



**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

March 31, 2017

Ms. Shea Smith  
Assistant City Attorney  
City of Sugar Land  
P.O. Box 110  
Sugar Land, Texas 77487-0110

OR2017-06730

Dear Ms. Smith:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under the Public Information Act (the "Act"), chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 651390 (Ref. No. W001350)

The City of Sugar Land (the "city") received a request for a specified bond number pertaining to a specified project. You claim some of the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.136 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Initially, we note the requestor seeks only a specified bond number. Thus, the portions of the submitted information that do not consist of the requested bond number are not responsive to the present request. This ruling does not address the public availability of any information that is not responsive to the request, and the city is not required to release that information in response to the request.

Section 552.136(b) of the Government Code provides, "[n]otwithstanding any other provision of [the Act], a credit card, debit card, charge card, or access device number that is collected, assembled, or maintained by or for a governmental body is confidential." Gov't Code § 552.136(b); *see id.* § 552.136(a) (defining "access device"). You explain the responsive bond number is similar to an insurance policy number in that it provides for the payment of funds to an obligee in the event that a claim is made. You further explain the responsive bond number allows access to and payment of monetary funds in case of a claim

made against the bonded individual. Based on your representations and our review, we find the city must withhold the responsive bond number under section 552.136 of the Government Code.

This letter ruling is limited to the particular information at issue in this request and limited to the facts as presented to us; therefore, this ruling must not be relied upon as a previous determination regarding any other information or any other circumstances.

This ruling triggers important deadlines regarding the rights and responsibilities of the governmental body and of the requestor. For more information concerning those rights and responsibilities, please visit our website at [http://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/open/orl\\_ruling\\_info.shtml](http://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/open/orl_ruling_info.shtml), or call the Office of the Attorney General's Open Government Hotline, toll free, at (877) 673-6839. Questions concerning the allowable charges for providing public information under the Act may be directed to the Office of the Attorney General, toll free, at (888) 672-6787.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Meredith L. Coffman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Meredith L. Coffman  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

MLC/bw

Ref: ID# 651390

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)