

Town of Secaucus



Municipal Government Center
Secaucus, N.J. 07094

Tel: 201-330-2000
Web: www.secaucusnj.org

January 20, 2026

Peter Tapiavala
Via email: opra+request-85052-82e6a320@requests.opramachine.com

Dear Peter Tapiavala,

The Town of Secaucus received your Open Public Records Act (OPRA) request on January 6, 2025. As such, the seven (7) business day deadline to respond to your request is January 26, 2026. Please accept this letter in response to your request.

Your OPRA request sought access to the following:

“Records requested for the Following Dates: July 01, 2025 - December 31, 2025

1. Tax Delinquent

A list of property addresses that have delinquent property taxes. This list needs to include amounts of balances owed.

2. Open Property Liens

A list of property addresses that open Property Liens. This list needs to include open Liens amounts.

3. Water/ Utility Shut Off

All property addresses that had any water and any types of utilities shut off. Please include the amount of balance owed.

4. Code Violation

A list of property addresses that have received any code violations including the type of violation. please only include a list of all UNRESOLVED or OPEN code violations (please do not include closed violations).

5. Vacant List/ Abandoned

A list of all residential property addresses that are currently vacant or abandoned.

6. Condemned Properties

A list of all residential property addresses that are condemned.

7. Fire Damage List

A list of all property addresses that the fire department has received an emergency call on the dates mentioned above.”

Regarding items 1 and 2.- “Tax Delinquent, Open” “Property Liens”:

These records are being transmitted to you via email, as per your request. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1A-5.b., the cost associated with this request is \$0.00.

Regarding item 3.- “Water/ Utility Shut Off”

The Town of Secaucus has no records responsive to your request.

Regarding item 4: “Code Violation”

The Town of Secaucus has no records responsive to your request.

This request seeks information or asks questions and does not identify specific government records. As such, your request is an invalid OPRA request and is denied. When a request is “complex” because it fails to specifically identify the documents sought, then that request is not “encompassed” by OPRA. See New Jersey Builders Association v. New Jersey Council on Affordable Housing, 390 N.J.Super. 166, 180 (App. Div. 2007). A proper request under OPRA must identify with reasonable clarity those documents that are desired, and a party cannot satisfy this requirement by simply requesting all of an agency's documents. See Bent v. Stafford Police Department, 381 N.J.Super. 30, 37 (App. Div. 2005). **Custodians are not required to conduct research or create new records in response to an OPRA request.** See N.J.S.A. 47:1A-5(g); MAG Entertainment. LLC v. Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control, 375 N.J. Super. 534 (App. Div. 2005).

Regarding item 5: “Vacant List/ Abandoned”

The Town’s registration program for defaulted mortgage real property with Prochamps has been and remains suspended at this time with no registration fees currently due or being collected.

Regarding item 6: “Condemned Properties”

The Town of Secaucus has no records responsive to your request.

Regarding item 7: “Fire Damage List”

The Town of Secaucus has no records responsive to your request.

This request seeks information or asks questions and does not identify specific government records. As such, your request is an invalid OPRA request and is denied. When a request is “complex” because it fails to specifically identify the documents sought, then that request is not “encompassed” by OPRA. See New Jersey Builders Association v. New Jersey Council on Affordable Housing, 390 N.J.Super. 166, 180 (App. Div. 2007). A proper request under OPRA must identify with reasonable clarity those documents that are desired, and a party cannot satisfy this requirement by simply requesting all of an agency's documents. See Bent v. Stafford Police Department, 381 N.J.Super. 30, 37 (App. Div. 2005). **Custodians are not required to conduct research or create new records in response to an OPRA request.** See N.J.S.A. 47:1A-5(g); MAG Entertainment. LLC v. Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control, 375 N.J. Super. 534 (App. Div. 2005).

If your request for access to a government record has been denied or unfilled within the seven (7) business days required by law, you have a right to challenge the decision by the Town of Secaucus to deny access. At your option, you may either institute a proceeding in the Superior Court of New Jersey or file a complaint with the Government Records Council (GRC) by completing the Denial of Access Complaint Form. You may contact the GRC by toll-free telephone at 866-850-0511, by mail at P.O. Box 819, Trenton, NJ, 08625, by e-mail at grc@dca.state.nj.us, or at their web site at www.state.nj.us/grc. The GRC can also answer other questions about the law. All questions regarding complaints filed in Superior Court should be directed to the Court Clerk in your County.

Sincerely,

Michael Marra
Town of Secaucus
201-330-2020