



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 02/10/2026

REQUESTER: AshLynn Wilkerson, Assistant City Attorney

PRESENTER: Shannon Stevenson, Assistant City Manager

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RESOLUTION R-2526-43: A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, APPROPRIATING \$151,563.00 FROM OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS CASH ACCOUNT TO OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS TO FUND COUNCIL APPROVED PROJECTS WITH THE DISTRIBUTORS SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT FUNDS PROVIDED FROM THE STATE THROUGH CONTRACT K-2425-44.

BACKGROUND:

The State of Oklahoma entered into a settlement agreement on June 24, 2022 with McKesson Corporation, Cardinal Health, Inc., and Cencora, Inc. (f/k/a AmerisourceBergen Corporation) to resolve opioid-related claims against such opioid distributors. Although the City of Norman did not participate in the litigation, the City elected to participate in the Distributor Settlement Agreement as a Non-Litigating Political Subdivision (NLPS) on August 18, 2022. Such participation required the City to agree to be bound by the terms of the Distributor Settlement and release the three distributors mentioned above from any claims the City had or may have against them related to the State's opioid litigation.

The three distributors have paid, and will continue to make annual payments to the State over an eighteen (18) year period, for Opioid Remediation purposes, as defined in the Distributor Settlement Agreement. Governor Stitt signed HB2924 on June 14, 2024, appropriating the funds paid by the three distributors for distribution to the NLPS. The City is expected to receive a total of \$4,477,390.16 in funding from the Distributor Settlement over the eighteen (18) year payout schedule created under the Distributor Settlement Agreement. To date, the City has received \$1,164,638.07 of such funding.

On August 27, 2024, Council accepted the \$1,164,638.07 in settlement funding and approved contract K-2425-44 with the State of Oklahoma, which detailed the requirements for such funding.

On April 15, 2025, Council approved the first use of this settlement funding to partially fund the “A Better Way – Opportunity Knocks” program in connection with contract K-2425-109 (in an amount of \$333,633.00).

DISCUSSION:

On December 2, 2025, City Staff delivered a presentation outlining potential programs for which the unallocated settlement funding (\$831,005.07), as well as the future anticipated funding (\$3,312,752.09 by 2038) could be used to support. Council provided direction and approval to support two, one-time funding programs as well as the establishment of two new City staff positions and associated intern, to be housed under the City manager’s office.

The two one-time funding projects are:

- 1) In an amount of \$20,000.00 to fund the acquisition of more NARCAN, a medication that reverses and/or reduces the effects of an opioid overdose, for the Norman Police Department to increase their supply and thereby increase accessibility for the community.
- 2) In an amount of \$50,000.00 to support the drug treatment program at the Cleveland County Detention Center for City of Norman residents only.

The new staff positions will receive initial funding in the amount of \$81,563.00 to operate until the end of the current fiscal year and then be allocated funding through the budget process for future fiscal years. These positions consist of a:

- 1) Community Services Manager, who will manage resources and coordination of services, act as unsheltered incident command, coordinate departmental response, and oversee permanent supportive housing, grant management, and Circle of Care coordination; and
- 2) Community Outreach Social Worker, who will provide and coordinate wrap-around Community Court/Continuum of Care services for individuals with opioid and/or substance abuse and co-occurring homelessness/mental health disorders; and
- 3) Social Work Intern to be selected and managed by the Community Services Manager in coordination with the OU school of Social Work, as has been done previously with the Norman Police Department.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Staff recommends an appropriation of \$151,563.00 from Opioid Settlement Funds Cash Account (Account 22-11015) with \$71,563.00 going to Opioid Settlement Funds Salaries (Account 22122053-42001), \$10,000.00 to Opioid Settlement Funds Overtime (Account 22122053-42110), \$20,000.00 to Opioid Settlement Funds Other Supplies – Medical (Account 22122053-43117), and \$50,000.00 to Opioid Settlement Funds Professional Services-Other Professional (Account 22122053-44099) to fund the one-time projects and the new staff positions as described above.