



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
GREG ABBOTT

January 11, 2010

Ms. Jenny Gravley
Taylor Olson Adkins Sralla Elam, L.L.P.
Attorney for City of Southlake
6000 Western Place, Suite 200
Fort Worth, Texas 76107-4654

OR2010-00479

Dear Ms. Gravley:

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# 371764.

The City of Southlake (the "city"), which you represent, received a request for information received, generated, or maintained by the city's building inspections department or two named individuals regarding a specified address from 2008 to the present. You state you will release some information to the requestor. You claim the remaining requested information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.137 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.137 of the Government Code requires a governmental body to withhold the e-mail address of a member of the general public, unless the individual to whom the e-mail address belongs has affirmatively consented to its public disclosure. *See Gov't Code* § 552.137(b). The e-mail addresses at issue are not a type specifically excluded by section 552.137(c). *See id.* § 552.137(c). Moreover, you inform us the city has not received consent for the release of the e-mail addresses at issue. Therefore, the city must withhold the

e-mail addresses you have marked under section 552.137 of the Government Code.¹ The remaining information must be released.

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.oag.state.tx.us/open/index_orl.php, 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 must be directed to the Cost Rules Administrator of the Office of the Attorney General, toll free, at (888) 672-6787.

Sincerely,



Amy L.S. Shipp
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

ALS/rl

Ref: ID# 371764

Enc. Submitted documents

cc: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)

¹We note this office recently issued Open Records Decision No. 684 (2009), a previous determination to all governmental bodies authorizing them to withhold ten categories of information, including e-mail addresses of members of the public under section 552.137 of the Government Code, without the necessity of requesting an attorney general decision.