



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 1/10/2023

REQUESTER: Katherine Coffin

PRESENTER: David Riesland, Transportation Engineer

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RESOLUTION R-2223-82: A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA SUPPORTING THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE'S PURSUIT OF TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (TTP) SAFETY FUNDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS ALONG TTP ROUTES 72ND AVENUE S.E., 168TH AVENUE N.E., AND 156TH AVENUE N.E.

BACKGROUND:

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe (AST) is working with Cross Timbers Consulting, LLC, (Cross Timbers) to prepare a grant application for funding through the Tribal Transportation Program Safety Funds. Cross Timbers reached out to the City of Norman to collaborate since many of the proposed improvements lie within the jurisdiction of the City of Norman. During a meeting in December 2022, Cross Timbers presented their safety plan which identified candidates for improvements on the 72nd Avenue SE corridor south of State Highway 9. The needs identified at that meeting were a Resolution supporting the effort to secure funding and a Memorandum of Understanding supporting an AST application to add Cedar Lane Road and Post Oak Road to the inventory of roads eligible for this safety funding.

In the December 2022 meeting, Cross Timbers identified the intersections along 72nd Avenue SE at Cedar Lane Road, Post Oak Road, and Etowah Road as candidates for implementation of safety countermeasures as all had experience either fatality or severe injury collisions in the past. Planned improvements include conversion to all-way STOP control. During that same meeting, Cross Timbers asked if there were other locations that the City of Norman may wish to include in the grant application. The City suggested the addition of the intersection of 168th Avenue NE and Franklin Road and the intersection of 156th Avenue NE north of State Highway 9 through a series of back-to-back 90-degree turns where run-off-the-road collisions have resulted for a number of years. Planned improvements include the installation of chevron signs to guide motorists through difficult curves. These additional routes are already listed on the Tribe's TTP inventory and do not require additional designation at this time in order to install the planned improvements. A location map of all planned improvements is attached.

The nature of the Tribal Transportation Program Safety Funds is that the grant will pay for the materials to be installed by City of Norman maintenance crews with all future maintenance being the responsibility of the City of Norman. Resolution R-2223-82 recognizes the City's support of the tribe's pursuit of TTPSF funds in this regard.

DISCUSSION:

Since the December 2022 meeting, Staff has been working to provide descriptions for the safety countermeasures sought at each of the five locations and to develop cost estimates and timelines for each location. The grant application must be submitted on January 16, 2023 with the request to add Cedar Lane Road and Post Oak Road to the eligible inventory due on March 15, 2023. The goal is to submit both at the same time.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of Resolution R-2223-82 supporting the Absentee Shawnee Tribe pursuit of Tribal Transportation Program Safety Funds with the United States Department of the Interior for safety countermeasures to be applied at up to five locations in rural east Norman.