



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan
ATTORNEY GENERAL

January 20, 2011

Trisha Crowley
Deputy City Attorney
City of Champaign
102 North Neil Street
Champaign, IL 61820

RE: Pre-Authorization Request – 2011 PAC 11823
Requester: [REDACTED]

Dear Ms. Crowley:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from the City of Champaign of its intention to deny disclosure of certain information as exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(f) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(f). On January 5, 2011, the City received a FOIA request from [REDACTED] seeking records including "copies of all budget reports prepared by City Staff for 2010/2011 'two-by-two' meetings." In its written notice, the City asserts that the budget reports responsive to this request are exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(f) of FOIA.

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 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." 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(f).

Determination

We have determined that the City's use of the exemption in Section 7(1)(f) with regard to these reports is approved. These documents are used by City staff to express opinions and formulate policy or actions. The final version of the budget report has been made available to the public. The City asserts that none of the documents it plans to withhold has been publicly cited or identified by the Mayor. Thus, the City has met its initial burden of showing that these documents are exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(f).

Should you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at (312) 814-2086. This correspondence shall serve to close this matter.

Sincerely,

Cara Smith
Public Access Counselor

By:



Sarah Kaplan
Assistant Public Access Counselor

cc:



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