

125 EAST 11TH STREET, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-2483 | 512.463.8630 | FAX: 512.475.3070 | WWW.TXDOT.GOV

June 26, 2023

Soli Rice Texas Scorecard srice@texasscorecard.com

RE: Public Information Act Request of Soli Rice, Dated June 19, 2023, and Received by the Texas Department of Transportation on June 20, 2023 (R027744-062023)

Dear Soli Rice:

Please be advised that we have filed a request for an opinion with the Office of the Attorney General regarding your request for information. The Attorney General should copy you on their opinion. The Attorney General usually issues an opinion within 45 business days.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by: W. Sumner Macdaniel

Associate General Counsel

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June 26, 2023

Mr. Justin Gordon, Chief Open Records Division Office of the Attorney General 300 W. 15th Street, 11th Floor Austin, Texas 78701 OAG PIA eFiling System

RE: Public Information Act Request of Soli Rice, Dated June 19, 2023, and Received by the Texas Department of Transportation on June 20, 2023 (R027744-062023)

Dear Mr. Gordon:

On June 20, 2023, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) received a Public Information Act request from Soli Rice requesting communications in the possession of the Texas Department of Transportation Commissioner; the Chief of Staff; the Director of Human Resources; and/or the Director of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Section referencing DEI, ESG, diversity, equity, inclusion, environmental, social, and/or governance from May 15, 2023, to May 22, 2023.

The request is enclosed as **Exhibit A**, and in accordance with section 552.301 of the Government Code, TxDOT is seeking a ruling on the request. TxDOT's request for a ruling is timely under section 552.301(b) because it is made within 10-business days from the date the open records request was received.

TxDOT asserts that the requested information may be excepted from disclosure under the Public Information Act. Specifically, TxDOT invokes all of the exceptions provided by, and the exceptions incorporated into, sections 552.101 through 552.158 of the Government Code.

Pursuant to section 552.301(a) of the Government Code, this letter is submitted to seek a decision whether the exceptions apply. To assist in your review, TxDOT will provide the excepted information and a brief of written comments in support of these exceptions. The brief and information will be submitted not later than the 15th business day from the date the request was received.

In accordance with section 552.301(d)(1) of the Government Code, TxDOT has notified the requestor that it wishes to withhold the excepted information and is seeking an attorney general ruling. TxDOT has also sent a copy of this letter to the requestor in accordance with section 552.301(d)(2).

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by: W. Summer Macdaniel

william Sumner Macdaniei Associate General Counsel

Enclosure

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Mr. Justin Gordon

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cc: Soli Rice Texas Scorecard srice@texasscorecard.com (without enclosure)

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