



## CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

---

**MEETING DATE:** 05/13/2025

**REQUESTER:** Michele Loudenback

**PRESENTER:** Michele Loudenback, Environmental and Sustainability Manager

**ITEM TITLE:** CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, ACCEPTANCE, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF CONTRACT K-2425-95: A CONTRACT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, AND EIGHTTWENTY OKLAHOMA, L.L.C., (DBA EIGHTTWENTY) FOR A TOTAL OF \$95,952 FOR THE INSTALLATION OF SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY GENERATING EQUIPMENT (SOLAR PANELS) ATOP THE CITY OF NORMAN HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITY.

---

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG) was designed to assist local governments and tribes in implementing strategies to reduce energy use, cut carbon emissions, and improve energy efficiency. The program is authorized under Title V, Subtitle E of the Energy Independence and Security Act ("EISA") of 2007, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 17151 et seq., which was signed into law on December 19, 2007.

Additionally, on August 9, 2005, Mayor Haralson signed the United States Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement which consisted of 12 recommended action items designed to reduce global warming emissions and increase energy conservation. Norman's Environmental Control Advisory Board (ECAB) is tasked with creating and updating recommendations every five years. The most recent review was finalized in 2023. Recommendations include reducing City of Norman operations' greenhouse gas emissions by 25% by 2028 and increasing renewable energy use throughout the City with a goal of reaching 100% renewable energy consumption by the year 2050. One way to reach this goal is by installing renewable energy generating equipment on municipal facilities.

On January 2, 2024, the City issued Request for Proposals, RFP No. 2324-20, seeking proposals from firms interested and qualified to help lead a community group-purchasing solar energy program called the Norman Solar Initiative. Following a competitive selection process, EightTwenty, LLC, was awarded the contract. As part of the proposal, EightTwenty provided a reduced-cost structure for solar panels through group purchasing, which leverages economies of scale to lower costs.

On October 22, 2024, Council adopted Resolution R-2425-61 authorizing submission of a grant application for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program for the purpose of funding solar improvements at the Household Hazardous Waste Facility (HHWF), as well as other initiatives. Since this project's cost is under \$100,000, there was no requirement to solicit separate bids under the Public Competitive Bidding Act, enabling the City to contract directly with EightTwenty and take advantage of the Norman Solar Initiative pricing previously obtained through a competitive RFP process.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

On October 22, 2024, Council authorized application to the EECBG. The non-competitive eligible grant funds allocated to the City is in an amount not to exceed \$171,050. Approximately half of these funds (\$95,952) will be used for a solar panel installation on the roof of the Household Hazardous Waste Facility. The full cost of this installation will be reimbursed through the City's EECBG allocation.

The project will reduce greenhouse gas emissions at the facility by utilizing renewable energy, supporting the emission reduction goals outlined in the Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement and its subsequent updates. In addition to environmental benefits, the solar installation will lower operational energy costs over time and contribute to grid resiliency by generating on-site power. Additionally, the project also fits within with the broader Norman Solar Initiative.

On April 24, 2025, staff was notified by the EECBG Program that the City may begin implementing the project. To the fund the project until receipt of grant fund reimbursement, an appropriation of \$99,999 from the Sanitation Fund balance (339-29000) into the HHW Solar Facility construction account (33955944-46101 / SA0026) is proposed. These funds will provide sufficient funding for the contract amount of \$95,952.00 plus contingency. Future proceeds from the grant funds will be received into the Sanitation Fund to reimburse the project expenses.

#### **RECOMMENDATION 1:**

Staff recommends approval of Contract K-2425-95 in the amount of \$95,952 with EightTwenty Oklahoma, LLC.

#### **RECOMMENDATION 2:**

Staff recommends appropriation of \$95,952 from the Sanitation Fund balance (33-29000) into HHW Solar Facility construction account (33955944-46101 / SA0026).