



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 06/24/2025

REQUESTER: Jason Olsen, Director of Parks and Recreation

PRESENTER: Jason Olsen, Director of Parks and Recreation

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, ACCEPTANCE, REJECTION, AMENDMENT AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF CONTRACT K-2425-126: AN AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, AND NORMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO LEASE SPACE IN BOTH IRVING AND WHITTIER RECREATION CENTERS FOR THE PARKS DEPARTMENT TO OPERATE CHILDCARE PROGRAMMING FOR THE PUBLIC.

BACKGROUND:

In 1974, the City of Norman submitted a measure to the voters requesting approval of General Obligation Bonds in the amount of \$750,000 to purchase land and construct, furnish, and equip recreational facilities. The voters approved the measure. In 1975, the City purchased 3.2 acres from the Norman Public School System (NPS) for \$150,000 and built recreational facilities at Irving Middle School, 125 Vicksburg Avenue, and Whittier Middle School, 2000 W. Brooks Street. The recreational facilities are entirely enclosed by NPS property.

Over the years, the City has used the recreational facilities for youth sports, afterschool programs, and summer camps. NPS uses recreational facilities for assemblies, plays, performances, physical education, basketball games, and other school-related activities. In February 2024, the City began using the Young Family Athletic Center for its youth sports programs and abandoned the Irving and Whittier recreational facilities. The City's afterschool programs and summer camps use only a small portion of the recreational facilities.

On February 11, 2025, the City Council voted to pass on ownership of both the Irving and Whittier Recreation Centers to Norman Public School system through a quit claim deed.

DISCUSSION:

In the discussion of transferring ownership of the Irving and Whittier Recreation Centers to NPS, both the City and NPS agreed that the childcare programs operated by the Parks Department needed to continue at both recreation centers. In K-2425-126, the contract term is 25 years at no cost to the City and will allow Parks to operate both Afterschool and Summer Camp programs. NPS also agrees that all fees collected from childcare would belong to the Parks Department,

NPS would provide access to the school's public WiFi, the City will keep their space clean, and the City could make improvements to the leased space with written permission from NPS.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the City Council to approve K-2425-126 for the Leasing of space in both the Irving and Whitter Recreation Centers for the Norman Parks Department to Operate Childcare Programming for the Public