

# MEMORANDUM

## State of Alaska

*Department of Transportation and Public Facilities*

**To:** Joel G. St. Aubin, P.E.  
Central Region Construction Engineer

**Date:** May 31, 2022

**Thru:** Sharon L. Smith, P.E.,  
Chief of Contracts

**Phone No:** 269-0639

**From:** Scott Thomas, P.E.   
Central Region Traffic & Safety Engineer

**Subject:** Wavetronix Radar  
Brand Name Spec

### Determination:

In accordance with P & P 10.02.050 and Alaska Administrative Code 2 AAC 12.100, this Determination supports the specification of brand specific items for state funded construction contracts and federally funded construction contracts advertised in Central Region for a period not to exceed three (3) years, beginning on the date this Determination is fully executed by the Central Region Construction Engineer who serves as the Contracting Officer for those construction contracts.

### Items to be specified by brand name:

Wavetronix radars of the SmartSensor family, mounting hardware, supporting electronics, software, and services, to include latest models for use within the Municipality of Anchorage (MOA). The cost per intersection approach is approximately \$10,000.

### Justification:

1. Wavetronix Radars have been installed at DOT&PF owned and maintained signals throughout Central Region since 2017 with success, transitioning DOT&PF CR away from in-pavement loop detection. Municipality of Anchorage predominantly uses in-pavement loop detection but has recently tested Wavetronix detectors as a replacement option for loop detection and found them flexible, reliable, technician-friendly, and cost effective option for vehicle detection in specific applications.
2. The Municipality of Anchorage has several recent installations of Wavetronix radar. Standardization of equipment reduces the amount of training staff needs for continued operation of the system and troubleshooting operation errors. Standardizing on a single system also reduces software, parts inventory, parts carried in the limited space on-board service vehicles.

3. Radar detection is a rapidly evolving industry and product lines can be introduced and then discontinued or overhauled in very short periods of time, introducing confusion and inconsistency across installations over time. The Wavetronix product line has been consistent and readily available since being introduced in DOT&PF Central Region over five years ago, where other radar systems that have been tested were quickly discontinued or are no longer supported.
4. Non-standard devices endanger the public by introducing sources of confusion and complexity to Department personnel. In the event of an emergency or inclement weather conditions, requiring field personnel to recall how a feature is implemented in a particular situation by a particular manufacturer would add unnecessary complexity. This is a situation in which for the safety of the technicians and the roadway users it is crucial to keep it simple, minimizing opportunity for errors, and keeping downtime to a minimum.

Submitted by: Scott Thomas 5/31/22  
Scott Thomas, P.E. Date  
Central Region Traffic & Safety Engineer

Recommended by: Ryan Norkoli 6/1/2022  
AOL Sharon L. Smith, P.E. Date  
Chief of Contracts

Approved by: Joel G. St Aubin 6/2/2022  
Joel G. St Aubin, P.E. Date  
Central Region Construction Engineer,  
and Contracting Officer

Distribution List:

Kirk Warren, P.E., Maintenance Chief  
Sharon L. Smith, P.E., Chief of Contracts  
Ryan Norkoli, P.E., Review Engineer  
Luke Bowland, P.E., Preconstruction Engineer  
Sean Baski, P.E., Chief of Highway Design  
Cynthia Ferguson, P.E., Chief of Traffic Safety & Utilities  
Scott Thomas, P.E., CR Traffic & Safety Engineer  
Roxanne Risse, P.E., T&S Design Squad Leader  
Val Rader, P.E., CR ITS Engineer