



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 1/28/2025

REQUESTER: Paul D'Andrea, Capital Projects Engineer

PRESENTER: Scott Sturtz, Interim Public Works Director

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF CONTRACT K-2425-90: AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN BNSF RAILWAY COMPANY AND THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF SIGNAL INTERFACE EQUIPMENT AND PAVING IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE RAILROAD CROSSING AT MAIN STREET ASSOCIATED WITH THE JAMES GARNER PHASE 3 – ACRES STREET TO DUFFY STREET 2019 BOND PROJECT.

BACKGROUND:

On April 2, 2019, the citizens of Norman voted in favor of a \$72 million transportation bond issue, which includes nineteen (19) projects. With the anticipated \$67 million in federal dollars being leveraged for these projects, approximately \$139 million is budgeted for the nineteen (19) projects.

On August 19, 2019, City staff advertised Request for Proposal RFP 1920-16 to solicit Consulting Engineering Services for the fourteen (14) bond projects still requiring design. The selection committee consisting of three (3) City staff and two (2) citizens "shortlisted" nine (9) consultant teams for interviews held on October 2, 2019. The five (5) consultant teams selected after interviews to complete the design on these projects are:

- Garver, Norman
- Cowan Group, Oklahoma City
- Freese and Nichols, Oklahoma City
- MacArthur Associated Consultants, Oklahoma City
- Olsson Associates, Oklahoma City

These consultants are being assigned the various projects by City staff based on capacity, performance on their current projects and capabilities of their firm to complete a specific project.

On April 25, 2020 the City Council approved Contract K-1920-116, with Cowan Group Engineering, in the amount of \$526,600 for design of the James Garner-Acres Street to Duffy Street 2019 Bond Project.

On May 14, 2024 the City Council approved Amendment 1 to Contract K-1920-116, with Cowan Group Engineering in the amount of \$76,415, as compensation for changes in design scope and time required for plan revisions.

On September 10, 2024 the City Council approved Amendment 2 to Contract K-1920-116, with Cowan Group Engineering in the amount of \$6,200, as compensation for changes in design scope and time required for plan revisions.

The proposed agenda item is for consideration of Contract K-2425-90, which is an agreement for the construction of necessary crossing signal interface infrastructure.

DISCUSSION:

The James Garner Phase 3 2019 Bond Project, will reconstruct James Garner Avenue between Duffy Street and Acres Street, including new paving, pedestrian improvements, lighting, parking, and new traffic signals at the Main Street Intersection.

Due to the new James Garner Avenue and Main Street traffic signal's proximity to the BNSF Railroad Crossing, improvements to pavement and crossing equipment are required to provide an interface to coordinate the new street traffic signals with the railroad crossing signals and gates.

This agreement allows for necessary railroad crossing improvements to accommodate the James Garner Phase 3 2019 Bond Project and provides the basis for the parties' agreement as to the work to be completed, the party responsible for completing certain work, and each parties' responsibility for the costs of the work.

The outlined upgrades are estimated to cost \$389,463, of which BNSF will pay \$77,895. The remaining \$311,568 will be paid from the project's construction budget. These funds are currently available in the James Garner Avenue Roadway Improvements, Construction (Account 50594019-46101; Project BP0419).

The estimate is valid for up to 6 months. Should the improvements not be completed within 6 months of the agreement, per the contract, the agreement may be amended to account for additional construction cost incurred. Any such amendment, if necessary, will be brought back before the Council for approval at that time.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of Contract K-2425-90 with BNSF Railway Company.