

Metra Rail
Attention: Freedom of information Officer
15-E
547 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60661

08/31/16

To whom it may concern:

On July 29, 2016 Metra Rail was sent a letter from Becky R. Bloom, Attorney at law with Shimanovsky & Moscardini, LLP on my behalf: Ms. Gloria Henderson.

In that letter, Ms. Bloom asked on my behalf for documents pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act relating to the four following areas:

1. The 17 million dollar grant given to Metra South Shore Line station at the corner of Randolph and Michigan in Chicago, Illinois.
2. Metal beams replacing wood beams in Metra stations.
3. Any and all documents relating to the Hyde Park retail stores on 51st Street, 53rd Street, 57th Street and Lake Park Ave. in Chicago, Illinois.
4. Where gutters have been place inside the above referenced retail stores.

In a letter dated August 22, 2016 Attorney Bloom wrote me back listing the items that required clarification from her initial Freedom of Information Act questions:

- With regards to item#1 are you referring solely to Millennium Station;
- Item#2 we ask that you narrow this portion of your request down to specific locations and a time frame; noting that NICTD operates the South Shore and Metra operates the Metra Electric District; and
- Item#3: Please be more specific as to the types of documents you are seeking, as well as the locations and time frame. Any and all documents would require a voluminous search of records.

Attorney Bloom's letter made no reference to Metra's response to item#4.

In reference to item #1: A Metra Director shared with me that a portion of the 17 million dollar grant to Metra was earmarked to repair infrastructure problems (water leaking, replacing wooden beams with current code beams and replacing eroded gutters) in the retail spaces

located under the Metra tracks at 51st street, 53rd street and 57th street. Specifically, I am requesting copies of supporting documents articulating what grant funds were earmarked for what specific work in and above retail spaces under the 51st, 53rd and 57th street stations. Additionally, I would like documents proving that this work was done.

In reference to item#2: I am specifically requesting documents that clearly show that worn-out wooden beams above the retail stores, under the Metra tracks at 51st street, 53rd street and 57th street were replace with current code-standard beams.

In reference to item#3: I am specially requesting copies of documents related to the retail space at 1551 E. Hyde Park Blvd. Specifically, I would like copies of safety inspection reports, corrective action recommendation reports, infrastructure changes, work orders, punch list and any work done on this particular site between 1995 and 2016.

Lastly, in reference to item # 4: Specifically I am asking if gutters have been placed "inside" any of the retail spaces, under the Metra tracks at 51st Street, 53rd Street and 57th Street and IF gutters have been placed "inside" any retail spaces at these specific location, I would like copies of the following documents: structural inspection reports, architectural renderings, City Inspection approvals and City Health Department sign-offs.

Sincerely,

Gloria Henderson (The Popcorn Lady)



A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gloria Henderson".

Cc: Alderman Sophia King

State Senator Kwame Raoul

State Representative Barbara Flynn Currie

Sue Walker, General Manager, Hyde Park Herald

Wallace Goode, Executive Director, Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce

Tanya Cohn, Metra Representative