



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
GREG ABBOTT

August 21, 2014

Mr. Joseph J. Gorfida, Jr.
Nichols, Jackson, Dillard, Hager & Smith, L.L.P.
1800 Ross Tower
500 North Akard Street
Dallas, Texas 75201

OR2014-14720

Dear Mr. Gorfida:

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# 535680.

The City of Allen (the "city"), which you represent, received two requests for information pertaining to the construction of Allen Eagle Stadium. The city states it has made some of the requested information available to the requestors. The city does not take a position as to whether the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under the Act. However, the city states, and provides documentation showing, it notified Redi-Mix Concrete, L.P. ("Redi-Mix") of the city's receipt of the request for information and of Redi-Mix's right to submit arguments to this office as to why the requested information should not be released. *See* Gov't Code § 552.305(d); *see also* Open Records Decision No. 542 at 3 (1990) (statutory predecessor to section 552.305 permits governmental body to rely on interested third party to raise and explain applicability of exception in the Act in certain circumstances). We have reviewed the submitted information.

An interested third party is allowed ten business days after the date of its receipt of the governmental body's notice under section 552.305(d) to submit its reasons, if any, as to why requested information relating to it should be withheld from disclosure. *See* Gov't Code § 552.305(d)(2)(B). As of the date of this letter, Redi-Mix has not submitted to this office any reasons explaining why the requested information should not be released. Thus, we have no basis for concluding any portion of the submitted information constitutes proprietary

information of that third party, and the city may not withhold any portion of the submitted information on that basis. *See* Open Records Decision Nos. 661 at 5-6 (1999) (to prevent disclosure of commercial or financial information, party must show by specific factual evidence, not conclusory or generalized allegations, that release of requested information would cause that party substantial competitive harm), 552 at 5 (1990) (party must establish *prima facie* case that information is trade secret), 542 at 3. Accordingly, the city must release the submitted information to the requestors.

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,


James L. Coggeshall
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

JLC/eb

Ref: ID# 535680

Enc. Submitted documents

c: 2 Requestors
(w/o enclosures)

Mr. Paul M. Jolas
General Counsel
Redi-Mix Concrete, L.P.
1001 West Euless Boulevard, Suite 100
Euless, Texas 76040
(w/o enclosures)