



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 07/13/2021

REQUESTER: Shawn O'Leary, Director of Public Works

PRESENTER: Heather Poole, Assistant City Attorney

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL, GRANTING, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF EASEMENT E-2122-: TO OKLAHOMA GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY (OG&E) FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING ELECTRICAL SERVICE TO A NEW CHARGING STATION AT 2531 GODDARD AVENUE.

BACKGROUND:

On February 24, 2009, the City Council adopted the Norman Alternative Fuel Program (AFP), one of very few such municipal programs in Oklahoma. Since that time, the City has become a leader in alternative fuel technology in Oklahoma and the Midwest region.

On September 22, 2020 City Council approved Resolution R-2021-43 authorizing the City Manager or his designee to submit a grant application on behalf of the City of Norman to the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality's On-Road Program of the Volkswagen Settlement Trust for a 35-foot battery electric bus. On November 6, 2020 City staff were notified that the City's application was successful and the City was awarded \$450,000 for the \$900,000 electric bus project (50% was the maximum that could be awarded for this type of project).

On October 1, 2020, the Association of Central Oklahoma Governments (ACOG) announced round one of the ACOG-administered Public Fleet Conversion Grant Program using Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2021 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds up to \$350,000. CMAQ funds support transportation projects that reduce mobile source emissions. This grant program allows public sector fleets to access CMAQ funds for fleet conversions to clean fuel technologies, the acquisition of alternative fuel or hybrid vehicles, and/or the purchase and installation of alternative fuel vehicle refueling or recharging infrastructure. The grants are provided as a reimbursement once the proposed, awarded projects are completed.

On November 19, 2020, City Manager Pyle authorized a grant application to be submitted to ACOG requesting funds to be utilized to purchase and install two (2) new electric vehicle charging stations. The first charging station is proposed to be installed at the City's new Transit Operations and Maintenance Facility to be used by the City's first battery electric vehicle, a public transportation heavy duty bus, as mentioned above. The second charging station is proposed to be installed at the City's Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Fueling Facility to be used by the public, future City electric vehicles, and as a backup for the transit electric bus.

DISCUSSION:

On January 6, 2021, the Central Oklahoma Clean Cities Coordinator notified the City of Norman its application for funding had been selected for two (2) new electric vehicle charging stations in the amount of \$89,600 of the total project cost of \$218,000. On February 9, 2021 the City Council approved the acceptance of the grant funds from ACOG for the construction of the charging stations and appropriation of the matching funds for the required local match. Construction has been ongoing on this project and part of the necessary construction for the north charging station is that a line be run by OG&E to the new charging station. Its location is identified on the attached engineer's map and Exhibit B of the attached easement.

RECOMMENDATION:

City Council grant the easement to OG&E in order to run an electrical line to the charging station located at 2351 Goddard Avenue.