

# CALIFORNIA TAX CREDIT ALLOCATION COMMITTEE

## Project Staff Report Tax-Exempt Bond Project March 21, 2018

Claremont Village Apartments, located at 965 West Arrow Highway in Claremont, requested and is being recommended for a reservation of \$2,364,557 in annual federal tax credits to finance the acquisition and rehabilitation of 149 units of housing serving tenants with rents affordable to households earning 50-60% of area median income (AMI). The project will be developed by MRK Partners and is located in Senate District 25 and Assembly District 41.

Claremont Village Apartments is a re-syndication of an existing Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) project, Claremont Village Apartments (CA-2000-901). See **Resyndication and Resyndication Transfer Event** below for additional information. The project will be receiving rental assistance in the form of HUD Section 8 Project-based Contract.

|                       |                              |                     |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Project Number</b> | CA-18-721                    |                     |
| <b>Project Name</b>   | Claremont Village Apartments |                     |
| Site Address:         | 965 West Arrow Highway       |                     |
|                       | Claremont, CA 91711          | County: Los Angeles |
| Census Tract:         | 4020.01                      |                     |

|                           |                       |                    |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Tax Credit Amounts</b> | <b>Federal/Annual</b> | <b>State/Total</b> |
| Requested:                | \$2,364,557           | \$0                |
| Recommended:              | \$2,364,557           | \$0                |

### Applicant Information

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Applicant: | Claremont Village Venture LP                             |
| Contact:   | Cathy Coler  |
| Address:   | 2711 N. Sepulveda Blvd #526<br>Manhattan Beach, CA 90266 |
| Phone:     | (424) 999-4580   |
| Email:     | ccoler@mrkpartners.com                                   |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| General Partner(s) or Principal Owner(s): | Claremont Village DE GP LLC<br>AOF Claremont LLC           |
| General Partner Type:                     | Joint Venture  |
| Parent Company(ies):                      | MRK Partners<br>AOF/Pacific Affordable Housing Corporation |
| Developer:                                | MRK Partners   |
| Investor/Consultant:                      | R4 Capital LLC   |
| Management Agent:                         | Apartment Management Consultants, LLC                      |

**Project Information**

Construction Type: Acquisition & Rehabilitation  
 Total # Residential Buildings: 15  
 Total # of Units: 150  
 No. / % of Low Income Units: 149 100.00%  
 Federal Set-Aside Elected: 40%/60%  
 Federal Subsidy: Tax-Exempt  
 HUD Section 8 Project-based Contract (148 Units - 99%)

**Bond Information**

Issuer: California Statewide Communities Development Authority  
 Expected Date of Issuance: April 30, 2018

**Information**

Housing Type: Non-Targeted  
 Geographic Area: Balance of Los Angeles County  
 TCAC Project Analyst: Zhuo Chen

**55-Year Use / Affordability**

| Aggregate Targeting<br>Number of Units |    | Percentage of<br>Affordable<br>Units |
|--|----|--------------------------------------|
| 50% AMI:                               | 55 | 37%                                  |
| 60% AMI:                               | 94 | 63%                                  |

**Unit Mix**

|                    |
|--------------------|
| 96 2-Bedroom Units |
| 54 3-Bedroom Units |
| 150 Total Units    |

| Unit Type<br>& Number | 2017 Rents<br>Targeted % of<br>Area Median<br>Income | 2017 Rents Actual<br>% of Area Median<br>Income | Proposed<br>Rent<br>(including<br>utilities) |
|-----------------------|--|---|--|
| 35 2 Bedrooms         | 50%  | 50%   | \$1,013                                      |
| 60 2 Bedrooms         | 60%  | 60%   | \$1,216                                      |
| 20 3 Bedrooms         | 50%  | 50%   | \$1,171                                      |
| 33 3 Bedrooms         | 60%  | 60%   | \$1,406                                      |
| 1 2 Bedrooms          | 60%  | 60%   | \$1,216                                      |
| 1 3 Bedrooms          | Manager's Unit                                       | Manager's Unit                                  | \$0  |

TCAC-confirmed Projected Lifetime Rent Benefit: \$39,185,520

**Project Cost Summary at Application**

|                                  |                     |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Land and Acquisition             | \$54,654,793        |
| Construction Costs               | \$0                 |
| Rehabilitation Costs             | \$8,872,982         |
| Construction Contingency         | \$760,976           |
| Relocation                       | \$25,000            |
| Architectural/Engineering        | \$155,000           |
| Const. Interest, Perm. Financing | \$2,444,001         |
| Legal Fees, Appraisals           | \$480,000           |
| Reserves                         | \$1,347,372         |
| Other Costs                      | \$870,830           |
| Developer Fee                    | \$9,059,737         |
| Commercial Costs                 | \$0                 |
| <b>Total</b>                     | <b>\$78,670,690</b> |

**Residential**

|                                    |           |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Construction Cost Per Square Foot: | \$65      |
| Per Unit Cost:                     | \$524,471 |
| True Cash Per Unit Cost*:          | \$466,561 |

**Construction Financing**

| Source                          | Amount       |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| CBRE Capital Markets-T.E. Bonds | \$44,822,343 |
| Seller Carryback - T.E. Bonds   | \$2,500,000  |
| Net Operating Income            | \$1,843,737  |
| Existing Replacement Reserve    | \$854,793    |
| Deferred Developer Fee          | \$6,186,524  |
| Tax Credit Equity               | \$22,463,294 |

**Permanent Financing**

| Source                        | Amount              |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| CBRE - T.E. Bonds             | \$44,822,343        |
| Seller Carryback - T.E. Bonds | \$2,500,000         |
| Net Operating Income          | \$1,843,737         |
| Existing Replacement Reserve  | \$854,793           |
| Deferred Developer Fee        | \$6,186,524         |
| Tax Credit Equity             | \$22,463,294        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                  | <b>\$78,670,690</b> |

\*Less Fee Waivers, Seller Carryback Loans, and Deferred Developer Fee

**Determination of Credit Amount(s)**

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| Requested Eligible Basis (Rehabilitation):                 | \$12,154,988   |
| 130% High Cost Adjustment:                                 | Yes            |
| Requested Eligible Basis (Acquisition):                    | \$57,302,996   |
| Applicable Fraction:                                       | 100.00%        |
| Qualified Basis (Rehabilitation):                          | \$15,801,484   |
| Qualified Basis (Acquisition):                             | \$57,302,996   |
| Applicable Rate:   | 3.27%          |
| Maximum Annual Federal Credit, Rehabilitation:             | \$490,749      |
| Maximum Annual Federal Credit, Acquisition:                | \$1,873,808    |
| Total Maximum Annual Federal Credit:                       | \$2,364,557    |
| Approved Developer Fee (in Project Cost & Eligible Basis): | \$9,059,737    |
| Investor/Consultant:                                       | R4 Capital LLC |
| Federal Tax Credit Factor:                                 | \$0.95000      |

Per Regulation Section 10327(c)(6), the “as if vacant” land value and the existing improvement value established at application, as well as the eligible basis amount derived from those values, will be used during all subsequent reviews including the placed in service review, for the purpose of determining the final award of Tax Credits.

Per Regulation Section 10327(c)(2)(C), once established at the initial funded application, the developer fee cannot be increased, but may be decreased, in the event of a modification in basis.

#### **Eligible Basis and Basis Limit**

|                                       |              |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Requested Unadjusted Eligible Basis:  | \$69,457,984 |
| Actual Eligible Basis:                | \$69,457,984 |
| Unadjusted Threshold Basis Limit:     | \$51,121,152 |
| Total Adjusted Threshold Basis Limit: | \$69,524,767 |

#### **Adjustments to Basis Limit**

55-Year Use/Affordability Restriction – 1% for Each 1% of Low-Income Units are Income Targeted between 50% AMI & 36% AMI: 36%

#### **Cost Analysis and Line Item Review**

Staff analysis of project costs to determine reasonableness found all fees to be within TCAC’s underwriting guidelines and TCAC limitations. Annual operating expenses meet the minimum operating expenses established in the Regulations, and the project pro forma shows a positive cash flow from year one. Staff has calculated federal tax credits based on 3.27% of the qualified basis. Applicants are cautioned to consider the expected federal rate when negotiating with investors. TCAC’s financial evaluation at project completion will determine the final allocation.

**Significant Information / Additional Conditions:** None.

#### **Resyndication and Resyndication Transfer Event**

Prior to closing, the applicant or its assignee shall obtain TCAC’s consent to assign and assume the existing Regulatory Agreement (CA-2000-901). To be eligible for a new award of tax credits, the owner must provide documentation with the Form 8609 request (the placed in service submission) that the acquisition date and the placed in service date both occurred after the existing federal 15 year compliance period was completed.

The newly resyndicated project shall continue to meet the rents and income targeting levels in the existing regulatory agreement(s) and any deeper targeting levels in the new regulatory agreement(s) for the duration of the new regulatory agreement(s). Existing households determined to be income-qualified for purposes of IRC §42 credit during the 15-year compliance period are concurrently income-qualified households for purposes of the extended use agreement. As a result, any household determined to be income qualified at the time of move-in under the existing regulatory agreement (CA-2000-901) is a qualified low-income household for the subsequent allocation (existing household eligibility is “grandfathered”).

The project is a resyndication occurring concurrently with a Transfer Event with distribution of Net Project Equity. The rehabilitation scope of work shall include all of the Short Term Work in the amount of \$755,178. The purchase price of \$53,800,000 is less than the appraised value of \$55,200,000. The \$1,400,000 difference between the purchase price and the appraisal value is deemed a seller discount. Since the seller discount is greater than the short term work amount, the project is allowed to receive eligible basis for the entire Short Term Work amount of \$755,178.

### **Local Reviewing Agency**

The Local Reviewing Agency, the City of Claremont, has completed a site review of this project and strongly supports this project.

### **Standard Conditions**

If applicant is receiving tax-exempt bond financing from other than CalHFA, the applicant shall apply for a bond allocation from the California Debt Limit Allocation Committee's next scheduled meeting, if not previously granted an allocation; shall have received an allocation from CDLAC; and, shall issue bonds within time limits specified by CDLAC.

The applicant anticipates financing more than 50% of the project aggregate basis with tax-exempt bond proceeds as calculated by the project tax professional. Therefore, the federal credit reserved for this project will not count against the annual ceiling.

The IRS has advised TCAC that the amount of tax-exempt bonds issued, equivalent to at least 50% of aggregate basis, must remain in place through the first year of the credit period or until eligible basis is finally determined.

TCAC makes the preliminary reservation only for the project specified above in the form presented, and involving the parties referred to in the application. No changes in the development team or the project as presented will be permitted without the express approval of TCAC.

The applicant must pay TCAC a reservation fee calculated in accordance with regulation. Additionally, TCAC requires the project owner to pay a monitoring fee before issuance of tax forms.

As project costs are preliminary estimates only, staff recommends that a reservation be made in the amount of federal credit and state credit shown above on condition that the final project costs be supported by itemized lender approved costs and certified costs after the buildings are placed in service.

All unexpended funds in reserve accounts established for the project must remain with the project to be used for the benefit of the property and/or its residents, except for the portion of any accounts funded with deferred developer fees.

All fees charged to the project must be within TCAC limitations. Fees in excess of these limitations will not be considered when determining the amount of credit when the project is placed-in-service.

The applicant/owner shall be subject to underwriting criteria set forth in Section 10327 of the regulations through the final feasibility analysis performed by TCAC at placed-in-service.

Credit awards are contingent upon applicant's acceptance of any revised total project cost, qualified basis and tax credit amount determined by TCAC in its final feasibility analysis.

**CDLAC Additional Conditions**

The applicant/owner is required to complete the following sustainable building methods in accordance with the bond allocation from CDLAC and provide the applicable certifications and documentation when the TCAC placed-in-service application is submitted:

- The rehabilitation project commits to improve energy efficiency above the modeled energy consumption of the building(s) by a 15% decrease, based on an estimated annual energy use, in the buildings Home Energy Rating System II (HERS II) post rehabilitation.