1	STATE OF NEW JERSEY
2	DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
3	x
4	IN RE
5	Local Finance Board :
6	x
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9	Location: Department of Community Affairs
10	101 South Broad Street
11	Trenton, New Jersey 08625
12	Date: Tuesday, March 27, 2018
13	Commencing At: 10:15 a.m.
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1 HELD BEFORE:	1 MR. CUNNINGHAM: Good morning. To
2	2 my colleagues on the phone, we're going to start
3 TIMOTHY J. CUNNINGHAM, Chairman	3 the meeting of the Local Finance Board. Emma is
4 DOMINICK DIROCCO (Appearing Via Telephone)	4 acting as the Executive Secretary today in Pat
5 FRANCIS BLEE (Appearing Via Telephone)	5 McNamara's in absence. She's going to read the
6 ADRIAN MAPP (Appearing Via Telephone)	6 Open Public Meetings statement and take roll
7 WILLIAM CLOSE (Appearing Via Telephone)	7 call.
8 ALAN AVERY	8 MS. SALAY: We are in compliance
9	9 with the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice was
10 ALSO PRESENT:	10 given to the Secretary of State, the Star Ledger
11	11 and the Trenton Times. Mr. Cunningham?
12 MELANIE WALTER, DAG (Appearing Via Telephone)	12 MR. CUNNINGHAM: Here.
13 EMMA SALAY, Deputy Executive Secretary	13 MS. SALAY: Mr. Mapp?
14	14 MR. MAPP: Here.
15	15 MS. SALAY: Mr. DiRocco?
16	16 MR. DIROCCO: Here.
17	17 MS. SALAY: Mr. Close?
18	18 MR. CLOSE: Here.
19	19 MS. SALAY: Mr. Avery?
20	20 MR. AVERY: Here.
21	21 MS. SALAY: Mr. Blee?
22	22 MR. BLEE: Here.
23	23 MR. CUNNINGHAM: And just want to
24	24 note that our counsel, our Deputy Attorney
25	25 General, Melanie Walter, is on the line as well.
23	25 General, Melanic Walter, is on the line as wen.
3	5
1 INDEX	1 MS. WALTER: Good morning.
2 ITEM PAGE	2 MR. CUNNINGHAM: Thank you. So the
3 Opening Remarks	3 board has convened a special meeting today to
4 By: Mr. Cunningham 4	4 consider only one application. That is the
5 Woodbridge Township Housing Authority 5	5 application of the Woodbridge Township Housing
6 Adjournment 20	6 Authority, a rental assistance demonstration
7	7 project that they're looking to undertake.
8	8 I would ask, I guess Ed, Sherry and
9 EXHIBITS	9 Cheryl, those that are going to offer any
10	10 testimony, that they please be introduced on the
1 11 ID DECORIDETON DACE	
11 ID DESCRIPTION PAGE	11 record. I would ask we be particularly cognisant
12	11 record. I would ask we be particularly cognisant 12 about identifying who is speaking today because
12 13 (NO EXHIBITS WERE MARKED.)	11 record. I would ask we be particularly cognisant 12 about identifying who is speaking today because 13 we have colleagues on the phone, and those that
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12 13 (NO EXHIBITS WERE MARKED.) 14 15 16 R E Q U E S T S 17 18 (NO FORMAL REQUESTS WERE MADE.) 19 20 21 22 23	11 record. I would ask we be particularly cognisant 12 about identifying who is speaking today because 13 we have colleagues on the phone, and those that 14 aren't counsel will need to be sworn. 15 MR. MCMANIMON: I'll do the 16 introduction. It's Ed McManimon from McManimon, 17 Scotland and Baumann. We're the bond counsel to 18 the Housing Authority. I have Carolyn Ehrlich, 19 who is not sitting up here, who's the 20 Redevelopment Authority. The executive director 21 John Bennett, who you all know, who is the 22 business administrator is the township. 23 Isabelle Chou is a partner of mine

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1 Donna Brightman who is the Housing Authority to

the right next to Sherry. Larry Stecker, who is

3 out in the audience, with the Housing Authority

4 and Cheryl Oberdorf with Decotiis, Fitzpatrick,

Cole and Giblin, bond counsel to the WoodbridgeTownship.

7 (At which time those wishing to 8 testify were sworn in.)

MR. MCMANIMON: This is a \$6,700,000

10 issue under the Rental Assistance Demonstration

1 Program through HUD. You've had many of these

2 applications before, but this is different in the

13 sense that this is not a rehab of an existing

14 facility converting the Section Nine subsidies to

15 Section Eight subsidies under the RAD Use

16 Agreement Program, and this project itself is a

17 new construction project involving 60 units.

There are two properties involved, 19 and one, the project currently exists on. Both

20 properties are in redevelopment areas in the

21 township and this is a combined project involving

22 the township, Housing Authority and the

23 redevelopment agency and the developer.

24 And the purpose here is to construct

25 a new facility that will be the beneficiary of

1 you feel more comfortable with what they're

2 doing, and then Sherry can discuss the financial

3 end of it and then answer any questions.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Thank you.

5 MS. BRIGHTMAN: Thank you for having

6 this special meeting. We very much appreciate

7 it. The current building is about 60 years old

8 and it's cinder block construction. It needs a

9 lot of work, and it's mostly efficiency units, so

10 we decided to construct a new building right next

11 to a state of the art senior center so that the

12 people living now in the new building will have

13 an enhanced quality of life.

4

14

19

7

As I said, most of the units are

15 efficiencies. We will have now 51 bedrooms and

16 two bedroom units. There will be a little

17 fitness center, a nice community room, a library

18 and all amenities that they don't have now.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Thank you.

20 MS. TRACEY: And just to comment on

21 the finances. This is Sherry Tracey with Phoenix

22 Advisors, the financial advisors to the Housing

23 Authority. As Ed stated, the township will be

24 issuing the loan to the Housing Authority for

25 this project, a not to exceed amount of 6.7

1 the HUD subsidies. And upon the completion of

2 that new facility, the old facility will --

3 people will be moved over to the new facility,

4 and the old Stern site will become a

5 redevelopment site, for purposes of a

6 redevelopment project, that is unrelated to this.

And the relatively unique wrinkle is

8 that the issuance of this debt by the Housing

9 Authority is going to be purchased by the

0 township and the township is going to become the

11 financing entity for this project and they will

12 purchase the bonds that are secured by the

13 subsidies from HUD, but the township obligations

14 will be issued in the market and be secured by

15 their own taxing power, and they won't

16 necessarily match.

7

17

The township expects to issue notes and to pay the notes off in a shorter period than

19 the amount of the subsidy that will then come

20 into the township. There's been a rate that's

21 been negotiated for the 30 year obligation at

22 three and-a-half percent, so that's a couple of

23 unique wrinkles to the HUD RAD program.

24 And I don't know if Donna wants to

25 comment a little bit about the project to make

1 together with other funds of the Housing

2 Authority to build this new structure.

3 And the repayment to the township

4 will be over a 30 year term at a rate of three

5 and a quarter percent and will be -- and together

9

6 with the revenues from HUD will be sufficient to

7 make the repayments to the township.

8 MR. MCMANIMON: Just for the record,

9 the project itself is about 13 million dollars.

0 12,766,000 is construction costs. They have

1 defease in escrow that's an ESCO project that

12 they have to pay off, so they need \$13,254,000.

13 The source of that money is the 6,000,007 debt.

There's 2,000,004 contribution,

15 which Sherry mentioned, that's coming from the

6 township that they ultimately expect to get

17 reimbursed from with the sale of the Stern site

18 for redevelopment purposes. And there's about a

million two that are coming from COAH funds of

20 the township.

21 And then there's a Housing Authority

22 fund balance that will make up the difference,

23 whatever that difference turns out to be in the

24 way of actual costs, so there's coverage for all

5 the of the project related costs, in addition to

10 12

1 the source coming from this borrowing, so it's 2 not all being borrowed.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Thank you. I was going to ask you to talk about the ESCO, so thank you for that. Sherry, when you were talking you were mentioning, so we're going to do a 30 year level debt service, and one component of that capital stack are the HUD funds. And Alan and I were having a conversation this morning, so I think I'm going to ask Alan to present his question first. So Mr. Avery, I'll turn it to you.

MR. AVERY: Well, my question to Tim
was, in essence, what happens if HUD can't meet
its commitment to repay these funds? It seems
strange to me when I was reading the application
that a federal agency can commit for such a long
period of time, a funding source which Congress
may or may not appropriate to them. I assume
that they will, but I just, it just struck me as
what happens if they don't make the payment?
Whose ultimate responsibility is it?

MR. MCMANIMON: Well, the ultimate
risk is going to be on the township because

they're buying this debt. They owe the money to

going to get the money back from HUD. Now, this

is a product of the United States Housing Act of

the bond holders or the note holders. They're

1937. The Section Eight program was in the

3

1 It's a subsidy by the federal government to

2 assure low income housing, and if they were to

3 default on any one of these projects, then that

4 would cause a huge problem, I don't mean in a

5 bond market, but in the market for rental

6 subsidized housing. So I think while there is a

7 theoretical risk, because what Congress agrees to

8 and what the United States Housing Act provides,

9 is for payments that are always subject to

10 appropriation by the federal budget.

And so they haven't defaulted on these things, so I don't think they would be

13 here. There is no reason to think that

14 Woodbridge's project would be different even

15 though, generally, bonds that are issued by an

16 authority to finance one of these projects

17 secured by these payments is a risk to the bond 18 market.

19 Here, the township is funding this

20 believing that this risk is minimal and that they

21 will pay off their debt in a much shorter period

22 than the 30 years because they'll do it in their

budget, and then the money from HUD under this

24 program will continue to come in to the township

25 when they no longer have debt, so they could

L

1 either parallel the debt or pay their debt off2 over a shorter period with their budget, and then

3 this will be equivalent of an investment for lack

4 of a better term.

5 MR. AVERY: I understand. And I ran

6 a Community Development Program, so I know how

7 that works. I guess the answer really is, is the

8 ultimate debt goes to the town?

9 MR. MCMANIMON: Correct.

MR. AVERY: That's fine. That was

11 my question.

12 MS. OBERDORF: Cheryl Oberdorf. I'd

13 like to add to what Ed said. So getting down to

4 the township and the Housing Authority level, not

15 at the HUD level, in the event the Housing

16 Authority, for whatever reason, doesn't make its

17 payments under the documents, under the loan

18 documents, the township, subject to prior

19 approval of HUD, has the right to come in and

20 take over the project and foreclose because there

21 will be a mortgage.

So this is not in the event that HUD

23 doesn't make any payments. This is in the event

24 that Housing Authority doesn't, for whatever God

25 forsaken reason, it doesn't make payments. And

11

5 1970s, and it's been going on forever and they
6 signed annual contribution contracts and housing
7 assistance payments contracts that were needed
8 for 20 years or 40 years, and it depended on
9 whether they were guaranteed by the Federal
10 Housing Administration.
11 But it's always a risk and it's been
12 that way since 1970, so realistically, HUD and
13 Congress appropriates the money for these low

that way since 1970, so realistically, HUD and
Congress appropriates the money for these low
income housing subsidy payments, and to the
extent that they don't, the whole program would
fall apart. And there's so many housing units
that are out there that are paid for by rents
from the tenants.

And the difference between the rent for the low income tenants and the actual cost to rent is subsidized under Section Eight under these annual contribution contracts or housing assistance payments contracts.

And I've done a lot of Section Eight housing over the years and that's how it works. 13

14 16

1 the other issue is the township does intend to

- 2 pay down the BANs that were issued on March 23rd,
- 3 anticipation of funding Donna's loans. And at
- 4 their favorable rates. I think the taxes end rate
- 5 was 1.75 and 2.4, it could be a little off, was
- 6 about 1.95.
- 7 So anyway, the ultimate resource is
- 8 for the township to foreclose in the event the
- 9 Housing Authority doesn't pay.
- MR. AVERY: Or to make up the funds
- 11 through its own sources, taxing power. They
- 2 could do that.
- MS. OBERDORF: Right. They could do
- 14 that. That's never been discussed.
- 15 MR. AVERY: I understand. I like
- 16 Ed's answer. The township is ultimately on the
- 17 hook.
- 18 MS. OBERDORF: Absolutely. The
- 19 township is ultimately on the hook, but just so
- 20 you know, there is a disconnect in terms of the
- 21 payments from the Housing Authority to the
- 22 township. It doesn't match the BAN pay off, the
- 23 BANs. The township does not expect to go to
- 24 bonds.
- MR. MAPP: Is the authority under

- 1 suspended until our debt is paid off and then it
- 2 will pick back up again.

3

16

- MR. AVERY: At the same rate?
- 4 MS. BRIGHTMAN: Yeah, and it's only
- 5 suspended to allow us to pay off the loan at a 6 greater pace.
- 7 MR. CUNNINGHAM: I should have told
- 8 my colleagues, I told Alan because he's here in
- 9 person, but the municipality, the redevelopment
- 10 agency, the Housing Authority, we did have a
- 11 meeting in person where the project was explained
- 12 to myself and members of the team, the Division's
- 13 team and then it was -- the application was
- 14 supplemented with additional information. And I
- 15 should ask, who put the chart together?
 - MS. OBERDORF: I did.
- 17 MR. CUNNINGHAM: It was very, very
- 18 helpful, so thank you. It was very visual to be
- 19 able to kind of see the moving parts, so thank
- 20 you for that.
- 21 MS. OBERDORF: You're welcome.
- MR. CUNNINGHAM: The other thing
- 23 that came up in that meeting, I just want the
- 24 other members to know, I asked the question,
- 25 whether or not any existing residents on Stern

15

- 1 any obligation through a pilot to make payments
- 2 to the municipality? Is there a pilot involved?
- 3 MR. MCMANIMON: No pilot. There is
- 4 no pilot here. There may ultimately be a pilot5 on the other unrelated redevelopment project
- 6 where the current location of the units are which
- 7 will -- those people will transfer over to the
- 8 new project on the new site, and then there will
- 9 be a development of the Stern site which
- 10 probably, although not necessarily, will have a
- 11 pilot but it's completely unrelated to this
- 12 project and this financing.
- MS. BRIGHTMAN: But we do have a
- 14 pilot payment now which will be suspended with
- 15 this new project until our payments, our bonds,
- 16 are repaid. Then the pilot will start,
- 17 recommence.
- MR. CUNNINGHAM: I'm confused by
- 19 that one. What is the current -- regardless of
- 20 being suspended, what is the current pilot for?
- 21 MS. BRIGHTMAN: We have a current
- 22 pilot with the town, 10 percent of the gross
- 23 shelter rents.
- 24 MS. OBERDORF: On Stern.
- 25 MS. BRIGHTMAN: Which will be

- 1 would be adversely or unhappily relocated as a
- 2 result of the construction of Red Oak, and I
- 3 think that question was answered in a very
- 4 satisfactory way, but could you just talk a
- 5 little bit about the efforts thus far?
- 6 MS. BRIGHTMAN: Sure. This is Donna
- 7 from the Housing Authority. When we informed the
- 8 tenants that we were going to do this project,
- 9 there are 60 existing tenants, I asked anyone who
- 10 wanted to be relocated and we did that and we
- 11 paid for their move. So maybe about three people
- 12 left to be closer to family in other parts of
- 13 town.
- 14 And anybody moving into the
- 15 projects, since this has transpired, already has
- 16 agreed to go with the move and they're happy with
- 17 it. So all the existing tenants are very much
- 18 looking forward to the new move.
- 19 MR. CUNNINGHAM: And they're looking
- 20 forward to it for, as I understand it, for two
- 21 reasons. Number one, they're going to a newly
- 22 constructed unit as opposed to one that is
- 23 decades old. And secondly, I believe it was the
- 24 representation was made that the Red Oak site has
- 25 a senior center on it already or a facility on it

	18	20
1	already that they would be within walking	1 We appreciate it.
2	distance.	2 MR. CUNNINGHAM: Motion to adjourn?
3	MS. BRIGHTMAN: Correct	3 MR. AVERY: So moved.
4	MR. CUNNINGHAM: So that's the	4 MR. CLOSE: Second.
5	attractiveness of the site, the newness and the	5 MR. CUNNINGHAM: All in favor?
6	proximity to the facility.	6 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.
7	MS. BRIGHTMAN: Correct. And it	7 (Hearing Concluded at 10:33 a.m.)
8	also has bus transportation, a town bus that will	8
9	take them to shopping and wherever they want to	9
10	go.	10
11	MR. CUNNINGHAM: Okay. Any	11
12	questions from the members of the board on the	12
13	phone?	13
14	MR. MAPP: Just one other question.	14
15	You mentioned the pilot. Is that supported by an	15
16	act of the governing body?	16
17	MS. BRIGHTMAN: Yes.	17
18	MR. MAPP: I didn't hear the answer.	18
19	MS. BRIGHTMAN: Yes, it is.	19
20	MR. MAPP: Okay. Very good.	20
21	MR. CUNNINGHAM: Any other questions	20 21
	* *	21 22
22 23	from the board?	
	MS. BRIGHTMAN: Both governing	23
24	, 2	24
25	MR. CUNNINGHAM: I don't have any	25
	19	21
1	additional questions, so I would, I guess call	1 CERTIFICATE
2	for a roll call now. I would ask for a motion	2
3	and a second.	3 I, LAUREN ETIER, a Certified Court
4	MR. AVERY: I'll move it.	4 Reporter, License No. XI 02211, and Notary Public
5	MR. CUNNINGHAM: Mr. Avery moves.	5 of the State of New Jersey, that the foregoing is
6	MR. BLEE: Second.	6 a true and accurate transcript of the testimony
7	MR. CUNNINGHAM: Mr. Blee seconds.	7 as taken stenographically by and before me at the
8	Roll call, please.	8 time, place and on the date hereinbefore set
9	MS. SALAY: Mr. Cunningham?	9 forth.
10	MR. CUNNINGHAM: Yes.	10 I DO FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither a
11	MS. SALAY: Mr. Mapp?	11 relative nor employee nor attorney nor council of
12	MR. MAPP: Yes.	12 any of the parties to this action, and that I am
13	MS. SALAY: Mr. DiRocco?	13 neither a relative nor employee of such attorney
	MR. DIROCCO: Yes.	14 or council, and that I am not financially
14		15 interested in the action.
14 15	MS. SALAY: Mr. Close?	15 micrested in the detion.
	MS. SALAY: Mr. Close? MR. CLOSE: Yes.	16
15		
15 16	MR. CLOSE: Yes.	16
15 16 17	MR. CLOSE: Yes. MS. SALAY: Mr. Avery?	16 17
15 16 17 18 19	MR. CLOSE: Yes. MS. SALAY: Mr. Avery? MR. AVERY: Yes.	16 17 18
15 16 17 18	MR. CLOSE: Yes. MS. SALAY: Mr. Avery? MR. AVERY: Yes. MS. SALAY: Mr. Blee? MR. BLEE: Yes.	16 17 18 19 20 21
15 16 17 18 19 20	MR. CLOSE: Yes. MS. SALAY: Mr. Avery? MR. AVERY: Yes. MS. SALAY: Mr. Blee?	16 17 18 19 20
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	MR. CLOSE: Yes. MS. SALAY: Mr. Avery? MR. AVERY: Yes. MS. SALAY: Mr. Blee? MR. BLEE: Yes. MR. CUNNINGHAM: Then that concludes the matter.	16 17 18 19 20 21 22 Kauran M. Etion
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	MR. CLOSE: Yes. MS. SALAY: Mr. Avery? MR. AVERY: Yes. MS. SALAY: Mr. Blee? MR. BLEE: Yes. MR. CUNNINGHAM: Then that concludes the matter. MR. CUNNINGHAM: Thank you very	16 17 18 19 20 21 22 Rotary Public of the State of New Jersey
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	MR. CLOSE: Yes. MS. SALAY: Mr. Avery? MR. AVERY: Yes. MS. SALAY: Mr. Blee? MR. BLEE: Yes. MR. CUNNINGHAM: Then that concludes the matter. MR. CUNNINGHAM: Thank you very	16 17 18 19 20 21 22

	answer 8:3	13:14,16,24	Brightman 6:1
A 1 1 1 2 2 2 2 5	13:7 14:16	14:9,21,25	8:5 15:13,21
a.m1:13 20:7	18:18	16:10 17:7	15:25 16:4
able 16:19	answered 17:3	18:24	17:6 18:3,7
absence 4:5	anticipation	Avery 2:8 4:19	18:17,19,23
Absolutely	14:3	4:20 10:11	19:25
14:18	anybody 17:14	10:13 13:5	Broad 1:10
accurate 21:6	anyway 14:7	13:10 14:10	budget 12:10
act 4:9 11:3	apart 11:16	14:15 16:3	12:23 13:2
12:8 18:16	Appearing 2:4	19:4,5,17,18	build 9:2
acting 4:4	2:5,6,7,12	20:3	building 8:7
action 21:12	application	Aye 20:6	8:10,12
21:15	5:4,5 10:16	Aye 20.0	bus 18:8,8
actual 9:24	16:13	В	business 5:22
11:20	applications	B3:9	buying 10:25
add 13:13	6:12	back 11:2 16:2	Duying 10.45
addition 9:25	appreciate 8:6	balance 9:22	C
additional	20:1	BAN 14:22	C21:1,1
16:14 19:1	appropriate	BANs 14:2,23	call 4:7 19:1
adjourn 20:2	10:19	Baumann 5:17	19:2,8
Adjournment	appropriates	bedroom 8:16	capital 10:8
3:6	11:13	bedrooms 8:15	Carolyn 5:18
Administra	appropriation	believe 17:23	cause 12:4
11:10	12:10	believing	center 1:21
administrator	approval 13:19	12:20	8:11,17
5:22	April 21:25	beneficiary	17:25
ADRIAN 2:6	areas 6:20	6:25	Certified 1:20
adversely 17:1	art 8:11	Bennett 5:21	21:3
advisor 5:25	asked 16:24	better 13:4	CERTIFY 21:10
advisors 8:22	17:9	bit 7:25 17:5	Chairman 2:3
8:22	assistance 5:6	Blee 2:5 4:21	chart 16:15
Affairs 1:2,9	6:10 11:7,23	4:22 19:6,7	Cheryl 5:9 6:4
agency 6:23	ASSOCIATES	19:19,20	13:12
10:17 16:10	1:19	block8:8	Chou 5:23
agreed 17:16 Agreement 6:16	assume 10:19	board 1:5 4:3	cinder 8:8
agrees 12:7	assure 12:2	5:3 18:12,22	Close 2:7 4:17
Alan 2:8 10:8	attorney 4:24	20:6	4:18 19:15
10:10 16:8	21:11,13	bodies 18:24	19:16 20:4
allow 16:5	attractive	body 18:16	closer 17:12
amenities 8:18	18:5	bond 5:17 6:5	COAH 9:19
amount 7:19	audience 6:3	11:1 12:5,17	cognisant 5:11
8:25	<pre>authority 3:5</pre>	bonds 7:12	Cole 6:5
and-a-half	5:6,18,20,25	12:15 14:24	colleagues 4:2
7:22	6:1,3,22 7:9	15:15	5:13 16:8
annual 11:6,22	8:23,24 9:2	borrowed 10:2	combined 6:21
4	9:21 12:16	borrowing 10:1	come 7:19

	1	 	
12:24 13:19	CORPORATE 1:21	12:11	Ed's 14:16
comfortable	Correct 13:9	defease 9:11	efficiencies
8:1	18:3,7	demonstration	8:15
coming 9:15,19	cost 11:20	5:6 6:10	efficiency 8:9
10:1	costs 9:10,24	Department 1:2	efforts 17:5
Commencing	9:25	1:9	Ehrlich 5:18
1:13	council 21:11	depended 11:8	Eight 6:15
comment 7:25	21:14	Deputy 2:13	11:4,21,24
8:20	counsel 4:24	4:24	either 13:1
Commission	5:14,17 6:5	DESCRIPTION	Emma 2:13 4:3
21:24	couple 7:22	3:11	employee 21:11
commit 10:17	Court 1:20	developer 6:23	21:13
commitment	21:3	development	enhanced 8:13
10:15	coverage 9:24	13:6 15:9	entity 7:11
community 1:2	CREST 1:21	difference	equivalent
1:9 8:17	Cunningham 2:3	9:22,23	13:3
13:6	3:4 4:1,11	11:19	ESCO 9:11 10:4
completely	4:12,23 5:2	different 6:12	escrow 9:11
15:11	8:4,19 10:3	12:14	essence 10:14
completion 7:1	15:18 16:7	director 5:20	ETIER 21:3
compliance 4:8	16:17,22	DiRocco 2:4	event 13:15,22
component 10:7	17:19 18:4	4:15,16	13:23 14:8
Concluded 20:7	18:11,21,25	19:13,14	exceed 8:25
concludes	19:5,7,9,10	disconnect	executive 2:13
19:21	19:21,23	14:20	4:4 5:20
confused 15:18	20:2,5	discuss 8:2	EXHIBITS 3:13
Congress 10:18	current 8:7	discussed	existing 6:13
11:13 12:7	15:6,19,20	14:14	16:25 17:9
consider 5:4	15:21	distance 18:2	17:17
construct 6:24	currently 6:19	Division's	exists 6:19
8:10		16:12	expect 9:16
constructed	D	documents	14:23
17:22	D 3:1	13:17,18	expects 7:17
construction	DAG 2:12	doing 8:2	Expires 21:24
6:17 8:8	date 1:12 21:8	dollars9:9	explained
9:10 17:2	Dated 21:25	DOMINICK 2:4	16:11
continue 12:24	debt 7:8 9:13	Donna 6:1 7:24	extent 11:15
contracts 11:6	10:7,25	17:6	
11:7,22,23	12:21,25	Donna's 14:3	F
contribution	13:1,1,8		F 21:1
9:14 11:6,22	16:1	E	facility6:14
convened 5:3	decades 17:23	E 2:10,10 3:1	6:25 7:2,2,3
conversation	decided 8:10	3:9,16,16	17:25 18:6
10:9	Decotiis 6:4	21:1,1	fall 11:16
converting	default 12:3	Ed 5:8,16 8:23	family 17:12
6:14	defaulted	13:13	far 17:5

6 00.5	14.02 15.16	12.14 15 04	-
favor 20:5	go 14:23 17:16	13:14,15,24	John 5:21
favorable 14:4	18:10	14:9,21	June 21:24
federal 10:17	God 13:24	16:10 17:7	K
11:9 12:1,10	goes 13:8	18:24	kind 16:19
feel 8:1	going 4:2,5	HUD 6:11 7:1	
finance 1:5	5:9 7:9,10	7:13,23 9:6	know 5:21 7:24 13:6 14:20
4:3 12:16	10:4,6,10,24	10:8,14 11:2	16:24
finances 8:21	11:2,5 17:8	11:12 12:23	10.24
financial 5:25	17:21	13:15,19,22	L
8:2,22	GOLDEN 1:21	huge 12:4	L2:10
financially	good 4:1 5:1		lack 13:3
21:14	18:20	ID 3:11	Larry 6:2
financing 7:11	governing	identifying	LAUREN 21:3
15:12	18:16,23	5:12	Ledger 4:10
fine 13:10	government	income 11:14	left 17:12
firm 5:24	12:1	11:20 12:2	level 10:7
first 10:11	greater 16:6	information	13:14,15
fitness 8:17	gross 15:22	16:14	library 8:17
Fitzpatrick 6:4	guaranteed	informed 17:7	License 21:4
	11:9	intend 14:1	life 8:13
foreclose	guess 5:8 13:7 19:1	interested	line 4:25
13:20 14:8	GUY 1:19	21:15	little 7:25
foregoing 21:5	GUYI.19	introduced	8:16 14:5
forever 11:5	Н	5:10	17:5
FORMAL 3:18 forsaken 13:25	H 3:9	introduction	living 8:12
forth 21:9	happens 10:14	5:16	loan 8:24
forward 17:18	10:21	investment	13:17 16:5
17:20	happy 17:16	13:3	loans 14:3
FRANCIS 2:5	hear 18:18	involved 6:18	Local 1:5 4:3
FREE 1:24	Hearing 20:7	15:2	location 1:9
fund 9:22	HELD 2:1	involving 6:17	15:6
funding 10:18	helpful 16:18	6:21	long 10:17
12:19 14:3	hereinbefore	Isabelle 5:23	longer 12:25
funds 9:1,19	21:8	issuance 7:8	looking 5:7
10:8,15	HIGHWAY 1:22	issue 6:10	17:18,19
14:10	holders 11:1,1	7:17 14:1	lot 8:9 11:24
FURTHER 21:10	hook 14:17,19	issued 7:14	low11:13,20
	housing 3:5	12:15 14:2	12:2
G	5:5,18,25	issuing 8:24	
General 4:25	6:1,3,22 7:8	ITEM 3:2	M
generally	8:22,24 9:1		Mapp 2:6 4:13
12:15	9:21 11:3,6	J	4:14 14:25
getting 13:13	11:10,14,16	J 1:19 2:3	18:14,18,20
Giblin 6:5	11:22,25	Jersey 1:1,11	19:11,12
given 4:10	12:2,6,8	1:23 21:5,23	March 1:12

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14:2		opposed 17:22	place 21:8
MARKED 3:13	N	owe 10:25	please 5:10
market 7:14	N 2:10 3:1		19:8
12:5,5,18	necessarily 7:16 15:10	P	power 7:15
match 7:16	need 5:14 9:12	P 2:10	14:11
14:22	need 5:14 9:12 needed 11:7	pace 16:6	present 10:10
matter 19:22	needs 8:8	PAGE 3:2,11	prior 13:18
McManimon 5:15	negotiated	paid 11:17	probably 15:10
5:16,16 6:9	7:21	16:1 17:11	problem 12:4
9:8 10:23	neither 21:10	parallel 13:1	product 11:3
13:9 15:3	21:13	particularly	program 6:11
McNamara's 4:5	never 14:14	5:11	6:16 7:23
mean 12:4	new1:1,11,23	parties 21:12	11:4,15
meet 10:14	6:17,25 7:2	<pre>partner 5:23</pre>	12:24 13:6
meeting 4:3	7:3 8:10,12	parts 16:19	project 5:7
5:3 8:6	9:2 15:8,8	17:12	6:16,17,19
16:11,23	15:15 17:18	Pat 4:4	6:21 7:6,11
Meetings 4:6,9	21:5,23	pay 7:18 9:12	7:25 8:25
Melanie 2:12	newly 17:21	12:21 13:1	9:9,11,25
4:25	newness 18:5	14:2,9,22	12:14 13:20
members 16:12	nice 8:17	16:5	15:5,8,12,15
16:24 18:12	Nine 6:14	payment 10:21	16:11 17:8
20:6	Notary 21:4,23	15:14	projects 12:3
mentioned 9:15	note 4:24 11:1	payments 11:7	12:16 17:15
18:15	notes 7:17,18	11:14,23	properties
mentioning	Notice 4:9	12:9,17	6:18,20
10:6	Number 17:21	13:17,23,25 14:21 15:1	provides 12:8
million 9:9,19		15:15	proximity 18:6
mine 5:23 minimal 12:20	0	people 7:3	Public 4:6,9
minimal 12.20 money 9:13	02:10	8:12 15:7	21:4,23 purchase 7:12
10:25 11:2	Oak 17:2,24	17:11	purchased 7:9
11:13 12:23	Oberdorf 6:4	percent 7:22	purpose 6:24
morning 4:1	13:12,12	9:5 15:22	purposes 7:5
5:1 10:9	14:13,18	period 7:18	9:18
mortgage 13:21	15:24 16:16	10:18 12:21	put 16:15
motion 19:2	16:21	13:2	
20:2	obligation 7:21 15:1	person 16:9,11	Q
move 17:11,16	obligations	Phoenix 8:21	quality 8:13
17:18 19:4	7:13	phone 4:2 5:13	quarter 9:5
moved 7:3 20:3	offer 5:9	18:13	question 10:11
moves 19:5	Okay 18:11,20	pick 16:2	10:13 13:11
moving 16:19	old 7:2,4 8:7	pilot 15:1,2,3	16:24 17:3
17:14	17:23	15:4,4,11,14	18:14
municipality	Open 4:6,9	15:16,20,22	questions 8:3
15:2 16:9	Opening 3:3	18:15	18:12,21
	-F		

19:1	repay 10:15	secured 7:12	struck 10:20
17.1	repayment 9:3	7:14 12:17	structure 9:2
R	repayments 9:7	see 16:19	subject 12:9
R2:10 3:16	Reporter 21:4	senior 8:11	13:18
21:1	REPORTERS 1:20	17:25	subsidies 6:14
RAD 6:15 7:23		sense 6:13	
ran 13:5	representa		6:15 7:1,13
rate 7:20 9:4		service 10:7	subsidized
14:4 16:3	REQUESTS 3:18	set 21:8	11:21 12:6
rates 14:4	residents	shelter 15:23	subsidy 7:19
read 4:5	16:25	Sherry 5:8,24	11:14 12:1
read 4.5	resource 14:7	6:2 8:2,21	sufficient 9:6
_	responsibi	9:15 10:5	SUITE 1:22
realistically	10:22	shopping 18:9	supplemented
11:12	result 17:2	shorter 7:18	16:14
really 13:7	revenues 9:6	12:21 13:2	supported
reason 12:13	right 5:24 6:2	signed 11:6	18:15
13:16,25	8:10 13:19	site 7:4,5	Sure 17:6
reasons 17:21	14:13	9:17 15:8,9	suspended
recommence	risk 10:24	17:24 18:5	15:14,20
15:17	11:11 12:7	sitting 5:19	16:1,5
record 5:11	12:17,20	source 9:13	sworn 5:14 6:8
9:8	roll 4:6 19:2	10:1,18	
Red 17:2,24	19:8	sources 14:11	<u>T</u>
redevelopment	room 8:17	South 1:10	T 2:10 3:9,16
5:20 6:20,23		speaking 5:12	21:1,1
7:5,6 9:18	S	special 5:3	take 4:6 13:20
15:5 16:9	s 2:10,10 3:9	8:6	18:9
regardless	3:16,16	stack 10:8	taken 21:7
15:19	SALAY 2:13 4:8	Star 4:10	talk 10:4 17:4
rehab 6:13	4:13,15,17	start 4:2	talking 10:5
reimbursed	4:19,21 19:9	15:16	taxes 14:4
9:17	19:11,13,15	state 1:1,22	taxing 7:15
related 9:25	19:17,19	4:10 8:11	14:11
relative 21:11	sale 9:17	21:5,23	team 16:12,13
21:13	satisfactory	stated 8:23	TEL 1:24
relatively 7:7	17:4	statement 4:6	Telephone 2:4
relocated 17:1	Scotland 5:17	States 11:3	2:5,6,7,12
17:10	second 19:3,6	12:8	tenants 11:18
Remarks 3:3	20:4	Stecker 6:2	11:20 17:8,9
rent 11:19,21	secondly 17:23	stenograph	17:17
rental 5:6	seconds 19:7	21:7	term 9:4 13:4
6:10 12:5	Secretary 2:13	Stern 7:4 9:17	terms 14:20
rents 11:17	4:4,10	15:9,24	testify6:8
15:23	Section 6:14	16:25	testimony 5:10
RENZI 1:19	6:15 11:4,21	strange 10:16	21:6
repaid 15:16	11:24	Street 1:10	thank 5:2 8:4

8:5,19 10:3	1:23 4:11	17:4	13 9:9
10:4 16:18	true 21:6	we're 4:2 5:17	13,254,000
16:19 19:23	Tuesday 1:12	10:6	9:12
19:25	turn 10:11	welcome 16:21	14 21:24
theoretical	turns 9:23	WILLIAM 2:7	1937 11:4
12:7	two 6:18 8:16	wishing 6:7	1970 11:12
thing 16:22	9:19 17:20	Woodbridge 3:5	1970s 11:5
things 12:12		5:5 6:5	
think 10:10	Ū	Woodbridge's	2
12:6,12,13	u 3:16	12:14	2,000,004 9:14
14:4 17:3	ultimate 10:22	work 8:9	2.4 14:5
three 7:22 9:4	10:23 13:8	works 11:25	20 3:6 11:8
17:11	14:7	13:7	2018 1:12
Tim 10:13	ultimately	wrinkle 7:7	21:24,25
time 6:7 10:18	9:16 14:16	wrinkles 7:23	2277 1:22
21:8	14:19 15:4	www.renzia	23rd 14:2
Times 4:11	understand	1:25	27 1:12
TIMOTHY 2:3	13:5 14:15		
today 4:4 5:3	17:20	X	3
5:12	undertake 5:7	x 1:3,6 3:1,9	30 7:21 9:4
told 16:7,8	unhappily 17:1	XI 21:4	10:6 12:22
TOLL 1:24	unique 7:7,23		33 1:22
town 13:8	unit 17:22	Y	368-7652 1:24
15:22 17:13	United 11:3	Yeah 16:4	
18:8	12:8	year 7:21 9:4	4
township 3:5	units6:17 8:9	10:6	4 3 : 4
5:5,22 6:6	8:14,16	years 8:7 11:8	40 11:8
6:21,22 7:10	11:16 15:6	11:8,25	410 1:22
7:10,13,17	unrelated 7:6	12:22	5
7:20 8:23	15:5,11		
9:3,7,16,20	Use 6:15	Z	5 3 : 5
10:24 12:19		0	51 8:15
12:24 13:14	v	02211 21:4	6
13:18 14:1,8	VIDEOGRAPHERS	086251:11	6 21:25
14:16,19,22	1:20	086901:23	6,000,0079:13
14:23 18:24	visual 16:18	000901.23	6,700,0006:9
Tracey 5:24	W	1	6.7 8:25
8:20,21		1.75 14:5	60 6:17 8:7
transcript	walking 18:1	1.95 14:6	17:9
21:6	Walter 2:12	10 15:22	6091:24
transfer 15:7	4:25 5:1	10:15 1:13	
transpired	want 4:23 16:23 18:9	10:33 20:7	7
17:15	wanted 17:10	101 332017	
transporta	wanted 17:10	12,766,000	8
18:8	wants / · 24 way 9:24 11:12	9:10	8001:24
Trenton 1:11	way > · △+ ± ± · ± △	- 	

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Page 28

9989-91991:24				Page 20
		1	1	1
	9			
989-9199 1:24				
	989-9199 1:24			
i i i				
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>