



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Georgia Division

July 31, 2014

61 Forsyth Street S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
404-562-3630
404-562-2703
GA.fhwa@dot.gov



In Reply Refer To:
HPE-GA

Mr. Keith Golden, P.E.
Commissioner
Georgia Department of Transportation
One Georgia Center
600 West Peachtree
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

Dear Mr. Golden:

Our office has reviewed your letter dated July 28, 2014, requesting our approval for proprietary items usage on the Atlanta Beltline Southwest Trail Project, CSSTP-009-00(396), PI #0009396 in Fulton County.

FHWA accepts the Certification provided by Invest Atlanta that the following items are essential for aesthetic synchronization throughout the Beltline Corridor and where no equally suitable alternative product is available to meet the design requirements for the project:

- Aluminum Edging
 - Permaloc Corp - Model Asphalt Edge-0.210 inch thick, 3 inch depth
- Illuminated handrail
 - Wagner, Inc. – Model Lumenrail Ledpod
- Trial Counter
 - Eco Counter – Model Eco-MULTI

Therefore, FHWA finds that it is acceptable to use the above listed items for the purpose of aesthetic synchronization with existing facilities and where no equally suitable alternative product is available to meet the design requirements for the project. This approval is only applicable to be used on Federal Project Number CSSTP-009-00(396), PI #0009396 in Fulton County.

If you have any questions, please contact Alvin Gutierrez at (404) 562-3632.

Sincerely,


for Rodney N. Barry, P.E.
Division Administrator

Cc: Brent Story, State Design Policy Engineer
Cc: Charles Robinson, Project Manager
Cc: Chandria L Brown, Project Manager



Keith Golden, P.E., Commissioner



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

One Georgia Center, 600 West Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30308
Telephone: (404) 631-1000

July 28, 2014

Mr. Rodney Barry – Division Administration
Federal Highway Administration
61 Forsyth Street, Suite 17T100
Atlanta, GA 30277
Attention: Melinda Roberson

Subject: Proprietary Items Usage
PI # 0009396
Atlanta BeltLine Corridor from University Ave to Lena St
Fulton County

Mr. Barry:

Please review the attached request from Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. for the use of proprietary items along the Atlanta BeltLine Corridor from University Avenue to Lena Street, P.I. Number 0009396. The items requested for use include aluminum edging, illuminated handrails, and trail counters.

In order to comply with Atlanta BeltLine, Inc.'s Design Guidelines and ensure aesthetic continuity throughout the BeltLine corridor, Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. respectfully requests approval to utilize the requested items.

The Department considers the use of the proposed proprietary items to be in compliance with 23 CFR 635.411 for aesthetic synchronization, or where no other equally suitable alternative product is available.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dave Peters at 404-631-1738 or Charles A. Robinson at 404-631-1439.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brent Story".

Brent Story, P.E.
State Design Policy Engineer

BAS:drp



July 18, 2014

Mr. Albert Shelby
Georgia Department of Transportation
Office of Program Delivery (25th Floor)
600 West Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30308

Subject: Use of Proprietary Items for
GDOT PI: 0009396, Project number CSSTP-0009-00(396)
Atlanta BeltLine Southwest Trail, Fulton County

Dear Mr. Shelby,

Title 23 CFR 635.411 provides the regulatory authority for FHWA's participation in the cost of a patented or proprietary product. For the Atlanta BeltLine Southwest Trail Project, PI# 0009396, I request to use the items documented in this letter based on Federal Guidance in the categories of Synchronization and where no other equally suitable item is available.

For Atlanta BeltLine Southwest Trail Project, PI# 0009396, the following proprietary items are proposed for use:

Aluminum Edging

Manufacturer: Permaloc Corporation	Model: Asphalt Edge-0.210 inch thick, 3" depth
Quantity in Project: 153 LF	Finish: Mill finish
Total Estimated Cost for Aluminum Edging: \$918	Color: N/A

I, Ernestine W. Garey, Executive Vice President and COO Invest Atlanta do hereby certify that in accordance with the requirements of 23 CFR 635.411(a)(2), that that no equally suitable alternative exists for this patented or proprietary item.

Illuminated Handrail

Manufacturer: Wagner, Inc	Model: Lumenrail Ledpod
Quantity in Project: 2,900 LF	Finish: Stainless steel (304-#4 finish)
Total Estimated Cost for Illuminated Handrail: \$725,000	Color: N/A

I, Ernestine W. Garey, Executive Vice President and COO Invest Atlanta do hereby certify that in accordance with the requirements of 23 CFR 635.411(a)(2), that that no equally suitable alternative exists for this patented or proprietary item.

Trail Counters

Manufacturer: Eco Counter	Model: Eco-MULTI
Quantity in Project: 4	Finish: NA
Total Estimated Cost for Trail Counters: \$30,000	Color: NA

Proprietary Items Request
PI# 0009396, Fulton County
July 18, 2014
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I, Ernestine W. Garey, Executive Vice President and COO Invest Atlanta do hereby certify that in accordance with the requirements of 23 CFR 635.411(a)(2), that that no equally suitable alternative exists for this patented or proprietary item.

The total estimated costs for materials listed above are based on recent construction bids on similar projects. These costs include materials, labor, tax, and freight.

The estimated total construction cost for the project is \$35,700,000, based on the TIGER Grant Agreement. The cost of \$755,918 for proprietary items represents 2.1% of the estimated construction costs.

Invest Atlanta respectfully requests that the use of these proprietary products be approved.

Sincerely,



Ernestine W. Garey
Executive Vice President and COO

Cc: Ernestine W. Garey, Invest Atlanta
Shelley Peart, City of Atlanta
Catherine Owens, Atlanta BeltLine, Inc.

Attachments to include:

- A. Additional Proprietary Rationale Discussion

Exhibit A

Additional Proprietary Rationale Discussion

The Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. is a unique agent of the City of Atlanta that was legislatively instituted to implement the execution of the Atlanta BeltLine program, which includes the construction of 33-miles of multi-use trails, 22-miles of streetcar, 64 miles of streetscape improvements, and a 40% increase in park space, while supporting affordable workforce housing, economic development, public art, and remediation. As infrastructure projects are completed, ABI returns the infrastructure to the relevant City of Atlanta departments for maintenance purposes. Understanding the existing burden on the municipality's ability to maintain existing infrastructure, ABI has established typologies that provide durable products that ideally provide minimal maintenance.

Aluminum Edging

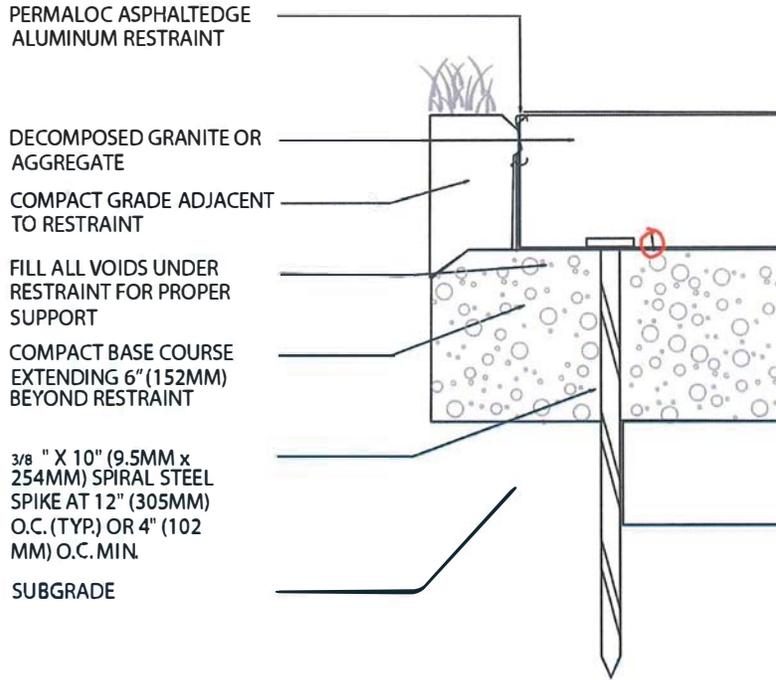
Manufacturer: Permaloc Corporation

Model: Asphalt Edge-0.210 inch thick, 3" depth

In order to maintain consistency in material dimensions between trail poured and other edge conditions such as granite or grass or vertical structures, as dimensionally defined in the Atlanta BeltLine typologies, there are several narrow or small areas where planting is not feasible. The design calls for a stabilized stone dust material to fill these voids. In order to limit dust particles from expanding beyond the aggregate area, an edging is typically installed to further support the stabilized stone dust.

The design team reviewed all comparable aluminum edging products and determined that Permaloc Asphalt Edge was the only product that met the functional requirements of the project. The following key features distinguish the Permaloc product from comparable products: durability (due to the thickness and type of alloy), resistance to deflection (due to an L-shaped profile), and a long-standing track record of successful projects. Permaloc's AsphaltEdge product is manufactured from a 6005 alloy with a T-5 temper and has a thickness of .210". These features make this edging stronger and more durable than comparable products. In addition, the AsphaltEdge has an L-shaped profile, which is more resistant to deformation than the straight profiles offered by Sure-Loc and Dimex. Finally one key feature that is unique to Permaloc's Asphalt Edge is a "tooth" that projects upward from the base of the L-shaped profile (highlighted with a red circle in the graphic below). The tooth bonds with the stabilized aggregate surface or asphalt, yielding greater stability. The chart below compares the salient features of the products that were compared. The Permaloc AsphaltEdge product is a unique product, in that it is the only product specifically designed to be installed and perform as an integral restraint system for asphalt. There is not a comparable product to Permaloc AsphaltEdge on the market.

Aluminum Edging Products	Thickness	Resistance to deformation	Alloy type	Hardness
Permaloc AsphaltEdge	.210"	L-shaped profile	6005	T-5 hardness
Curv-Rite	.1875"	L-shaped profile	6061	T-6 hardness
Sure-Loc Aluminum paver edging	.1875"	straight profile	6063	T-5 hardness
Dimex Edge-pro	.125"	straight profile	6063	T-6 hardness



Illuminated Handrail

Manufacturer: Wagner, Inc

Model: Lumenrail Ledpod

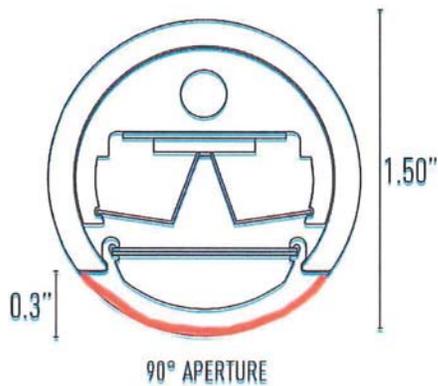
The Atlanta BeltLine Typologies established that hardscape materials “are selected for durability and ease of maintenance through life-cycle assessment.” For this reason, durable materials such as granite, concrete, and stainless steel are specified throughout the typologies since they resist vandalism and are long lasting. Understanding the proximity of ramps to residential homes (specifically the ramp at the Martin Luther King Jr bridge), the team was concerned about the potential impact to surrounding homes that would result from over-lighting the ramp. ABI directed the design team to determine if handrail lighting could reduce the amount of spill-over lighting to the neighbors’ homes. With functional requirements established in the overall typology document in mind, the design team made a significant effort to determine the most feasible handrail lighting option. Three manufacturers initially appeared to be feasible candidates; the Wagner Lumenrail Led Pod, the Intense Lighting V-rail IVR15, and the Cole R-5 series.

Wagner Lumenrail LedPod lighting was selected due to its durable features. The LedPod is more resistant to vandalism than the Intense and Cole lights, due to the polycarbonate covers (which are more resistant to impacts than acrylic), and small size of luminaires (1” round size) as opposed to long linear strips. This small luminaire size makes the product more resistant to vandalism since there is a smaller target if the light is struck with a hard object. The graphics below illustrating the relative sizes of the lights illustrate this size difference. The following key features distinguish the Wagner Lumenrail LedPod product from comparable products: aesthetics, durability, resistance to vandalism, and light distribution. From an aesthetic point of view, the 1.5” diameter rail size and seamless welded connections distinguish the Wagner LedPod. The LedPod is more resistant to vandalism than the Intense and Cole lights, due to the polycarbonate covers (which is more resistant to impacts than acrylic), and small size of luminaires (1” round size) as opposed to long linear strips. The light distribution of the LedPod is also more adaptable, since the luminaire’s can be placed up to 0.5” from vertical posts (in contrast to 6” for the Cole and Intense lights). This allows more even spacing of the lights for better light distribution. The LedPods can also be located on tight radii turns, such as an 8” centerline radius. There is not another product on the market that is comparable to the Wagner LedPod.

Illuminated Handrail Products	Tube sizes	Luminaire cover type	Shape of Luminaire	Resistance to vandalism	Seamless welded connections
Wagner Lumenrail Ledpod	1.5" option	UV stabilized polycarbonate	small round	Good	Yes
Intense Lighting V-rail IVR15	1.5" option	High Impact Acrylic Lens	linear strips	Fair	No-bolted connections
Cole LR-5 series	1.9" option	High Impact Acrylic Lens	linear strips	Fair	No- 2 3/8" dia. posts



Wagner Lumenrail LEDpod – illuminated handrail



Intense V-Rail lumenrail size



LedPod lumenrail size

Trail Counters

Manufacturer: Eco Counter

Model: Eco-MULTI

It is the policy of Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. to collect data on trail users to provide us data on users, peak user times, and support regional studies related to multi-use trail usage. ABI has established a trail user counting policy based on equipment already in place on the Eastside Trail. The user count program was established based on several counter features; the ability to define the direction the user is traveling, securing data continuously uploaded to a website for calculation, and (not knowing the number of counters we will ultimately have along our project) the final counter was selected based on battery lifespan. Ultimately, the Eco-Counter project was selected based on these features. The counters in place, as well as the policy, were established with private donor funding, so the selection of proprietary products was not considered.

Based on FHWA’s preference to have three alternatives, the design team searched for several other products that met the features provided in the Eco-Counter already installed along other section of the Atlanta BeltLine. A comprehensive review of products revealed that there is not a comparable product on the market. Therefore the Southwest Trail should have eco-counter products installed in order to collect comparable data. Key elements that distinguish Eco-Counter include the following: the ability to distinguish pedestrians from bicyclists, directional differentiation, data transfer through a cell phone modem as opposed to manual downloads, a 2 year battery life, and the ability to record counts in 15 minute intervals. Other features that distinguish the Eco-Counter include: high accuracy in urban areas, a comprehensive website support that indicates if a sensor is not working, and develops count reports that can be shared with others, and a single software program that analyzes count data and weather information. Given the usages seen on the Eastside Trail both in modes of transport and number of users, it is important to have a robust and reliable counter to provide accurate data to report to stakeholders such as GDOT, FHWA, ARC, and the City.

Trail Counter Products	Distinguish Ped. from Bicyclists	Directional differentiation	Data transfer method	Battery Life	Counter intervals
Eco-Counter Eco-Multi	Yes	Yes	modem	2 years	15 minute
Diamond TTC-4240	No	No	manual	12-15 months	No intervals, continuous
Traffx TM1550	No	No	manual	8 mo. to 1 year	No intervals, continuous