



## CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

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**MEETING DATE:** 04/23/2024

**REQUESTER:** Nathan Madenwald, P.E., Utilities Engineer

**PRESENTER:** Michele Loudenback, Environmental and Sustainability Manager

**ITEM TITLE:** CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, ACCEPTANCE, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,000 FROM THE OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TO BE USED TO HOLD AN ELECTRONICS WASTE EVENT IN FYE 2024; CONTRACT K-2324-171 AND BUDGET APPROPRIATION AS OUTLINED IN THE STAFF REPORT.

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### **BACKGROUND:**

Electronic waste in the form of computer equipment, televisions, cellular telephones, etc., poses a risk to health and the environment. As new advances are made in these media, waste increases due to obsolescence, and more and more products are discarded. When broken or unwanted electronics are not properly disposed of, toxic substances like lead and mercury can leach into soil and water. This waste is not biodegradable and accumulates in the environment. Additionally, precious and valuable non-renewable resources are used in their production. Reusing these resources is vital, but irresponsible recovery of them (which often through open burning or acid bathing) can lead to harmful chemicals in our air.

Our new Household Hazardous Waste Facility does not take electronic waste due to current permitting and space requirements for its collection. So, to help with the prevention, control and abatement of pollution potentially caused by these solid wastes, the City of Norman contracts with a Sustainable Recycling (R2)-Certified electronic recycler to provide two yearly electronic waste collection events. These are free and open to Norman residents.

### **DISCUSSION:**

The Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) issued the grant opportunity for funding of collection events and staff submitted an application for one collection event to be held during Fiscal Year 2024.

On March 29, 2024, DEQ notified staff that the full grant request of up to \$6,000 would be awarded and provided their contract for execution. Costs for the electronic waste collection event will be initially paid for by Environmental Services Grant – Business Service Hazardous Waste (Account No. 22110343-44109). An appropriation is need to upfront the funds. DEQ will reimburse the cost spent on the event up to \$6,000, and that money will be receipted into

revenue account Other Revenue-State Grant Reimbursement (Account No. 221-331380). The \$6,000 will provide sufficient funding for the collection event.

**RECOMMENDATION NO. 1:**

Staff recommends approval of Contract K-2324-171, a grant contract by and between the City of Norman, Oklahoma, and the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) accepting the Collection Event Funding in the amount of \$6,000 for one electronics waste collection event to be held in Fiscal Year 2024.

**RECOMMENDATION NO. 2:**

Staff recommends appropriation of \$6,000 from Special Grants Fund Balance (22-29000) to Environmental Services Grant – Business Service Hazardous Waste (Account No. 22110343-44109).