



## CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

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**MEETING DATE:** 07/12/2022

**REQUESTER:** Katherine Coffin

**PRESENTER:** Jami Short, Traffic Engineer

**ITEM TITLE:** CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RESOLUTION R-2223-12: A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, APPROPRIATING \$17,018.47 FROM THE RISK FUND BALANCE TO REPAIR AND REPLACE TRAFFIC SIGNAL EQUIPMENT OR TRAFFIC SIGNS DAMAGED IN TRAFFIC COLLISIONS.

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### **BACKGROUND:**

The City's Traffic Control Division maintains more than 170 traffic and pedestrian signals citywide using \$105,291 in the Division's operating budget (approximately \$620 per signalized intersection per year). These funds are used for the purchase of replacement traffic signal system components needed for the safe and efficient operation of our traffic signals. In addition, the Division also maintains approximately 30,000 traffic control signs throughout the City of Norman using \$44,480 in the Division's operating budget (approximately \$1.49 per sign per year). These funds are used for the purchase of the replacement sign components needed for the safe and efficient navigation of our roadways.

On May 3, 2020, a traffic collision occurred at the Lindsey Street intersection with McGee Drive causing damage to a pedestrian pedestal pole assembly located on the northeast corner. The responsible driver was identified for collection purposes. City forces repaired the damage at the location. In a Memorandum of Understanding, dated March 10, 2021, the responsible party agreed to repay the damages in installments. On November 23, 2021, a \$200 check was collected from the responsible party. On December 16, 2021, a \$100 check was collected from the responsible party. On February 16, 2022, a \$200 check was collected from the responsible party. On March 17, 2022, a \$100 check was collected from the responsible party. On April 19, 2022, an \$80 check was collected from the responsible party. On May 23, 2022, a \$100 check was collected from the responsible party. All the amounts listed above were deposited into the Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management account.

On October 19, 2020, a traffic collision occurred along the westbound State Highway 9 On-Ramp from Classen Boulevard/US Highway 77 causing damage to a streetlight assembly. The responsible driver was identified for collection purposes. City forces repaired the damage at the location. In a Memorandum of Understanding dated March 13, 2021, the responsible party agreed to repay the damages in installments. On December 16, 2021, a \$100 check was

collected from the responsible party. On January 24, 2022, a \$100 check was collected from the responsible party. On February 16, 2022, a \$200 check was collected from the responsible party. On March 18, 2022, a \$100 check was collected from the responsible party. On April 17, 2022, a \$100 check was collected from the responsible party. On May 15, 2022, a \$100 check was collected from the responsible party. All the funds collected were deposited into the Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management account.

On January 24, 2021, a traffic collision occurred along the shoulder of the southbound I-35 off-ramp at Main Street causing damage to two roadway streetlight assemblies. The responsible driver was identified for collection purposes. City forces repaired the damage at the location. On January 10, 2022, a \$6,553.27 check was collected from the insurance company of the responsible party. The check was deposited into the Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management account.

On August 27, 2021, a traffic collision occurred along the center median of 24th Avenue NW at Conference Drive causing damage to a KEEP RIGHT and ONE WAY (back-to-back combination) sign. The responsible driver was identified for collection purposes. City forces repaired the damage at this location. On December 13, 2021, a \$200 check was collected from responsible party. The check was deposited into the Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management account.

On May 14, 2022, a traffic collision occurred on Main Street west of 24th Avenue SW causing damage to a Wayfinding sign assembly. The responsible driver was identified for collection purposes. City forces were not able to repair or install a new sign assembly. A quote from the contractor who installed the signs was used to determine the cost of the damages. On June 14, 2022, an \$8,785.20 check was collected from the insurance company of the responsible party. The check was deposited into the Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management account. The contractor will reinstall the Wayfinding signs once the re-appropriation of funds is completed.

## **DISCUSSION:**

The continuing number of traffic collisions involving damage to traffic control equipment depletes the City's inventory of spare units. Replacement units are necessary in order to address future emergency situations. The Division does not have adequate funding in its operating budget to purchase replacements units and needs to access the funds collected from the insurance companies in order to do so.

Funds collected to date from the previously described incidents total \$8,033.27 for damages to traffic signal/street light equipment and \$8,985.20 for damages to traffic signs.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the approval of Resolution R-2223-12 for the appropriation of \$8,033.27 from Risk Management Fund Balance (43-29000) to the General Fund, Traffic Signal Parts (10550223-43212). These funds will be used to replace damaged equipment in the respective collisions. In addition, staff recommends an appropriation of \$8,985.20 from the Risk Management Fund Balance (43-29000) to the General Fund, Traffic & Street Signs (10550223-

43212). These funds will be used for the purchase of replacements for the equipment damaged in the respective collision.