



September 27, 2019

**VIA EMAIL**

Mr. Doug Jones  
CBRE - Location Intelligence  
Email: [Doug.Jones@cbre.com](mailto:Doug.Jones@cbre.com)

RE: 19-FOIA-226 Metra Survey Data

Dear Mr. Jones:

The Metra FOIA Department (“FOIA Department”) is responding to your request for information pursuant to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.* (“FOIA”).

**I. Background**

On August 7, 2019, the FOIA Department received your request for origin and/or destination data from Metra surveys in Excel and / or ESRI shapefile format (“Request”). Your Request is denied.

On August 16, 2019, the FOIA Department contacted you via email to inform you that the FOIA Department decided to treat your Request as being for Commercial purposes. On that same day you acknowledged receipt of the FOIA Department’s correspondence.

**II. Denial**

Your Request is denied under Section 7(1)(i) of FOIA, which exempts:

“Valuable formulae, computer geographic systems, designs, drawings and research data obtained or produced by any public body when disclosure could reasonably be expected to produce private gain or public loss...”

It has been determined that the origin and / or destination data from Metra surveys is research data and its denial is appropriate under 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(i).

**III. Right of Review**

A person whose request to inspect or copy a public record was treated by the public body as a request for a commercial purpose under Section 3.1 of FOIA may file a request for review with the Public Access Counselor (“PAC”) of the Illinois Attorney General’s Office for the limited purpose of reviewing whether the public body properly determined that the request was made for a commercial purpose. 5 ILCS 140/9.5(b). You can file your Request for Review with the PAC by writing to:

Public Access Counselor  
Office of the Attorney General  
500 South 2nd Street

Springfield, Illinois 62706  
Fax: 217-782-1396  
E-mail: [publicaccess@atg.state.il.us](mailto:publicaccess@atg.state.il.us)

If you choose to file a Request for Review with the PAC, you must do so within 60 calendar days of the date of this partial denial letter. 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a). Please note that you must include a copy of your original FOIA request and this partial denial letter when filing a Request for Review with the PAC.

You also have the right to seek judicial review of your partial denial by filing a lawsuit in the circuit court. 5 ILCS 140/11.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Angela K. Ollie".

Angela K. Ollie  
Freedom of Information Officer  
[foia@metrarr.com](mailto:foia@metrarr.com)  
FOIA Hotline #312-663-3642