



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 10/28/25

REQUESTER: Mike White, Fleet Program Manager

PRESENTER: Scott Sturtz, Director of Public Works

TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RESOLUTION R-2526-65: A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA GOVERNMENTS' PUBLIC FLEET CONVERSION GRANTS FUND FOR REPLACEMENT OF AN AGING NATURAL GAS DRIVE COMPRESSOR

BACKGROUND:

On September 2, 2025, the Association of Central Oklahoma Governments (ACOG) announced a Clean Air Grant for Public Sector Fleets using the federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) and Carbon Reduction Program (CRP). Two years of CMAQ and CRP funds will be available during this Call for Projects, representing approximately \$4 million.

ACOG Clean Air Grants for Public Sector Fleets will enable public entities to access CMAQ funds for fleet conversions to clean fuel technology, including light-duty, medium-duty, and heavy-duty alternative fuel vehicles, as well as hybrid and plug-in hybrid vehicles, off-road equipment, and alternative fuel vehicle refueling infrastructure. Selected projects must be paid in full, and the awarded entity will submit a reimbursement request for the incremental cost of identically equipped conventional-fueled vehicles. The old vehicle/equipment being replaced is required to be removed from the fleet. Alternative Fuel Infrastructure Projects may be funded at a ratio of *up to* 80 percent federal funds and 20 percent local funds for installation costs and capital investments in alternative fuel refueling/recharging infrastructure.

Application submissions are due by 4:00 p.m. on October 31, 2025. Award Notifications and notices to proceed will be sent out in February 2026.

DISCUSSION:

The City's Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) public/private fueling facility was constructed and placed in service in 2012. At that time, the City had six (6) CNG vehicles in the fleet and a small customer base of public CNG users. As of October 2025, the City's CNG fleet has grown to over 153 CNG units, comprising refuse trucks, sedans, maintenance trucks, and transit buses. This

facility has an annual gas "throughput" of approximately 440,500 gallons and a life-to-date throughput of 4.1 million gallons. The refuse and transit fleets are primarily dedicated to CNG vehicles and are mission-critical to City departments that operate these vehicles to provide service to the citizens of Norman and customers of the City's utility enterprises.

On September 12, 2023, Council approved Resolution R-2324-48 to submit an application to the ACOG Public Fleet Conversion Grant Program for the replacement of two (2) 125 horsepower (hp) CNG fueling facility compressors. On February 15, 2024, ACOG approved 80% or \$1,136,000 for a total project cost of \$ 1,420,000.

On March 26, 2026, the City Council approved contract K-2324-162 with ACOG to accept the ACOG Public Fleet Conversion Grant Funding for \$1,136,000 to replace two of the three CNG compressors. This project is scheduled for completion by November 2025.

The City CNG fueling facility, located at 2351 Goddard Avenue, has three CNG compressors to ensure redundancy. The two recently replaced electric drive compressors are the front-line units that supply compressed natural gas to the City fleet and the public. The third CNG compressor is an engine-driven unit that serves as a backup during power outages and operates during peak hours to reduce electricity costs. This unit is now 14 years old and has become unreliable, primarily due to the unavailability of obsolete parts, as the manufacturer has discontinued many components required for ongoing maintenance and repairs.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that City Council approve Resolution R-2526-65 authorizing the City Manager or his designee to submit a grant application to the Association of Central Oklahoma Governments, Federal Fiscal Year 2025 Grants for the replacement of one Natural Gas Drive CNG fueling facility compressor.