



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

November 9, 2020

Ms. Allison A. Bastian-Rodriguez
Counsel for the City of Harlingen
Denton, Navarro, Rocha, Bernal & Zech, P.C.
701 East Harrison, Suite 100
Harlingen, Texas 78550-9165

OR2020-28136

Dear Ms. Bastian-Rodriguez:

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# 852125.

The City of Harlingen (the "city"), which you represent, received a request for information pertaining to a specified city fund. You state you have released some of the requested information. You claim the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.143 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

We note some of the submitted information is subject to section 552.0225(b), which reads as follows:

The following categories of information held by a governmental body relating to its investments are public information and not excepted from disclosure under [the Act]:

- (1) the name of any fund or investment entity the governmental body is or has invested in;
- (2) the date that a fund or investment entity described by Subdivision (1) was established;
- (3) each date the governmental body invested in a fund or investment entity described by Subdivision (1);
- (4) the amount of money, expressed in dollars, the governmental body has committed to a fund or investment entity;

(5) the amount of money, expressed in dollars, the governmental body is investing or has invested in any fund or investment entity;

(6) the total amount of money, expressed in dollars, the governmental body received from any fund or investment entity in connection with an investment;

(7) the internal rate of return or other standard used by a governmental body in connection with each fund or investment entity it is or has invested in and the date on which the return or other standard was calculated;

(8) the remaining value of any fund or investment entity the governmental body is or has invested in;

(9) the total amount of fees, including expenses, charges, and other compensation, assessed against the governmental body by, or paid by the governmental body to, any fund or investment entity or principal of any fund or investment entity in which the governmental body is or has invested;

(10) the names of the principals responsible for managing any fund or investment entity in which the governmental body is or has invested;

(11) each recusal filed by a member of the governing board in connection with a deliberation or action of the governmental body relating to an investment;

(12) a description of all of the types of businesses a governmental body is or has invested in through a fund or investment entity;

(13) the minutes and audio or video recordings of each open portion of a meeting of the governmental body at which an item described by this subsection was discussed;

(14) the governmental body's percentage ownership interest in a fund or investment entity the governmental body is or has invested in;

(15) any annual ethics disclosure report submitted to the governmental body by a fund or investment entity the governmental body is or has invested in; and

(16) the cash-on-cash return realized by the governmental body for a fund or investment entity the governmental body is or has invested in.

Gov't Code § 552.0225(b). The city argues the submitted information is excepted under section 552.143 of the Government Code. However, the exceptions to disclosure found in the Act do not apply to information made public by section 552.0225. *See* Open Records Decision Nos. 623 at 3 (1994), 525 at 3 (1989). Therefore, the city must release the types of information enumerated in section 552.0225(b) of the Government Code.

Section 552.143 of the Government Code provides, in part, the following:

- (a) All information prepared or provided by a private investment fund and held by a governmental body that is not listed in Section 552.0225(b) is confidential and excepted from the requirements of Section 552.021.
- (b) Unless the information has been publicly released, pre-investment and post-investment diligence information, including reviews and analyses, prepared or maintained by a governmental body or a private investment fund is confidential and excepted from the requirements of Section 552.021, except to the extent it is subject to disclosure under Subsection (c).

Gov't Code § 552.143(a)-(b). The city informs us the submitted information was prepared or provided by a private investment fund. You also inform us this information has not been publicly released and is not subject to disclosure pursuant to section 552.143(c). Based on these representations and our review, we find the city has demonstrated the applicability of section 552.143(a) to the information at issue. Thus, with the exception of the information the city must release pursuant to section 552.0225(b) of the Government Code, the city must withhold the submitted information under section 552.143(a) 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 <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,

Ashley Crutchfield
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

AC/rm

Ref: ID# 852125

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor