



CITY OF NORMAN, OK
CITY COUNCIL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING
Municipal Building, Executive Conference Room, 201 West Gray, Norman,
OK 73069
Thursday, April 09, 2026 at 4:00 PM

MINUTES

The Oversight Committee of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in Regular Session in the Executive Conference Room in the Municipal Building, on Thursday, April 09, 2026 at 4:00 PM, and notice of the agenda of the meeting was posted at the Norman Municipal Building at 201 West Gray and on the City website at least 24 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Grant called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councilmember Ward 4 Helen Grant - Chair
Councilmember Ward 1 David Gandesbery
Councilmember Ward 5 Brandon Nofire
Councilmember Ward 8 Scott Dixon

OTHERS PRESENT

Councilmember Ward 3 Robert Bruce
Councilmember Ward 6 Joshua Hinkle
Mayor Stephen T. Holman
Mr. Rick Knighton, City Attorney
Ms. Kathryn Walker, Assistant City Attorney IV
Ms. Beth Muckala, Assistant City Attorney III
Ms. Jane Hudson, Planning and Community Development Director
Ms. Lora Hoggatt, Planning Services Manager
Mr. Scott Sturtz, Public Works Director
Ms. Katherine Griffith, Admin Tech III, City Clerk

AGENDA ITEMS

1. UPDATE ON THE LOCATIONS AND NUMBER OF ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS (ADU's) IN THE CITY OF NORMAN

Ms. Lora Hoggatt, Planning Services Manager, presented an overview of the City's Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) program.

Ms. Hogatt provided background information, noting that the ADU Ordinance (O-2324-40) was adopted on March 26, 2024, became effective April 26, 2024, and the first permit was issued in June 2024. ADUs are permitted by right in A-1, A-2, RE, R-1, and R-1A zoning districts.

Staff reported that a total of 23 ADU permits have been issued to date:

- 10 in A-2 zoning
- One (1) in RE zoning
- 12 in R-1 zoning

Geographically, ADUs were distributed across Wards, with the highest concentration in Ward five (5). Staff noted this differed from initial expectations that more units would be located near the University area. Demographics include:

Construction Type:

- 17 units - new construction
- Six (6) units - conversions of existing structures

Bedroom Distribution:

- Three (3) studio units
- 10 one-bedroom units
- Nine (9) two-bedroom units
- One (1) three-bedroom unit (noted as an anomaly under 650 square feet)

Committee discussion included:

- Interest in square footage trends of ADUs
- Clarification of RE (Residential Estates) zoning, as typically consisting of two-acre minimum lots, primarily on the east side of Norman
- Comparison of expected versus actual ADU development, with members noting development has been slower than anticipated, likely due to high construction costs
- Challenges with the 650 square foot limitation, particularly for converting existing structures
- Potential differences in ADU usage (rental vs. intergenerational housing), though such data is not currently tracked
- Consideration of future ordinance amendments related to size limitations and parking requirements
- Ongoing review of ADU related language through the Planning Commission process

2. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE IMPACT OF CHILES V. SALAZAR (2026) ON CHAPTER 8, ARTICLE 8-III OF THE NORMAN CITY CODE REGARDING CONVERSION THERAPY

Mr. Rick Knighton, City Attorney, presented an overview of the recent U.S. Supreme Court case and its potential impact on the City's ordinance regulating conversion therapy. He explained:

- The City's current ordinance prohibits conversion therapy for minors but does not define the term
- The Chiles v. Salazar case involved a First Amendment challenge to Colorado's law prohibiting conversion therapy for minors
- The Supreme Court determined that the lower courts applied the wrong legal standard and indicated that strict scrutiny should apply due to viewpoint discrimination concerns

Key implications discussed:

- The ruling applies specifically to talk therapy, limiting enforcement of such provisions
- The City's ordinance remains applicable to non-speech-based practices (e.g., physical or aversive therapies)
- As the case arose within the Tenth Circuit, its outcome will directly affect Oklahoma

Mr. Knighton recommended amending the City ordinance to clarify that "conversion therapy" does not include talk therapy and to improve enforceability and provide guidance to law enforcement.

Committee discussion included:

- Examples distinguishing talk therapy from other prohibited practices
- Applicability in school settings and limitations based on provider definitions under state law
- Potential ordinance amendment process (standard readings before Council)
- Consideration of whether the amendment could be placed on the consent agenda
- Questions regarding funding restrictions for providers engaging in prohibited practices

The committee consensus was in support of clarifying the ordinance language, with no formal action taken.

3. CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF THE CITY PROCESS WHEN CREATING A TAX INCREMENT FINANCE (TIF) DISTRICT

Ms. Kathryn Walker, Assistant City Attorney IV, presented a draft ordinance, outlining procedures and criteria for establishing Tax Increment Finance (TIF) districts.

Key elements of the draft included:

- Placement within Chapter 12 (Finance) of the City Code
- Criteria for establishing TIF districts, including distinctions between urban and rural areas
- Requirements for economic and risk analysis prior to project approval
- Creation of ad hoc stakeholder committees, with provisions to expand notification radius in rural areas
- Application requirements, including pre-development meeting processes

Item 3, continued

Discussion highlights:

- Introduction of a \$50,000 threshold for development financing requests, with more detailed requirements for larger projects
- Flexibility for smaller-scale projects (e.g., façade improvements)
- Incorporation of housing policy goals, including affordable, attainable, and workforce housing
- Inclusion of active transportation and walkability concepts aligned with the City's Comprehensive Transportation Plan
- Consideration of connectivity between districts and broader city infrastructure
- Use of TIF in rural and east Norman areas, including potential economic development opportunities
- Possibility of funding public improvements such as infrastructure, community facilities, and transportation enhancements
- Coordination with enterprise zones and state/federal programs
- Exploration of redevelopment opportunities in older commercial corridors

Committee members expressed general support for the draft ordinance and its direction. Staff indicated the item would move forward to a Council study session for further consideration.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor