



## CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

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**MEETING DATE:** 7/23/2024

**REQUESTER:** Katherine Coffin

**PRESENTER:** David Riesland, Transportation Engineer

**ITEM TITLE:** CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RESOLUTION R-2425-12: A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, PROGRAMMING ACOG TAP FUNDING FOR TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES FOR THE PEDESTRIAN CROSSING SYSTEMS ON 36<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE NW AND ON 24<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE NE.

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### **BACKGROUND:**

The Association of Central Oklahoma Governments (ACOG) Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) program has historically provided funding for projects and programs defined as transportation alternatives that advance non-motorized transportation opportunities, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, historic transportation preservation, environmental mitigation and vegetation management activities; recreational trail programs; safe routes to school projects; and projects for planning, designing, or constructing boulevards and other roadways largely in the right-of-way of former Interstate System routes or other divided highways. TAP continues to build upon the legacy of the Transportation Enhancements (TE) and Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) programs by providing funding opportunities for local projects that support additional transportation options, strengthen local economies, improve quality of life, protect the natural environment, and enhance transportation infrastructure.

Funds set aside for ACOG TAP include all projects and activities that were previously eligible under TA, encompassing a variety of transportation projects that prioritize safety, comfort, and connectivity to destinations for all people who use the street network such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities, recreational trails, safe routes to school projects, community improvements such as historic preservation and vegetation management, and environmental mitigation related to Stormwater and habitat connectivity. The call for projects, through the (ACOG), is now open and will remain open through September 3, 2024.

**DISCUSSION:**

The crossing of 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW at All Saints Catholic School as well as the crossing of 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE at Creighton Drive (location map attached) have been the subject of much discussion and study over the past year. The proposed project would include new pedestrian signs at both locations to include push button actuated rectangular rapid flashing beacons comprised of LED lights to alert motorists of pedestrians needing to cross either road. This technology has been successfully deployed at numerous other locations in Norman. Each one of these projects helps increase pedestrian mobility in Norman. If City Council approves this programming resolution, staff will submit an application for these pedestrian crossing systems on both 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW as well as 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE.

The call for projects documentation indicates that this round of TAP funding is for federal fiscal year 2024-2025 (FFY 2025). City Staff would complete the plans in-house so the only cost to the City would be the 20% City share of construction, which is estimated at \$13,600. The engineer's estimate for the projects is \$67,497.29 and is attached. City staff could re-allocate these funds within the FYE 2025 City budget, and bid the project through ODOT early in 2025 so the funds are spent in FFY 2025. In that case, construction of these two pedestrian crossing systems might take place in spring 2025.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of Resolution R-2425-12 (Pedestrian Crossing Systems on 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW and on 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE) requesting ACOG TAP funding to provide 80% of the anticipated \$67,497.29 construction cost.