



## CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

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**MEETING DATE:** 06/13/2023

**REQUESTER:** Veronica Tracy, Recreation Manager

**PRESENTER:** Jason Olsen, Director of Parks and Recreation

**ITEM TITLE:** CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RESOLUTION R-2223-148: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF NORMAN APPROPRIATING \$243,000 FROM THE CAPITAL FUND BALANCE TO BE USED FOR FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT PURCHASES FOR THE ADULT WELLNESS AND EDUCATION CENTER PROJECT.

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### **BACKGROUND:**

In October 2015, Norman citizens passed the NORMAN FORWARD initiative, funding various quality-of-life projects through a ½% sales tax increase over 15 years. The NORMAN FORWARD Initiative included authorization for a project to construct a new Senior Citizen's Recreation Center. After ongoing community input, the project's scope was expanded into a Senior Wellness Center, later named the Adult Wellness and Education Center (AWE).

The AWE will be located on City-owned land on the southeast corner of Norman Regional Health System's (NRHS) Porter Campus, off North Findlay Avenue. The new AWE will include an indoor heated saltwater pool with lap swimming, water walking, and hydrotherapy seating; an indoor walking track and training space; a fitness- classroom area; lounge and game rooms; both wet and dry craft areas; small prep and demonstration kitchen; and multipurpose rooms that can be used for eating, events, classes, theatrical plays, games, and much more.

Oklahoma City architectural and engineering (A/E) firm Frankfurt, Short, Bruza (FSB) was selected as the A/E consultant for this project in March 2018. FSB has completed the project's schematic design and construction documents and is assisting with construction administration through the project's completion.

The AWE was authorized in the NORMAN FORWARD initiative in 2015 but was unfunded at that time. The AWE was later funded through two Council actions: re-allocation of Norman Forward funds through securing the Griffin Parkland with a long-term land lease instead of a land purchase at the Griffin Park Soccer Complex (\$7.4 million); an allocation of \$4.8 million from federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief & Economic Security (CARES) Act reimbursements (Resolution R-2021-63); and a land exchange with the Norman Regional Hospital System where

the City received \$426,000 in cash and what was then appraised for \$1.2 million in property (718 N. Porter) for a total of a \$14 million budget for construction and design.

The AWE project is scheduled to open in late Fall of this year. The construction budget was negatively impacted by post-COVID-19 supply chain and cost issues throughout the project, resulting in a funding shortfall necessary to complete the project. The Parks and Recreation Department requests an appropriation to complete the final furniture and equipment purchases.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

The total approved project budget for the AWE is \$14 million. The project team has been closely tracking expenses. It has identified a \$243,000 budget shortfall due to a shortage for Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment (FF&E), Audio Visual Equipment (A/V), and installation and equipment for Access Control at the AWE.

To finalize the project and open the facility with appropriate FF&E, A/V, Access Control, and fully equipped, staff proposes allocating \$243,000 from the Capital Fund balance (account 50-29000) to the AWE Project Fund.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends adopting Resolution R-2223-148 to appropriate \$243,000 from the Capital Fund balance (account 50-29000) to the Norman Forward Adult Wellness and Education Project Fund (NFP111 - 51793365-46101).