

ATTACHMENT A

Erika Dowd, Gabriel Logreira, and Erika Reichert
Attn: Professor Loza de Siles
Duquesne University School of Law
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412.396.6423

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Jerry Tyskiewicz
Director of Administrative Services
Allegheny County Economic Development
436 Grant Street, Room 202
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Dear Mr. Tyskiewicz:

Pursuant to the Pennsylvania Right to Know Law Act of Feb. 14, 2008 (“RTKL Act”), we are making this request for records dating from January 1, 2015 to present with regard to **Allegheny County’s procurement, development implementation, and use (collectively, “use”) of Community Viz and other artificial intelligence systems in carrying out housing- and residential development-related zoning decisions and governmental pursuits.**

We are third year and second year law students making this request as part of our work in Artificial Intelligence and Social Justice course being taught by Professor Emile Loza de Siles. This request is made in the public interest to facilitate our study and the study of other law students of an academic institution, Duquesne University School of Law, here in Pittsburgh. Information provided in response to this request will be of public benefit because government activities and decisions relating to housing and zoning that relates to housing impact the daily lives of all members of our community in their residences, employment, education, health, and other ways and, further, the structure and social and economic equality of our communities as a whole. As such, we request a fee waiver for our request.

We provide the following definitions that apply to our request and thereafter identify the public records that we are hereby requesting under the RTKL Act.

A. Definitions:

- a. “Artificial intelligence” or “AI” means any computer, algorithm, computer program, software, or other machine-based computational or analytics system, technique, or capability that uses data, statistical modeling, and algorithms to make predictions,

recommendations, or other decisional outputs toward a given set of human-defined objectives.

- b. “Code” means computer code of any AI used by the Department and any further text or mathematical processes used by the AI developers as AI program instructions.
- c. “Company” means any private or publicly owned business or non-profit organization that conducts business or other interactions with Allegheny County or the Department relating to zoning.
- d. “Contracts” means any licensing or acquisition terms and conditions, purchase orders, and any other contracts and contract documents; statements of work; requests for information, requests for proposals, and requests for quotations and any responses, including bids, thereto; and any amendments to any of the foregoing made or issued by Allegheny County or the Department regarding Community Viz and any other AI, Data, or Curation or any combination of the foregoing.
- e. “Curation” means the acquisition, organization, processing, and integration of data collected from various sources and used or potentially to be used with any AI.
- f. “Data” means include all facts and data that the Department has used, is using, and may use with any AI for zoning decisions and activities with respect to residential housing or residential development.
- g. “Department” means Allegheny County Economic Development or its Planning Division or both.
- h. “Development” means the activities, methods, and documents associated with designing, defining, planning, coding, training, testing, validating, implementing, maintaining, auditing, or optimizing an AI and any combination of the foregoing.
- i. “Implementation” means the activities, methods, user guides, and documents by which the Department has incorporated AI(s), Data, or Curation or any combination of the foregoing.
- j. “Input” means any data or information of any type that is used by one or more AIs.
- k. “Output” means any results or information derived from or produced, in whole or part, by an AI.

B. Public Records Request:

We are requesting public records dating from January 1, 2015 to present with regard to Allegheny County’s procurement, development implementation, and use (collectively, “use”) of Community Viz and other AIs in carrying out housing- and residential development-related zoning decisions and governmental pursuits (collectively, “Zoning”) and, specifically, as follows, public records:

1. As to the use(s) of the AIs by and the function(s) they serve for the Department;

2. As to Contracts for the Development, Implementation, or use of AIs by or on behalf of the Department for Zoning-related purposes;
3. The name, address, and contact information for all Companies and consultants involved in the Development, Implementation, or use or any combination of the foregoing as to AI, Data, or Curation or any combination of the foregoing as to Zoning-related decision-making or other activities of the Department;
4. As to the Development for any Zoning-related AIs used by the Department, including but not limited to, records as to which Data were used in training, cross-validating, or testing of the AI(s);
5. As to how the AI(s) were trained, tested, or validated;
6. As to the sources of the Data currently and in the past used in the Development, Implementation, or use of the AI(s);
7. As to any changes or adjustments before, during, or after Development made to the Data, Inputs, Outputs, or Code used by the AI(s);
8. As to the Department's use and procedures, policies, and protocols for use by which the Output of the AI(s), including, but not limited to, (A) whether the AI(s)' Output directly result in the Department's Zoning decisions and other activities, or (B) whether human decision-makers make such decisions, including by using the AI(s)' Output;
 - a. As to 8(A), records as to use and procedures, policies, and protocols by which such AI decisions may be overridden by a Department employee or agent;
9. As to Code for the AI(s);
10. As to the ownership of any Data, the AI, the Code, and the Outputs;
11. As to post-Implementation maintenance, testing, monitoring, validation, or other follow-up activity relating to the AI(s);
12. As to factors or variables within the Data are weighted and have been weighted how the AI(s) weighs in producing Outputs; and
13. As to any notice, feedback, comments, publication, bulletin, or other communications, documents, and information by which members of the public have been involved or have had the opportunity to be involved in the Contract, Development, Implementation, or use or any combination of the foregoing of the AIs by the Department.

We include the following website links as additional references that may help facilitate a complete response to our request.

- https://conservationtools.org/guides/75-communityviz#heading_10
- <https://communityviz.city-explained.com/>

- <http://www.alleghenyplaces.com/docs/DraftPlan/Chapter2.pdf>

Thank you in advance for your anticipated response to this request. Please return responsive records by electronic delivery and likewise direct any questions to AILaw@duq.edu.

Best regards,

/s/

Erika Dowd, Gabriel Logreira, and Erika Reichert