



## CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

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**MEETING DATE:** 3/25/25

**REQUESTER:** Rickey J. Knighton II, City Attorney

**PRESENTER:** Rickey J. Knighton II, City Attorney

**ITEM TITLE:** CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RESOLUTION R-2425-110: A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA ESTABLISHING POLICIES, DUE TO THE RECENT WILDFIRES, FOR ALLOWING AFFECTED RESIDENTS TO INHABIT TEMPORARY STRUCTURES WHILE REBUILDING PERMANENT STRUCTURES DESTROYED BY THE WILDFIRES AS A MEANS OF DISASTER RELIEF.

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### **BACKGROUND:**

Beginning March 14, 2025, the City of Norman and surrounding jurisdictions began experiencing catastrophic wildfires and strong winds. At present, the Norman Fire Department continues to respond to hot spots in the damaged areas and monitors continued wild fire risks.

As a result of these fires, approximately 6 dwelling units in the City of Norman have been destroyed. In light of the damage and impact on the citizens of the City of Norman, Resolution No. R-2425-110 has been requested as a means of disaster relief.

### **DISCUSSION:**

Similar to prior resolutions, Resolution No. R-2425-110 allows affected citizens to live in temporary dwellings, when located on the same lot as the permanent dwelling that has been rendered uninhabitable by fire, while the permanent dwelling is repaired or reconstructed.

In furtherance of this, Resolution No. R-2425-110 directs the City Manager (or his designee) to allow affected residents to occupy temporary dwellings when the following criteria are met:

- Temporary dwellings are limited to mobile homes, recreational vehicles, travel trailers, tiny homes, and structures permanently affixed to the ground.
- Temporary dwellings must have adequate water, wastewater disposal systems, and electricity.
- Temporary dwellings may not be located within ten (10) feet of property lines, within site triangles, or over utility easements.

In addition to these requirements, to encourage rebuilding efforts, the affected property owners must apply for and receive a building permit within a year from the date of the destruction of their permanent residence to be able to continue to occupy the temporary dwelling. The fees for building and associated permits will be waived. Also, once the permanent residence is rebuilt, a property owner shall remove the temporary dwelling or make the necessary changes for the property to be in conformance with the regulations of the district in which the property is located within a time limit established by the City Manager (or his designee) or prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy for the new permanent structure on the subject property. The City Manager (or his designee) can extend the time limit or either or both of these requirements upon the showing of good cause by the affected citizen.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Resolution No. R-2425-110 allows the habitation of temporary dwellings of citizens affected by the recent wildfires while those citizens repair or rebuild their permanent residences. In addition, it creates standards for such occupations to protect the health and safety of those citizens and surrounding property owners. If City Council wishes to allow habitation of temporary structures as a means of disaster relief, Staff recommends the adoption of Resolution No. R-2425-110.