



## CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

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**MEETING DATE:** 9/23/2025

**REQUESTER:** Paul D'Andrea, Capital Projects Engineer

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

**ITEM TITLE:** CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, ACCEPTANCE, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF AMENDMENT ONE TO CONTRACT K-2223-55: BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA AND GARVER, L.L.C., FOR THE DESIGN ENGINEERING OF THE 24<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE NE WIDENING PROJECT – ROCK CREEK ROAD TO TECUMSEH ROAD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$88,804 FOR THE 2019 BOND PROJECT.

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### **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 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 previous projects and capabilities of their firm to complete a specific project.

On October 10, 2022, City Council awarded Contract K-2223-55, the design engineering services contract for the 24<sup>th</sup> Ave NE Widening Project – Rock Creek Road to Tecumseh Road, to Garver, LLC of Norman in the amount of \$699,950.

**DISCUSSION:**

The 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE Widening Project located from Rock Creek Road to Tecumseh Road was originally programmed to expand this section of 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE from two lanes to four including bicycle lanes, curb and gutter, and sidewalks.

For multiple reasons, Garver and City staff now recommend changing the roadway typical section to a three-lane roadway, which consists of one through lane in each direction and a shared center left-turn lane. After a closer look at this mile long section, it primarily consists of large residential lots and as a result, full buildout of higher density development in the area will be limited to the few remaining undeveloped parcels in the area. This will result in less traffic volume than originally accounted for in the design. Furthermore, the limited access points for the large tracts along the roadway lend themselves nicely to the proposed three-lane roadway. Another proposed change to the typical section is removing the on-street bike lanes and adding a 10-foot wide shared use path on the west side of 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW. In recent years, City staff have received input from citizens and the Bicycle Advisory Committee regarding on-street bike lanes versus off-street 10-foot multiuse paths. As a result, the design team currently evaluates projects and corridors on a case by case basis. On this project, Garver and City staff have determined that this project would benefit more from the proposed multiuse path. The added benefit to the above-mentioned changes is that they will collectively reduce the amount of roadway pavement and thus reduce the project construction cost by an estimated 15% to 20%.

The above-mentioned changes were presented at a recent Community Planning and Transportation Committee (CPTC) meeting, and the Committee supported the proposed changes.

The cost of the proposed design fee to make these changes is \$88,804. Funds are available within 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE Widening, Design (Account 50594019-46201; Project BP0426).

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of Contract Amendment 1 to K-2223-55, between the City of Norman and Garver, L.L.C., for design engineering of the 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE – Rock Creek Road to Tecumseh Road Project in the amount of \$88,804.

Reviewed by:       Tim Miles, City Engineer  
                          Scott Sturtz, Director of Public Works  
                          Clint Mercer, Chief Accountant  
                          Anthony Francisco, Director of Finance  
                          Jane Hudson, Director of Planning and Community Development  
                          Rick Knighton, City Attorney  
                          Darrel Pyle, City Manager