



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 8/27/2024

REQUESTER: Rickey Knighton II, Interim City Attorney

PRESENTER: Rickey Knighton, Interim City Attorney

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, ACCEPTANCE, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF CONTRACT K-2425-47: AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, AND NORMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR THE SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER (SRO) PROGRAM

BACKGROUND:

On April 1, 2014, voters in the City of Norman approved a permanent extension of the one-half percent (1/2%) Public Safety Sales Tax ("PSST II"; Ordinance 1314-33). That Ordinance included the placement of thirteen (13) police officers in Norman Public Schools (NPS) as School Resource Officers (SROs). In addition, the Ordinance requires PSST II funds to be used to provide those officers with the proper equipment and a marked police vehicle. To accomplish these items, the City of Norman and the Norman Public Schools adopted an Interlocal Agreement, K-1516-137, on May 24, 2016. K-1516-137 was for an initial term of five years, subject to funding. K-1516-137 was amended in 2017 and expired in 2021. A new contract has been drafted and was approved by the NPS Board of Education on August 12, 2024.

DISCUSSION:

NPS and the City agreed to jointly fund the Agreement, as mandated in Ordinance 1314-33. However, the term "jointly" is not defined in the Ordinance. While NPS previously paid half of the cost of the SRO program for the entire year, the new agreement requires that they only pay half of the cost of nine SROs (a supervisor and 8 officers), for 182 days and up to \$165,000 for overtime (actual SRO overtime costs in fiscal year 2023-2024 was \$301,843). The City is paying the full cost for 4 additional SROs, for a total of 13. The amount NPS has agreed to pay for the supervisor and 8 SROs is \$531,232. NPS will be invoiced at the rate of \$59,026 per month for 9 months with the first payment due on or before September 15 and the last payment due on or before July 15 of each fiscal year. The fiscal year 2024-2025 budget included projected revenue of \$732,957 for the NPS share of the costs for the School Resource Officer program.

The original Agreement included two attachments that detail the responsibilities of the SROs and the relationship between the SROs, the schools, and the students. Those attachments were developed in coordination with NPS and best practices of SRO programs. NPS administrators requested the addition of mandatory training SROs are required to complete. The Norman Police Department has advised that it already requires SROs to complete the training specifically

outlined by NPS, however; thus the additional language requested by NPS administrators does not impose any additional obligations on the City.

RECOMMENDATION:

If Council wishes to continue the SRO Program, as so directed by voters with the passage of the PSST II, staff recommends adoption of the Interlocal Agreement negotiated with Norman Public Schools, K-2425-47. Funds received from NPS will be deposited into SRO Reimbursement-NPS revenue account (156-364226) to cover a share of SRO operational expenses.