



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan
ATTORNEY GENERAL

March 25, 2011

Ms. Beverly Lloyd
Aurora Housing Authority FOIA Officer
1630 West Plum Street
Aurora, IL 60506

Re: Pre-Authorization Request – 2011 PAC 13036
FOIA Requester: Alderman Richard Lawrence

Dear Ms. Lloyd:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from the Aurora Housing Authority (AHA) of its intention to deny disclosure of a certain information contained in requested documents as exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(f) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). 5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.*, as amended.

On February 15, 2011, Alderman Richard Lawrence submitted a FOIA request to AHA for “any and all emails, memos, letters and documents between AHA employees, board members and all contractors, consultants, architects, designers which provided the bidders suggestions or introductions of any and all contractors and consultants.”

In its written notice, AHA asserts that e-mail discussions within the requested records are from the preliminary stage of the decision-making process and have been withheld from disclosure under Section 7(1)(f) of FOIA.

Determination


Section 7(1)(f) of FOIA exempts from inspection and copying “[p]reliminary drafts, notes, recommendations, memoranda and other records in which opinions are expressed, or policies or actions are formulated, except that a specific record or relevant portion of a record shall not be exempt when the record is publicly cited and identified by the head of the public body.”

AHA’s use of the Section 7(1)(f) exemption with regard to the withheld documents is **approved**. After review of the information provided, our office has determined that the withheld documents are records in which opinions were expressed and policies or actions were being formulated. Further, AHA has indicated that the documents have not been publicly cited by the head of the public body. Accordingly, AHA has met its initial burden of demonstrating that the withheld information is exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(f) of FOIA.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact our office at (877) 299-3642. This correspondence shall serve to close this matter.

13036 preauth al 71f prelim mun

Sincerely,


Rebecca Riddick
Assistant Public Access Counselor

cc: Alderman Richard Lawrence
Ricklawrence@sbcglobal.net