



## CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

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**MEETING DATE:** 03/14/2023

**REQUESTER:** Katherine Coffin

**PRESENTER:** David Riesland, Transportation Engineer

**ITEM TITLE:** CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF AMENDMENT NO. TWO TO CONTRACT K-1213-163: BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, AND GARVER, L.L.C., INCREASING THE CONTRACT AMOUNT BY \$9,231 FOR A REVISED CONTRACT AMOUNT OF \$128,106 TO PROVIDE ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES FOR STREET WIDENING AND TRAFFIC SIGNAL IMPROVEMENTS AT THE 12TH AVENUE N.E., AND HIGH MEADOWS DRIVE INTERSECTION; AND BUDGET APPROPRIATION AS OUTLINED IN THE STAFF REPORT.

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### **BACKGROUND:**

The intersection of 12th Avenue NE and High Meadows Drive is a three-legged intersection that was signalized in 1993, but without roadway improvements to provide a southbound left turn on 12th Avenue NE onto High Meadows Drive. The intersection is located north of Robinson Street with High Meadows Drive providing access to Eisenhower Elementary School and surrounding residential neighborhoods. The ever-increasing volume of traffic and the resulting increase of collisions have exposed the need for a dedicated turn lane and new traffic signals at this intersection. An aerial photo of this area is included as Attachment 1.

Installing the southbound left turn lane requires widening of the existing four-lane section at the intersection. This project also provides the opportunity for the City to upgrade the signal interconnect system along 12th Avenue NE with fiber optic cable between Robinson Street and Rock Creek Road.

This section of 12th Avenue NE in Norman also serves as U.S. Highway 77. The Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) maintains jurisdiction over maintenance and improvements to the highway. However, 12th Avenue NE also serves as a major arterial street in Norman and intersects with many other city streets. While the City is responsible for the design of intersection signalization projects on 12th Avenue NE, future construction must be coordinated with ODOT.

On February 26, 2013, City Council approved Contract K-1213-163 with Garver, LLC in the amount of \$38,900 to design the roadway and traffic signal modifications necessary to add a dedicated left turn lane and a southbound protected left turn arrow display. On November 25,

2015, City Council approved Resolution R-1415-59, which was later forwarded to the Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT), requesting federal funds to pay for 80% of the construction cost. In the resolution, the City agreed to the terms and conditions of a federally funded project by stating its willingness to assume the responsibility for the preparation of engineering plans, the purchase of any required additional rights-of-way, the relocation of public utilities and funding of the local share of the construction cost.

On August 1, 2017, City Council held a study session to discuss the Griffin Park Sports Complex Master Plan, which includes additional improvements to the adjacent transportation network.

### **DISCUSSION:**

One of the transportation network improvements recommended in the Griffin Park Sports Complex Master Plan calls for a new access point off of 12th Avenue NE (see Attachment 2). This new access affects the on-going design of the improvements at the High Meadows intersection.

On September 26, 2017, City Council approved Amendment No. One with Garver, L.L.C., in the amount of \$79,975 to provide engineering services to development construction plans for street widening improvements and replacement of traffic signals at 12th Avenue N.E., at the High Meadows intersection.

City staff worked with the firm (PDG) that is developing the Griffin Park Sports Complex Plan to identify the safest and most appropriate access point while considering the restrictions for arterial roadways (of which 12th Avenue NE is one) outlined in the City's Engineering Design Criteria. This discussion led to the identification of the most appropriate and safest access point, which takes advantage of the traffic signal at the High Meadows Drive intersection, adding a fourth leg to the existing three-legged intersection.

In order to accommodate the new access, 12th Avenue NE will need to be widened south of High Meadows Drive to create a northbound left turn lane. Additionally, the traffic signal will need to be further modified to include a fourth pole and mast arm for eastbound traffic exiting Griffin Park. Including this work as part of the ongoing project will save money in the long run, minimize the traffic congestion associated with road construction and avoid having to reconstruct parts of the roadway, while at the same time leveraging federal funds to complete the work.

Garver, LLC proposes a \$9,231 amendment to Contract K-1213-163 to finalize the design for the modifications to the 12th Avenue NE and High Meadows Drive intersection (see Contract Amendment 2 in Attachment 3). The services will include updating the plans to the latest ODOT standards, modification to the prior design for the southbound left-turn lane, and modification to a drainage structure located near the southwest corner of the intersection, as well as the additional project management support associated with this work. The majority of this work has already been completed as construction of the intersection improvements is scheduled to bid on March 2, 2023.

Funds are available in the 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE and High Meadows Project, Design (Account 50590079-46201; Project TR0051).

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of Amendment 2 to Contract K-1213-163 with Garver, LLC in the amount of \$9,231 for design services associated with the completion of the plans for the modifications to 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE intersection with and High Meadows Drive.