



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: August 27, 2024

REQUESTER: Katherine Coffin

PRESENTER: David Riesland, Transportation Engineer

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RESOLUTION R-2425-27: A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA REQUESTING APPROPRIATION OF \$35,037.78 IN RISK MANAGEMENT MISCELLANEOUS REIMBURSEMENTS/REFUNDS FUND BALANCE TO REPAIR AND REPLACE TRAFFIC SIGNAL EQUIPMENT OR TRAFFIC SIGNS DAMAGED IN TRAFFIC COLLISIONS.

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 pole installation. 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 \$2,103.25. On September 11, 2023, \$200 was collected from the responsible party for partial payments leaving a balance of \$1,903.25 remaining. On October 12, 2023, \$100 was collected from the responsible party for partial payments leaving a balance of \$1,803.25 remaining. On January 29, 2024, \$400 was collected from the responsible party for partial payments leaving a balance of \$1,403.25. On April 1, 2024, \$200 was collected from the

responsible party for partial payments leaving a balance of \$1,203.25. On May 7, 2024, \$200 was collected from the responsible party for partial payments leaving a balance of \$1,003.25 remaining. The partial payment funds were deposited into the Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management account.

On May 20, 2021, a traffic collision occurred near the intersection of 24th Avenue SW and Lindsey Street damaging an Embark Bus sign installation. The responsible driver was identified for collection purposes. City forces contracted repair of the damage at this location. On December 5, 2023, a \$174.62 check was collected from the responsible party. The check was deposited into the Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management account.

On December 4, 2020, a traffic collision occurred near the intersection of Classen Boulevard and Ann Branden Boulevard causing damage to a roadway light assembly installation. The responsible driver was identified for collection purposes. City forces contracted repair of the damage at this location. On December 15, 2023, a \$6,926.33 check was collected from the insurance company of the responsible party. The check was deposited into the Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management account.

On February 14, 2023, a traffic collision occurred at the intersection of State Highway 9 and 12th Avenue SE median, causing damage to a pedestrian traffic pole assembly installation. The responsible driver was identified for collection purposes. City forces contracted repair of the damage at this location. On October 6, 2023, a \$1,836.83 check was collected from the insurance company of the responsible party. The check was deposited into the Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management account.

On December 22, 2023, a traffic collision occurred near the intersection of Flood Avenue and Rock Creek Road causing damage to a traffic signal cabinet and battery backup cabinet at the southeast corner. The responsible driver was identified for collection purposes. City forces repaired the damage at this location. On March 20, 2024 a \$25,000 check 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 \$34,863.16 for damages to traffic signal/street light equipment and \$174.62 for damages to traffic signs.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the approval of Resolution R-2425-27 for the appropriation of \$34,863.16 from Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management (Account Org 439, Object 365264) to the General Fund, Traffic Signal Parts (Account Org 10550223, Object 43212). These funds will be used for the purchase of replacements for the equipment damaged in the respective collisions. In addition, staff recommends the appropriation of \$174.62 from Refunds/Reimbursements Risk Management (Account Org 439, Object 365264) to Traffic & Street Signs (Account Org 10550223, Object 43213). These funds will be used for the purchase of replacements for the signs damaged in the respective collisions. The appropriations total \$35,037.78.