



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
GREG ABBOTT

July 31, 2013

Ms. Stephanie H. Harris
Assistant City Attorney
City of Paris
P.O. Box 9037
Paris, Texas 75461-9037

OR2013-13246

Dear Ms. Harris:

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# 494993.

The City of Paris (the "city") received a request for information relating to a specified motor vehicle accident. You state the city has released some of the requested information with redactions pursuant to section 552.130 of the Government Code.¹ You state the city does not have information responsive to some portions of the request.² You claim the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.130 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

You assert the submitted video recording contains license plate numbers that are excepted from disclosure under section 552.130 of the Government Code. Section 552.130 provides

¹We note section 552.130(c) of the Government Code allows a governmental body to redact the information described in subsection 552.130(a) without the necessity of seeking a decision from the attorney general. See Act of May 6, 2013, 83rd Leg., R.S., S.B. 458, § 1 (to be codified as an amendment to Gov't Code § 552.130(c)). If a governmental body redacts such information, it must notify the requestor in accordance with section 552.130(e). See Gov't Code § 552.130(d), (e).

²The Act does not require a governmental body to release information that did not exist when a request for information was received or to prepare new information in response to a request. See *Econ. Opportunities Dev. Corp. v. Bustamante*, 562 S.W.2d 266, 267-68 (Tex. Civ. App.—San Antonio 1978, writ dismissed); Open Records Decision Nos. 605 at 2 (1992), 452 at 3 (1986), 362 at 2 (1983).

information relating to a motor vehicle title or registration issued by an agency of this state or another state or country is excepted from public release. Gov't Code § 552.130(a)(2). Upon review, we agree the submitted video recording contains license plate numbers. In this instance, you state the city does not possess the technological capability to redact information from video files. Thus, we agree the city must withhold the entire video recording under section 552.130 of the Government Code. *See* Open Records Decision No. 364 (1983).

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, 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,



David L. Wheelus
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

DLW/dls

Ref: ID# 494993

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)