



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-1398, **Agenda Item #:** 34.

4/8/2021

Posting Language

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

Lead Department

Emergency Medical Services

Fiscal Note

This item has no fiscal impact.

Prior Council Action:

March 4, 2021 - Council approved to set the public hearing date.

For More Information:

Chief Ernesto Rodriguez, Emergency Medical Services, (512) 972-7148, Assistant Director Kerri Lang, Emergency Medical Services, (512) 972-7211

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

February 3, 2021 - The Austin-Travis County EMS Advisory Board approved this item and a five-year franchise on a vote of 6-0.

Additional Backup Information:

The purpose of this RCA is to request that Council hold a public hearing regarding the application of a franchise requested Viking Enterprises, Inc., d/b/a City Ambulance Service, and approve the franchise agreement on first reading.

Austin-Travis County EMS (ATCEMS) received an application from City Ambulance Service in October 2019, requesting a franchise for a 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, three companies hold such franchises: Acadian Ambulance Service, Inc. (Acadian), American Medical Response of Texas Inc. (AMR), and Allegiance Mobile Health (Allegiance).

The ATCEMS Advisory Board recommends approval of this franchise. During its February 3, 2021 meeting, the Advisory Board unanimously recommended approval of the franchise for five years. Minutes of this meeting are attached, along with a memo outlining staff findings.

