

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE SIGNAL PREEMPTION EQUIPMENT

SOURCE: Public Works Department - Transit

COMMENT: Over the past several years, the City's Transit Division has experienced increased population and vehicle traffic growth which has translated to an increase in ridership along Porterville Transit's bus routes. As a result of these factors, Porterville Transit has had some challenges maintaining desired on-time performance levels along certain routes. These issues were referenced in the City of Porterville's 2010 and 2012 Short Range Transit Plan prepared by TPG Consulting. One of TPG's recommendations to the City for addressing the on-time performance and reliability issues was to consider implementing Transit Signal Priority (TSP) at traffic signals along certain Porterville Transit bus routes.

Kimley-Horn, transit consultant, prepared a technical report to document the overall City of Porterville Transit Signal Priority (TSP) deployment strategy, as well as provide the details of Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the City's TSP strategy which includes deployment of TSP technology at several existing intersections. This report lays the foundation for future TSP deployment throughout the City of Porterville, and provides a roadmap to deployment for future phases.

City staff and Kimley-Horn's project team conducted a field review of all existing City traffic signals to identify current equipment and to get a sense of traffic and transit operations. Based on the field review, the City currently has Transit Signal Priority (TSP) and Emergency Vehicle Preemption (EVP) equipment installed at seven intersections, and all operate with Opticom equipment by Global Traffic Technologies (GTT).

In coordination with the City Fire Department, staff identified eleven intersections, located along the Henderson and Morton corridors, to upgrade during the initial phase of the signal preemption project. These eleven intersections will improve not only transit on-time performance, but emergency response time as well. The second phase will include the purchase of transit fleet hardware during the fiscal year 2014/2015. However, emergency vehicles currently equipped with EVP will be able to utilize the upgraded intersections as soon as they are installed.

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Item No. 3

The Transit Division currently has \$79,000 budgeted for phase 1 and 2 of the signal preemption project. For phase 1, staff received a quote from Advanced Traffic Products for \$66,389, of which, 80% is reimbursable through federal transit grants with a 20% local match covered by local transportation funds. Additionally, purchasing directly from Advanced Traffic Products will allow the City to receive, at a savings of \$23,000, the Opticom Central Management Software and one-year service agreement.

The Central Management Software is a server-based software program that will allow traffic engineers to remotely manage and maintain intersections, vehicles, communications, and security. The software will also allow the traffic engineers to respond to complaints efficiently and differentiate between vehicles using emergency vehicle preemption and transit signal priority.

Due to the highly specialized equipment already in place at the seven existing intersections, existing equipment installed on the Fire Department's fleet, and the substantial duplication of costs that will not be recovered through open competition, it is staff's recommendation that the City purchase signal preemption equipment directly from Advanced Traffic Products, the sole northern California authorized dealer for all Opticom products.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That City Council authorize staff to purchase signal preemption equipment from Advanced Traffic Products, at a cost of \$66,389, and authorize payment for said equipment upon satisfactory delivery.

**ATTACHMENT:** Opticom Sole Source Letter  
Vendor Quote



Global Traffic Technologies, LLC  
7800 Third Street North  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55128-5441

651-789-7333  
651-789-7334 fax  
www.gtt.com

February 5, 2014

Richard Tree  
Transportation Manager  
City of Porterville, CA

Dear Mr. Tree,

This letter is being sent in response to your request pertaining to the availability of Global Traffic Technologies, LLC, (GTT) Opticom® Systems. Opticom® Infrared and GPS systems provide safe and controlled passage of emergency vehicles through signalized intersections using internally developed components. Opticom® systems are manufactured solely by GTT for all of our customers globally and distributed directly through our Authorized Dealer Network. The combination of GTT proprietary system design and manufacturing processes are patented and, as such, we are the sole source for this system.

GTT designs, develops and tests each Opticom® component as part of a "matched component system." Security is accomplished through its proprietary design in order to prevent unauthorized use of the system and maintain the system's integrity. Opticom® system users who are concerned about unauthorized use and security of their system should not mix their system with non-Opticom® components. GTT cannot ensure system functionality or performance if used with non-Opticom® system products. The use of Opticom® products with non-Opticom® components could also impact warranty considerations on Opticom® products.

The Opticom® Central Management Software (CMS) is a proprietary software program for the Opticom® system that is not compatible with any other vendor or supplier equipment or software.

Advanced Traffic Products is the sole authorized dealer for all Opticom® products, in the region of Northern California.

Advanced Traffic Products can be reached at (425) 347-6208. Information can also be obtained on their website [www.advancedtraffic.com](http://www.advancedtraffic.com).

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or additional requests pertaining to this correspondence. I can be reached at (651) 789-7338.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'David L. Lahr'.

David L. Lahr  
Sales Representative-Western Region

