

From: [Innis, Grace](#)
To: [Laxon, Lindsay](#)
Cc: [Laurie, Debbie](#); [Szewczyk, David](#)
Subject: FOAA Survey Response from City of Bangor, Maine
Date: Thursday, April 18, 2024 10:49:51 AM
Attachments: [Outlook-cid_image0.png](#)

This message originates from outside the Maine Legislature.

Hi Lindsay,

Thank you for your inquiry about requests for public records.

The City of Bangor has decided to provide the Right to Know Advisory Committee with two general examples of the types of FOAA requests that are burdensome:

1. Attorneys who use FOAA as a substitute for a request for production of documents in civil lawsuits; and
2. Media companies and political parties who use FOAA requests to try to shift to the municipality their burden of compiling research.

The City recommends that State of Maine consider increasing the fee under 1 M.R.S. Section 408-A(8). This may cut down on burdensome requests and abuses of the FOAA process. Increasing the fee would also be responsive to the increasing cost of living. The City supports the goal of FOAA and wants to ensure that records of our actions are open to public inspection.

If you or the Committee have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at the email address or phone number below.

Warmly,
Grace



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