



## CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

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**MEETING DATE:** 12/04/2025

**REQUESTER:** Karla Sitton, Administrative Tech IV

**PRESENTER:** Jason Olsen, Director of Parks & Recreation

**ITEM TITLE:** NORMAN FORWARD MASTER PLAN UPDATES

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### **DISCUSSION:**

On October 13, 2015, Norman residents passed the Norman Forward initiative, which encompasses various quality-of-life projects, with a 1/2% sales tax collected over 15 years.

Norman Forward is a citizen-initiated proposal to renovate, expand, construct, and fund quality-of-life projects, including multiple recreational facilities, libraries, parks, athletic venues, public art, trails, swim complexes, and other quality-of-life projects throughout Norman. The initiative came to the City Council from community groups, stakeholders, and Norman residents, who prepared an initial package using analysis and information from recreational planning professionals and research firms. Citizens passed the initiative at the polls in October 2015.

There have been numerous improvements to existing parks and facilities, including Griffin Park and Reaves Park, as well as the construction of new parks and facilities such as Ruby Grant Park, the Young Family Athletic Center, and the Adult Wellness and Education Center. The Norman Forward initiative has also made it possible to upgrade and/or replace playground equipment, picnic shelters, sidewalks, and other amenities in many of Norman's neighborhood parks. Remaining Norman Forward Projects include Saxon Park, Canadian River Park, Trail Development, and Neighborhood Park Development.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff requests that the Norman Board of Park Commissioners support the effort to update the recommendation to the City Council to appropriate funds from the Norman Forward Fund for updating the Master Plans.