate relief is necessary.
15	94. Accordingly, Plaintiffs seek injunctive and declaratory relief as set forth
16	herein.
17	CLAIMS FOR RELIEF
18	
19	COUNT I  (VIOLATION OF THE "DIRLIC USE" DECLIDEMENT OF THE TAKINGS
20	(VIOLATION OF THE "PUBLIC USE" REQUIREMENT OF THE TAKINGS CLAUSES OF THE U.S. AND CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTIONS AND CLAIM UNDER 42 U.S.C. § 1983)
21	(AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS)
22	(AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS)
23	95. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege the allegations contained in each preceding
24	paragraph as if fully set forth herein.
25	96. The Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution provides that "private
26	property" shall not be "taken for public use, without just compensation" (the "Takings Clause").
27	This requirement is incorporated and made applicable to the states and their political
28	subdivisions and actors by the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

- 97. 42 U.S.C. § 1983 provides that any person, acting under the color of state law, that subjects or causes to be subjected any citizen of the United States or other person within its jurisdiction to the deprivation of any rights, privileges, or immunities under the Constitution, shall be liable to the injured party in an action at law, suit in equity, or other proper proceeding for redress.
- 98. California Constitution article I, § 19 provides that private property may be taken only for a "public use."
- 99. The Richmond Seizure Program is carried out by Defendants under the color of state law.
- of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments and of the California Constitution. The Program is not implemented for a public purpose, but rather for the purpose of seizing property from one set of private entities (the Trusts and their beneficiaries) to enrich MRP, a private investment firm, and its investors. The stated justifications for the Program to reduce foreclosures and their attendant economic effects are mere pretexts for this profit-driven scheme. Indeed, the fact that the Program principally targets performing loans shows that it is not designed to reduce foreclosures or their economic consequences, but rather to confer private benefits on a select set of individuals.
- 101. In addition, the Program would not benefit Richmond's citizens as a whole, but would instead lead to windfalls for the select group of homeowners that meet a loan profile profitable to Defendants and their investors, to the detriment of all others. The Program expressly excludes many borrowers and principally targets performing mortgage loans that are not in default or foreclosure. If the Program is fully implemented and performing loans are seized for well-below their unpaid principal balance, and thus at significant losses to the Trusts holding those loans and their beneficiaries, future lenders will be unwilling to extend credit in Richmond at the current level, creating, at a minimum, a chilling effect on the local home lending environment. This will have severe consequences for current and prospective Richmond homeowners.

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as an attempt to threaten or restrain any of Defendants' constitutional rights of freedom of speech or rights to petition government for the redress of grievances. Any allegations in this Complaint that discuss statements made or actions taken by Defendants or any of their representatives are included in this Complaint solely for the purposes of pleading a basis for Plaintiffs' claims for relief (all of which are independent of Defendants' rights to free speech or to petition government), including, among other things, by showing how the Richmond Seizure Program works and identifying Defendants' purported and actual justifications for the Program and intent to improperly use eminent domain powers. In short, the Complaint targets Defendants' unconstitutional and unlawful use of eminent domain, not Defendants' statements about it.

103. Accordingly, Plaintiffs respectfully request that the Court issue a judgment for declaratory and injunctive relief against Defendants, declaring that the implementation of the Richmond Seizure Program would violate the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the U.S. Constitution and article I, § 19 of the California Constitution, and permanently enjoining Defendants from implementing any aspect of the Program.

#### **COUNT II**

(VIOLATION OF THE PROHIBITIONS AGAINST EXTRATERRITORIAL SEIZURES UNDER THE TAKINGS CLAUSES OF THE U.S. AND CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTIONS AND THE CALIFORNIA CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE, AND CLAIM UNDER 42 U.S.C. § 1983)

#### (AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS)

- 104. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege the allegations contained in each preceding paragraph as if fully set forth herein.
- 105. The Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution prohibits a local government from extraterritorially seizing property pursuant to eminent domain powers. This requirement is incorporated and made applicable to the states and their political subdivisions and actors by the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

- 106. 42 U.S.C. § 1983 provides that any person, acting under the color of state law, that subjects or causes to be subjected any citizen of the United States or other person within its jurisdiction to the deprivation of any rights, privileges, or immunities under the Constitution, shall be liable to the injured party in an action at law, suit in equity, or other proper proceeding for redress.
- 107. Article I, § 1 of the California Constitution prohibits local governments from extraterritorially seizing property pursuant to eminent domain powers.
- 108. Under Cal. Civ. Pro. Code § 1240.050, a local public entity may acquire by eminent domain only property located within its territorial limits. Under Cal. Civ. Pro. Code § 1250.020, an eminent domain proceeding shall be commenced in the county in which the property sought to be taken is located.
- 109. The Richmond Seizure Program is carried out by Defendants under the color of state law.
- 210. Defendants' implementation of the Program violates prohibitions against extraterritorial property seizures under the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the U.S. Constitution and Article I, § 1 of the California Constitution, and violates Cal. Civ. Pro. Code § 1240.050 and § 1250.020. The mortgage loans that Defendants target under the Program are not located within the territorial borders of Richmond, California, but are held in Trusts located outside of Richmond. Because the situs of a debt for eminent domain purposes is deemed to be the location of the creditor, Defendants have no power to seize these outside-of-Richmond debts.
- 111. In addition, the notes evidencing the mortgage loans are physically held by custodians in locations outside of Richmond. Thus, Defendants have no power to effect extraterritorial seizures of those tangible instruments. Indeed, the many of the RMBS Trusts holding Richmond loans and the notes evidencing those loans are not even located inside the State of California.
- 112. Accordingly, Plaintiffs respectfully request that the Court issue a judgment for declaratory and injunctive relief against Defendants, declaring that the

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implementation of the Richmond Seizure Program would violate the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the U.S. Constitution, article I, § 1 of the California Constitution, and Cal. Civ. Pro. Code § 1240.050 and § 1250.020, and permanently enjoining Defendants from implementing any aspect of the Program.

#### **COUNT III**

## (VIOLATION OF THE COMMERCE CLAUSE OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION AND CLAIM UNDER 42 U.S.C. § 1983)

#### (AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS)

- 113. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege the allegations contained in each preceding paragraph as if fully set forth herein.
- gives Congress the power to regulate commerce among the several states. Under the doctrine of the "dormant Commerce Clause," states and their political subdivisions are prohibited from taking action designed to benefit in-state economic interests by burdening out-of-state interests. That doctrine prohibits direct regulation of interstate commerce by the states and their political subdivisions, and permits incidental regulation only where the burden imposed on such commerce is not excessive in comparison with the putative local benefits.
- 115. 42 U.S.C. § 1983 provides that any person, acting under the color of state law, that subjects or causes to be subjected any citizen of the United States or other person within its jurisdiction to the deprivation of any rights, privileges, or immunities under the Constitution, shall be liable to the injured party in an action at law, suit in equity, or other proper proceeding for redress.
- 116. The Richmond Seizure Program is carried out by Defendants under the color of state law.
- 117. Defendants violate the Commerce Clause of the U.S. Constitution by implementing the Program, which is designed to benefit certain local economic interests i.e., those of a relatively small number of Richmond homeowners selected to participate in the Program, and of the San Francisco-based investment firm MRP that would profit under the

Program – at the expense of out-of-Richmond and out-of-state interests, including the Trusts that hold the mortgage loans targeted for seizure and the beneficiaries of those Trusts.

Richmond. The Program expressly targets for seizure private-label mortgage loans held by out-of-Richmond and out-of-state Trusts and their beneficiaries, precisely because of Richmond's belief that there is a "market failure" in this sector of the interstate economy. The Trusts are investment vehicles designed to distribute economic and financial risk by holding a diversified collateral base of mortgage loans, including loans that are diverse based on, among other factors, their geographic and risk profiles. Thus, the Trusts do not hold only loans secured by real property located in Richmond or California, but by real property located in a variety of states and localities.

a private sponsor, who securitized them in a private-label RMBS Trust, in which the loans are serviced, and mortgage payments flow through the Trusts to be ultimately distributed to the Trusts' certificateholders. Therefore, the Program would directly regulate an investment structure that by its very nature depends on a pool of collateral located in different states, and on the interstate flows of proceeds from homeowners, to loan servicers, to the Trusts, and then ultimately to the Trusts' certificateholders.

- 120. Furthermore, the residential mortgage-backed securities market is a national industry that crosses state lines, with investors and other market participants located throughout the country. The Program would significantly and directly regulate this market by seizing its underlying assets, and not for a fair market value, but for steeply discounted valuations unilaterally determined by the local government.
- 121. Moreover, the burden imposed on interstate commerce by the Program would be excessive, and would greatly outweigh any purported benefits to the Richmond community. Among other things, the Program could cause hundreds of millions of dollars in losses to the Trusts that hold the targeted mortgage loans and the beneficiaries of those Trusts. It would also upend the heavily negotiated investment structures used across the national

residential mortgage backed securitization industry, diminish investor confidence in such structures, and have a chilling effect on mortgage credit (in Richmond and elsewhere). In addition, the purported benefits to Richmond – of reducing foreclosures and their local consequences – are minimal or non-existent. The Program principally does not aim to seize loans in default or at serious risk of default or foreclosure, but performing loans at low risk of default, which would not even address the harms that it purports to prevent. The benefits to the relatively small number of Richmond homeowners receiving a windfall under the Program would not outweigh the harm that the Program would cause to the Trusts, their beneficiaries, and others, on both a local and national scale.

122. Accordingly, Plaintiffs respectfully request that the Court issue a judgment for declaratory and injunctive relief against Defendants, declaring that the implementation of the Richmond Seizure Program would violate the Commerce Clause of the U.S. Constitution, and permanently enjoining Defendants from implementing any aspect of the Program.

### **COUNT IV**

## (VIOLATION OF THE CONTRACTS CLAUSE OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION AND CLAIM UNDER 42 U.S.C. § 1983)

#### (AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS)

- 123. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege the allegations contained in each preceding paragraph as if fully set forth herein.
- 124. Article I, § 10 of the U.S. Constitution the "Contracts Clause" prohibits states from "impairing the Obligation of Contracts." The Contracts Clause prevents states and their political subdivisions from passing any law that would abrogate debts of their citizens, where that law would impair commercial intercourse and threaten the existence of credit.
- 125. 42 U.S.C. § 1983 provides that any person, acting under the color of state law, that subjects or causes to be subjected any citizen of the United States or other person within its jurisdiction to the deprivation of any rights, privileges, or immunities under the

Constitution, shall be liable to the injured party in an action at law, suit in equity, or other proper proceeding for redress.

126. Defendants violate the Contracts Clause by implementing a scheme that would severely impair the Trusts' contractual rights to receive full payments of unpaid principal from borrowers. In exchange, the Program provides cash payments worth significantly less than the rights abrogated by Defendants. The purpose of this significant impairment of contractual rights is improper and without a legitimate public purpose or necessity: to abrogate debts held by a small, select group of that jurisdiction's citizen while enriching a private investment firm and its backers.

127. In addition, the Program impairs commercial intercourse and threatens the existence of credit for current and prospective homeowners, in Richmond and elsewhere in California and throughout the country. In Richmond, the Program would have a chilling effect on home lending, as lenders would be unable to quantify the risk of seizures into pricing for future mortgage loans and would consequently reduce the availability of credit and negatively impact the credit terms on the loans actually made going forward. That underwriting problem would spread to any other jurisdictions that lenders believe are at risk of adopting MRP's scheme, causing property values and homeownership rates to decrease.

128. Accordingly, Plaintiffs respectfully request that the Court issue a judgment for declaratory and injunctive relief against Defendants, declaring that the implementation of the Richmond Seizure Program would violate the Contracts Clause of the U.S. Constitution, and permanently enjoining Defendants from implementing any aspect of the Program.

#### **COUNT V**

## (VIOLATION OF THE "JUST COMPENSATION" REQUIREMENTS OF THE TAKINGS CLAUSE OF THE U.S. AND CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTIONS AND CLAIM UNDER 42 U.S.C. § 1983)

#### (AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS)

- 129. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege the allegations contained in each preceding paragraph as if fully set forth herein.
- 130. The Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution provides that "private property" shall not be "taken for public use, without just compensation." This requirement is incorporated and made applicable to the states and their political subdivisions and actors by the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.
- 131. In addition, under the U.S. and California Constitutions, where only a portion of property is condemned (referred to as a "partial" taking), the measure of just compensation includes both the value of the thing condemned and the loss in value to the remaining, non-condemned portion of the property.
- 132. 42 U.S.C. § 1983 provides that any person, acting under the color of state law, that subjects or causes to be subjected any citizen of the United States or other person within its jurisdiction to the deprivation of any rights, privileges, or immunities under the Constitution, shall be liable to the injured party in an action at law, suit in equity, or other proper proceeding for redress.
- Article I, § 1 of the California Constitution. California Code of Civil Procedure § 1263.320 provides that the test for assessing "fair market value" for purposes of the "just compensation" requirement is the highest price that a hypothetical buyer and seller would agree to in the marketplace, assuming both were willing and able to complete the transaction but had no particular or urgent necessity to do so.
- 134. The Richmond Seizure Program is carried out by Defendants under the color of state law.

Clause of the U.S. Constitution and California Constitution, and also violate California statutory law. The Program is a for-profit scheme that proposes seizing performing mortgage loans at fractions of their unpaid principal balance, prices that are below the fair market value for even loans that are in default. Thus, the Program would unjustly compensate the Trusts for the loan seizures by seizing loans at prices far less than their actual or fair market values. This unconstitutional feature of the Program is not merely a question of the valuation of a single property, but instead is the central premise of the Program itself. Indeed, the Program is only financially feasible, and profitable to Defendants and the Program's other participants, if loans are seized at deeply discounted values and then refinanced at higher prices (with Defendants profiting from the price spread).

136. In addition, the Program violates the just compensation requirements of the Takings Clause of the U.S. Constitution and California Constitution, and also violates California statutory law, by constituting a "partial" taking of the Trusts' remaining assets for which no compensation is provided. The loans targeted by the Program are held by the Trusts as part of a pool consisting of numerous loans. The Program cherry-picks and seizes the most profitable loans from that pool – i.e., performing loans – leaving the Trusts with a pool containing a higher concentration of non-performing loans, thereby diminishing the value of the Trusts' remaining, non-condemned assets.

judgment for declaratory and injunctive relief against Defendants, declaring that the implementation of the Richmond Seizure Program would violate the Takings Clause of the U.S. Constitution and California Constitution, and permanently enjoining Defendants from implementing any aspect of the Program.

#### **COUNT VI**

## (VIOLATION OF THE EQUAL PROTECTION CLAUSE OF THE U.S. AND CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTIONS AND CLAIM UNDER 42 U.S.C. § 1983)

#### (AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS)

- 138. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege the allegations contained in each preceding paragraph as if fully set forth herein.
- 139. The Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution provides that no state shall deny to any person within its jurisdiction equal protection of its laws (the "Equal Protection Clause"). The Equal Protection Clause prohibits states or their subdivisions from discriminating against similarly situated individuals, where the discrimination is not rationally related to a legitimate purpose.
- 140. 42 U.S.C. § 1983 provides that any person, acting under the color of state law, that subjects or causes to be subjected any citizen of the United States or other person within its jurisdiction to the deprivation of any rights, privileges, or immunities under the Constitution, shall be liable to the injured party in an action at law, suit in equity, or other proper proceeding for redress.
- 141. Article I, § 7 of the California Constitution provides that a person may not be denied equal protection of the laws.
- 142. The Richmond Seizure Program is carried out by Defendants under the color of state law.
- 143. Defendants violate the Equal Protection Clause of the U.S. and California Constitutions because the Program discriminates against certain holders of mortgage loans (including the Trusts), as well as certain classes of Richmond homeowners, and such discrimination is not rationally related to any legitimate purpose.
- 144. The Program is discriminatory because, among other reasons, it (a) solely targets loans held by private-label RMBS trusts, and does not target loans held by other holders, including GSE trusts or banks, (b) primarily targets performing loans, and primarily excludes defaulted loans, including loans in foreclosure, and (c) targets first-lien mortgages and not

second-lien mortgages. Defendants' purported justifications for the Program, of reducing foreclosures and their attendant economic consequences (even if a legitimate purpose for the abuse of eminent domain powers, which they are not), are in no way furthered by targeting performing first-lien loans held in private-label RMBS trusts, to the exclusion of other loans, such as defaulting loans or loans held by GSE trusts or banks.

- 145. Additionally, under the Program, some few select Richmond homeowners would benefit from the Program, whereas many more would be harmed by it. Some Richmond homeowners would receive an unjustified windfall by having their loans refinanced because they meet a borrowing profile profitable to Defendants, whereas no benefit would be bestowed upon the other homeowners who are not eligible for refinancing. Indeed, the homeowners not selected for the Program will suffer harm by, among other reasons, being subjected to the chilling effect on credit in the Richmond community caused by Richmond's implementation of an eminent domain program that arbitrarily seizes mortgage loans. There is no rational basis for providing a windfall to select homeowners at the expense of other homeowners.
- 146. The lack of a rational basis for Richmond's discrimination among homeowners between those who will reap the windfall benefits of the Program and those who will not is underscored by the fact that Richmond does not itself identify which loans will be condemned. Rather, Richmond delegates this responsibility to MRP – a private, for-profit investment firm – to identify which loans will best further its own purpose of enriching itself at the expense of the Trusts and their beneficiaries.
- 147. Accordingly, Plaintiffs respectfully request that the Court issue a judgment for declaratory and injunctive relief against Defendants, declaring that the implementation of the Richmond Seizure Program would violate the Equal Protection Clause of the U.S. Constitution and California Constitution, and permanently enjoining Defendants from implementing any aspect of the Program.

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#### **COUNT VII**

## (PRELIMINARY AND PERMANENT INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND DECLARATORY RELIEF)

#### (AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS)

- 148. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege the allegations contained in each preceding paragraph as if fully set forth herein.
- 149. Defendants have taken substantial steps toward seizing loans under the Richmond Seizure Program, and Plaintiffs have every reason to expect that such seizures are imminent. If those seizures occur, the Trusts will be irreparably harmed. As part of the Program, Defendants would restructure the seized mortgages and refinance them with new loans. The new loans would then be sold into new mortgage-backed securities pools. Securities would be issued based on these pools to investors, and the securities would trade. Those transactions will be exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to unwind after the fact, and to do so could cause harm to a variety of parties, including the Trusts currently holding Richmond loans that are seized and the investors in those Trusts, the issuer of the new mortgage loan, the trust holding the new loan and the investors in that trust, and the homeowners whose loans are restructured and refinanced.
- likelihood of success on the merits of their claims, and the balance of equities tips decidedly in favor of granting temporary relief to Plaintiffs. There will be no serious harm to Defendants caused by a delay in implementing the Program if it is preliminarily enjoined, as the Program targets loans of homeowners who are not in imminent danger of losing their homes if the Program is subject to a preliminary injunction. On the other hand, if implemented, the Program would have a chilling effect on the extension of credit to Richmond borrowers, along with consequential negative effects on Richmond's housing market and economy. Such effects could spread through California and the country, especially if other municipalities take steps toward implementing similar programs. Additionally, the Program would cause tens of millions of losses to the Trusts, and, if it spreads beyond Richmond, could have a destabilizing effect on the

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mortgage-backed securities market, and the national housing market more broadly. There is a significant public interest in enjoining the Program both permanently and preliminarily, while the serious issues of constitutionality and legality raised by this Complaint are decided.

- 151. In addition, with respect to all of the claims for relief asserted in this Complaint, and for all of the reasons asserted herein, there is an actual controversy between Plaintiffs and Defendants sufficient for a declaratory judgment pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201 and 2202.
- 152. Accordingly, Plaintiffs are entitled to preliminary and permanent injunctive relief and declaratory relief restraining Defendants from implementing the Richmond Seizure Program and declaring the Program unlawful.

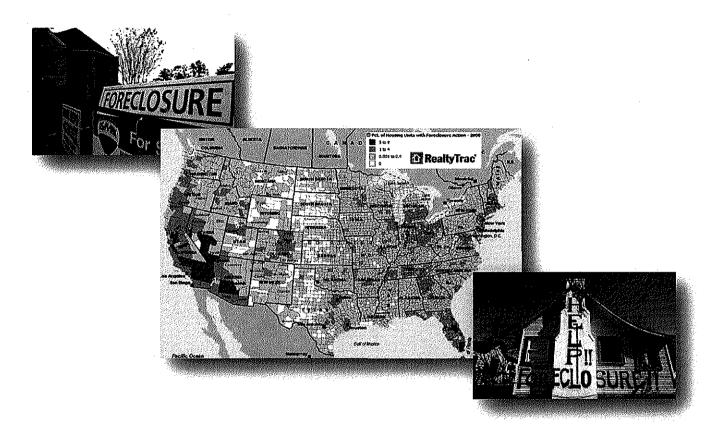
Program on that basis;

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1	I.	Declare that Defendants' Implementation of the Richmond Seizure			
2	Program constitutes a	a violation of 42 U.S.C. § 1983, and enjoin Defendants from implementing			
3	the Program on that basis;				
4	J.	Issue preliminary and permanent injunctions restraining Defendants, their			
5	officers, employees, a	agents, successors, and assigns from implementing the Richmond Seizure			
6	Program;				
7	K.	Award to Plaintiffs the costs and expenses of suit and counsel fees			
8	pursuant to 42 U.S.C.	§ 1988;			
9	L.	Award to Plaintiffs such other and further relief as this Court may deem			
10	just and proper.				
11	=				
12		Respectfully submitted,			
13	,	$\mathcal{D}$			
14	August 7, 2013	By Fracs			
15		ROPES & GRAY LLP			
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## **EXHIBIT A**



## **Homeownership Protection Program**

**A Solution to a Critical Problem** 

Mortgage Resolution PARTNERS

## **Homeownership Protection Program**

This presentation has been prepared for discussion purposes only and does not constitute a legally binding commitment or obligation of any of the referenced entities herein to enter into the transactions described. The terms and conditions outlined herein are not a comprehensive statement of the applicable terms and conditions that would be contained in the definitive documentation for the transactions contemplated herein. This presentation should not be deemed a comprehensive disclosure of risks or other implications of the transactions discussed herein.

A program term sheet and FAQ is intended to be part of this presentation and contains additional information.

## The Real State of U.S. Housing Today

## Home prices continue to deteriorate, jeopardizing mortgage loans and homeowners

- In June of 2006, U.S. residential housing prices hit their peak. Now, nearly six years later, the market is once again at a record post-2006 low (down 33.8% from peak as of year-end 2011).
- Over 22% of the 52.5 million U.S. homes that are mortgaged had "underwater" mortgage loans at the beginning of 2012.
- Such mortgages are generally concentrated in states that experienced acute housing price increases during the bubble -- Arizona, California, Florida and Nevada, to name but a few.
- After short-lived and shallow periods of home price appreciation in mid 2010 and again in 2011, recent pricing trends have turned decidedly negative (the S&P Case Shiller 20 City Index is down 7.5% nationwide from its previous post-crash high in May of 2010).
- The National Association of Realtors, in its December 2011 survey, found that foreclosure sales averaged a discount of 22% compared with non-distressed home sales (up from 20% a year earlier). Short sales, with the cooperation of the lender, averaged 13% below market value. RealtyTrac found even larger differences in 2011.
- Despite hopes to the contrary, the situation is not materially improving.

# The Homeownership Protection Program Will Help End this National Nightmare

# Empowering communities to do what Washington and the private sector have been unable to

- The Program employs the ultimate right of local communities and governments through the constitutionally guaranteed power of eminent domain to retake control over the welfare of their neighborhoods and their fiscal solvency.
- Organized by Mortgage Resolution Partners in public/private ventures with cities and counties
  that have been most affected by the mortgage and housing crisis the Program will force
  lenders to surrender their mortgage loans to governments for full and fair value as determined
  by local courts in condemnation proceedings.
- As the current fair market value of such mortgage loans is considerably less than the face
  amount thereof, governments will be able to restructure the mortgage loans acquired though
  eminent domain and refinance severely underwater homeowners (with the ability and
  creditworthiness to make payments on their restructured loans) into new loans to be sold to
  large, private sector investors as FHA GinnieMae securities.
- No taxpayer funds will be used in connection with the Program and the Program requires no state or federal legislation, or administrative action.

# Communities are the Principal Drivers of the Homeownership Protection Program

## Municipalities have enormous incentives to adopt and execute the Program

- Defaulted mortgages are typically associated with the cessation of real estate tax payments and other ratable and usage charges payable to localities. This stresses local budgets and financing.
- Throughout the mortgage crisis, underwater loans have demonstrated high default levels regardless of other borrower circumstances. This tendency poses a threat to areas continuing to see price depreciation.
- Large volumes of defaulted mortgages result in neighborhood blight, abandonment, unkempt property and transience. These factors exacerbate the already compromised housing economics in affected areas and accelerate price depreciation.
- Municipal, county and state governments, and agencies, have a public interest in halting defaults and consequent neighborhood deterioration.
- The Program provides a practical and efficient solution to this intractable dilemma.

## A Grass Roots Crisis That Demands a Solution

## The impact on cities must be resolved locally as broader national policies have proven inadequate

- Post-crash, cities and towns have suffered greatly, often in seldom understood ways:
- For example, when a foreclosed home is sold by a lender in foreclosure, the home's respective tax assessment is permanently reset in many communities.
  - Consider, for example, a home that was purchased for \$400,000 with a \$360,000 mortgage and has a current tax assessment of the purchase price.

If that home sells in foreclosure for \$200,000, its tax assessment is reset, and can only increase by a small amount each year in many communities. The rate of increase may be tied to inflation, which erodes tax revenues until the home is again sold.

 Conversely, consider what would happen if the same homeowner refinanced the mortgage and (quite reasonably) contested its real estate tax assessment.

The home's assessment may be reduced to \$200,000, but the assessment could float freely back up to \$400,000 as markets recover. Of course, once the assessment reaches \$400,000, the rate of increase will be limited on an annual basis in many communities.

## A Half-Decade of Partial Mortgage Resolution Solutions have Come up Short

## Why does the mortgage crisis still burden the U.S., given the plethora of other programs to end it?

- Private- and government-sponsored modification programs generally have not worked because
  they do not emphasize significant principal reduction. Overall, fewer than 50% of the 2.26
  million mortgages modified from 2008 2011 were current at year-end 2011. The majority of
  modifications have merely capitalized missed payments or reduced monthly payments by less
  than 10%.
- While encouraging lenders and servicers to pursue loan modifications in lieu of foreclosure, government programs (together with aftermath of the late 2010 "document-gate" foreclosure scandal) have curtailed the pace of foreclosures and liquidations. As a result, Q3 2011 saw a backlog of 394,000 repossessed homes awaiting liquidation, plus an additional 2.86 million homes securing mortgages that were 12 months or more delinquent, for a total "shadow inventory" of homes well down the foreclosure pipeline of 3.25 million. This excludes another approximately 1.4 million loans that are between 60 days and 11 months delinquent.
- As of January 2012, based on current default rates for various categories of loans, Amherst
  Securities estimated that between 7.4 million and 9.4 million additional home mortgage loans are in
  danger of defaulting over the next six years, <u>assuming no further price declines or changes to
  interest rates</u>.

# A Half-Decade of Partial Mortgage Resolution Solutions have Come up Short (cont'd)

## Systemic problems in the housing and mortgage industries have diluted other solutions' effectiveness

- At its post-bubble peak, the excess inventory of vacant housing rose to nearly 2.1 million units.
   That number has declined somewhat particularly in the case of rental housing. Legacy excess unutilized vacant housing remains at over one million units.
- \$873 billion of 2nd lien/HELOC (Home Equity Lines of Credit) mortgage loans exist behind a
  large portion of the most heavily underwater first mortgage loans. This has made resolution of
  underwater first mortgages by methods other than foreclosure and liquidation nearly
  impossible; second mortgage lenders (most of which are large banks) are not willing to offer
  proportionate relief, despite their subordinate lien status.
- Ironically, many borrowers continue to pay their second-lien lenders even as they are in default on their first mortgage, in order to maintain revolving lines of credit.
- The \$1.1 trillion of remaining "private-label" residential mortgage backed securities pose extraordinary additional problems by virtue of contractual documentation that never envisioned a housing price meltdown. Servicers are paralyzed by restrictive servicing contracts generally forbidding loan sales and limiting loan modifications. With shrinking margins and continued risks of litigation, servicers act only when forced to.

# The Homeownership Protection Program: A Practical Solution that Works

## Why will the Program succeed where other solutions have failed?

- The Program operates at at the local level to acquire underwater mortgages through eminent
  domain, which is a public not a private right.
- Mortgage Resolution Partners (MRP) acts as manager and forms partnerships with local governments to facilitate the eminent domain and mortgage restructuring process.
  - MRP coordinates with local officials to identify subject mortgages and refine program structure.
  - MRP and third-parties preliminarily screens for loans qualifying for modification and refinancing.
  - MRP earns a fair, flat and transparent per-loan fee for its services.
- Not all borrowers will qualify for Program. Only borrowers who appear likely to repay their loans will be accepted. The Program will initially acquire loans that are (i) significantly underwater and (ii) relatively current (not in default)—emphasizing loans held by private-label securitization trusts.
- Loans and liens will be acquired through eminent domain at *fair value*, which is expected to be <u>less</u> than the market value of the home.
- The Program will partner with institutional investors that fund the condemnation action in order to obtain access to attractively priced, GinnieMae-backed mortgage securities that will result from the restructuring and refinancing of the mortgages acquired under the Program. Investors will approve acquired mortgage pools and will earn all payments received on the acquired mortgages prior the re-securitization thereof.

## The Program Begins Where it is Most Urgently Needed – The State of California

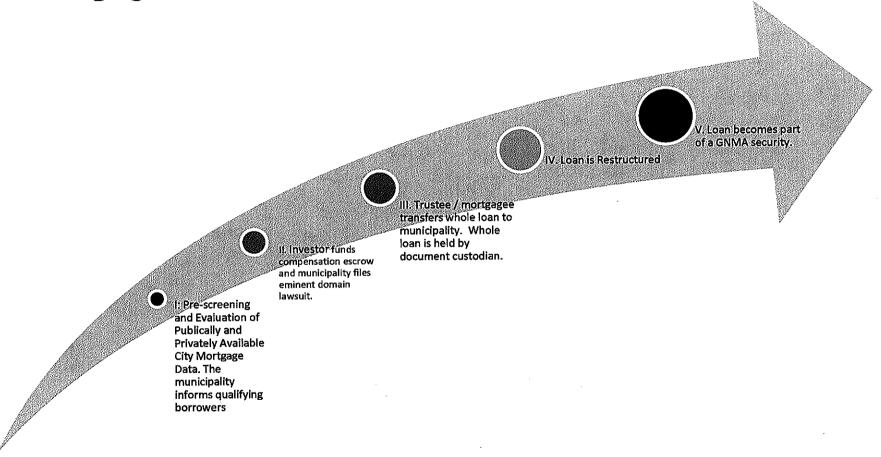
A \$5 billion, initial series to kickoff an up-to-\$500 billion, 3,000,000-home, multi-state effort.

- California has one of the highest percentages and the highest dollar amount of at-risk loans.
   It is a natural and efficient first state for the program.
- California <u>legal precedent</u> and <u>political posture</u> favor the Program and constitute an ideal proving ground.
- Counties and cities should have the authority under California and Federal law to acquire by eminent domain residential mortgage loans secured by real property when the debtor and the secured property are within its jurisdiction.
- A consortium of the county and city governments in San Bernardino County, California (the largest county in the United States, outside of Alaska) is promulgating a "Joint Powers Authority" to undertake the first series of the Program together with MRP.
- The Program has obtained supporting legal opinions of national counsel specializing in constitutional law and financial regulation. At the California and local level, the Program relies on firms with expertise and experience in local eminent domain law and litigation. San Bernardino County has conducted its own legal review before proceeding with the Program.

In addition, Robert Hockett, Cornell University Law School Professor of Financial and Economic Law has authored a <u>memorandum of law and white paper</u> on the issue of public taking of mortgage loans and liens for the purposes of the Program.

## The Program's "Five Stages of Relief"

The Program's five stages for resolving underwater mortgages at the local level



# A Step-by-Step Analysis of the Program's Operational Methodology

### **Transaction Activity**

Manager-City Select Underwater Mortgagors



Pre-screening and Evaluation of Publically and Privately Available City Mortgage Data



Manager/Investor Selects List of Target Mortgages



Investors Fund Compensation Escrow (and MRP Fee)



City Commences "Quick Take" Condemnation Proceeding



Court Sets Prelim.
Compensation and
Orders Mortgagee
to Surrender Loan

Investor Collateral

Pre-funding Tranche Commitment

> Compensation Escrow Receipt

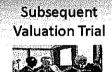


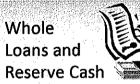
Trustee/Mortgagee Transfers Loan to Municipality for Cash Consideration





Remaining
Valuation Reserve
Retained by City
Until Final Value
Determination





Manager Initiates Refi Process with Gov't Approved Vendor



Loan Principal Reduced and Refinanced with New Gov't Insured Mortgage



Investor Funds
Closing
Fees/Expenses



Refinanced Whole Loan and Reserve Cash





Conveyance of Refinanced Loans
Authorized by Investor in Exchange
for GNMA RMBS at Premium



Valuation Reserve Distributed to Mortgagees or Predesignated Charity upon Court Order



GNMA RMBS



Mortgage Resolution

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## EXHIBIT B

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

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#### **SECTION ONE: LEGAL**

- 1. Doesn't eminent domain only apply to real estate? No. The power of eminent domain applies to every kind of property, including real estate (like land), tangible personal property (like goods), and intangible personal property (like loans).
- 2. Can the government condemn property by eminent domain and transfer it to a private person to use to earn a profit? Yes, in California and many other states, as long as the government finds that the private use may serve a public interest. Governments do so all the time, selling condemned property to developers who profit from building offices, shopping malls, or housing. In fact, in limited cases a government can even authorize private parties to directly exercise eminent domain to acquire property for their business use without any government involvement at all.
- 3. Are borrowers morally and legally obligated to pay the entire balance of their purchase money mortgage? No, particularly in California. Reckless lending standards in the past have caused real estate bubbles and crashes resulting in defaults that have harmed homeowners, destroyed the local economy and overwhelmed the state judicial system. As a consequence, California has deliberately allocated purchase money mortgage loan risk to the lender by enacting laws that allow a borrower to walk away from a purchase money home loan and effectively limit the lender's remedy to foreclosing on the home. This is a fundamental public policy in California and a fundamental part of the homeowner's bargain in taking out a purchase money home loan. Lenders are fully aware of their share of the risk of making a purchase money home loan in California.
- **4. Can the government acquire performing loans, or only defaulted loans?** As long as it is acting to further a public purpose, a government can acquire any kind of loan including performing, delinquent or defaulted loans. A government can purchase underwater performing loans to further a number of purposes -- negative equity is the single greatest predictor of future default, and it creates harm even absent default (including reduced homeowner investment in property maintenance and dislocation in the local property sales market because of restrictions on short sales).
- **5. What makes you trust the legal advice you have received?** Mortgage Resolution Partners (MRP) has received the advice of counsel with national or statewide reputations for excellence and expertise in litigation, eminent domain law and constitutional law. Both clients and other lawyers regularly select the same counsel to handle cases raising eminent domain, constitutional and public policy issues, and we have great confidence in their advice. Ultimately, each city will rely on its own legal review before proceeding with eminent domain actions.
- **6. What rights will the homeowners have when you provide notice?** Homeowners will have the same rights and the same obligations that they have now under their loan agreements. This program simply changes the owner of their loan, not the terms of the loan. But more importantly, they will gain an opportunity -- the opportunity to work with a new loan holder that is not bound by the limitations of any securitization contract and lacks the conflicts of interest that current loan servicers have. Also, current plans provide for the homeowners to opt in to the MRP program on a

voluntary basis.

- **7. What rights will the loan owners have?** The trusts that currently hold the mortgage loans will have the right to receive the fair market value of the loans. This includes the right to a trial to determine the fair value of the loans if the trusts disagree with our valuation.
- **8. What about second mortgage holders?** We expect to negotiate directly with holders of second loans, or use eminent domain to acquire those loans, in order to comprehensively deal with the homeowner's total mortgage debt. If a second loan has significant value because it is full recourse it may be necessary to acquire only the mortgage lien or a lesser interest in the loan. Unlike existing lenders, we will be able to deal with all loans encumbering a property comprehensively at the fair value of each.
- **9.** Why do you need eminent domain? Why don't you just buy loans in the market? Private securitization trusts hold approximately \$1.4 trillion of loans; we could offer to buy their underwater loans, but their trust agreements forbid them to voluntarily sell the loans. Eminent domain allows us to purchase those loans as well as related second mortgage loans if the holders of the seconds are also unable (or unwilling) to sell. Eminent domain is a way to successfully consolidate ownership of a homeowner's mortgage loans in the hands of someone with the economic incentive and freedom to modify or otherwise resolve the loans.
- 10. How do you plan to address the legal backlash that could occur? California has a well defined judicial process for adjudicating eminent domain actions and gives them priority in court. Loan owners (or Servicers on their behalf) might litigate the right to purchase the loans and the amount of compensation due. We are confident that the communities have the authority to purchase the loans, and we will provide resources to defend against any legal challenge to that right. We will stand willing to negotiate over price with the goal of reaching agreement on fair value. Absent agreement, there will be a final jury determination of fair value in the condemnation action.
- 11. Isn't there a legal step where judges must agree to the eminent domain plea? What if they don't? As long as the community has the authority, as confirmed by the court, to purchase the loan and pays fair value, the court must permit the acquisition. There is a process under which the community may request the court's permission to purchase the loan first and finally determine fair value later (a "quick take"). We expect that the quick take will be a necessary component of the plan.
- **12. Who really owns the loans?** Securitization trusts typically hold the first mortgage loans that will be purchased by eminent domain. A variety of investors including hedge funds and mutual funds own interests in the trusts and thus the ultimate right to payments for the loans. Third party banks service the loans, and third party trustees monitor the servicers. Banks typically hold for their own account the second mortgage loans.
- **13. Who goes to court?** Assuming the purchase requires court action, the communities will go to court, as will the securitization trust and holder of the second mortgage loan.

- **14. What happens if they question your valuation of the loan?** The trust or bank may seek a higher valuation in the legal proceeding. They and we will provide evidence of value; initially the judge, and ultimately the jury, will determine fair value.
- 15. How will you deal with missing notes, incomplete records in MERS, and similar mistakes that create havoc in the foreclosure process? Many loan originators and servicers lost important documents or failed to record transfers in their haste to securitize and re-securitize loans. Borrowers rarely deny that they owe their debts; they just need to be sure that they pay the right person, and courts need to be sure that anyone who tries to foreclose actually has the right to do so. Eminent domain resolves these issues. It transfers complete ownership of the loan to the city, regardless of missing paperwork. Anyone who claims to own the loan can prove it in the action and receive the proceeds. Eminent domain settles once and for all who owns the loan (the city) and who has the right to receive payment. Clearing up the paperwork disaster is not a purpose of our program, but it is a fortunate side benefit.



#### **SECTION TWO: FAIRNESS**

- 1. Is your program a giveaway to the undeserving who borrowed more than they should have to purchase houses they never should have owned? No. Everyone in California has the opportunity to purchase a home by borrowing from a lender who is willing to take a loss if home prices decline by more than the homeowner's down payment (see Legal FAQ 3 above). The lender willingly takes the risk when making the loan, and the fair market value of the loan reflects that risk. By purchasing the loan at fair value, we give the lender the benefit of its bargain. By doing an economically rational modification or other resolution with the homeowner, we respect the homeowner's benefit of his or her bargain.
- 2. Regardless of the legal niceties, is it just wrong and a moral hazard to let these homeowners stay in their homes? No. We protect our neighbors' homes, even allowing them to keep the equity in their homes while canceling their debts in bankruptcy, because it is the right thing for them and the right thing for us. We do not put our neighbors into debtor's prison, or make them homeless unnecessarily. America is facing an economic crisis and the solution requires practical action that keeps people in their homes. We are all in this together, for our neighborhoods, our states and our nation. The real moral hazard is that the system is forcing homeowners to default in order to achieve rational solutions.
- 3. Won't those who don't qualify think this is unfair? As with many societal issues that have challenged us in the past, solutions do not always provide a direct benefit to everyone. In this case, success will benefit even those who do not qualify by stabilizing home values, restoring neighborhoods and promoting the local economy. Together with the state and the participating communities we will actively address public concerns and educate the public on the benefits to all of stemming the default crisis.

#### **SECTION THREE: BUSINESS**

- 1. What is the fair market value of a loan, and how will you determine it? Fair market value is the price that a willing buyer would pay a willing seller, neither under any compulsion to transact. Similar sales of troubled loans in the secondary market exist and are good evidence of fair value. These sales occur at a significant discount to the fair value of the home because of the foreclosure discount -- the market's recognition of the cost in time, money and effort to foreclose on the homeowner and thereafter to maintain and sell the property. We will use these market data points and supplemental methods including discounted cash flow modeling.
- 2. How will MRP make money? MRP will partner with communities to purchase all loans (or interests in seconds) encumbering a property through eminent domain at fair value, which will be significantly less than the fair value of the home. We will then proactively work with borrowers to modify or refinance the loans, or possibly take other action (such as a deed in lieu of foreclosure and rent-back or a short sale). Current plans provide for MRP to charge a simple, fair, and transparent flat fee (paid for by investors) for its services.
- 3. Why hasn't anyone else tried this, or have they? Governments have used eminent domain in the past to address housing dislocations. For example, Hawaii used a statewide program of eminent domain to purchase homes from landlords to sell to tenants when concentrated land ownership had made it difficult for people to buy their own homes. Some have advocated using eminent domain to purchase mortgage loans in the current crisis, including people in the home building, government and academic communities. MRP has simply taken up the idea and run with it because we believe that it is a positive solution to this crisis, particularly for securitized mortgage loans.
- 4. What other solutions are being offered? Are they working? What makes this proposal any better? There are a number of government programs designed to encourage loan modifications. However, these apparently do not provide sufficient incentives for securitized loan servicers who bear the cost and the risk of modifying a loan, with the trust investors reaping the benefits of a successful modification. Moreover, the existing programs do not adequately deal with conflicts of interest among servicers, securitization trust investors, and second mortgage holders. As a result, few modifications have occurred, and most have been unsuccessful, particularly for securitized loans. Our proposal is better because we will cause the purchase of all loans encumbering a home, with the freedom to effect any modification, including write-downs.
- **5.** How does this affect the borrower's credit? The effect on a borrower's credit will depend upon the resolution of the mortgage loan that he or she agrees to. We expect that the effect will be no worse than it would be without eminent domain and will be better for the borrower if MRP is able to affect a refinancing or a modification that the existing servicer would not have permitted.
- **6.** How will this help home values, or will it? We expect that the program will stabilize home prices by reducing defaults and the resulting forced sales of homes and by reducing the overhang of future expected foreclosures.

- **7. Do you really believe this is going to work?** Yes, so much so that we have personally risked our time, our money and our reputations to get this program up and running.
- **8. Why California?** California has one of the highest percentages of at-risk loans and the highest dollar amount of at-risk loans of any state. It is a natural and efficient first state for the program. We expect to expand the program to other states once it is up and running.
- **9.** How will you choose the mortgages? We will partner with committed local governments that have a sufficient volume of at-risk loans to allow us to make significant investments and make a meaningful difference to the community. The local government offices will help to identify which areas we assist, and each potential mortgage will then go through the regular underwriting and eligibility process.
- **10.** What are your plans after the California pilot? Other cities? Other states? We plan to expand beyond the pilot, both in California and in other states. There is much opportunity both instate and out-of-state to build on the program's potential value.
- 11. How many borrowers have second mortgages (like HELOCs), and how will you handle them? We expect that a significant percentage of borrowers will have second mortgages. We expect to reduce or eliminate the balance of the homeowner's second mortgage loan at the same time as the first, either in a voluntary transaction with the holder of the second or (if necessary) by purchasing it through eminent domain.
- **12.** What reactions do you expect from the major bank servicers? We expect the servicers to initially oppose the program. However, we hope that they will come to recognize that the program is the best way to resolve the troubled loans in the securitization trusts for the benefit of all parties involved in the trust, including the trust investors, the trustee, and the servicer.
- **13.** Who will underwrite the new loans -- MRP, third parties, or both? Both. MRP will determine the underwriting criteria for selecting loans based on the requirements of third party lenders, Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, the FHA, and other parties who will ultimately acquire, refinance or guarantee the loans. We expect to work with third party mortgage professionals in each participating community to underwrite the new loans. This will bring local expertise to the underwriting process and support to the local economy.
- 14. Won't you have to lend to unqualified borrowers in order to keep people in their homes? How will you manage credit risk? We will not refinance or modify loans for borrowers who do not qualify. We will manage credit risk through underwriting to the requirements of third party lenders and guarantors, who will provide the ultimate take-out for the loans. We may offer other resolutions for homeowners who no longer qualify for loans, such as expedited consideration of proposed short sales and accepting a deed in lieu of foreclosure and potentially renting the home back to them (via an appropriate partner). In addition, a portion of the returns will be dedicated to communities, which may use the funds to finance community housing or other needs.

- **15.** How will you deal with competition from the major banks once you announce your program? We believe that city and state governments may be unwilling to work with major banks or other potential competitors because of their or their affiliates' roles in creating or prolonging the mortgage crisis. Other companies could in time create similar mortgage resolution businesses. However, the inventory of distressed mortgage loans is unfortunately so great and so widespread that there is room and need for other companies to operate in the space without adversely affecting our business model.
- **16.** Will you partner with existing lenders? Why or why not? We expect to work with selected existing lenders as well as independent real estate professionals to refinance the homeowner's loans.
- 17. What criteria will you use to select loans to acquire? We will work with each government agency to determine the criteria that best meet the community's needs with the goal of keeping homeowners in their homes. We expect initially to acquire loans that are significantly underwater, but which are current (not in default). Subsequently, we may expand the program to acquire loans that are in default, but where the homeowner can afford a refinanced loan with a reduced principal amount.
- **18.** If you are successful in modifying loans and reducing principal, won't the homeowner be taxed on the reduction? Through 2012, both federal and California laws forgive the tax for debt used to purchase or improve the home. If the borrower used the proceeds for other purposes, like buying a boat, then the reduction may be taxable. Even after 2012, debt forgiveness generally may not be taxable to the extent the borrower's total debt exceeded total assets, which we expect will be the case for many homeowner participants. The program will be voluntary for homeowners, so they will determine whether to participate based on their own circumstances, including their own tax position. MRP will not provide tax advice, and will urge potential participants to seek such advice.
- **19.** How long will this take? We expect a period of 4 to 12 months from the beginning of the borrowers' opt-in period until completion of loan refinancing.
- 20. We've seen what outsourcing did to loan modification programs with the big banks. If you are going to outsource, how can you ensure quality? Many of the problems with outsourcing have come from conflicts of interest that the large bank servicers have. They bear the high costs of servicing troubled loans and negotiating modifications, but they do not get the benefits of a successful modification. This has led them to outsource to firms that will foreclose as quickly and cheaply as possible. We intend that our program's investors will acquire all of a homeowner's mortgage loans and bear the risk and returns of restructuring the loans, so our program will not have this conflict of interest. We will closely monitor all service providers because it is in our interest for them to do their jobs right.

#### **SECTION FOUR: ECONOMICS**

- 1. How can the loan purchasers earn a profit if they pay fair value for a loan and won't the trusts have a free look back to demand more compensation in court? MRP and the loan purchasers can pay fair value and still earn a profit because they will take the risks and earn the returns of acquiring underwater loans and then refinancing them. Many investment funds purchase distressed whole loans from bank portfolios in consensual transactions and then profit by working them out; we expect our loan purchasers to pay the same price that they do. We will seek to provide appropriate reserves for look back risk based on the court's ultimate determination.
- **2.** How will MRP make money? MRP intends to earn fees that are simple and transparent based in part on its success in obtaining control over and modifying or otherwise resolving the loans.
- **3. Will you share profits with the communities?** We expect to contribute to the communities (or not-for-profit organizations) a fixed amount per loan acquired, which may support community housing needs.
- 4. How have you structured this to create the various profit margins you will need? Who pays for the legal fees? The structure of the loan acquisitions and the expected loan resolutions will create the necessary profit margins to pay for program costs, including funding costs and legal fees.

#### **SECTION FIVE: GOVERNMENT**

- 1. Eminent domain is already so controversial. Are you concerned about how this will be perceived? Eminent domain is controversial when it displaces homeowners to help unrelated investors. The program will use eminent domain to help homeowners, and we expect it to show that local governments are part of the solution, not part of the problem.
- 2. What about the bigger picture? Isn't this going one step further to disempower private businesses and empower the government? No. Eminent domain is an inherent power of American governments, one that they have used throughout our nation's history. It is such a fundamental part of government that the US Constitution expressly permits it, as long as the government has a public purpose and pays fair value for the property. Moreover, the government entities will not enter the mortgage loan business or displace any mortgage companies.
- **3.** Is there an ulterior political motive here? No. Eminent domain is a governmental action to achieve governmental objectives, and the objectives are clear -- to reduce the harm that the residential home loan crisis is causing our communities, to stabilize neighborhoods, and to support local economic activity.
- **4.** I read something in the WSJ about a program that President Obama was considering. Is this it? No. Our program is a local one controlled by local city and county governments, supported by private investment funds.
- **5. How will this affect property taxes?** By resolving underwater loans more efficiently with fewer foreclosure sales, we expect the program to stabilize the property tax base and to help collect delinquent property taxes.
- 6. If this is such a good solution, why didn't the government do this instead of the bank bailouts? Our program addresses a different problem and offers a different solution. The federal government acted to prevent a national financial collapse; that problem required a national solution at a scale that only the federal government could provide. The residential mortgage loan crisis affects individual communities differently and requires a local solution. We can implement the solution on a local scale, funded with private capital.
- **7. Will participating cities be blackballed?** We regard it as unlikely that lending institutions would "redline" or "blackball" a city for exercising a sovereign right. Banks are in the business of making interest margin, and we believe that they will seek to do so wherever the opportunity arises. Punishing communities is not good for business. Also, there are legal strictures that may prevent such retaliation (such as the Community Reinvestment Act).
- 8. How have you planned to budget for all of the legal costs that will come out of this? Especially for the participating municipalities, how will you put their fears at rest regarding this? We have budgeted for extensive legal fees. MRP's financial model provides that

funding sources and the margins from the loan acquisitions and refinancings will directly pay all legal costs of condemnation and valuation actions.

**9. What liability do the participating municipalities have?** The participating governments or joint powers authorities will be liable to pay the fair value of the loans as well as certain legal costs and fees. MRP and its funding sources will pay for these costs as described in the answer to FAQ 8.

#### SECTION SIX: ORGANIZATION/FOUNDERS

- **1. Who is MRP?** MRP is the manager of this resolution program. It will obtain the funding to pay for the acquired loans, and it will manage the process of resolving the loans.
- 2. Where will your corporate offices and operations be based? MRP's offices and operations are based in San Francisco. As we implement the program we will work with the independent real estate service community in each participating community, which should contribute to the local economy. MRP may open additional offices in other cities and states as the program expands.
- **3. Who is Gordian Sword and what role does it play?** Gordian Sword is the company that the program's founders set up to help create the program and to manage Mortgage Resolution Partners.
- **4. Why LLCs?** Limited liability companies are a typical form of organization for investment and investment management businesses. They operate with the flexibility of partnerships while providing all investors with limited liability like shareholders in a corporation.

# **EXHIBIT C**

# Richmond CARES

Community Action to Restore Equity and Stability

Saving Homes, Saving Cities
Solving the Mortgage Crisis Locally



## Summary

- An average foreclosure costs the local government \$19,277 (HUD)
- An average foreclosure costs adjacent neighbors \$14,531 (HUD)
- 1,468 first mortgages in Richmond are in Private Label Securities
- 734 of these will be foreclosed (Fannie Mae estimate)
- These foreclosures will cost Richmond \$25 million
- Reducing principal to below home values will stop foreclosures
- Richmond has the power to reduce principal
- No one else has any incentive to prevent foreclosures
- Mortgage Resolution Partners can help



#### The Cost of a Foreclosure\*

#### Local Governments \$19,227

- Lost Property Taxes
- Unpaid Utility Bills
- Property Upkeep
- Policing
- Legal costs, building inspections
- Demand for social services

Borrowers \$10,300\*\*

Close Neighbors \$14,531\*\*\*

<sup>\*\*</sup>Household moving costs, legal fees and administrative charges
\*\*\*Negative impact on the property value of close neighbors

Mortgage Resolution Partners LLC Pier 33 South Embarcadero, Suite 201| San Francisco, CA 94111 | 415.795.2032



### Richmond Foreclosures

#### **Cost of Foreclosures**

Housing	# of Units*	Private Label Mortgages	Future Foreclosures Of Private Label Mortgages**	Richmond	Adjacent Neighbors
Owner- occupied	18,659	1,468	734	\$14 million	\$11 million
Renter- occupied	17,434				

#### \*\*Fannie Mae Predicts that 50% of PLS Will Result in Foreclosures

\*Source: 2010 Census

\*\* Source: Fannie Mae 2011 10k



## Problem → Mortgages Held In Private Label Securities

- 4.5 million loans placed in securities not guaranteed by U.S. Government
- Loans not eligible for 15 federal programs created since the housing crash
- Loans are much more likely to be underwater.
- Riskier loans created in 2004 to 2007 helped create housing boom
- Have not been originated since 2007
- Securities prohibit principal reduction

"If we are going to stabilize the housing market, we have to address" PLS loans.

Federal Housing Finance Agency 2009

#### Result → Fannie Predicts that 50% of PLS Will Result in Foreclosures



## The Solution – Principal Reduction

"Most economists see principal reductions as central to preventing foreclosures." Alan Blinder, former Vice Chairman at the Federal Reserve (Oct. 20, 2011)

"Government should reduce mortgage principal when it exceeds 110 percent of the home value." Martin S. Feldstein, former Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers under President Reagan (Oct. 12, 2011)

"Surely there is a strong case for experimentation with principal reduction strategies at the local level." Lawrence Summers, former Treasury Secretary under President Clinton and former Economic Adviser under President Obama (Oct. 24, 2011)

Example: JP Morgan Chase and Bank of America unilaterally reduce principal on option ARM portfolio loans in order to reduce defaults and losses

#### Principal reduction will prevent future defaults and foreclosures



## Why Does Principal Reduction Help?

This is an illustrative example for the level of benefits that participating families may realize. Communities benefit from greatly reduced probability of foreclosure.

	Original Loan	Today	After Program
Home Value	\$400,000	\$200,000	\$200,000
Mortgage Balance	\$320,000	300,000	\$190,000
Home Equity	\$80,000	(\$100,000)	\$10,000
Loan to Value Ratio (LTV)	80%	150%	95%
Monthly Payment	\$1,798	\$1,798	\$907

Assumes a 6%, 30 year, fully amortizing mortgage is refinanced by a 4%, 30 year, fully amortizing mortgage. Some loan programs may also require insurance, which may add \$175 per to the After Program monthly payment.

Probability of Default Drops from ~80% to ~7.5% (FHA actuarial assumption, 95%LTV)



# Method of PLS Principal Reduction → Communities Take Action

Securitization agreements and tax laws prohibit the sale of PLS mortgages except when the mortgages are condemned

Local government, using their constitutional power of eminent domain, can purchase PLS mortgages when public purpose exists by paying fair value

Then local governments can reduce the principal balance on the condemned PLS mortgages, thereby reducing underwater PLS in their community

Governments Can Use Eminent Domain To Avoid Unnecessary Foreclosures



### Who Supports the Program?

Broad community-focused support for the program

- AFSCME
- Americans for Financial Reform
- Center for Popular Democracy
- National Community Reinvestment Coalition
- Federal Banking Regulators

#### Representing

- 1.6 million state and local government employees
- 600 local housing focused organizations
- 250 national, state and local groups working on financial industry reform

Program Addresses Concerns Of Local Homeowners And Community-focused Organizations

### MRP is a Community Advisory Firm

MRP clients are state, county, and city governments that purchase underwater PLS mortgages and resolve them to the benefit of their communities. In order, MRP provides, under an advisory contract with the community, the following services:

- Identify and value PLS mortgages
- Educate the community
- Arrange acquisition financing
- Advise community in filing eminent domain motion

Demonstrate the public purpose

Determine fair market value of mortgages

- Arrange servicing of acquired mortgages
- Arrange resolution of acquired mortgages

#### MRP Provides These Services No Cost To Cities or Homeowners

## Communities That Have Engaged MRP

- El Monte, CA
- · La Puente, CA
- San Joaquin, CA
- Orange Cove, CA

MRP is in active discussions with these communities and many more

## **Next Steps**

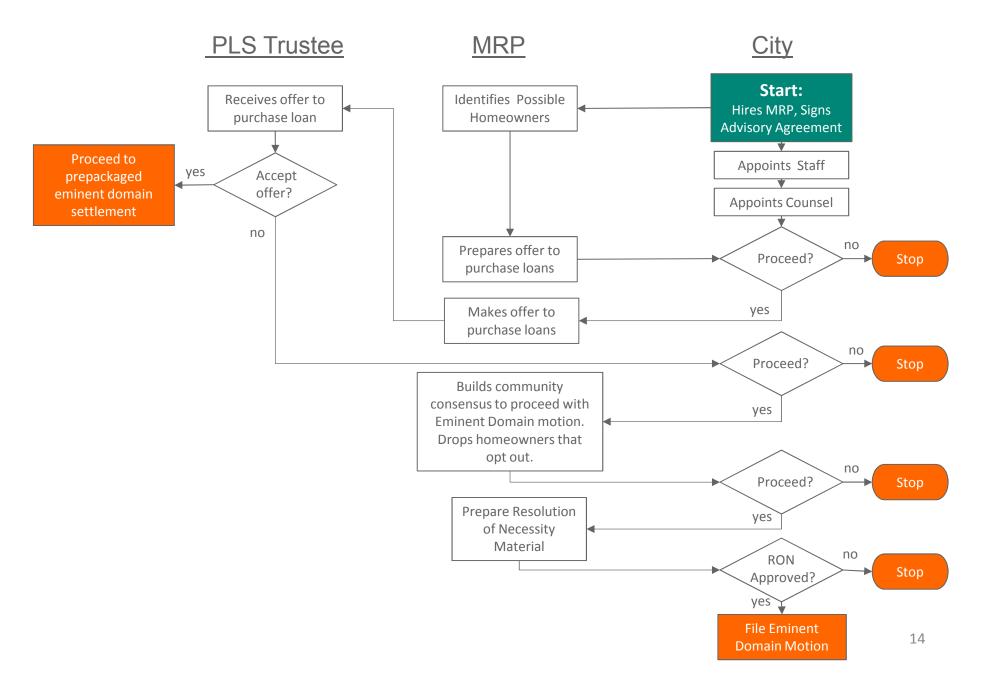
- 1. The City retains MRP at no cost per the terms of the MRP Advisory Agreement as modified by the City and agreed to by MRP.
- 2. The City is in control, at each step in the process the City has the option to terminate the Agreement and must approve the next step before it is taken.
- 3. The City does not pay any costs of the program.
- 4. Nothing in the Agreement obligates the City to file an eminent domain motion.

# Key Steps To The MRP Process

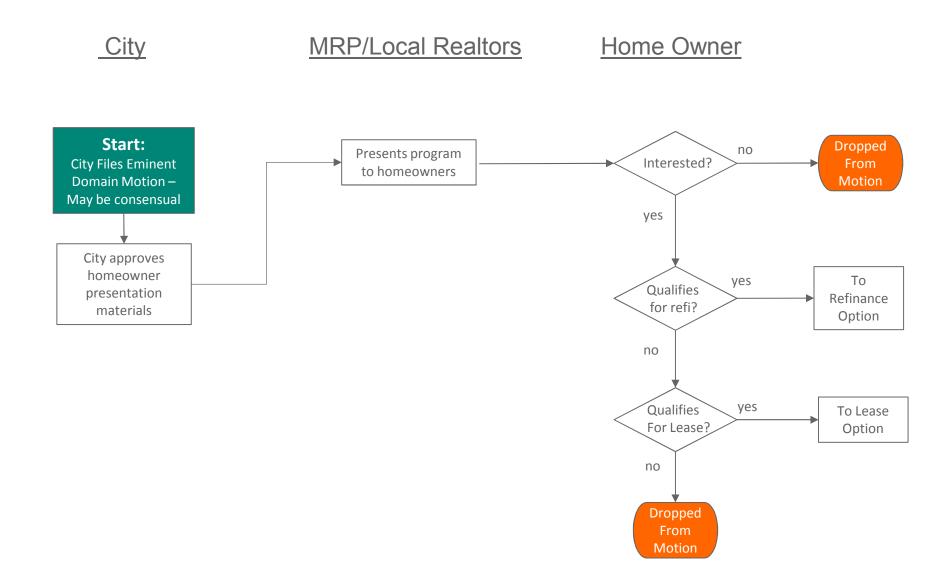
- 1. The City hires MRP at no cost per the terms of the MRP Advisory Agreement as modified by the City and agreed to by MRP. At each step in the process the City has the option to terminate the Agreement and must approve the next step before it is taken. The City does not pay any costs of the program. Nothing in the Agreement obligates the City to file an eminent domain motion.
- 2. The City pre approves all communications with the homeowners and the community.
- 3. Before or after the City files an eminent domain motion the Homeowner may opt out of the program and their mortgage will be dropped from the motion before it is purchased.
- 4. Qualified homeowners who opt into the program may elect to refinance for less than the current value of their home.
- Qualified homeowners who opt into the program may elect to sell their home in full satisfaction of their mortgage and lease back their home with an option to purchase it in the future.
- 6. Homeowners who opt into the program, but do not qualify for a refinance or a lease will be dropped from the eminent domain motion before their mortgage is purchased.

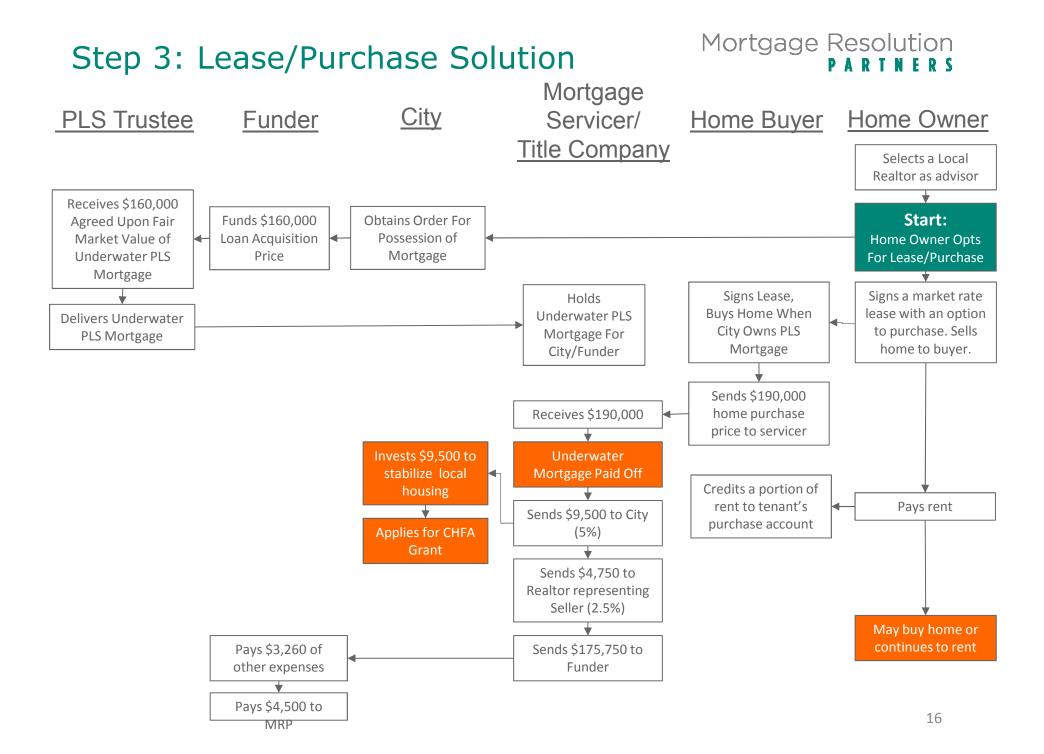
# Mortgage Resolution PARINERS

# Step 1. City Controls The Process



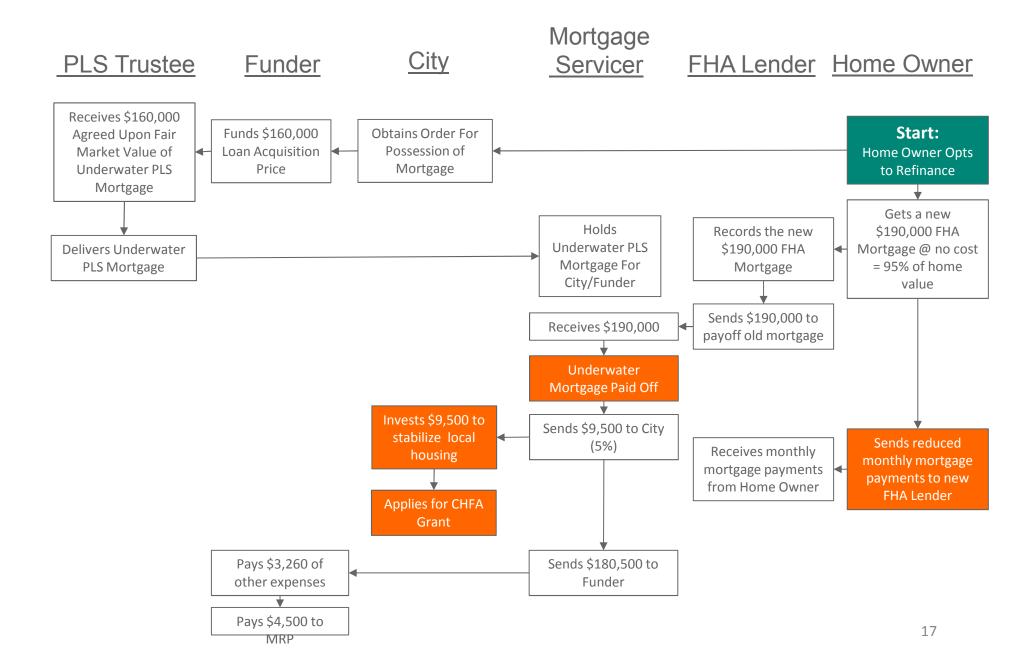
# Step 2. Home Owner May Opt Out





# Step 3: Refinance Solution





# Follow the Money

# Mortgage Resolution PARTNERS

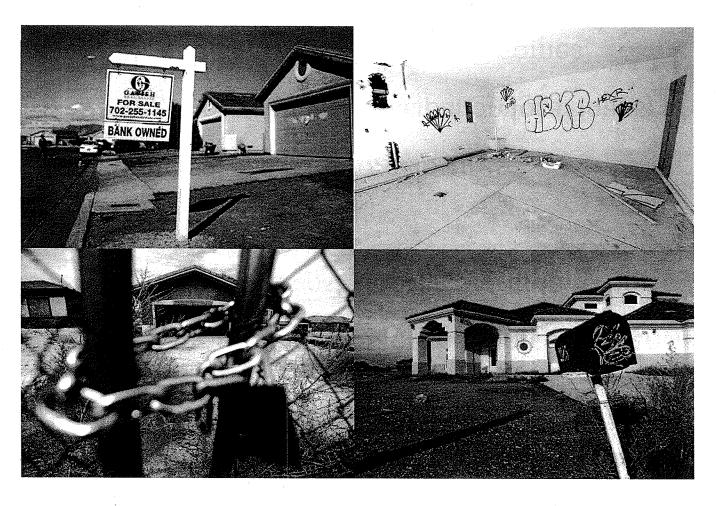
Sale and Leaseback Solution	Who Pays?	When?	Who is Paid?	Cash Flow	MRP Cash Balance	Funder Cash Balance
Legal Expenses	MRP	Before eminent domain motion is filed	Atty's selected by City	(300)	(300)	
50% of MRP Fee	Funder	Eminent domain motion filed	MRP	(2,250)	1,950	(2,250)
Legal Expenses	Funder	After eminent domain motion is filed, prior to possession being awarded	Atty's selected by City	(1,700)	250	
Fair Value Paid For Loan	Funder	Possession of mortgage awarded to city	PLS Trust	(160,000)		(162,250)
Real Estate Commission	Home Buyer	Home sold	Realtors selected by home owner	(4,750)		
Closing Costs	Home Buyer	Home sold	Vendors selected by home owner/realtor	(2,000)		
Home Sales Proceeds	Home Buyer	Home Sold	Funder	183,250		21,000
Community Housing Reserve	Funder	Home Sold	City	(9,500)		11,500
50% of MRP Fee	Funder	Home Sold	MRP	(2,250)	2,500	9,250
Investment Banking Fee	Funder	Home Sold	MRP's investment bank	(560)		8,690
Reimbursement of MRP Advances	Funder	Home Sold	MRP	(2,000)	4,500	6,690

Refinance Solution	Who Pays?	When?	Who is Paid?	Cash Flow	MRP Cash Balance	Funder Cash Balance
Legal Expenses	MRP	Before eminent domain motion is filed	Atty's selected by City	(300)	(300)	
Homeowner Education	MRP	Before eminent domain motion is filed	Vendor approved by City	(300)	(600)	
50% of MRP Fee	Funder	Eminent domain motion filed	MRP	(2,250)	1,650	(2,250)
Legal Expenses	MRP	After eminent domain motion is filed, prior to possession being awarded	Atty's selected by City	(1,650)	-	
Homeowner Education	MRP	After eminent domain motion is filed, prior to possession being awarded	Vendor approved by City	(300)	(300)	
Fair Value Paid For Loan	Funder	Possession of mortgage awarded to city	PLS Trust	(160,000)		(162,250)
Mortgage Servicing	Funder	After possession of mortgage by city until resolution	Servicer of underwater mortgage	(100)		(162,350)
Refinance Proceeds	FHA Lender	Refinance Completed	Funder	190,000		27,650
Community Housing Reserve	Funder	Refinance Completed	City	(9,500)		18,150
50% of MRP Fee	Funder	Refinance Completed	MRP	(2,250)	1,950	15,900
Investment Banking Fee	Funder	Refinance Completed	MRP's investment bank	(560)		15,340
Reimbursement of MRP Advances	Funder	Refinance Completed	MRP	(2,550)	4,500	12,790

# **EXHIBIT D**

# North Las Vegas CARES

Community Action to Restore Equity and Stability

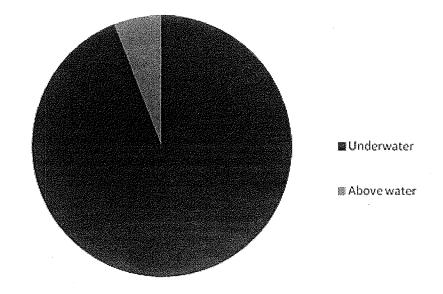


## Summary

- North Las Vegas: ground zero for the foreclosure crisis.
- An average foreclosure costs local government, borrower and neighbors \$43,000
- Reducing principal will stop foreclosures
- North Las Vegas can reduce principal on local loans, prevent foreclosures, and keep families in their homes
- No one else has any incentive to prevent foreclosures
- Mortgage Resolution Partners can help

# North Las Vegas - Ground Zero for the Crisis

- All mortgage loans in North Las Vegas: 75% underwater
- Target mortgage loans in North Las Vegas: 94% underwater



## Severity of Problem - How Underwater Are the Loans?



89030 Zip Code

Distribution of underwater loans by percentage of home value

Loans are not just underwater - they are in the deep end

### The Cost of a Foreclosure\*

### Local Governments \$19,227

- Lost Property Taxes
- Unpaid Utility Bills
- Property Upkeep
- Policing
- Legal costs, building inspections
- Demand for social services

Borrowers

\$10,300\*\*

Close Neighbors

\$14,531\*\*\*

<sup>\*\*</sup>Household moving costs, legal fees and administrative charges

# The Solution - Principal Reduction

"Most economists see principal reductions as central to preventing foreclosures." Alan Blinder, former Vice Chairman at the Federal Reserve (Oct. 20, 2011)

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Example: JP Morgan Chase and Bank of America unilaterally reduce principal on option ARM portfolio loans in order to reduce defaults and losses

### Principal reduction will prevent future defaults and foreclosures

## Who Supports Principal Reduction?

#### Broad community-focused support for the program

- Culinary Workers Union Local 226, Nevada
- •SEIU Local 1107, Nevada
- AFSCME, National
- ·Americans for Financial Reform, National
- •Center for Popular Democracy, National
- ·National Community Reinvestment Coalition, National
- Federal Banking Regulators

#### Representing

- •1.6 million state and local government employees
- •600 local housing focused organizations
- •250 national, state and local groups working on financial industry reform

Program Addresses Concerns Of Local Homeowners And Community-focused Organizations

## Problem → Mortgages Held In Private Label Securitizations

- 5 million loans that Wall Street placed in securities not guaranteed by U.S. government
- Loans not eligible for 15 federal programs created since the housing crash
- Loans are much more likely to be underwater
- Loans are six times more likely to default than federally guaranteed loans (Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission report)
- Riskier loans created in 2004 to 2007 helped create housing boom
- Securities effectively prohibit principal reduction

"If we are going to stabilize the housing market, we have to address" PLS loans.

Federal Housing Finance Agency 2009

Result → Fannie Predicts that 50% of these Loans Will Result in Foreclosures

## Future North Las Vegas Foreclosures

		Minimum Local Cos	st of PLS Foreclosures
Private Label Mortgages	Minimum Future Foreclosures Of Private Label Mortgages*	North Las Vegas	Adjacent Neighbors
5,052	2,526	\$49 million	\$34 million

\*Fannie Mae Predicts that 50% of PLS Will Result in Foreclosures

# Why Does Principal Reduction Help?

This is an illustrative example for the level of benefits that participating families may realize. Communities benefit from greatly reduced probability of foreclosure.

	Original Loan	Today	After Program
Home Value	\$400,000	\$200,000	\$200,000
Mortgage Balance	\$320,000	300,000	\$190,000
Home Equity	\$80,000	(\$100,000)	\$10,000
Loan to Value Ratio (LTV)	80%	150%	95%
Monthly Payment	\$1,798	\$1,798	\$907

Assumes a 6%, 30 year, fully amortizing mortgage is refinanced by a 4%, 30 year, fully amortizing mortgage. Some loan programs may also require insurance, which may add \$175 per to the After Program monthly payment.

### Reducing principal significantly reduces likelihood of default

# Method of Principal Reduction → North Las Vegas Takes Action

Many underwater mortgages are worth less than the home securing the mortgage. For example a \$300,000 mortgage on a \$200,000 home is often valued by the market at less than \$200,000.

These are the mortgages that can be purchased.

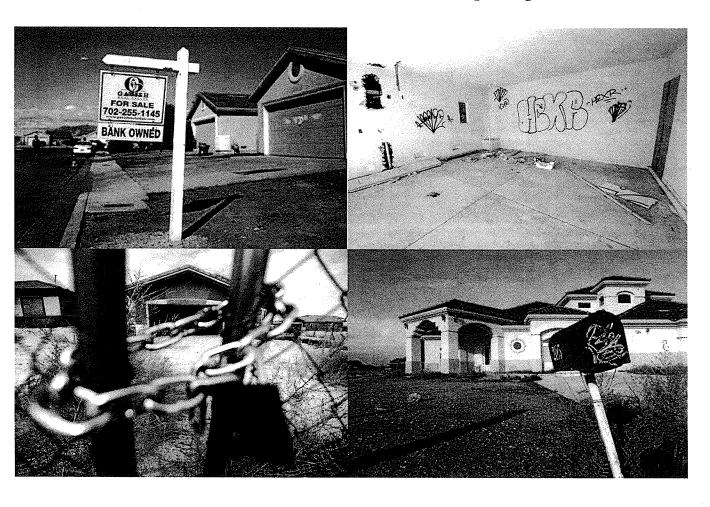
North Las Vegas can purchase these loans using private funding then reduce the principal balance on the underwater mortgages, thereby reducing foreclosures in the community

## Next Steps

- 1. North Las Vegas engages MRP at no cost to assess the mortgage crisis locally.
- 2. During the assessment period MRP will:
  - Identify underwater mortgage loans suitable for principal reduction.
  - Represent the City before holders of the loans to discuss possible consensual purchases of the loans.
  - Report back to the City to present recommendations for action.
- 3. At each step in the process the City has the option to terminate the Agreement and must approve the next step before it is taken.
- 4. The City does not pay any costs of the program. Nothing in the Agreement obligates the City to take any action.

# North Las Vegas CARES

# Community Action to Restore Equity and Stability



# EXHIBIT E

## ADVISORY SERVICES AGREEMENT

This Advisory Services Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into by and between Mortgage Resolution Partners LLC, a Delaware limited liability company ("MRP") and the City of Richmond, a municipal corporation and charter city (the "City") and is effective as of 2013 (the "Effective Date").

### RECITALS

- A. MRP is a community advisory firm advising public agencies on ways to assist the agency in reducing the impact of the mortgage crisis with its communities including, if necessary, by acquiring mortgage loans through the use of eminent domain, in order to restructure or refinance the loans and thereby preserving home ownership, restoring homeowner equity and stabilizing the communities' housing market and economy by allowing many homeowners to remain in their homes.
- B. America in general and the City in particular are each experiencing an historic home mortgage crisis and as a result of the home mortgage crisis, many homeowners in the City have lost significant portions of their disposable income, and some have been unable to make timely mortgage payments on their homes. This has resulted in unprecedented rates of default and foreclosure, loss of homeowner equity, loss of family wealth, and even loss of shelter for some families. The home mortgage crisis has resulted in other adverse impacts within the City such as job losses, reductions in income, consumer demand, and investment, a spiraling reduction in property values, a reduction in property and payroll tax revenues, vandalism, abandoned homes and a general decline in the economy and the quality of life for residents. Restructuring or refinancing mortgage loans will benefit the City's residents by preserving home ownership; restoring homeowner equity; and likely also increasing income, property values, consumer demand, investment, and property and payroll tax revenue.
- C. The City is interested in retaining MRP to act as its advisor to assist the City in exploring potential solutions to the mortgage crisis; to assist the City by negotiating on the City's behalf with entities which will provide the necessary funding to the City in order to allow the City to acquire loans; and to assist the City in negotiating contracts with third parties including owners of loans, attorneys, lenders, data companies, other government agencies and others as necessary to implement a program or programs to benefit the City's residents.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, MRP and the City agree as follows:

1. PURPOSE. The purpose of this Agreement is to enable the City and MRP to work together to assess and implement a program or programs designed to ease the impacts of the mortgage crisis on the residents of the City.

- 2. SERVICES. MRP agrees to provide the following services ("Services"), and the City authorizes MRP to represent the City as described:
- (a) to advise the City on various alternatives in order to provide assistance to its residents who are burdened with mortgage loans including assessing the possibility and benefits of the formation of a joint powers authority;
- (b) to identify and negotiate with companies acceptable to the City, in City's sole and absolute discretion, to lend funds to the City on a fully secured, non-recourse basis if such funds are required in order to provide the necessary relief;
- (c) to provide extensive legal research acquired by MRP on all aspects of the acquisition and refinancing of mortgage loans including each of the legal steps necessary to implement the necessary programs;
- (d) to identify and negotiate with law firms acceptable to the City, in City's sole and absolute discretion, to work with the City to implement the programs which the City elects to implement;
- (e) to negotiate with other local, state and federal governments and agencies as necessary to implement programs chosen by the City;
- (f) to negotiate on behalf of the City with the holders of mortgage loans secured by property owned by residents of the City (and with trustees, servicers, investors and other parties having a relationship with the holders of the loans);
- (g) to work with the City to identify mortgage loans to target based upon the City's criteria;
- (h) to negotiate on behalf of the City with any other third party as necessary to implement programs which the City elects to implement; and
- (i) to work with the City to establish education and communication programs to address residents' questions about a program or programs the City implements.

Provided, however, MRP shall not take action or implement programs or tasks set forth in subsection (b), (d), (e), (f) and (h) hereof without the express written consent of City in advance, which consent may be withheld in the City's sole and absolute discretion. Provided further, however, in no event shall MRP have the authority to enter into any contracts on behalf of the City.

3. COMPENSATION. As its sole and exclusive compensation for the performance of the Services (the "Advisory Fee"), MRP shall receive the sum of \$4,500 per loan for each loan ultimately acquired by the City or otherwise resolved in a manner which results in the restructuring or refinancing of a loan through a program implemented by the City. The Advisory Fee shall be paid only through the programs implemented by the City and shall not be paid directly by the City. City shall not be responsible for any cost or expense arising out of or related to this Agreement or any program or programs the City implements.

- 4. ASSIGNMENT. MRP shall not have the right to assign and/or delegate its duties hereunder without the prior written consent of City, which consent may be withheld in the City's sole and absolute discretion.
- 5. COOPERATION. Each party agrees to cooperate to carry out the purpose of this Agreement and to perform all acts and execute all documents reasonably required to institute the programs chosen by the City pursuant to the terms of this Agreement or as are or may become necessary or convenient to effectuate and carry out this Agreement.
- 6. RELATIONSHIP OF PARTIES. The relationship of MRP to the City shall at all times be that of an independent contractor. MRP expressly acknowledges and agrees that it does not have the authority to bind the City by contract or otherwise.
- 7. TERM. This Agreement shall be in effect for a period of one (1) year from the Effective Date and will be renewed automatically for successive terms of one (1) year each unless either party gives notice to the other at least sixty (60) days prior to the termination of any term. Upon any such termination, this Agreement shall be null and void and of no further force or effect, except as to those provisions which expressly survive the termination of the Agreement.

# 8. INDEMNITY.

- (a) Except to the extent caused by the sole active negligence or willful misconduct of City, City and City's representatives shall not be liable for any liability, penalties, costs, losses, damages, expenses, causes of action, claims or judgments, including attorney's fees and other defense costs (collectively, "Claims"), resulting from injury to or death sustained by any person, or damage to property of any kind, or any other injury or damage whatsoever, which Claims arise out of or are in any way connected with this Agreement or any programs or tasks implemented pursuant to this Agreement.
- (b) Except to the extent caused by the sole active negligence or willful misconduct of City, MRP shall indemnify, protect, defend and hold the City and its representatives, harmless of and from any and all Claims arising out of or in any way related to or resulting directly or indirectly from (i) this Agreement, (ii) the programs or tasks implemented pursuant to this Agreement, (iii) any failure to comply with any applicable law, and (iv) any default or breach by MRP in the performance of any obligation of MRP under this Agreement.
- (c) The provisions of this Section 8 shall survive the expiration or sooner termination of this Agreement.
- 9. INSURANCE. Upon receiving approval from the City to take action or implement programs or tasks set forth in subsection (b) of Section 2, MRP, at its own cost and expense, shall provide and maintain insurance coverage as required in Exhibit A, "City of Richmond Insurance Requirements Type II: Professional Services". MRP shall submit current certificates of insurance for the policies required in this Section 9 before taking action or implementing any programs or tasks set forth in subsections (b), (d), (e), (f) and (h) of Section 2.

## 10. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

- (a) Execution. This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original. A signature transmitted via scanning and emailing or facsimile shall have the same effect as an original signature.
- (b) Modification of Agreement. This Agreement may be modified only by a writing signed by MRP and the City.
- (c) Entire Agreement. This Agreement together with any Nondisclosure and/or Common Interest Agreements entered into between the parties either prior or subsequent to the Effective Date constitute the entire understanding and agreement between the parties concerning this subject matter.
- (d) Severability. If a court of competent jurisdiction finds or rules that any provision of this Agreement is invalid, void, or unenforceable, the provisions of the Agreement not so adjudged shall remain in full force and effect. The invalidity in whole or in part of any provision of this Agreement shall not void or affect the validity of any other provision of this Agreement.
- (e) Governing Law. This Agreement is governed by and shall be interpreted according to the laws of the State of California. This Agreement is made in Contra Costa County, California, and any action relating to this Agreement shall be instituted and prosecuted in the courts of Contra Costa County, California.
- (f) Waiver of Breach. No waiver of breach of any term or provision of this Agreement shall be construed to be, or shall be, a waiver of any other breach of this Agreement.
- (g) Arms-Length Transaction. This Agreement is a product of arms-length negotiations and each party has had an opportunity to receive independent legal advice from attorneys of its own choosing. Thus, neither party can claim that any ambiguities in any term of this Agreement should be construed against any other party.
- (h) No Third Party Beneficiaries. This Agreement will not confer any rights or remedies upon any person other than the parties hereto and their permitted successors and permitted assigns.
- 11. NOTICES. All notices under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be transmitted by personal delivery or reputable overnight courier service such as FedEx to the parties at the following addresses:

Such notice shall be deemed give on the next business day if sent by over

WHEREFORE, the part legally-binding Agreement.

The City

Name (printed):

Mailing address:

YSO CIVIC

Mortgage Resolution Partners, LLC

MRP:

Telephone no.:

E-mail address:

Date of Signing:

The City: 450 Civic Center Plaza Richmond, CA 94804 Attn: City Manager

With copy to:

450 Civic Center Plaza Richmond, CA 94804 Attn: City Attorney

Such notice shall be deemed given upon personal delivery to the appropriate address or on the next business day if sent by overnight courier service.

WHEREFORE, the parties indicate by their signatures below their entry into this ly-binding Agreement.

(signature) (date)

WILLIAM A. LINAMY

450 CIVIC CANSIM PLAZA

510-620-6512

Bill-linking Ci. Cichnent. (a. w)

July 15, 2013

Attest

City Clerk

City Attorney

Mortgage Resolution Partners LLC

Representative:

(signature)

(datc)

Name (printed):

Graham Williams

Mailing address:

33 Pier South Embarcadero, Suite 201, San Francisco, CA 94111

Telephone no.:

415-795-2032 97(-1771

E-mail address:

gwilliams@mortgageresolutionpartners.com

Date of Signing:

7-25-13

# Exhibit A Insurance Requirements

# City of Richmond - Insurance Requirements - Type 2: Professional Services

In all instances where CONTRACTOR or its representatives will provide professional services (architects, engineers, construction management, counselors, medical professionals, hospitals, clinics, attorneys, consultants, accountants, etc.) to the City of Richmond (City), the City requires the following MINIMUM insurance requirements and limits.

CONTRACTOR shall procure and maintain for the duration of the contract, agreement, or other order for work, services or supplies, insurance against claims for injuries to persons or damages to property which may arise from or in connection with the performance of the work hereunder and the results of that work by the CONTRACTOR, its agents, representatives, employees or subcontractors. Maintenance of proper insurance coverage is a material element of the contract. Failure to maintain or renew coverage or to provide evidence of renewal may be treated by the City as a material breach of contract.

CONTRACTOR agrees that in the event of loss due to any of the perlls for which it has agreed to provide Commercial General Liability insurance, CONTRACTOR shall look solely to its insurance for recovery. CONTRACTOR hereby grants to CITY, on behalf of any insurer providing Commercial General Liability Insurance to either CONTRACTOR or CITY with respect to the services of CONSULTANT herein, a walver of any right to subrogation which any such insurer of said CONTRACTOR may acquire against the CITY by virtue of the payment of any loss under such insurance.

Original, signed certificates and original, separate policy endorsements, naming the City as an additional insured for general liability coverage, as well as a waiver of subrogation for Workers' Compensation insurance, shall be received and approved by the City **before any work may begin**. However, failure to do so shall not operate as a waiver of these insurance requirements.

City reserves the right to modify or require additional coverages for specific risk exposures depending on scope of CONTRACTORS work.

Minimum coverage is detailed below. The policy limits of coverage shall be made available to the full limits of the policy. The minimum limits stated herein shall not serve to reduce the policy limits of coverage of CONTRACTOR.

**Minimum Scope of Insurance** – the following forms shall be provided and coverage shall be at least as broad as the following:

- Insurance Services Office Commercial General Liability coverage (ISO Occurrence Form CG 0001), and including coverage for bodily and personal Injury, property damage, and products and completed operations (if applicable).
- 2. Insurance Services Office Automobile Liability coverage (ISO Form CA 0001, Code 1, Any Auto).
- Original and Separate Additional Insured Endorsement for General Liability (ISO Form CG 20 10 11/85 or its equivalent) with primary and non-contributory language.
- Workers' Compensation Insurance as required by the State of California including Employer's Liability coverage.
- 5. Original and Separate Waiver of Subrogation for Workers' Compensation insurance.
- Professional Liability or Errors & Omissions Liability Insurance appropriate to the CONTRACTOR's profession (if required.)

Required Coverage	Minimum Limits
Workers' Compensation and Employers' Liability	Statutory limits as required by the State of California Including \$1 million Employers' Liability per accident, per employee for bodily injury or disease. If CONTRACTOR is self-insured, provide a certificate of Permission to Self-Insure, signed by the California Department of Industrial Relations and Self-Insurance. If contractor is a sole proprietor (has no employees) than contractor must sign "Contractor Release of Liability" found at: <a href="http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=61">http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=61</a> .
General Liability	\$2,000,000 per occurrence for bodily injury, personal injury and propert
(primary and excess limits combined)	damage. If the policy includes a general aggregate, either the general aggregate shall apply separately to this project, service or location or the minimum required aggregate limit shall be twice the per occurrence limit (\$4 million aggregate limit).
	Policy shall be endorsed to name the City of Richmond as an additional insured per the conditions detailed below.

# City of Richmond - Insurance Requirements - Type 2: Professional Services

Automobile Liability	\$1,000,000 per occurrence for bodily injury and property damage.
Professional Liability or Errors & Omissions Liability ~	\$3,000,000 per occurrence
Required for all professionals including architects, engineers, consultants, construction management, counselors, medical professionals, hospitals, clinics, attorneys and accountants, & other consultants as may be required by the City.	

Required Policy Conditions	
Additional Insured Endorsement	Applicable to General Liability coverage.
	The City of Richmond, its officers, officials, employees, agents and volunteers are to be named as additional insureds for all liability arising out of the operations by or on behalf of the named insured including bodily injury, deaths and property damage or destruction arising in any respect directly or indirectly in the performance of this contract.  ISO form CG 20 10 (11/85) or its equivalent is required. If the Contractor is supplying their product or providing a service then the endorsement must not exclude products and completed operations coverage. If it does, then CG 20 37 (10/01) is also required.
	SAMPLE Endorsements can be found at <a href="http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=61">http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=61</a> .
Primary and Noncontributory	The contractor's insurance coverage must be primary coverage as it pertains to the City, its officers, officials, employees, agents and volunteers. Any insurance or self insurance maintained by the City is wholly separate from the insurance of the contractor and in no way relieves the contractor from its responsibility to provide insurance.
Waiver of Subrogation Endorsement Form	Contractor's insurer will provide a Waiver of Subrogation in favor of the City for Workers' Compensation Insurance during the life of this contract. SAMPLE Endorsements can be found at <a href="http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=61">http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=61</a> .
Deductibles and Self-Insured Retentions	Any deductible or self-insured retention must be declared to and approved by the City. At the option of the City either the insurer shall reduce or eliminate such deductibles or self-insured retention as respects the City or the CONTRACTOR shall procure a financial guarantee in an amount equal to the deductible or self-insured retention guaranteeing payment of losses and related investigations, claims administration and defense expenses.
	Contractor is responsible for satisfaction of the deductible and/or self-insured retention for each loss.
A. M. Best Rating	A:VII or Better. If the A.M. Best Rating falls below the required rating, CONTRACTOR must replace coverage immediately and provide notice to City.

# Umbrella/Excess Liability Policles

If an Umbrella or Excess Liability Policy is used to meet the liability ilmits, coverage shall be as broad as specified for underlying coverage's and cover those insured in the underlying policies.

# City of Richmond - Insurance Requirements - Type 2: Professional Services

#### Claims-Made Policies

If any insurance policy is written on a claims-made form: 1) the retroactive date must be shown, and must be before the date of the contract or the beginning of contract work. 2) Insurance must be maintained and evidence of insurance must be provided for at least five (5) years after completion of the contract of work. 3) If coverage is canceled or non-renewed, and not replaced with another claims-made policy form with a retroactive date prior to the contract effective date, the Contractor must purchase an extended period coverage for a minimum of five (5) years after completion of contract work.

#### Subcontractors

CONTRACTOR shall include all subcontractors as insured under its policies or shall furnish to the City for review and approval, separate certificates and endorsements for each subcontractor. All coverage for subcontractors shall be subject to all of the requirements stated herein.

CONTRACTOR agrees to defend and indemnify the City of Richmond for any damage resulting to it from failure of either CONTRACTOR or any subcontractor to take out or maintain the required insurance policies. The fact that insurance is obtained by CONTRACTOR, and/or CONTRACTOR's subcontractors, will not be deemed to release or diminish the liability of CONTRACTOR, including, without limitation, liability under the indemnity provisions of this contract. Damages recoverable by CITY from CONTRACTOR or any third party will not be limited by the amount of the required insurance coverage.

### **Verification of Coverage**

All original certificates and endorsements shall be received and approved by the City **before work may begin.** The City of Richmond reserves the right to require complete, certified copies of all required insurance policies including endorsements affecting the coverage at any time.

Original insurance certificates and required policy endorsements shall be mailed or delivered to the Designated Project Manager for the City of Richmond.

Insurance certificates and endorsements may be faxed to the Designated Project Manger. However, CONTRACTOR must mail the original certificates and endorsements to Designated Project Manager once faxed.

# **Continuous Coverage**

CONTRACTOR shall maintain the required Insurance for the life of the contract. Should the CONTRACTOR cease to have insurance as required during this time, all work by the CONTRACTOR pursuant to this agreement shall cease until insurance acceptable to the City is provided. In the event that CONTRACTOR fails to comply with the City's insurance requirements, the City may take such action as it deems necessary to protect the City's interests. Such action may include but is not limited to termination of the contract, withholding of payments, or other actions as the City deems appropriate.

If services or the scope of work extend beyond the expiration dates of the required insurance policies initially approved by the City, CONTRACTOR must provide updated certificates and endorsements indicating that the required coverage, terms and conditions are still in place. Renewal certificates and updated endorsements shall be mailed to the Designated Project Manager.

### Cancellation

CONTRACTOR shall ensure that coverage shall not be cancelled, reduced or otherwise materially changed except after thirty (30) days' prior written notice has been given to the City.

## **Reporting Requirements**

Any failure to comply with reporting or other provisions of the policies including breaches of warranties shall not affect coverage provided to the City, its officers, officials, employees or volunteers.

### **Consistent with Public Policy**

The insuring provisions, insofar as they may be judged to be against public policy shall be void and unenforceable only to the minimum extent necessary so that the remaining terms and provisions herein may be consistent with public policy and thus enforceable.