

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE OKLAHOMA TURNPIKE AUTHORITY'S CONSTRUCTION OF INTERCHANGES ALONG THE SOUTH EXTENSION TURNPIKE LIMITED TO LOCATIONS AT TECUMSEH ROAD, ALAMEDA STREET, AND ETOWAH ROAD, AND REQUESTING ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY-FOCUSED ENHANCEMENTS INCLUDING SOUND BARRIERS, ENHANCED LANDSCAPING, AND LAND, FUNDING, AND/OR EQUIPMENT TO ASSIST FIRST RESPONDERS IN THE PROTECTION OF RESIDENTS, PROPERTY AND TRAVELERS.

- § 1. WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority ("OTA") operates a turnpike system within Oklahoma that connects with the state highway/interstate and local road system; and
- § 2. WHEREAS, coordinated improvements to Oklahoma's interconnected transportation system of turnpikes, state highways, and local roads help leverage resources, improve safety, and ensure a seamless operation for the benefit of all Oklahomans; and
- § 3. WHEREAS, the OTA has commenced a 15-year, long-range turnpike improvement and expansion program for projects defined in the Advancing and Connecting Communities and Economies Safely Statewide "ACCESS Program"; and
- § 4. WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Supreme Court affirmed on August 1, 2023, that the OTA has statutory authority to build new turnpike alignments proposed in the ACCESS Oklahoma Program, including within the city limits of CITY, as set forth in *In re Application of Okla. Turnpike Auth.*, 2023 OK 84, 535 P.3d 1248; and
- § 5. WHEREAS, the ACCESS Program includes the construction of a new turnpike route called the South Extension Turnpike (SET) from the Toby Keith Expressway (TKE) turnpike (previously known as the East-West Connector (EWC)) turnpike south through the City of Norman, City of Noble, City of Slaughterville and City of Purcell to Interstate 35 (I-35); and
- § 6. WHEREAS, the SET will include the construction of interchange access points at the TKE, State Highway 9 East (SH-9E), U.S. Highway 77, and Interstate Highway 35; and
- § 7. WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) presently owns and maintains I-35, SH-9E, and US-77, where the SET will intersect; and
- § 8. WHEREAS, the SET currently includes conceptual designs for the construction of tight diamond interchange access points at Tecumseh Road, Alameda Street and Etowah Road in the City of Norman; and



- § 9. WHEREAS, the City of Norman presently owns and maintains Tecumseh Road, Alameda Street and a part of Etowah Road; and
- § 10. WHEREAS, the OTA has inquired with the City of Norman about the SET Project, including the conceptual designs for the construction of tight diamond interchange access points at Tecumseh Road, Alameda Street and Etowah Road; and
- § 11. WHEREAS public safety officials support multiple interchanges including at Tecumseh Road, Alameda Street and Etowah Road as essential from an emergency response perspective; and
- § 12. WHEREAS, current and future community interests of the City of Norman are dependent on well designed and accessible transportation systems; and
- § 13. WHEREAS, in the interest of furthering the goals of coordinating efforts on transportation infrastructure improvements and in response to public safety concerns, the City of Norman desires that OTA pursue the construction of future interchanges along the SET in Norman limited only to locations at Tecumseh Road, Alameda Street, and Etowah Road.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA:

- § 14. That, the City of Norman supports the development of future interchanges, limited to locations in Norman at Tecumseh Road, Alameda Street, and Etowah Road as part of long-term transportation and safety planning. Prior to construction of the interchanges the City of Norman requests that OTA include additional community-focused enhancements as part of the SET, including financial support to offset increased public safety response needs, equipment and/or land for a future fire station to ensure continued protection of residents, property and travelers, enhanced landscaping, and appropriately placed sound barriers at the interchange locations. This affirmation does not indicate support for, commitment to, or collaboration with the OTA, and any future participation by the City will be considered independently and through established public processes.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 25th day of August 2026.

Mayor, Stephen T. Holman

ATTEST:

City Clerk