



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

March 18, 2020

Mr. Jeremy R. Page
Counsel for City of Lancaster
Brown & Hofmeister, L.L.P.
740 East Campbell Road, Suite 800
Richardson, Texas 75081

OR2020-08556

Dear Mr. Page:

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# 824969 (City ID# W14884).

The City of Lancaster (the "city"), which you represent, received a request for information pertaining to a specified dog. You claim some of the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under sections 552.101 and 552.137 of the Government Code. We have considered the exceptions you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Initially, we note some of the submitted information, which we marked, is not responsive to the instant request for information because it does not pertain to the specified dog. 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 such information in response to this request.¹

Section 552.137 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure "an e-mail address of a member of the public that is provided for the purpose of communicating electronically with a governmental body" unless the member of the public consents to its release or the e-mail address is of a type specifically excluded by subsection (c). *See Gov't Code* § 552.137(a)-(c). The e-mail address at issue is not excluded by subsection (c). Therefore, the city must withhold the personal e-mail addresses you marked under section 552.137 of the Government Code, unless the owners affirmatively consent to their public disclosure. The city must release the remaining responsive information.

¹ As we are able to make this determination, we need not address your argument against disclosure of this information.

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 <https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/open-government/members-public/what-expect-after-ruling-issued> or call the OAG's Open Government Hotline, toll free, at (877) 673-6839. Questions concerning the allowable charges for providing public information under the Public Information Act may be directed to the Cost Rules Administrator of the OAG, toll free, at (888) 672-6787.

Sincerely,

Meagan Hunter
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

MH/rm

Ref: ID# 824969

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)