



## CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

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**MEETING DATE:** November 12, 2024

**REQUESTER:** Katherine Coffin

**PRESENTER:** David Riesland, Transportation Engineer

**ITEM TITLE:** CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RESOLUTION R-2425-55: A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, APPROPRIATING \$26,421.05 FROM THE REFUNDS REIMBURSEMENTS MISCELLANEOUS RISK MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT RECEIVED FROM INSURANCE COMPANIES AND/OR THE RESPONSIBLE PARTIES TO REPAIR AND REPLACE DAMAGED TRAFFIC SIGNAL EQUIPMENT OR TRAFFIC SIGNS DAMAGED IN TRAFFIC COLLISIONS.

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### **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 May 3, 2020, a traffic collision occurred at the intersection of Lindsey Street and McGee Drive causing damage to a pedestrian traffic signal pole. The responsible driver was identified for collection purposes. City forces repaired the damage at the location totaling \$5,783.25. Prior receipts reported on earlier appropriation memos reduced the total due from \$5,783.25 to \$1,003.25. On September 12, 2024, \$300.00 was collected from the responsible party for partial payments leaving a balance of \$703.25 remaining. The partial payment funds were deposited into the Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management account.

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On March 27, 2024, a traffic collision occurred near 211 West Boyd Street causing damage to a roadway street light assembly. The responsible driver was identified for collection purposes. City forces contracted repair of the damage at this location. On August 27, 2024, a \$3,059.51 check was collected from the insurance company of the responsible party. The check was deposited into the Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management account.

On March 29, 2024, a traffic collision occurred at the intersection of Main Street and Interstate 35 causing damage to a pedestrian traffic pole assembly. The responsible driver was identified for collection purposes. City forces repaired the damage at this location. On September 10, 2024, a \$5,134.68 check was collected from the insurance company of the responsible party. The check was deposited into the Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management account.

On July 1, 2024, a traffic collision occurred near the intersection of Classen Boulevard and 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE damaging a chevron sign installation. The responsible driver was identified for collection purposes. City forces contracted repair of the damage at this location. On August 21, 2024, a \$217.41 check was collected from the responsible party. The check was deposited into the Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management account.

On July 31, 2024, a traffic collision occurred near the intersection of Classen Boulevard and State Highway 9 westbound on/off ramps causing damage to a traffic signal cabinet and battery backup cabinet at the intersection. The responsible driver was identified for collection purposes. City forces repaired the damage at this location. On September 17, 2024 a \$17,709.45 check (a negotiated settlement) was collected from 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 \$26,203.64 for damages to traffic signal/street light equipment and \$217.41 for damages to traffic signs.

**RECOMMENDATION 1:**

Staff recommends the appropriation of \$26,204 from Risk Management Refunds/Reimbursements (Account 439-365264) to the General Fund, Traffic Signal Parts (Account 10550223-43212). These funds will be used for the purchase of replacements for the equipment damaged in the respective collisions.

**RECOMMENDATION 2:**

Further, staff recommends the appropriation of \$217 from Risk Management Refunds/Reimbursements (Account 439-365264) to the General Fund, Traffic & Street Signs (Account 10550223-43213). These funds will be used for the purchase of replacements for the signs damaged in the respective collisions.

**RECOMMENDATION 3:**

Finally, staff recommends the approval of Resolution R-2425-55. Requested appropriations total \$26,421.