



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 02/10/2026

REQUESTER: Michele Loudenback, Environmental and Sustainability Manager

PRESENTER: Chris Mattingly, Director of Utilities

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF ACCEPTANCE, APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$11,000 FROM THE OKLAHOMA MONARCH SOCIETY TO INSTALL POLLINATOR HABITAT AND PROVIDE POLLINATOR PUBLIC EDUCATION; APPROVAL OF CONTRACT K-2526-130 BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, AND THE OKLAHOMA MONARCH SOCIETY; AND BUDGET APPROPRIATION AS OUTLINED IN THE STAFF REPORT. (Ward 4)

BACKGROUND:

The City of Norman has been selected as a municipal partner in the Oklahoma Monarch Society's Pathways for Pollinators & People initiative, a statewide program focused on expanding native pollinator habitat while engaging communities through education and public art.

Through this partnership, the City will receive up to \$11,000 in funding, materials, and technical assistance to support the installation of new pollinator habitat on City property. Project elements include native plant installations, educational signage, community outreach activities, and an eight-foot monarch-themed mural by Oklahoma artist Rick Sinnett. The initiative is supported by the Oklahoma Monarch Society and its public education program, Okies for Monarchs, with funding provided by the Kirkpatrick Foundation.

The project aligns with the City's ongoing efforts to support pollinator conservation, environmental resilience, and nature-based solutions across City spaces.

DISCUSSION:

As part of the agreement, the City of Norman will prepare the site at the front entrance to City Hall for pollinator habitat installation, coordinate the installation of pollinator-friendly native plants that provide blooms throughout the growing season, and provide long-term maintenance of the habitat, mural, and signage for a minimum of five years. Habitat design and implementation will be coordinated with Parks staff and project partners to ensure coordination with operations and maintenance practices.

The monarch-themed mural will be installed on the southeast wall of the Development Center near the Gray Street entrance to City Hall. This location was selected for its visibility, suitable

wall conditions, and proximity to the habitat area, reinforcing the connection between public art, education, and environmental stewardship.

The Environmental Control Advisory Board (ECAB) and the Parks Board of Commissioners have reviewed the project and recommended that it be forwarded to City Council for consideration.

Project planning will be finalized in February 2026, with habitat and mural installation anticipated in spring 2026 and required project completion by October 2026.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1:

Staff recommends approval of Contract No. K-2526-130, a grant contract between the City of Norman, Oklahoma, and the Oklahoma Monarch Society in the amount of \$11,000 for pollinator public education and installation of pollinator habitat and mural at City Hall.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 2:

Staff recommends acceptance of a grant in the amount of \$11,000 from the Oklahoma Monarch Society; receipt of funds into account No. 221-331346, and appropriation of the funds to the Environmental Quality Grant, BG0101 (Account No. 22110343-43199).