



## CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

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**MEETING DATE:** 07/14/2026

**REQUESTER:** Katherine Coffin

**PRESENTER:** David Riesland, Transportation Engineer

**ITEM TITLE:** CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF AMENDMENT ONE TO CONTRACT K-2223-158: BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, AND PARKHILL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$223,162 FOR DESIGN SERVICES FOR TWO MILES OF SIDEWALK ALONG STATE HIGHWAY 9 BETWEEN 48<sup>th</sup> AVENUE SE AND 72<sup>nd</sup> AVENUE SE.; LEGACY TRAIL. (WARD 5)

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### **BACKGROUND:**

For a number of years, the City Council has supported projects that have responded to citizens' desires for improved facilities to enhance their quality of life. High on the citizens' list have been the Legacy Trail sidewalks that are wide, long, safe, and intended to accommodate walkers, runners, bicyclists, skaters, strollers, and disabled individuals. The bicycling community has been particularly active in promoting projects such as bike lanes, shared traffic lanes, and separated bike paths that will provide safe routes for citizens desiring to participate in this active lifestyle. With the funding help of some federal grants, the City has been able to make significant improvements to the sidewalk systems in various areas of Norman, especially in neighborhoods adjacent to schools.

The two-way proposed multimodal path will be constructed to accommodate walkers, runners, bicyclists, skaters, strollers, and disabled individuals. The project is consistent with the City's strategy to become one of the better multimodal transportation cities in the state. The reasonable proximity of the Lake Thunderbird State Park offers an opportunity to link Norman recreationally to that very popular state facility, as well as to provide a safe corridor for non-motorized users of all skill levels to use and enjoy. The City secured funding in recent years for the first two segments (from 24<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE to 48<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE) of the path. Construction of those first two segments is complete. The path along State Highway 9 to Lake Thunderbird State Park is part of the City's adopted Comprehensive Transportation Plan.

On April 3, 2023, staff was able to obtain two Transportation Alternative Project (TAP) grants to construct two one-mile long segments of a separated multimodal path going toward Lake Thunderbird State Park, a popular destination, along State Highway 9 from 48<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE to 72<sup>nd</sup> Avenue SE. Recently, the Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) approved the use of the designer (Parkhill) to prepare the plans from their approved list of design

consultants. Parkhill was selected by staff because of their familiarity with designing paths along State Highway 9 (two prior miles between 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE and 48<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE) as well as with their work in developing estimates for the two current miles of path. The TAP grants provide federal 80% funding for qualified projects (rest of funding will be local). The current grant awards provide \$2,117,966.67 for construction of the two miles of State Highway 9 path with a \$529,491.66 in local match for the two miles. All design fees are the responsibility of the City to provide. A location map is provided.

The total project cost breakdown for this TAP project was anticipated to be:

|         | Engr. Design | Construction   | Total          | Percent Share |
|---------|--------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| City    | \$223,162    | \$529,491.66   | \$752,653.66   | 26.22%        |
| Federal | \$0          | \$2,117,966.67 | \$2,117,966.67 | 73.78%        |
| Total   | \$223,162    | \$2,647,458.33 | \$2,870,620.33 |               |

### **DISCUSSION:**

The majority of the two miles of multimodal path along State Highway 9 between 48<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE and 72<sup>nd</sup> Avenue SE is currently under construction. The exception is the portion from Blue Creek Drive to 72<sup>nd</sup> Avenue SE. This portion of the project was made a bid alternate as it was expected that available funds would be insufficient to cover the bids submitted. This came to fruition when ODOT opened the bids for the project.

In order to prepare the plans to include a bid alternate, Parkhill had to modify the plans to separate the portion of the path from Blue Creek Drive to 72<sup>nd</sup> Avenue SE. ODOT has extended an offer for a future TAP project award to cover 80 percent of the construction cost for the omitted portion of the path. Parkhill will have to prepare a new plan set with the section from Blue Creek Drive to 72<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NE from the original plans to bid the future TAP project. Parkhill submitted an amendment to their contract in the amount of \$24,352. This amendment includes the costs associated with the creation of the bid alternate in the original bid and the costs to create a new set of plans for the remaining project for a future TAP project. The Traffic Division has funds available in a consultant design account (10550223 44002) to fund the estimated design costs of \$24,352 to be paid to Parkhill.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of Amendment No. 1 to Contract K-2223-158 with Parkhill in the amount of \$24,352 for design services associated with the portion of State Highway 9 path from Blue Creek Drive to 72<sup>nd</sup> Avenue SE. In addition, funds available in 10550223 44002 be used to pay these design costs.