

Thursday, July 24, 2008

Emergency Medical Services RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 31

Subject: Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 EMS Fee Schedule, Ordinance No. 20070910-008, to approve changes made by Travis County Commissioners Court to the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 STAR Flight patient transport and mileage fees.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Ernesto Rodriguez, Executive Director, 972-7148

Prior Council Action: The Fiscal Year 2007-2008 EMS Fee Schedule was approved on September 10, 2007.

Patient fees for the STAR Flight air ambulance program are set by Travis County Commissioners Court, but also require approval from the City Council in accordance with the terms of the STAR Flight Interlocal Agreement because these fees are billed and collected by the City EMS Department on behalf of Travis County. Since Travis County owns the helicopters, holds the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) license, and funds 100% of the operating costs related to STAR Flight, Travis County receives 100% of the revenue collected from STAR Flight patient transports.

On July 1, 2008 the Travis County Commissioners Court approved changes to the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 STAR Flight patient transport fees, with a proposed effective date of August 1, 2008. Once approved by Council, the new fees will become effective August 4. The changes made by the Commissioners Court are listed below:

Transport Fees Travis County Resident - Base Fee Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Approved: \$2,500 Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Amended: \$2,700 (\$200 increase)

Non-Travis County Resident – Base Fee Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Approved: \$5,000 Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Amended: \$7,000 (\$2,000 increase)

Mileage (regardless of residence) Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Approved: \$65 per loaded mile Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Amended: \$85 per loaded mile (\$20 increase)