

Contract Traffic Signal Maintenance

CHIP LANG, SR.

James H. Drew Corporation

GENERAL COMMENTS

The James H. Drew Corporation has been the successful low bidder on the maintenance contract for approximately 300 traffic signals in and around Marion County for the Indiana Department of Highways traffic signs on two different occasions.

Each contract is good for one year period with the second year renewal through negotiations providing both parties are agreeable.

As of July 31, 1982, we will have had this contract for four years. On April 20, 1982 the Indiana Department of Highways took bids on their third traffic signal maintenance contract.

This particular set of specifications is good for any city wishing to start a good preventative maintenance contract on their traffic signals. The details may be more than the cities are willing to pay, but these specifications can be modified according to how detailed they want to go.

MAINTENANCE OF CONTROLLER

Item 1, 2 and 3 of the itemized proposal pertains to the annual routine maintenance provided by the contractor on fixed time traffic signals, flasher beacons and actuated traffic signals.

For fixed time traffic signals and flasher beacons, the contractor rebuilds all controllers with material being furnished by the Indiana Department of Highways. Also, all the bulbs are changed out, lens and reflectors cleaned, mounting hardware, mounting height, splices and spanwire and catenaries checked.

The only difference with the actuated traffic signals is that the Indiana Department of Highways repairs these controllers at Kitley Avenue, and guarantee these repairs to last 90 days.

ADMINISTRATION

The administration of this contract is a lot more involved than we had originally anticipated mainly for the paperwork.

We have a combination secretary-dispatcher, inventory clerk, an engineer, and two electricians working on this contract. Not all of these individuals are full-time employees.

Some of the paperwork involved are daily logs for routine and emergency maintenance calls, monthly invoice, equipment inventory,

equipment requisitions, and recommended repairs to existing traffic signals.

PROBLEMS EXPERIENCED BY THE CONTRACTOR

One of the first problems experienced by this contractor was that during the first month and a half of our first year, we received approximately 250 trouble calls. So during this first month, we were not able to perform our annual routine maintenance calls for approximately 69 intersections. Consequently, the Indiana Department of Highways deducted \$3200 from our next monthly billing.

During the first and second year it was hard for the contractor to maintain a back-log of material in inventory to expedite the repair work.

Also, this contract experienced a bad shipment of bulbs after more than half of annual bulbs change out had been completed, but the Indiana Department of Highways worked with the contractor on this matter.