



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 03/25/2025

REQUESTER: Jason Olsen, Director of Parks and Recreation

PRESENTER: Jason Olsen, Director of Parks and Recreation

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RESOLUTION R-2425-109: A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, APPROPRIATING \$53,193.00 FROM THE NORMAN FORWARD FUND BALANCE TO BE USED FOR THE NORMAN FORWARD ARTS PROJECTS.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Norman and the Norman Arts Council (NAC) partnered in several projects to install art in public places within the City of Norman. Through this partnership, the NAC purchases art pieces and the City provides a location for the piece(s) within public spaces owned by the City of Norman.

With the adoption of NORMAN FORWARD, the City committed to expending an amount not to exceed 1% of the aggregate construction costs of major facilities and community park improvements on public art at such facilities and parks. Because of the City's positive relationship with the NAC and the NAC's commitment to the sense of community fostered by public art, the NAC has agreed to expand the partnership with the City of Norman to assist with the selection, location, and installation of public art purchased with Norman Forward sales tax revenue.

The City of Norman has funded public art installed at or as a part of Norman Forward sales tax-funded projects, for up to 1% of construction costs, for the Central Library, East Library, Westwood Family Aquatic Center and Westwood Tennis, Ruby Grant Park, Andrews Park, Reaves Park, Griffin Park, Flood Roundabout, and the Young Family Athletic Center ("YFAC"), and have planned the future installation of artwork at Saxon Park. These costs (the "Norman Forward Public Arts Fund" or "NFPAF"), aggregated together, were initially estimated to be 1.2 million dollars.

The Selection Panel Advisory Board and the Norman Arts Council Board selected artist Nick Athanasiou of Skunk Control to build and install a sculpture at the Adult Wellness and Education Center (AWE), located at 602 N. Findlay Ave. The contract (K-2324-25) for \$100,000 to Skunk

Control was approved by the City Council on July 7, 2023, with installation and the public dedication of the art piece at the Adult Wellness and Education on December 13, 2024.

DISCUSSION:

Work is complete on the art at the AWE and final acceptance of the art by the Parks staff is recommended to the City Council, and staff further recommends that the City make the final payment to the artist.

To complete final payment, the City Council needs to approve the appropriation of \$53,193.00 from the Norman Forward Fund Balance (account 51-29000) to the Norman Forward Public Arts Project, Construction (account 51795500-46101; project NFP100).

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council approve Resolution R-2425-109 for the appropriation of \$53,193.00 from Norman Forward Fund Balance (account 51-29000) to the Norman Forward Public Arts Project, Construction (account 51795500-46101; project NFP100) for Public Art at the Adult Wellness and Education Center.