



August 5, 2019

**VIA EMAIL**

Ms. Eliza Moon  
[REDACTED]

RE: 19-FOIA-206 Question re Contract between Metra and BNSF

Dear Ms. Moon:

We are in receipt of your request for information pursuant to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.* (“**FOIA**”).

**I. Background**

On July 26, 2019, we received your request for information regarding how revenue generated on Metra and Burlington Northern Santa Fe (“**BNSF**”) lines is distributed; whether all revenue generated by BNSF goes to BNSF; whether revenue generated on these lines goes to Metra and Metra gives a stipend to BNSF; and whether the stipend corresponds to how many tickets are sold, or a flat amount (“**Request**”). Your Request is granted in part and denied in part.

**II. Responsive Document**

In response to your Request, Metra’s Contracts department is providing you with the Purchase of Service Agreement between Metra and BNSF (“**Responsive Document**”). We believe this document will address your above-named inquiries.

**III. Partial Denial**

While FOIA requires public bodies to provide access to public records generally, FOIA also authorizes units of government to withhold certain information. Therefore, Attorney Keith Pardonnet has determined the insurance information mentioned in the Responsive Document is redacted because they are exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(s) of FOIA, which exempts “[a]ny and all proprietary information and records related to the operation of an intergovernmental risk management association or self-insurance pool or jointly self-administered health and accident cooperative or pool Insurance or self-insurance (including any intergovernmental risk management association or self-insurance pool) claims, loss or risk management information, records, data, advice or communications.” 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(s).

**IV. Right of Review**

You have the right to have the partial denial of your Request reviewed by the Public Access Counselor (“**PAC**”) of the Illinois Attorney General’s Office. 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a). You can file your Request for Review with the PAC by writing to:

Ms. Eliza Moon  
19-FOIA-206 Question re Contract between Metra and BNSF  
Page 2 of 2

Public Access Counselor  
Office of the Attorney General  
500 South 2nd Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62706  
Fax: 217-782-1396  
E-mail: [publicaccess@atg.state.il.us](mailto:publicaccess@atg.state.il.us).

If you choose to file a Request for Review with the PAC, you must do so within 60 calendar days of the date of this partial denial letter. 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a). Please note that you must include a copy of your original FOIA request and this partial denial letter when filing a Request for Review with the PAC.

You also have the right to seek judicial review of your partial denial by filing a lawsuit in the circuit court. 5 ILCS 140/11.

If I can be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Angela K. Ollie".

Angela K. Ollie  
Freedom of Information Officer  
[FOIA@metrarr.com](mailto:FOIA@metrarr.com)  
FOIA Hotline #312-663-3642

Attachment