



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 09/03/2026

REQUESTER: Jason Olsen, Director of Parks and Recreation

PRESENTER: Jason Olsen, Director of Parks and Recreation

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, ACCEPTANCE, REJECTION, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF A FUNDING DISBURSEMENT FOR FYE 2027: TO THE NORMAN FIREHOUSE ARTS CENTER, INC. IN THE AMOUNT DESCRIBED IN THE STAFF REPORT, PURSUANT TO THE PROCESS OUTLINED IN THE LEASE AGREEMENT, CONTRACT K-2627-25, AND FYE 2027 BUDGET ALLOCATION BY CITY COUNCIL, TO ASSIST WITH THE OPERATION OF THE FIREHOUSE ART CENTER.

BACKGROUND:

During the budgeting process for fiscal year 2026-2027 (FYE 2027), the City Council allocated an amount of \$380,043.00 to contribute to Arts, Culture, and Event Organizations, with individual distributions from said allocation to be issued by the Board of Parks Commissioners (the "Board") at their regularly scheduled meeting in August of each year. Organizations are required to apply to the Board for funding disbursements and demonstrate the extent of financial support requested for the upcoming funding year.

DISCUSSION:

The FYE 2027 funding disbursement for the Firehouse Art Center is recommended by staff at \$140,400.00, including \$110,000 for operational support and \$ 30,400 for utilities. This amount was determined by making an eight percent (8%) cut to the funding support received for the last funding year, plus an allocation of \$30,000 for utilities support. An eight percent (8%) cut was utilized, as that is what was used to determine the overall funding pool available for these organizations, as compared to the previous funding year allocation, by the City Council in the FYE 2027 budget process. The Firehouse Art Center received \$151,257.40 in supportive funding and utilities assistance in the previous funding year.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Board of Park Commissioners allocate supportive funding in the amount of \$140,400.00 to the Firehouse Art Center for FYE 2027. Such supportive funding is to be memorialized in a separate Funding Disbursement Agreement to be approved and adopted by the City Council.