

Thursday, July 23, 2009

Emergency Medical Services RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 35

Subject: Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Emergency Medical Services Department Fee Schedule of Ordinance 20080908-006 to increase the fees that may be charged by non-emergency transport franchisees for Non-Emergency Basic Life Support Transport, Non-Emergency Advanced Life Support Transport, and Non-Emergency Mileage.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact.

For More Information: John Ralston, Assistant Director-Administration and Finance, 972-7211

Prior Council Action: On June 11, 2009, City Council passed an ordinance amending the EMS Department fee schedule.

On June 11, 2009 City Council passed an ordinance amending the EMS Department fee schedule. The approved changes increased the base transport rates charged by EMS for Basic Life Support (BLS), Advanced Life Support 1 (ALS1), Advanced Life Support 2 (ALS2), and loaded mileage. The fee changes were based on analysis of EMS fees both regionally and nationally and as recommended by the EMS Advisory Board.

Historically the base rates charged by EMS also become the not-to-exceed maximums that can be charged by private ambulance providers who provide non-emergency transport services within the City of Austin. Currently there are two (2) private ambulance providers authorized through city-approved franchise agreements to provide non-emergency ambulance transports in which the point of origin for patient pickup is within the City of Austin.

It is recommended that the not-to-exceed maximums for non-emergency transports and non-emergency loaded mileage be increased to match the increases recently approved for EMS. These increases will have no fiscal impact on the City of Austin, as they relate to only to fees charged and collected by non-emergency transport providers.