



## CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

**MEETING DATE:** 01/27/2026

**REQUESTER:** Joe Taylor, Staff Engineer

**PRESENTER:** Scott Sturtz, Director of Public Works

**ITEM TITLE:** CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF AMENDMENT TWO TO CONTRACT K-2223-85: BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORMAN AND OLSSON, INC. FOR ADDITIONAL DESIGN ENGINEERING SERVICES TO THE 36<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE SE WIDENING 2019 BOND PROJECT – CEDAR LANE ROAD TO STATE HIGHWAY 9 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$58,000.00. (Ward 1)

### BACKGROUND:

On April 2, 2019, the citizens of Norman voted in favor of a \$72 million transportation bond issue, which includes nineteen (19) projects. With the anticipated \$67 million in federal dollars being leveraged for these projects, approximately \$139 million is budgeted for the nineteen (19) projects. Please see the attached project list and map showing the approved projects.

On August 19, 2019, City staff advertised Request for Proposal RFP 1920-16 to solicit Consulting Engineering Services for the fourteen (14) bond projects still requiring design. The selection committee consisting of three (3) City staff and two (2) citizens shortlisted nine (9) consultant teams for interviews held on October 2, 2019. The five (5) consultant teams selected after interviews to complete the design on these projects are:

- Garver, Norman
- Cowan Group, Oklahoma City
- Freese and Nichols, Oklahoma City
- MacArthur Associated Consultants, Oklahoma City
- Olsson Associates, Oklahoma City

These consultants are being assigned the various projects by City staff based on capacity, performance on their current projects and capabilities of their firm to complete a specific project.

On January 10, 2023, City Council awarded the design engineering services contract for the 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE Widening Project – Cedar Lane Road to State Highway 9 to Olsson, Inc. of Oklahoma City in the amount of \$559,500.00.

On October 24, 2023, City Council approved Amendment No. 1 for Olsson, Inc. in the amount of \$38,600 for additional bridge design that was added to their scope of work on the 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE – Cedar Lane Road to State Highway 9 Widening Project.

**DISCUSSION:**

Tonight's agenda item is a contract amendment with Olsson, Inc., which includes plan revisions to remove the on-street bike lanes and replacing them with a 10-foot-wide multi-use path on the west side of the street. Just a few years ago, on-street bike lanes were the preferred method to accommodate bicycles on multi-modal roadways. We have now learned that 10-foot multi-use paths may be a better choice for certain situations. After further collaboration with staff and our engineering consultant, City staff recommend changing the project design to eliminate the on-street bike lanes and adding a 10-foot-wide multi-use path on the west side of 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE. This design will allow for better multi-modal access to Saxon Park on the west side of 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE, will connect seamlessly to the existing State Highway 9 multi-use trail that intersects the north end of this project, and will provide better connectivity to the planned development on the southwestern portion of this project.

The additional design cost for this supplemental agreement will be offset by the reduced construction costs. On-street bike lanes are constructed to the same pavement thickness and subgrade stabilization requirements since they are part of the roadway. By eliminating the additional 10-foot street width for bike lanes and replacing it with a less expensive 10-foot-wide and 5-inch-thick multi-use path, construction costs are substantially less than the redesign fee.

Supplemental Agreement No. 2 results in a contract increase of \$58,000 or 9.7% over the existing contract amount of \$598,100.00 for a new contract total of \$656,100.00. Funding for these additional design services is available in the 36th Avenue SE – Cedar Lane Road to State Highway 9 Widening Project (No. BP0423, Design Account No. 50594019-46201).

If approved, Olsson will begin work immediately on the above-mentioned plan revisions.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of Amendment No. 2 to Contract K-2223-85 in the amount of \$58,000.00, between the City of Norman and Olsson, Inc., for supplemental design engineering on the 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE Widening Project – Cedar Lane Road to State Highway 9.