

CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 04/03/2025

REQUESTER: Karla Sitton, Administrative Tech IV

PRESENTER: Jason Olsen, Director of Parks & Recreation

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, ACCEPTANCE, REJECTION,

AMENDMENT AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF THE PROPOSED AIM

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE MASTER PLAN

BACKGROUND:

In 2023, the City of Norman launched an Area and Infrastructure Master Plan, AIM Norman Master Plan. The Master Plan is comprised of seven distinct elements of City infrastructure, services and growth and the goal was to ensure they align seamlessly with one another to include Land Use, Water, Wastewater, Stormwater, Housing, Transportation, and Parks. The AIM Norman Master Plan(s) were guided by RDG Planning and Design, Inc., and Garver, in close partnership with City staff. The AIM Norman Master Plans included several citizen-led Steering Committees who met over 16-20 months to discuss and help create their individual infrastructure (7) plans. These seven plans will synergize with one another and help shape the course of the community over the next two decades and will provide essential guidance to City leaders and decision-makers as we plan for the future.

DISCUSSION:

Between January 2024 and December 2024, the AIM Parks Sub-Committee had several meetings, including open houses to gain public input, to discuss five plan objections as follows:

- 1) Maintain, Update & Improve the Norman Park System;
- 2) Support & Elevate the Organizations who Contribute to Arts and Culture in Norman;
- 3) Update & Modernize Policies;
- 4) Opportunities for Connection & Growth; and
- 5) Protect Natural Resources

After months of study and public input, the AIM Park Sub-Committee presented a draft AIM Parks, Recreation & Cultural Master Plan to the Board of Park Commissioners at a Joint meeting on September 10, 2024 and to Council at a City Council Study Session on January 7, 2025. The AIM Parks Sub-Committee submitted recommendations for consideration, including specific updates and improvements to Norman's park system, protection of natural resources and elevating the community's arts and cultural organizations.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Board of Park Commissioners recommend the proposed AIM Parks, Recreation & Cultural Master Plan to City Council for their consideration and approval.