



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 10/13/2026

REQUESTER: Jason Olsen, Director of Parks and Recreation

PRESENTER: Jason Olsen, Director of Parks and Recreation

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF CONTRACT K-2627-38: BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, AND NORMAN ARTS COUNCIL, INC., FOR THE GRAY STREET PARKING LOT MURALS PROJECT FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT. (WARD 4)

BACKGROUND:

On January 9, 2024, the City of Norman executed contract number K-2324-114, under which the Norman Arts Council (NAC) agreed to provide grant funding for a mural program in Norman, to be operated by the NAC. These mural projects are part of an ongoing effort to support public art as part of Norman's quality-of-life and tourism programming. The operational structure of the program has been successful in generating robust calls for artists and in the subsequent review of artists' submissions, selection of artists, and oversight of the delivery of several works of public mural art. The NAC has effectively administered the public funds allocated to the project in a manner that aligns with all professional expectations and standards for commissioning public art. The NAC has also been a past partner to the City of Norman in the processes used to solicit submissions and select art for the various Norman Forward Quality of Life Projects—many of which had a mandatory "1% of project budget for public art" component.

DISCUSSION:

The attached contract with NAC discusses the proposed project to complete the current public mural program. It will use the remaining project funds previously paid to NAC to commission six permanent murals to be installed on the alley-facing barrier walls on the south side of the Gray Street parking lot, between Crawford and Peters Avenues. They propose a timeline to hire three "local" and three "non-local" established mural artists to produce original works on the barrier walls in time for the 2027 Norman Music Fest weekend. The funds approved by this action shall be used to cover artist fees and materials, equipment rental, site preparation/sealing and coordination, insurance, and contingency costs. The rules and requirements for the project are also described in the contract to ensure that the work produced is not in violation of the project intentions to produce art that is not also used as a solicitation for goods, does not serve as a sign or advertising, is viewable by the public and does not contain obscene/vulgar content or other hateful or illegal activities and is not a mass-

produced piece nor a copy of any other work(s). The total contract amount is \$50,000, which includes all remaining funds from the previously allocated and paid grant funding for the mural agreement from the 2024 action noted above.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Council approve Contract Number K-2627-38 to Norman Arts Council, Inc., for the Gray Street Parking Lot Mural Project, for the Parks and Recreation Department, as described in “Exhibit A.” Funding was previously allocated to the Norman Arts Council, Inc., via Contract K-2324-114, from the Public Arts Murals Project account (PR0173, Account 50795500-46201).