



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 05/09/2023

REQUESTER: Katherine Coffin

PRESENTER: David Riesland, Transportation Engineer

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, ACCEPTANCE, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RESOLUTION R-2223-130: A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, TRANSFERRING \$60,000 FROM THE LINDSEY STREET/HIGHWAY 9 WAYFINDING CONSTRUCTION ACCOUNT AND \$90,000 FROM THE 718 N. PORTER ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING ACCOUNT TO BE USED TO FUND THE FESTIVAL STREET BOLLARDS PILOT PROJECT ON CAMPUS CORNER.

BACKGROUND:

The Traffic Control Division has assisted the Norman Police Department and the University of Oklahoma Police Department with the deployment of signs and barricades to close streets in various areas for University of Oklahoma home football games for a number of years. At the point of physical closure, the setup has always consisted of Type III barricades with sandbags. The deployment of Type III barricades can be cumbersome for staff and awkward for pedestrians to navigate between going to and from the stadium.

Closing a street using Type III Barricades involves the close spacing of the barricades across the roadway in an attempt to discourage vehicular traffic from entering the restricted area. The intent of the closures is to restrict vehicular access but to allow pedestrian access. The close spacing of the barricades can make it difficult for pedestrians and/or wheelchairs to navigate between the barricades in order to enter the vehicular restricted area.

The proposed bollards are seen as an option, at the point of closure, to allow easier pedestrian access without compromising vehicular restrictions.

DISCUSSION:

Recently, staff has been in conversation with the Business and Community Affairs (BACA) Committee regarding the use of bollards in Norman as part of special events. A BACA meeting in March included some discussion regarding the costs and types of bollards that might be considered. A BACA meeting in April laid out the specifics of a potential pilot project in Campus Corner. Specifically, bollards could be installed on Asp Avenue near the White Street intersection, on Asp Avenue near the Boyd Street intersection, on Buchanan Street near the

Boyd Street intersection, on Buchanan Street near the White Street intersection, and on White Street near the Buchanan Street intersection (a location map is attached).

Two types of bollards were discussed in these meetings with BACA. One was a removable bollard that involved opening the cover over the hole in the street and inserting the bollard into the hole with the majority of the bollard remaining above the street level. The other type of bollard was a “retractable” bollard that would store inside the hole in the street when not in use. It would be raised when needed for a closure. The retractable bollard was determined to be the preferred bollard type due to the need for off-site storage of bollards, the enhanced safety afforded by the deeper hole, and the relative ease of deployment.

A total of 36 bollards are needed (8 on Asp Avenue near White Street, 8 on Asp Avenue near Boyd Street, 6 on Buchanan Street near Boyd Street, 8 on Buchanan Street near White Street, and 6 on White Street near Buchanan Street). Installation will involve some preparation of each street segment in order to receive the bollard installations. First, utility atlases will be created to determine the best location for bollards at each location. Second, a strip of concrete will be added to accommodate each row of bollards. Third, a hole for each bollard will be drilled into the excavated area for each section of bollards. Finally, the bollards will be installed in each hole once the concrete has cured. The estimated cost for creation of the Festival Street Bollard Pilot Project is expected to be \$150,000. The price is broken down into \$33,000 for the bollards and \$117,000 for the street preparation work.

The Finance Department has created the Festival Street Bollard Pilot Project, Construction Account (50596688-46101; TC0284) to track expenses.

Two projects have been identified, with available funding, proposed to be re-allocated to fund this Pilot Project. One is the Lindsey St/SH9 Wayfinding, Construction (TR0114 – 50596611-46101) which has a balance of \$261,060. Bids were recently received for the installation of the Phase 2 Wayfinding signs at a cost of \$175,100. This will leave a balance of \$85,960 in this account. It is suggested that \$60,000 of this balance be re-allocated to the Festival Street Bollard Pilot Project. The other account identified by the Finance Department as having funds available for transfer to the Pilot Bollard Project is the Design account for the City’s recently-acquired property at 718 N. Porter (Account 50193365-46201; Project BG0082). Council allocated these funds at the time the City intended to re-purpose the property for City use. The Council has since decided to sell the property to the Cleveland County Health Department, with the sale proceeds being used for the Adult Wellness and Education facility. The remaining \$90,000 estimated to be needed for the Festival Street Bollard Pilot Project is proposed to be re-allocated from the 718 Porter project. The recommended project funding re-allocations are summarized in the following table:

Losing Account			Gaining Account		
Account	Beg. Balance	End. Balance	Account	Beg. Balance	End. Balance
TR0114 (Wayfinding)	\$85,960	\$25,960	TC0284 (Festival Street Bollards Pilot)	\$0	\$60,000
BG0082 (718 N. Porter A&E)	\$200,000	\$110,000	TC0284 (Festival Street Bollards Pilot)	\$60,000	\$150,000

With approval of Resolution R-2223-130, staff will order the retractable bollards and begin pulling the utility information together in order to finalize a contractor assignment to prepare each street to receive the bollards and to drill holes for each bollard.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1:

Staff recommends approval of Resolution R-2223-130.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 2:

Staff recommends the re-allocation of \$60,000 from Lindsey Street/SH9 Wayfinding and \$90,000 from 718 N. Porter, Design to the Festival Street Bollard Pilot Project.