



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION LAW POLICY

Introduction

The City of Newburgh Industrial Development Agency (the “Agency”) is subject to New York State’s Freedom of Information Law (FOIL). The purpose of FOIL is to allow the public access to record(s) used in establishing public policy or decision-making.

What is a ‘Record’?

A record is any information kept by the agency in any physical form whatever. In addition to paper records this includes:

- CDs, computer discs and other electronic media;
- Audio and video tape recordings; and
- Emails, charts, maps and photographs.

While the Agency is not required to prepare new records to comply with FOIL, the Agency is required to provide information from its existing records in the form requested if it has the ability to do so.

What Records are Accessible under FOIL?

As a practical matter, records are accessible unless they fall under one of the exclusions set out in

Public Officers Law Article 6. Those most applicable to the Agency are:

- Disclosure would result in an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy (unless deletion of identifying information is possible, the person involved consents or the person involved seeks records relating to him/herself);
- Disclosure of trade secrets would cause substantial injury to the competitive position of the involved company; or
- Intra-agency memoranda (other than instructions to staff that affect the public) and draft/non-final determinations of the agency.

The Agency is required to maintain the following records:

- A record of any abstention or “No” vote for an action item at each meeting. As a practical matter this should be included in the minutes to each board and committee meeting.

- A list of the names, public office address, title and salary (at the present time not applicable) of every officer and staff member of the agency.
- A detailed list of the subject matter of all records in the possession of the agency.

Records Access Officer and Appeals Officer

The Agency has designated the Executive Director as the Records Access Officer for the purposes of FOIL. The Agency has designated its Chair as the Agency Appeals Officer. The Records Access Officer has the duty of coordinating the Agency's response to public request for records.

Requests for Access to the Agency's Records

Records of the Agency may be requested in writing or email from the agency's Records Access Officer as follows:

- By regular mail at: Records Access Officer City of Newburgh IDA, P.O. Box 1298 Newburgh, NY 12551
- By electronic mail at: IDADirector@cityofnewburgh-ny.gov

The request must include the name of the contact person, the contact person's regular mailing address, and the contact person's telephone number.

Copies of the Agency's record(s), if they exist, produced pursuant to a FOIL request shall be provided upon prepayment of \$.25 per page copied for up to 8 1/2 by 11 inch documents, or the actual cost of reproducing any other record, except when a different fee is otherwise prescribed by statute.

The Agency must respond in writing to requests for information within five (5) business days of receipt by either:

- Making the record available;
- Denying access, writing giving the reason(s) for the denial; or
- Acknowledge the request within five (5) days of the receipt of the request and state the approximate date when the request will be granted (normally within 20 days from the date of acknowledgement unless otherwise stated in writing).

City of Newburgh Industrial Development Agency

Application for Public Access to Records

PLEASE ADDRESS ALL FOIL REQUESTS TO:
Record Access Officer
City of Newburgh Industrial Development Agency
P.O. Box 1298 Newburgh, NY 12551
Email: IDADirector@cityofnewburgh-ny.gov

_____: I HEREBY APPLY TO INSPECT THE FOLLOWING RECORD(S):

_____: I REQUEST COPIES OF THE FOLLOWING RECORD(S):

Sincerely,

Signature

Printed Name and Company name

Company Name (if applicable)

Date

Mailing Address (street number, street name, town/city, state and zip code)

Phone Number

