August 21, 2015

J. Don Martinez
FHWA, New Mexico Division
4001 Office Court Dr., Suite 801
Santa Fe, NM 87507

RE: Request from City of Rio Rancho for Proprietary Signalization Equipment on Signal Installation at the intersection of US 550 and NM 347 (A301590)

Mr. Martinez,

I am sending this letter to support the City of Rio Rancho’s request and to request approval for the sole source use of ASC/3-2100 Econolite Controller and GTT Opticom Emergency Vehicle Preemption equipment for the above referenced project.

As the Technical Support Engineer for Design for District Three of the New Mexico Department of Transportation, I certify that this equipment is essential for synchronization with existing highway facilities within the City of Rio Rancho, based on the documentation provided in the attached letter from the City of Rio Rancho.

Respectfully,

[Signature]

Leslie Fortier
Technical Support Engineer
District Three

Cc:  Leonard Rivera, P.E. – City of Rio Rancho
     Joseph Norby, P.E. – City of Rio Rancho
     BJ Gottlieb, P.E. – City of Rio Rancho
     Afshin Jian, P.E. – NMDOT Traffic Engineer

FHWA Concurrence

[Signature]

Jolena Palau – FHWA Area Engineer
July 29, 2015

J. Don Martinez  
FHWA, New Mexico Division  
4001 Office Court Dr., Suite 801  
Santa Fe, NM 87507


Mr. Martinez,

I am sending this letter to document the need for and request approval for the sole source use of ASC/3-2100 Econolite Controller and GTT Opticom Emergency Vehicle Preemption equipment for the above referenced project.

As the Traffic Section Manager for the City of Rio Rancho I certify that in accordance with the requirements of 23 CFR 635.411(a)(2), that this proprietary equipment is essential for synchronization with existing highway facilities within the City of Rio Rancho.

Certification Documentation:

1. The ASC/3-2100 Controller and the GTT Opticom Emergency Vehicle Pre-emption Equipment will benefit the public by:

   - Allowing the City of Rio Rancho to effectively manage and coordinate traffic signals utilizing our existing Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS) Centracs.

   - Existing emergency vehicle pre-emption equipment utilized by the Rio Rancho Fire Department and the Sandoval County Fire Department are compatible with the referenced equipment.

2. Unique needs being addressed that result in no equally suitable alternative:

   - Maintenance and Training. All of the traffic signal controllers utilized by the City of Rio Rancho are Econolite ASC/2 and ASC/3-2100 controllers. All of our inventory of spare controllers as well as our training and knowledge base reside solely with this controller brand/type. We currently maintain 50+ traffic signals within the City of Rio Rancho and have a maintenance staff of 4 (field and office) that are responsible for traffic signal maintenance. Adding another signal controller brand would require staff to learn the programming and maintenance side of the new controller as well as having multiple inventory types on hand.
Compatibility. The traffic signal controller as specified is compatible with our ATMS without any additional integration being required. The GTT Opticom system is currently compatible with equipment currently being used by the Rio Rancho Fire Department and the Sandoval County Fire Department. Both agencies are supported by the City of Rio Rancho Public Works Traffic Section to ensure that emergency vehicle preemption is working.

3. Identified safety location or critical decision points that would justify a higher standard. N/A.

4. Evaluation of the pool of potential products and a description of why these products cannot meet the contracting agency's needs.

The City of Rio Rancho has not evaluated competing brands of traffic signal controllers for integration into its traffic signal inventory. The NMDOT as of this date does not have an alternative traffic signal controller listed on its Approved Products Listing (APL).

Utilizing a brand of emergency vehicle preemption equipment outside of the type being utilized by local Public Safety Agencies is not feasible. The equipment on the signal side has to be compatible with the equipment on the emergency vehicle side.

5. Estimate of additional costs, if any incurred as a result of this proprietary product requirement.

To my knowledge the cost of competing traffic signal controller equipment is comparable to what we (or our contracting community) are paying for the Econolite brand controller. No additional costs are anticipated by purchasing the specified equipment sole source.

In summary the City of Rio Rancho requests your approval to use the Econolite ASC/3-2100 Controller and the GTT Opticom Emergency Vehicle detection on the Signal Installation at the Intersection of US 550 and NM 347.

Respectfully,

[Signature]

Leonard C. Rivera
Traffic Section Manager
Department of Public Works Engineering Division

Cc: Leslie Fortier, NMDOT District 3 Engineering Support
    BJ Gottlieb, P.E., City Engineer
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