

Council Questions/Comments and Staff Responses Report for December 15, 2014
as of December 15, 2014 at 12:00p.m.

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Alderman David Sage

Staff Response: 6I – Excellent example of how IGA allows equipment sharing, and how this helps keep operational expenses down for the COB.

CONSENT AGENDA

Alderman David Sage

Item 6C, 6D, and 6E: Waive Formal Bid Process and Authorize the Purchase of GE LED Traffic Signals, GE LED Pedestrian Countdown Traffic Signals, and Iteris Traffic Signal Components.

Question/Comment: Why are so many items being waived for formal bid?

Staff Response: Most traffic signal parts are sold through regional distributors such as Brown Traffic Products Inc. or Traffic Control Corp. Each distributor has an exclusive license with the manufacturer to sell their products in a certain region of the country. Both of these distributors provide similar products from different manufacturers. It is important that the parts are reliable and that we are able to obtain warranty service quickly. Not all the components that make up a working traffic signal are interchangeable which means sometimes we have to deal exclusively with one vendor. As a City we try to standardize on parts so we limit the number of items stocked. When a signal is hit by a vehicle or struck by lightning we need to return the signal to operation as quickly as possible. Traffic signals are more technologically complicated than just a few years ago.

A bid waiver was decided as the best approach for these purchases after discussions with the City's Procurement Manager.

Prepared by: Tracey Covert, City Clerk