

Recommendation for Council Action

AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting: June 28, 2018 Item Number: 113

Public Hearing and Possible Action

Conduct a public hearing and consider an ordinance on first reading regarding the application submitted by Republic EMS, LTD. for a non-emergency medical transfer franchise under City Code Chapter 10-2.

Lead Department	Emergency Medical Services
Fiscal Note	This item has no fiscal impact.
For More Information	Kerri Lang, Assistant Director, 512-972-7211, Ernesto Rodriguez, EMS Chief, 512-972-7148
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action	The Austin - Travis County EMS Advisory Board reviewed this as an agenda item at the meeting on May 2, 2018 and voted against the franchise application with a vote of 5-0 with 1 abstention.

Additional Backup Information:

The purpose of this RCA is to request that Council hold a public hearing regarding the approval/disapproval of the franchise application for Republic EMS LTD. Austin-Travis County EMS recommends disapproval of this franchise application.

In June 2017, Austin-Travis County EMS (ATCEMS) received an application from Republic EMS requesting approval as a new franchise for the City of Austin. An initial review of the application was completed in April 2018. A summary of the application review including deficiencies was provided to the applicant on

April 25, 2018. The applicant was given the opportunity to respond to the findings. The applicant provided a response on May 1, 2018. A final report was submitted to the Austin-Travis County EMS Advisory Board with a staff recommendation to disapprove the application due to several billing deficiencies and the lack of evidence to support a public convenience as required in §10-2-62(C). The Board took action to disapprove the applicant with a vote of 5-0 with 1 abstention on May 2, 2018.

Correspondence was sent to Mayor and Council regarding the Board's recommendation on May 16, 2018.

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, three companies hold such franchises, Acadian Ambulance Service, Inc. (Acadian), American Medical Response of Texas, Inc. (AMR), and Allegiance Mobile Health (Allegiance).