

Grant

Township

Public Summary of FOIA Procedures and Guidelines

It is the public policy of this state that all persons (except those persons incarcerated in state or local correctional facilities) are entitled to full and complete information regarding the affairs of government and the official acts of those who represent them as public officials and public employees.

The people shall be informed so that they may fully participate in the democratic process.

Consistent with the Michigan Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), Public Act 442 of 1976, the following is the Written Public Summary of the Township's FOIA Procedures and Guidelines relevant to the general public.

This is only a summary of the Township's FOIA Procedures and Guidelines. For more details and information, copies of the Township's FOIA Procedures and Guidelines are available at no charge at any Township office and on the Township's website: www._____.

1. How do I submit a FOIA request to the Township?

- A request must sufficiently describe a public record so as to enable the Township to find it.
- Please include the words "FOIA" or "FOIA Request" in the request to assist the Township in providing a prompt response.
- Requests to inspect or obtain copies of public records prepared, owned, used, possessed or retained by the Township may be submitted on the Township's FOIA Request Form, in any other form of writing (letter, fax, email, etc.), or by verbal request.
 - Any verbal request will be documented by the Township on the Township's FOIA Request Form.
 - No specific form to submit a written request is required. However a FOIA Request Form and other FOIA-related forms are available for your use and convenience on the Township's website at www._____, and at _____ (Provide one or more locations: "the Township Hall" or "any township facility" or another location).
- Written requests may be delivered to the Township Hall in person or by mail:

- Requests may be faxed to: (____) _____. To ensure a prompt response, faxed requests should contain the term "FOIA" or "FOIA Request" on the first/cover page.
- Requests may be emailed to: _____. To ensure a prompt response, email requests should contain the term "FOIA" or "FOIA Request" in the subject line.

2. What kind of response can I expect to my request?

- Within 5 business days after receiving a FOIA request the Township will issue a response. If a request is received by fax or email, the request is deemed to have been received on the following business day. The Township will respond to your request in one of the following ways:
 - - Grant the request,
 - Issue a written notice denying the request,
 - Grant the request in part and issue a written notice denying in part the request,
 - Issue a notice indicating that due to the nature of the request the Township needs an additional 10 business days to respond, or
 - Issue a written notice indicating that the public record requested is available at no charge on the Township's website
- If the request is granted, or granted in part, the Township will ask that payment be made for the allowable fees associated with responding to the request before the public record is made available.
- If the cost of processing the request is expected to exceed \$50, or if you have not paid for a previously granted request, the Township will require a deposit before processing the request.

3. What are the Township's deposit requirements?

- If the Township has made a good faith calculation that the total fee for processing the request will exceed \$50.00, the Township will require that you provide a deposit in the amount of 50% of the total estimated fee. When the Township requests the deposit, it will provide you a non-binding best efforts estimate of how long it will take to process the request after you have paid your deposit.
- If the Township receives a request from a person who has not paid the Township for copies of public records made in fulfillment of a previously granted written request, the Township will require a deposit of 100% of the estimated processing fee before it begins to search for the public record for any subsequent written request when all of the following conditions exist:
 - The final fee for the prior written request is not more than 105% of the estimated fee;
 - The public records made available contained the information sought in the prior written request and remain in the Township's possession;
 - The public records were made available to the individual, subject to payment, within the best effort time frame estimated by the Township to provide the records;
 - Ninety (90) days have passed since the Township notified the individual in writing that the public records were available for pickup or mailing;
 - The individual is unable to show proof of prior payment to the Township; and
 - The Township has calculated an estimated detailed itemization that is the basis for the current written request's increased fee deposit.