

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	15802	Agenda Number	50.
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Meeting Date:	6/14/2012	Department:	Emergency Medical Services
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Subject

Conduct a public hearing and consider an ordinance on first reading regarding the application submitted by Acadian Ambulance Service, Inc. for a non-emergency medical transfer franchise under Chapter 10-2 of the City Code.

Amount and Source of Funding

Fiscal Note

There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	August 30, 2007 to grant Acadian's initial franchise for a five year term.
For More Information:	
Boards and Commission Action:	The Austin -Travis County EMS Advisory Board reviewed this as an agenda item at their meeting on May 2, 2012, and a one year renewal was approved on a motion 6-0.
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

The purpose of this RCA is to request that Council hold a public hearing regarding the renewal of the franchise held by Acadian Ambulance Service, Inc. and approve the franchise agreement on first reading.

Acadian Ambulance Service has held a franchise with the City of Austin since October, 2007. On March 19, 2012, Austin-Travis County EMS (A/TCEMS) received an application from Acadian Ambulance Service Inc. requesting a renewal of the franchise for another five-year term. All the required application elements have been submitted and the application fee has been paid in full.

In order for a private ambulance company to provide non-emergency transfer services within the limits of the City of Austin, the provider must hold a franchise from the City. Non-emergency transfers typically occur between skilled nursing facilities, hospitals, and private residences and are usually prescheduled by medical personnel. Currently, two companies hold such franchises, Acadian Ambulance Service, Inc. (Acadian) and American Medical Response of Texas, Inc. (AMR).

A/TCEMS recommends approval of this franchise renewal. Acadian has proven over the past five years that they can provide satisfactory service to the Austin community. Call volume levels indicate that two franchise providers are necessary to handle the demand for non-emergency ambulance transfers. Failure to renew this franchise will result in only one franchise holder for the City of Austin. During its May 2, 2012 meeting, the Austin-Travis County EMS Advisory Board unanimously recommended approval of the franchise renewal for one year. Minutes of this meeting are attached, along with a memo outlining staff recommendations.