



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 06/13/2023

REQUESTER: Robert Gruver, IT Manager - Network Infrastructure

PRESENTER: Tim Powers, Director of Information Technology

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RESOLUTION R-2223-141: A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA TRANSFERRING \$162,000 FROM THE ROBINSON STREET WEST OF I-35 PROJECT TO THE JENKINS AVENUE WIDENING PROJECT FOR THE RELOCATION OF CITY UTILITY FIBER ON JENKINS AVENUE.

BACKGROUND:

On April 2, 2019, the citizens of Norman voted in favor of a \$72 million transportation bond issue, which includes nineteen (19) projects. With the anticipated \$67 million in federal dollars being leveraged for these projects, approximately \$139 million is budgeted for the nineteen (19) projects. Please see the attached project list and map showing the approved projects.

On August 19, 2019, City staff advertised Request for Proposal RFP 1920-16 to solicit Consulting Engineering Services for the fourteen (14) bond projects still requiring design. The selection committee consisting of three (3) City staff and two (2) citizens shortlisted nine (9) consultant teams for interviews held on October 2, 2019. The five (5) consultant teams selected after interviews to complete the design on these projects are:

- Garver, Norman
- Cowan Group, Oklahoma City
- Freese and Nichols, Oklahoma City
- MacArthur Associated Consultants, Oklahoma City
- Olsson Associates, Oklahoma City

These consultants are being assigned the various projects by City staff based on capacity, performance on their current projects and capabilities of their firm to complete a specific project.

On November 26, 2019, City Council awarded the Jenkins Avenue Widening Project to Freese and Nichols of Oklahoma City in the amount of \$827,005.

On September 8, 2020, the Norman City Council approved Programming Resolution R-2021-46 requesting federal funds for the Jenkins Avenue Widening Project. This Resolution states the City's commitment to adhere to the terms and conditions of a federally funded project including engineering design, acquisition of all necessary rights-of-way and relocation of utilities and encroachments at 100% the City's cost. In return, the Association of Central Oklahoma Governments (ACOG), through the Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT), agrees to provide 80% of the construction cost, up to a project maximum of \$7,500,000 in federal funds, and administration of the construction with the matching share from the City of Norman.

On June 14, 2022, City Council approved the on-call right-of-way acquisition services contract for the Jenkins Avenue Widening Project to Pinnacle Consulting Group, Inc. (Pinnacle) of Oklahoma City in the amount of \$74,500.

The City's current construction cost estimate for the project is \$9,755,000 plus 12% Construction Engineering (\$1,170,600) for a total of \$10,925,600. Based on this amount, City 2019 Bond Funds will pay \$3,425,600 or 31% and federal funds will pay \$7,500,000 or 69% of construction and construction management costs. Federal funds have been secured for FFY2024, which means ODOT could take bids for the project as early as November 2023. With land acquisitions taking longer than anticipated, which has resulted in utility relocation delays, City staff anticipates a spring 2024 bid opening with construction starting in the summer of 2024.

DISCUSSION:

The City of Norman currently has a 144 Strand Fiber Optic Communication line from South on Jenkins from Lindsey to Highway 9. This line provides service to Fire Station 3, Reaves Park, and the traffic lights down Jenkins south of Lindsey. It also is a backup link of our southern metro fiber optic loop from our streets facility to our wastewater facility. This line is in conflict with the Jenkins widening project and needs to be relocated. This is critical infrastructure and was a significant investment by the City of Norman and should be preserved in this project and relocated out of the construction zone. The recommendation will allow the approval of funding to perform the relocation of this line and maintain this critical infrastructure.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the approval of transfer of \$162,000 in funds from Robinson Street West of I-35 Project, Land (Account 50595552-46001; Project TR0104) to the Jenkins Avenue Widening Project, Utilities (Account 50595552-46071) for City fiber utility relocation on the Jenkins Avenue Widening Project.