



August 7, 2019

VIA EMAIL

Mr. Alexander Epstein

Progress Rail

Email: aepstein@PROGRESSRAIL.com

RE: 19-FOIA-210 IFB 39481 and related documents

Dear Mr. Epstein:

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 29, 2019, we received your request for a copy of Metra's Invitation for Bid for IFB 39481 - Locomotive Wheels, including the original bid package as published on Metra's "Metra and Business" website (<https://metrarail.com/aboutmetra/metra-business>), including all addenda that were published during the course of the solicitation (“Request”). Your Request is granted in part and denied in part.

II. Responsive Document

In response to your Request, Metra's Procurement department is providing you with Invitation for Bid No. 39481, Steel Locomotive Wheels (“Responsive Document”). Per the Procurement department, there were no addendums issued for this solicitation.

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 Tax Exemption Identification Number mentioned in the Responsive Document is redacted because it is exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(b) of FOIA, which exempts “private information.” “Unique identifiers” is specifically mentioned within the definition of “private information” found in Section 2(c-5) of FOIA.

IV. Right of Review

A person whose request to inspect or copy a public record was treated by the public body as a request for a commercial purpose under Section 3.1 of FOIA may file a request for review with the Public Access Counselor (“PAC”) of the Illinois Attorney General's Office for the limited purpose of reviewing whether the public body properly determined that the request was made for a commercial purpose. 5 ILCS 140/9.5(b). You can file your Request for Review with the PAC by writing to:

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.

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 we can be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

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

Angela K. Ollie
Freedom of Information Officer
foia@metrarr.com
FOIA Hotline #312-663-3642

Attachment