

ACTION FORM BRYAN CITY COUNCIL

DATE OF COUNCIL MEETING: February 28, 2012		DATE SUBMITTED: February 10, 2012	
DEPARTMENT OF ORIGIN: PW – Traffic Ops.		SUBMITTED BY: Dale Picha	
MEETING TYPE:	CLASSIFICATION:	ORDINANCE:	STRATEGIC INITIATIVE:
<input type="checkbox"/> BCD	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC HEARING	<input type="checkbox"/> 1ST READING	<input type="checkbox"/> DIVERSITY
<input type="checkbox"/> SPECIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSENT	<input type="checkbox"/> 2ND READING	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> STATUTORY		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GROWTH
<input type="checkbox"/> WORKSHOP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGULAR		<input type="checkbox"/> IMAGE
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INFRASTRUCTURE
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC SAFETY
AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION: Consider approving an expenditure of \$98,100.00 for the purchase and installation of 36 traffic signal communication radios from Paradigm Traffic Systems, Inc. through BuyBoard.			
<p>SUMMARY STATEMENT: The City owns and maintains 65 traffic signals throughout the City (depicted in Figure 1 below), but staff is unable to communicate to any of them to implement timing strategies or respond to maintenance issues. In February 2010, the City received a “Transportation Energy and Efficiency” (T.E.E.) Grant from the Texas State Comptroller’s Office in the amount of \$373,866.00, which, in part, is to be used to establish a traffic signal communication system for 36 of the City’s signals on the Texas Avenue, Briarcrest/Villa Maria, and 29th Street corridors. There is a 20 percent match required from the City for the grant funds.</p> <p>The Public Works Department has already completed much of the grant project, which has included: 1) the replacement of incandescent lights at all 65 traffic signals in the City with energy-efficient “LED” lights; and, 2) an Engineering Services contract to develop optimized timings for the 36 traffic signals on the Texas Avenue, Briarcrest/Villa Maria, and 29th Street corridors (both of which were previously approved by City Council action). Remaining grant work that is already underway includes Signal Shop upgrades (server, video, and workstation equipment) and the installation of other components of the wireless system. This expenditure under consideration is a specific component of the wireless system (radio and antenna) that will allow staff to communicate timing information from a central location (City’s Signal Shop) to each of the 36 signals on these three corridors, and allow the signals to, in return, communicate data and video back to the Signal Shop.</p> <p>Establishing communication is a necessary improvement to the City’s traffic signals system. It allows for more efficient signal timing implementation, system performance assessments, time clock calibration, and central access (from the Signal Shop) to each of the signal controllers, cameras, and other equipment at each of these 36 intersections. This equipment provides an advantage the City has not had before, namely being able to respond quickly to implement signal timing strategies and reduce response times to signal malfunctions.</p> <p>The selection of Paradigm Traffic Systems, Inc., and their equipment was made after a thorough search for the best possible solution for traffic signal communications. Public Works staff has examined similar, established signal systems in other medium-sized cities (Round Rock, Waco, Allen, McKinney, and Frisco), has gathered feedback from the staff of these cities, and has worked closely with the City’s IT Department to ensure proper and compatible equipment is being purchased.</p>			

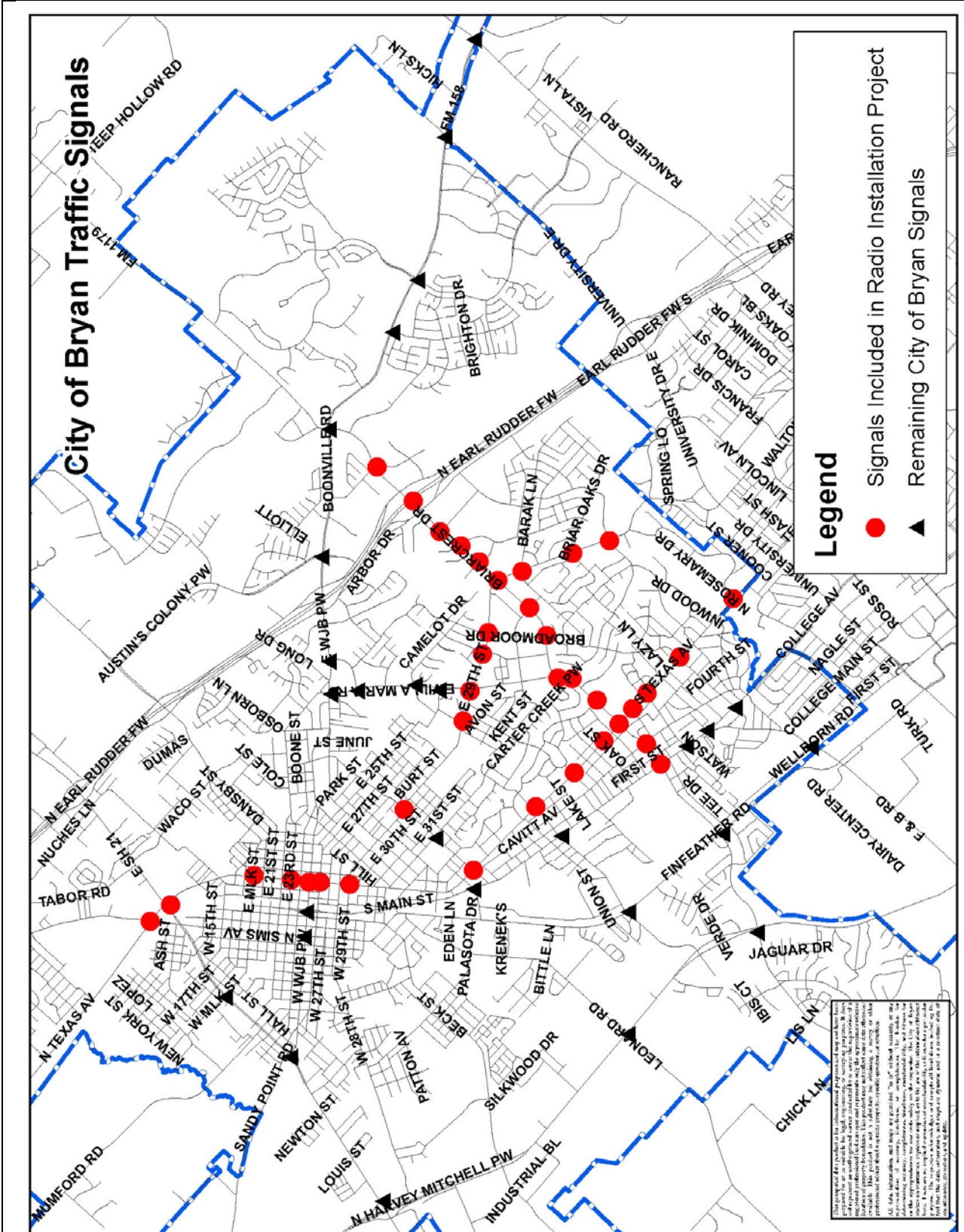


Figure 1. Map of City of Bryan Traffic Signals

Contingent upon Council approval, the intersection radio equipment and installation services will be purchased through the Local Government of Purchasing Cooperative (BuyBoard), BuyBoard Contract #363-10. Each product and service on the BuyBoard has been carefully and competitively bid and awarded based on Texas Statutes by the Local Government Purchasing Cooperative. This cooperative is administered by the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) and is endorsed by the Texas Municipal League (TML), the Texas Association of Counties (TAC), and the Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA). The purchase is also certified as "Buy American" compliant.

Through the grant agreement that Council executed in February 2010, the State Comptroller's Office will reimburse the City for 80 percent (\$78,480.00) of the estimated \$98,100.00 cost. Therefore, the total cost to the General Fund (Traffic Operations) will be \$19,620.00.

STAFF ANALYSIS:

A. PROS: The approval of this purchase will allow the City to take advantage of a grant in which 80 percent of the cost will be reimbursed to the City of Bryan. Furthermore, the installation of this radio equipment will allow staff to complete the construction of the traffic signal communication system infrastructure.

B. CONS: The approval of this purchase will require the expenditure of General Fund dollars. Additionally, the installation of this equipment may increase citizens' expectations that all traffic signals will perform more optimally, but not all traffic signals will be part of the "new" system. However, the intent is to upgrade the entire system and all traffic signals over time and as funding allows.

STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION (Including Rationale and Justification): Staff recommends approval of this purchase of radio communication equipment and installation services from Paradigm Traffic Services, Inc in the not-to-exceed amount of \$98,100.00. Approving this purchase will allow staff to seek 80 percent reimbursement (\$78,480.00) from the Texas State Comptroller's Office. The communication equipment will ultimately allow for significant improvements to the City's traffic signal system.

OPTIONS (In Suggested Order of Staff Preference):

- 1) Approve the purchase of the radios.
- 2) Do not approve the purchase of the radios.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1) Quote from Paradigm Traffic Systems, Inc. (separate pdf file)
- 2) Buy American Certification (separate pdf file)

FUNDING SOURCE: Total cost is \$98,100.00 with 20 percent (\$19,620.00) being from the General Fund (Traffic Operations), and 80 percent being a reimbursement (\$78,480.00) from Texas State Comptroller's Office through a grant agreement. The City's portion of the funding is budgeted in the Fiscal Year 2012 budget.

APPROVALS: Jayson E. Barfknecht 02/11/2012; Hugh R. Walker, 02/15/2012

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL: CITY ATTORNEY Janis K. Hampton, 02/19/2012

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL: CITY MANAGER Kean Register, 02/15/2012