



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 01/10/2022

REQUESTER: Katherine Coffin

PRESENTER: Jami Short, Traffic Management Center Engineer

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RESOLUTION R-2223-84: A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, APPROPRIATING \$49,047.99 FROM THE RISK MANAGEMENT MISCELLANEOUS REIMBURSEMENTS/ REFUNDS ACCOUNT TO REPAIR AND REPLACE DAMAGED TRAFFIC SIGNAL EQUIPMENT OR TRAFFIC SIGNS DAMAGED IN TRAFFIC COLLISIONS.

BACKGROUND:

The City's Traffic Control Division maintains more than 170 traffic and pedestrian signals citywide using \$105,291 in the Division's operating budget (approximately \$620 per signalized intersection per year). These funds are used for the purchase of replacement traffic signal system components needed for the safe and efficient operation of our traffic signals. In addition, the Division also maintains approximately 30,000 traffic control signs throughout the City of Norman using \$44,480 in the Division's operating budget (approximately \$1.49 per sign per year). These funds are used for the purchase of the replacement sign components needed for the safe and efficient navigation of our roadways.

On October 31, 2019, a traffic collision occurred at the Gray Street intersection with Porter Avenue damaging the traffic signal battery backup cabinet on the northeast corner of the intersection. The responsible driver was identified for collection purposes. City forces repaired the damage at this location. On November 22, 2022, a \$4,134.43 check was collected from the responsible party.

On October 19, 2020, a traffic collision occurred at the westbound on-ramp of State Highway 9 at Classen Boulevard. The responsible driver was identified for collection purposes. City forces repaired the damage at the location. Pursuant to an MOU with the uninsured driver, twenty-one payments were collected by the City between March 15, 2021 and November 16, 2022 totaling the \$2,048.30 due. The checks were deposited into the Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management account.

On December 17, 2020, a traffic collision occurred at 6221 Interstate Drive causing damage to a SPEED LIMIT 50 sign installation. The responsible driver was identified for collection purposes. City forces repaired the damage at the location. On July 12, 2022, a check in the

amount of \$169.78 was collected from the insurance company for the responsible party. The check was deposited into the Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management account.

On May 26, 2021, a traffic collision occurred at the northwest corner of 24th Avenue NE intersection with Franklin Road damaging a STOP sign and an object marker sign installation. The responsible driver was identified for collection purposes. City forces contracted repair of the damage at this location. On November 21, 2022, a \$188.65 check was collected from the insurance company of the responsible party. The check was deposited into the Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management account.

On August 6, 2021, a traffic collision occurred at the 48th Avenue NW intersection with Robinson Street where labor and equipment costs were incurred when City crews had to install road barricades after the collision. The responsible driver was identified for collection purposes. On November 28, 2022, a \$463.59 check was collected from the insurance company of the responsible party. The check was deposited into the Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management account.

On August 29, 2021, a traffic collision occurred at 1239 West Main Street causing damage to a street light pole assembly. The responsible driver was identified for collection purposes. City forces repaired the damage at this location. On October 20, 2022, City Attorney staff agreed to accept payment for the negotiated amount of \$14,415.43 from the original damage cost of \$16,929.43 from the insurance company of the responsible party. The check was deposited into the Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management account.

On September 27, 2021, a traffic collision occurred at the Lindsey Street intersection with Murphy Street causing damage to combination ONE WAY (right) and No Left Turn symbol sign installation. The responsible driver was identified for collection purposes. City forces repaired the damage at the location. On July 5, 2022, a \$180.96 check was collected from the insurance company of the responsible party. The check was deposited into the Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management account.

On December 25, 2021, a traffic collision occurred near the intersection of 24th Avenue SW and Boyd Street causing damage to a traffic signal pole assembly. The responsible driver was identified for collection purposes. City forces repaired the damage at this location. On November 22, 2022 a \$3,511.26 check was collected from the insurance company of the responsible party. The check was deposited into the Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management account.

On May 22, 2022, a traffic collision occurred at the northeast corner of 24th Avenue NW and Rock Creek Road causing damage to a traffic signal pedestal pole assembly. The responsible driver was identified for collection purposes. City forces repaired the damage at this location. On December 6, 2022 a \$2,409.28 check was collected from the insurance company of the responsible party. The check was deposited into the Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management account.

On June 13, 2022, a traffic collision occurred near the intersection of Lindsey Street and Wylie Road causing damage to a traffic signal cabinet and pedestal pole assembly at the northwest corner. The responsible driver was identified for collection purposes. City forces repaired the damage at this location. On October 6, 2022 a \$21,103.22 check was collected from the

insurance company of the responsible party. The check was deposited into the Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management account.

On July 14, 2022, a traffic collision occurred near the intersection of East Robinson Street and Ponca Avenue causing damage to a Public Works Traffic Control Unit 0633 (2019 Ford F350). The responsible driver was identified for collection purposes. On September 13, 2022 a \$1,843.09 check was collected after negotiating the repair amount with the insurance company of the responsible party. The check was deposited into the Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management account.

DISCUSSION:

The continuing number of traffic collisions involving damage to traffic control equipment depletes the City's inventory of spare units. Replacement units are necessary in order to address future emergency situations. The Division does not have adequate funding in its operating budget to purchase replacements units and needs to access the funds collected from the insurance companies in order to do so.

Funds collected to date from the previously described incidents total \$46,201.92 for damages to traffic signal/street light equipment and \$2,846.07 for damages to traffic signs.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the approval of Resolution R-2223-84 for the appropriation of \$46,201.92 from Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management (Account No. 439-365264) to Traffic Signal Parts (Account No. 10550223-43212). These funds will be used for the purchase of replacements for the equipment damaged in the respective collisions. In addition, staff recommends the appropriation of \$2,846.07 from Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management (Account No. 439-365264) to Traffic & Street Signs (Account No. 10550223-43213). These funds will be used for the purchase of replacements for the equipment damaged in the respective collision.