



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-3000

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

February 13, 2025

Mr. Jeremy Singer-Vine
The Data Liberation Project



jsvine@gmail.com

RE: Freedom of Information Act Request
FOIA Request No.: 23-FI-HQ-00345

Dear Mr. Singer-Vine:

This letter is an interim response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated November 29, 2022, and received in the Department's FOIA Office November 30, 2022. You requested a complete copy of the Lead-Based Paint Response Tracker, including the database itself, as well as all documents tracked through the database. You requested this information in native format. You also requested all records documenting Lead-Based Paint Response Tracker database itself, to include all relevant record layouts, database schemas, entity relationship diagrams, database diagrams, data dictionaries, glossaries, and user guides.

This interim response is granted in part at no cost to you. A search of records by knowledgeable staff produced the enclosed XLSX file which contains information that is responsive your request regarding the Lead-Based Paint Response Tracker. Within this files, I am withholding certain communications between HUD staff under Exemption 5 of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5); 24 C.F.R. § 107(b)(5). Exemption 5 protects documents that are inter-agency or intra-agency, which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency. The release of this internal information would reflect the agency's pre-decisional deliberative process and would discourage open and candid advice, recommendations, and exchange of views within the agency, which could bring about public scrutiny of the individuals and the need to justify in public their tentative opinions. I am also withholding single family addresses, and personal information of individuals pursuant to Exemption 6 of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6); 24 C.F.R. § 15.107(b)(6). Exemption 6 protects information about individuals in personal and medical files and similar files when the disclosure of such information would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. The interest of the general public in reviewing those portions of government documents does not outweigh the individuals' right to privacy. In reviewing the enclosed records and applying FOIA exemptions, HUD has considered the foreseeable harm standard.

Please let the Department know if the XLSX file satisfies your request, as there are a total of 3 additional files that must be reviewed and redacted as appropriate. If you would like the remaining documents, the Department will continue to process them on a rolling basis and provide you with additional interim responses until processing has been completed.

I am the official responsible for this determination based on information provided by the Office of Public and Indian Housing. You may appeal this determination within 90 days of the date of this letter. If you decide to appeal, your appeal should include copies of your original request and this response, as well as a discussion of the reasons supporting the appeal. With regard to Exemption 6, your appeal should address the nature of the overriding public interest in disclosure that outweighs the personal privacy interest protected by the exemption. The envelope should be plainly marked to indicate that it contains a FOIA appeal and be addressed to:

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Attention: FOIA Appeals
Office of Ethics and Appeals Law Division
Office of General Counsel
451 Seventh Street, SW, Suite 2130
Washington, DC 20410
Telephone: (202) 708-3815

You may also submit your appeal online at: HUDFOIAappeals@hud.gov.

The FOIA Public Liaison is responsible for increasing transparency, understanding the status of requests, and resolving disputes between you and the agency. If you need assistance in any of these matters, please send an email to FOIA@hud.gov.

In addition, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration,
8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS
College Park, Maryland 20740-6001

Telephone: 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448
FAX: 202-741-5769.
Email: ogis@nara.gov

For your information, your FOIA request, including your identity and any information made available, is releasable to the public under subsequent FOIA requests. In responding to these requests, the Department does not release personal information, such as home address, telephone number, or Social Security number, all of which are protected from disclosure under FOIA Exemption 6.

If you have any questions regarding your request, you may contact Toyinka Taylor via email Toyinka.M.Taylor@hud.gov. Thank you for your interest in the Department's programs and policies.

Sincerely,

Sandra J. Wright
Chief, FOIA Branch
HUD FOIA Office

Enclosure