MEMORANDUM

Missouri Department of Transportation

St. Louis District

TO: **Eric Schroeter**
State Design Engineer

CC: Jim Smith – de
Alex Wassman – tr

FROM: Jeanne M. Olubogun
District Traffic Engineer - St. Louis Metro District

DATE: October 18, 2016

SUBJECT: District ITS Maintenance
J6Q3000F, J6Q3053F
Public Interest Finding Request
Daktronics DMS-Dynamic Message Sign

We request approval of a public interest finding (PIF) to use Daktronics DMS on the following project(s):

> J6Q3000F & J6Q3053F - Upkeep of the St. Louis District ITS (Intelligent Transportation System) program.

These projects fund ITS replacement equipment. The deployments of these devices are replacements to existing installations, not an expansion to the system. The projects include the purchasing of replacement Daktronics DMS, a significant component of the St. Louis District's ITS system.

Daktronics DMS

Our current DMS deployment is comprised of Daktronics and Ledstar signs. Considering the installation, integration, and maintenance expenses and risks associated with using non-Daktronics and/or Ledstar DMS products, the St. Louis District respectfully requests to use Daktronics DMS Signs. We have performed a thorough evaluation of other devices. That evaluation is discussed further in this document.

Existing Daktronics DMS Deployment

Currently, the above referenced Daktronics DMS Signs equipment is being utilized across the St. Louis District at 25 locations. These devices facilitate displaying information along the District's roadways to the motorists from the TMC (Traffic Management Center). This system began in 2001 and supports traffic and incident management along the roadways.

Integration with Current System

To maximize the efficiency of the district's ITS system; we request that Daktronics DMS Signs equipment be used for replacement, in kind, of existing Daktronics DMS Signs devices. Similar replacements will minimize installation, integration, and maintenance costs. Daktronics DMS Signs are currently integrated with the ATMS software to provide use of the devices for the TMC and the public.

Discussion of Alternatives

Daktronics DMS(s) have proprietary equipment which allows only certain vendors to meet manufacturer's written specifications and are not cost effective in the following:

- Installation: Alternate DMS sign at existing Daktronics DMS locations cannot be installed without significant work and expenses.
- Integration: Daktronics DMS signs are fully integrated into ATMS software. Replacement Daktronics DMS parts take minimal staff effort to be usable. Replacing the Daktronics DMS with another ATMS compatible brand will result in increased time and budget to make a device fully functional for ATMS users. This extra integration cost would be included in any bid price to the vendor. To deploy and integrate alternative devices within a reasonable amount of time would be unlikely.
- Maintenance: Due to the inability of the Daktronics DMS part being interchangeable, another vendor would require the district to purchase stock, in addition to the existing Daktronics DMS stock. Maintenance replacements would be delayed as staff would need to first ascertain what brand of parts is required and deliver that type to the repair site.

In conclusion, if other DMS brands are used, the cost to install, integrate, and maintain these DMS signs will be significantly more than the Daktronics products proposed above. Therefore, it is recommended that Daktronics DMS's be used for the upkeep of the St. Louis District ITS system.

Please feel free to contact me at (314)275-1536 if you have any questions. We appreciate your assistance on this matter.

I do hereby certify that in accordance with the requirements of 23 CFR 635.411(a)(2), this patented or proprietary item is essential for synchronization with existing highway facilities.

Eric E Schroeter

Digitally signed by Eric E Schroeter
DN: cn=Eric E Schroeter, o=MoDOT, ou=Design, email=eric.schroeter@modot.mo.gov, c=US
Date: 2016.10.25 14:26:03 -05'00'

State Design Engineer

In accordance with 23 CFR 635.411(c), I concur that it is in the public interest to use the specified patented or proprietary item.

KEVIN C IRVING

Digitally signed by KEVIN C IRVING
DN: c=US, o=U.S. Government, ou=DOT FHWAJeffersonCityMO, ou=FHWA FHWAJeffersonCityMO, cn=KEVIN C IRVING
Date: 2016.11.03 15:29:25 -05'00'

FHWA Representative Date