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City of St. Louis

DEPARTMENT OF THE PRESIDENT
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RICHARD T. BRADLEY, P.E.
PRESIDENT

July 24, 2014

Mr. Greg Wilhelm, PE
MoDOT St. Louis Metro District
1590 Woodlake Drive
Chesterfield, Missouri 63017-5712

Subject: Public Interest Finding (PIF)
Roadway Improvements
Skinker Blvd. & Oakland Ave.
CMAQ-5401(707)
City of St. Louis, Missouri

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.



State Design Engineer

Dear Mr. Wilhelm:

We request approval of a finding in the public interest to continue use of the Mosaic wall system as offered by Versa-Lok Retaining Wall Systems. Specifically, we seek permission to identify Versa-Lok Retaining Wall Systems within the bid documents for this project. The system to be used would be a weathered face, four-unit Mosaic panel, color: sandstone blend.

There are two retaining walls that will be constructed with this project as part of the sidewalk construction adjacent to Oakland Avenue to prevent the removal of trees within Forest Park. As the two retaining walls are within Forest Park (a City of St. Louis Park), it is desired to match the wall system currently in use throughout the park. It has been requested by the City of St. Louis Parks Department, the Forest Park Advisory Board, the Forest Park Steering Committee, and Forest Park Forever that the proposed walls match other recently constructed walls within the park for consistency, aesthetics and ease of maintenance.

The quantity of modular block is relatively small (370 sq. ft.) and there are multiple suppliers of this style of block within the St. Louis Metro area. The wall system is cost-effective, durable, and utilizes standard construction methods.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this Public Interest Finding. We seek MoDOT's approval of this request at your earliest convenience. Please contact me if you have any questions, comments, or require additional information.

Sincerely,


Eric R. Bothe, P.E.
Project Manager