



TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL

Town Hall
405 Martin Luther King Jr.
Boulevard
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Item Overview

Item #: 5.3, **File #:** [TMP-6586], **Version:** 1

Meeting Date: 1/21/2026

AGENDA ITEM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ITEM TITLE*

Sole Source Contract to Purchase Six Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs)

RESPONSIBLE STAFF, TITLE, DEPARTMENT*

Britany Waddell, Director, Planning Department

Bergen Watterson, Mobility and Greenways Manager, Planning Department

STAFF RECOMMENDATION*

Staff recommends that Council authorize the Town Manager to negotiate and execute a sole source contract to purchase six rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs) for use at new crosswalks.

LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT*

The Office of Mobility and Greenways will be purchasing six Carmanah Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs), equaling \$39,727. Temple, Inc. is the sole distributor of Carmanah products in the state of North Carolina. This type of sole source purchase must be approved by the governing board pursuant to N.C.G.S 143-129(e)(6).

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT*

- The Office of Mobility and Greenways (OMG) is in the design phase for two new crosswalks - one on Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. at Central Park Ln. and one on Estes Dr. at Halifax Rd. Construction is anticipated by late spring 2026.
 - Due to the width of the roads and the volume and speed of vehicles, Town staff recommend RRFBs to increase yield rates and safety for pedestrians.
- The Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. crosswalk requires three RRFBs and the Estes Dr. crosswalk requires two. Staff would like to have an extra RRFB in stock in case of damage or maintenance needs.
- Temple, Inc. is the sole distributor of Carmanah RRFBs in the state of North Carolina. Town staff favor Carmanah products because the brand exists throughout Town and we know how to maintain them.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The six RRFBs purchase price is \$39,727 and will be paid for out of the Bike-Pedestrian Safety budget.

ATTACHMENTS

- Resolution
- Staff Sole Source Memorandum
- Carmanah Sole Source Memorandum

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE A SOLE SOURCE CONTRACT FOR SIX RECTANGULAR RAPID FLASHING BEACONS (2026-1-21/R-2.4)

WHEREAS, The Office of Mobility and Greenways is designing two new crosswalks; and

WHEREAS, the width of the roads and the speed and volume of vehicles warrant the use of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) to increase yield rates and safety for pedestrians; and

WHEREAS, Town staff prefer Carmanah RRFBs because they are used throughout Town and staff knows how to maintain them; and

WHEREAS, Temple, Inc. is the sole distributor of Carmanah RRFBs in the state of North Carolina; and

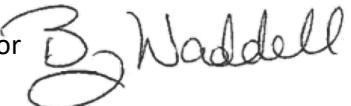
WHEREAS, sole source purchases of this type must be approved by the governing board of a political subdivision of the State pursuant to N.C.G.S 143-129(e)(6).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Town of Chapel Hill that the Council authorizes the Town Manager to negotiate and execute a sole source contract to purchase six rectangular rapid flashing beacons for use at new crosswalks.

This the 21st day of January, 2026.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Lenore Bishop, Purchasing and Contracts Manager

FROM: Britany Waddell, Planning Director 

DATE: January 9, 2026

SUBJECT: Sole Source Vendor

The purpose of this memorandum is to certify that Temple, Inc. is the sole distributor of the Carmanah Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs). While there are other RRFBs available through other vendors, this purchase is consistent with other equipment currently operated and maintained by the Town of Chapel Hill. It is more efficient to order parts for equipment that is manufactured by the same vendor and parts that are interchangeable.

Please let me know if you need any additional information.



January 1st, 2026

Dear Sir / Madam,

Please be advised that Temple, Inc. is the authorized Preferred Reseller and the sole source for all Carmanah Technologies Corporation's traffic products in North Carolina. Temple Inc. has been authorized to provide product training, technical support, sales, warranty, and overall support of the products.

We have had a longstanding relationship with Temple, Inc. and entrust them with all aspects of distributing and supporting our products. If there are any concerns, please contact me to discuss.

Best Regards,

Nickolas A. Garner

Nick Garner

Regional Sales Manager, Roadways Southeast

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