



DATE: August 18, 2026
TO: RAILS Board of Directors
FROM: Joe Filapek, Associate Executive Director
SUBJECT: 8.2 Open Meetings Act and Freedom of Information Act FY2026 Report

FOIA Requests

RAILS receives a Commercial FOIA request quarterly from vendor SmartProcure. Two examples are shown below. All requests have been granted.

1. SmartProcure is submitting a public records request to the Reaching Across Illinois Library System for all current employee/staff contact information. The request is limited to readily available records without physically copying, scanning, or printing paper documents. Any editable electronic document is acceptable.

The specific information requested from your record-keeping system is:

1. First Name
2. Last Name
3. Position Title
4. Department
5. Direct Phone Number (if it does not exist, list main phone number with extension)
6. Business Cell Phone (if provided by Reaching Across Illinois Library System)
7. Email Address
8. Office Address (Address, City, State, Zip)

SmartProcure is submitting a commercial FOIA request to the Reaching Across Illinois Library System for any and all purchasing records from 7/7/2025 to current. The request is limited to readily available records without physically copying, scanning or printing paper documents. Any editable electronic document is acceptable.

The specific information requested from your record keeping system is:

1. Purchase order number. If purchase orders are not used a comparable substitute is acceptable, i.e., invoice, encumbrance, or check number
2. Purchase date
3. Line item details (Detailed description of the purchase)
4. Line item quantity



5. Line item price

6. Vendor ID number, name, address, contact person, and their email address

2. **9/22/2026 Data Branch**

The Data Branch is hereby submitting a public records request for purchasing data. Specifically, we request a spreadsheet or equivalent file containing all purchase orders issued between January 1, 2021, and the present day.

Scope of Request:

We are seeking all purchase orders issued by any and all departments, divisions, offices, or programs under your entity.

Requested Information:

If readily accessible, please include the following fields for each purchase order:

- Purchase order number (or equivalent)
- Purchase date
- Vendor ID or equivalent
- Vendor name
- Department or issuing entity (if available)
- Line item description
- Quantity
- Unit price
- Total price

3. **10/02/2025 Open Government**

Open Government

I request that a copy of the following documents (or documents containing the following information) be provided to me (identify the documents or information as specifically as possible): Public Act 97-609 Compliance (Total Compensation): IMRF Employer Information and Compensation Package. Please make sure the report includes the individual positions, base salary, and total compensation, including benefits. Insert description of documents that are being requested:

Please provide the IMRF Employer Information and Compensation Package as a PDF attachment. Please make sure the report includes the individual positions, base salary, and total compensation, including benefits.



RAILS FOIA and OMA Hotline

Illinois public library directors and Freedom of Information Act/Open Meetings Act officers can use the RAILS FOIA/OMA Hotline to receive assistance from an Ancel Glink attorney on basic questions. This service is provided by RAILS at no cost to Illinois public libraries.

The following summarizes usage of the hotline from the preceding fiscal year (July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026).

- 116 Total calls/emails
- Top two FOIA and OMA inquiries
 - 14 FOIA inquiries related to Judiciary requests
 - 2 FOIA inquiries related to work schedule requests
 - 13 OMA inquiries related to executive session minutes, interviewing candidates, discussing employee performance/settlement/security/sale-or-lease in ES, closed session discussions
 - 7 OMA inquiries related to board committees