



**STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

BUREAU OF ENGINEERING
SUITE 300, JAMES K. POLK BUILDING
505 DEADERICK STREET
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-1402
(615) 741-5017

JOHN C. SCHROER
COMMISSIONER

BILL HASLAM
GOVERNOR

TO: Gregory M. Duncan, Assistant Chief Engineer of Operations
FROM: ³⁷Brad Freeze, Director of Traffic Operations
SUBJECT: Proprietary Item Request and Justification
Johnson City Signalization Components of Projects with Federal Funds

The City of Johnson City is requesting a certification to specify the Opticom emergency preemption system to be used in the signalization component of projects within Johnson City's control and maintenance over the next 3 years which utilize federal or state funds. They are requesting the Opticom preemption system to provide full compatibility with the current Opticom system used by the Johnson City Fire Department and the Washington County/ Johnson City Emergency Medical Services.

Justification

These items are essential for the synchronization with existing facilities. Johnson City uses the Opticom system to provide traffic signal preemption for emergency vehicles equipment with the proper transmitter component. This enables emergency vehicles to bypass delays caused by traffic signals, and reduce the likelihood of other vehicles being involved in accidents by assigning them the right-of-way. This is the only preemption system used in Johnson City and adjoining City of Elizabethton, which, at times, uses the Johnson City system to transport patients for serious medical conditions and trauma incidents. Johnson City has the Opticom optical preemption system in use at 62 intersections. This system permits the City to identify vehicles and exclude those without authorization.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Brad Freeze, Director of Traffic Operations.

I, Brad Freeze, TDOT Director of Traffic Operations, do hereby certify that in accordance with the requirements of 23 CFR 635.411(a) (2) that the patented or proprietary items listed above are essential for the synchronization of existing facilities.


Assistant Chief Engineer of Operations (Concurrence)

8/6/13
Date

cc: Jeff C. Jones, TDOT Assistant Chief Engineer of Design
Mike Tugwell, TDOT State Traffic Engineer
Carolyn Stonecipher, TDOT Director of Design
Pete Falkenberg, TDOT Design Division
Lee Jones, TDOT Design Division
Mike Tugwell, TDOT Traffic Operations Division
Danny Lane, TDOT H.Q. Materials & Tests Division
Anthony D. Todd, Traffic Engineering Manager, Johnson City Public Works



Public Works Department
Engineering • Facilities
Solid Waste • Storm Water • Street • Traffic

May 30, 2013

Mr. Brad Freeze
Traffic Operations Division, Director
Tennessee Department of Transportation
Suite 1300 James K. Polk Bldg.
505 Deadrick Street
Nashville, TN 37243-0348

RE: Johnson City Signalization Components of Projects with Federal Funds:

Dear Mr. Freeze:

The City of Johnson City is requesting a certification to specify the Opticom emergency preemption system to be used in the signalization component of projects within Johnson City's control and maintenance over the next 3 years using federal or state funds. We request the Opticom preemption system to provide full capability with the current Opticom system used by the Johnson City Fire Department and the Washington County / Johnson City Emergency Medical Services. This is the only preemption system used in Johnson City and the adjoining City of Elizabethton, which, at times, uses our system to transport patients to medical facilities in Johnson City for serious medical conditions and in trauma incidents.

Johnson City uses the Opticom system to preempt the signal to help equipped emergency vehicles arrive quickly and safely at their destination. This also reduces the likelihood of other vehicles being involved in accidents by assigning the right-of-way to the emergency vehicle. Johnson City has the Opticom optical preemption system in use at 62 intersections. This system permits the City to identify vehicles and exclude those without authorization.

Thank you for considering this request to better serve the public with increased safety and efficiency through normal operations and maintenance activities. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 423-975-2733 or at anthonytodd@johnsoncitytn.org.

Sincerely,

Anthony D. Todd
Traffic Engineering Manager