



## CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

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**MEETING DATE:** 06/25/2024

**REQUESTER:** Anthony Francisco, Director of Finance

**PRESENTER:** Anthony Francisco, Director of Finance

**ITEM TITLE:** CONSIDERATION OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF THE SUBMISSION OF THE NORMAN FORWARD IMPLEMENTATION PLAN REVISED APRIL, 2024.

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### **BACKGROUND:**

On August 11, 2015, the Norman City Council adopted Ordinance O-1516-5, which levied a ½ percent “Norman Forward” sales tax for a period of fifteen years, subject to voter approval. The voters of Norman approved the Ordinance on October 13, 2015. The Norman Forward Sales Tax (NFST) provides funding for a series of quality of life capital projects.

To assist with carrying out the approved Norman Forward projects in an orderly fashion, the Council appointed a Citizen’s Financial Oversight Board (Resolution R-1516-75, adopted December 22, 2015) and hired a Program Management firm, ADG, Inc. (Contract K-1516-110, approved on February 23, 2016; amended on February 26, 2019) to assist City staff with the implementation of the projects. One of the major tasks performed by ADG was to assist in the preparation of an Implementation Plan document, to help guide the development of the Norman Forward projects on anticipated schedules and within anticipated budget allocations, and to report on the progress of the individual projects.

The Norman Forward Implementation Plan was originally adopted by the City Council/Norman Municipal Authority on June 28, 2016 (Resolution 1516-130), as recommended by the Norman Forward Citizen’s Financial Oversight Board (CFOB). The Implementation Plan is intended to be a “living document”; subject to change, periodic review and re-approval as Norman Forward projects progress. On the recommendation of the CFOB, an amended Implementation Plan was adopted by the NMA/Council October 8, 2019 (Resolution R-1920-44), and updated Implementation Plan reports were accepted by the Trustees and Council in April, 2022 and May 2023.

### **DISCUSSION:**

The CFOB has reviewed the Implementation Plan document on a periodic basis and made necessary changes to the Plan. As the Norman Forward program has progressed, several major projects have been completed or are nearing completion, and some major program changes have

been approved by the Council/NMA. This progress and these program changes necessitated another update to the Implementation Plan, to be considered for adoption by the City Council and Norman Municipal Authority Trustees. The CFOB considered the attached updated Implementation Plan at its meeting on June 5, 2024 and recommended its adoption by the City Council and NMA.

Some of the significant changes that have been made to the Norman Forward program that will be incorporated in this updated Implementation Plan include the following:

- The completion of the Adult Wellness and Education Center, Young Family Athletic Center, Reaves Park, and Griffin Park projects are noted in the Implementation Plan, along with updated expenditures on the projects.
- Discussion of progress on the James Garner Avenue project is included. The project is under construction and is expected to be completed in the summer of 2024.
- Discussion of recently-completed or under construction Neighborhood Park projects is included.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the updated Norman Forward Implementation Plan be accepted.