

Sole Source Questionnaire - Carmanah.

Public Works Department

City of Clearwater

Approved by: _____

Handwritten signature of Marcus Williamson in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.

What are we buying? (Brief description of the products/services)

Carmanah Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) equipment and related components for enhanced pedestrian crosswalk installations.

How do we intend to use the products/services?

The RRFB equipment will be installed at pedestrian crossings to improve crosswalk illumination, increase driver awareness, and enhance overall pedestrian safety. The equipment will either be integrated with existing Carmanah RRFB systems currently operating within the project limits or used to replace existing equipment that is incompatible with the proposed lighting-actuation system.

Both the replacement and retrofitted systems will provide improved pedestrian and crosswalk visibility, increased operational reliability, and full compatibility with the City's existing Carmanah RRFB infrastructure.

What's unique about the products/services?

The City has standardized its RRFB installations using Carmanah equipment, all existing RRFBs are Carmanah systems. Existing RRFB systems that will remain within the project limits are also manufactured by Carmanah, making compatibility with the proposed equipment necessary for coordinated operation.

Carmanah RRFB units are designed to communicate with one another, allowing multiple devices at a crossing or within a coordinated system to activate and operate as intended. The proposed equipment also includes integrated crosswalk illumination that activates with the RRFB system, providing additional visibility of the crossing area during nighttime and low-light conditions.

In addition, the City maintains an inventory of Carmanah replacement parts, and City staff are trained and experienced in the installation, programming, troubleshooting, and maintenance of this equipment. Continuing with the standardized system supports operational consistency, reduces maintenance complexity, minimizes the need for additional parts inventory and training, and helps ensure reliable long-term operation.

What about this makes it sole source?

The requested equipment is sole source because it must be fully compatible with the City's existing Carmanah RRFB crosswalk infrastructure. Equipment manufactured by other vendors cannot communicate or operate interchangeably with the City's existing Carmanah systems, which would prevent coordinated activation and create operational incompatibilities within the RRFB network.

Use of another manufacturer's equipment would require the City to maintain separate systems, stock additional replacement parts, establish separate maintenance and troubleshooting procedures, and provide additional staff training. It could also require replacement or modification of otherwise serviceable existing equipment.

Carmanah is therefore the only practical source capable of meeting the City's compatibility, interoperability, maintenance, and operational requirements while preserving consistency throughout the

existing RRFB network.

Is there an alternative available?

Other manufacturers offer RRFB crosswalk equipment; however, those products are not compatible or interoperable with the City's existing Carmanah RRFB infrastructure and cannot provide the required communication and coordinated operation. Therefore, while other RRFB products are available in the marketplace, no practical or functionally equivalent alternative is available that meets the City's compatibility, interoperability, operational, and maintenance requirements.

What is the benefit for the agency/City/public?

Using Carmanah equipment maintains compatibility and interoperability with the City's existing RRFB infrastructure, preserves the City's investment in its current pedestrian-crossing network, and avoids the cost and operational burden associated with maintaining multiple incompatible systems.

Standardizing the equipment reduces replacement-parts inventory, simplifies maintenance and troubleshooting, and allows trained City staff to service the equipment efficiently. It also supports consistent and reliable operation across the RRFB network.

For the public, these benefits translate into dependable pedestrian-crossing systems, improved pedestrian visibility, greater driver awareness, and enhanced safety at existing crossings. The proposed approach provides the City with the most efficient and cost-effective means of maintaining and improving its pedestrian-safety infrastructure over the long term.