OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

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Deputy City Clerk Vital Statistics Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics

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Deputy City Clerk



65 NIAGARA SQUARE ROOM 1308 CITY HALL BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14202 PHONE: (716) 851-5431 FAX: (716) 851-4845

August 7, 2025

Matthew J Austin 24 Minton Street Buffalo, NY, 14210

Re: Freedom of Information Law Request – Access to Following Records Related to the Zoning Map Amendment and Proposed Police Training Facility at 379 Paderewski such as Community Conditions and Benefit Commitments, "List of Benefits" Sent to Councilmember Nowakowski and Contents of a Manilla Folder Labeled "379 Paderewski Dr. Police Training Facility".

To whom it may concern,

The City of Buffalo Clerk's Office is in receipt of your Freedom of Information Law request. Pursuant to New York State Public Officers Law §89(3), this letter will serve as an acknowledgement of your request.

Due to the volume of requests this department is currently handling, sufficient time is needed to conduct a diligent search, compile, and review any records found responsive to this FOIL request. Accordingly, you will receive a determination of your request within twenty (20) business days from the date of this acknowledgement letter.

Please be advised that access to records is provided in accordance with New York State Public Officers Law §87(2). In addition, pursuant to New York State Public Officers Law §87(1)(b), please be advised that the costs for photocopying is \$.25 per page not more than 9"x14", or the actual cost of reproducing any other record. There is \$10 per electronic recording, also. There are no costs associated with your viewing the records.

Should you desire any further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned at (716) 851-5432.

Very truly yours,

Tianna M. Marks/sl

Traine M. Mark

City Clerk

Enclosed

Lopez, Sarita L

From:

City of Buffalo Public Records <messages@nextrequest.com>

Sent:

Thursday, July 31, 2025 1:06 PM

To:

Lopez, Sarita L

Subject:

[Opened] City of Buffalo records request #25-5770 from Matthew J Austin

-- Reply ABOVE THIS LINE to post an INTERNAL message that will be sent to staff. Attach a non-image file to have it uploaded to the request as a staff-only document. --

City of Buffalo Public Records

Record request #25-5770 has been submitted and assigned to you. It currently has a due date of August 28, 2025.

Subject: FOIL Request – 379 Paderewski Zoning Amendment and Police Training Facility Records Dear Council Member Nowakowski, Pursuant to the New York State Freedom of Information Law

Pursuant to the New York State Freedom of Information Law (Public Officers Law §§ 84–90), I respectfully request access to the following records related to the zoning map amendment and proposed police training facility at 379 Paderewski Drive:

1. Community Conditions and Benefit Commitments

At the July 29, 2025 public hearing before the Common Council Legislation Committee, a representative of the Central Terminal Neighborhood Association stated that on April 2nd the Association met with Police Commissioner Wright, Deputy Commissioner Overdorf, and Council Member Nowakowski to "outline detailed conditions, assurances, and community benefits" related to the police training facility.

I request copies of any documents—whether written, typed, or electronic—reflecting those conditions, assurances, or benefits, including meeting notes, correspondence, agendas, attendance lists, summaries, or memos related to that meeting.

2. "List of Benefits" Sent to Council Member Nowakowski

That same representative also stated that a "list of benefits the community has sought" was emailed to you as an attachment to public comment submitted before the hearing. Please provide a copy of that list, including the accompanying email and any responses.

3. Manila Folder Labeled "379 Paderewski Dr. Police Training Facility"

A WGRZ news video showed Council Member Nowakowski reviewing documents in a folder labeled "379 Paderewski Dr. Police Training Facility."

The folder appeared to contain emails, notes, and Post-it annotations. One visible document included a Post-it on an email from Nathan Feist dated July 14, above a comment from J. Fell (believed to be John Fell, Principal Planner).

Please provide copies of any and all documents contained in that folder, including printed emails, memos, correspondence, internal comments, handwritten notes, and Post-it notes. This includes any documents reviewed, discussed, or considered in connection with the zoning map amendment or training facility proposal at 379 Paderewski.

Clarification: Under FOIL, records include any information kept, held, filed, produced, or reproduced by or for a government agency in any physical form whatsoever (Public Officers Law § 86(4)). The format or location of these documents—including those physically present in a folder or on a desk—does not exempt them from FOIL.

Please provide the requested records in electronic format via email, if possible. If any part of this request is denied, please

identify the legal basis for the denial and advise me of my right to appeal under FOIL.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Matthew J. Austin, MUP

View Request 25-5770

https://buffalony.nextrequest.com/requests/25-5770



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