



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 08/9/2022

REQUESTER: Michele Loudenback, Environmental and Sustainability Manager

PRESENTER: Michele Loudenback, Environmental and Sustainability Manager

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF ACCEPTANCE, APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,000 FROM THE OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TO BE USED TO HOLD TWO ELECTRONICS WASTE EVENTS IN FYE 2023; CONTRACT K-2223-25; AND BUDGET APPROPRIATION AS OUTLINED IN THE STAFF REPORT

BACKGROUND:

Electronic waste in the form of computer equipment, televisions, cellular telephones, etc., poses a risk to health and the environment. As new advances are made in these media, waste increases due to obsolescence, and more and more products are discarded. When broken or unwanted electronics are not properly disposed of, toxic substances like lead and mercury can leach into soil and water. This waste is not biodegradable and accumulates in the environment. Additionally, precious and valuable non-renewable resources are used in their production. Reusing these resources is vital, but irresponsible recovery of them (which often through open burning or acid bathing) can lead to harmful chemicals in our air.

Our new Household Hazardous Waste Facility does not take electronic waste due to current permitting and space requirements for its collection. So, to help with the prevention, control and abatement of pollution potentially caused by these solid wastes, the City of Norman contracts with a Sustainable Recycling (R2) -Certified electronic recycler to provide two yearly electronic waste collection events. These are free and open to Norman residents.

DISCUSSION:

The Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) issued the grant opportunity for funding of collection events in January 2022. Staff submitted an application for two individual collection events to be held during Fiscal Year 2023 on January 28, 2022.

On June 29, 2022, DEQ notified staff that the full grant request of up to \$10,000 would be awarded and provided their contract for execution. Costs for the electronic waste collection events will be initially paid for by the City of Norman, Water Reclamation Fund, from Business Services – Hazardous Waste (Account 32955343-44199). DEQ will reimburse the cost spent on the events up to \$10,000 and will be receipted into the Water Reclamation Fund, Other Revenue

- Federal Grant Reimbursement (Account 329-333252). Last year, the total of the two events was slightly less than \$10,000.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of Contract K-2223-25, a grant contract by and between the City of Norman, Oklahoma, and the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) accepting the Collection Event Funding in the amount of \$10,000 for two discrete electronic waste collection events to be held in Fiscal Year 2023.