

RESOLUTION NO. __

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHULA VISTA DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENGAGE IN ALL NECESSARY ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT FIRE DEPARTMENT-BASED EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORT SERVICES, TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS FOR CONTRACTUAL SERVICE WITH THE CITY OF IMPERIAL BEACH AND THE BONITA SUNNYSIDE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, AND TO BRING BACK FOR CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL ANY REQUIRED COUNCIL LEVEL IMPLEMENTING ACTIONS

WHEREAS, since 1979 the City of Chula Vista, City of Imperial Beach, and the Bonita Sunnyside Fire Protection District (previously known as the Chula Vista Exclusive Operating Area or EOA), have contracted with providers of emergency ambulance transportation to deliver patients from the emergency scene to local hospitals for definitive care; and

WHEREAS, these agencies entered into a renegotiated agreement with American Medical Response (AMR) on October 1, 2018 to provide emergency ambulance transportation services for a period of three years, with a termination date of September 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the City Council approved the emergency ambulance transportation services contract with the understanding that staff would return for approval of an independent consultant contract whose scope of work would provide information concerning EMS transport system valuation and optimization; and

WHEREAS, the consultant's independent report would also validate or not validate the Fire Department's own internal review on transport system valuation and design; and

WHEREAS, the independent study conducted by AP Triton validates the Fire Department's internal review, and assesses the feasibility of Fire Department based emergency medical transport services; and

WHEREAS, Fire Department based ambulance transport is projected to improve service by, among other things, adding more ambulance unit hours to the system, thereby reducing response times and creating better system balance reducing the base rate and minimizing rate fluctuations, allowing for full administrative control of the transport system, allowing for unified dispatch of units, and provide for more timely and cost effective resolution of transport system issues; and

WHEREAS, Fire Department based ambulance transport will enable the eligibility for and collection of federal reimbursements an overall projection of significant net revenues to be available for under the Public Provider Intergovernmental Transfer Program (IGT), with reinvestment into a system reserve fund and system improvements; and

WHEREAS, City staff have validated that operational expenses are projected to be met or exceeded by the projected revenue as outlined in the AP Triton report. The Finance and Human Resources departments have developed total estimated position costs for all personnel related to a City provided service, with Finance reviewing all associated costs compared to the net revenue; and

WHEREAS, with the estimates of current net revenue, all operational costs are projected to be paid solely from transport revenues with no negative impact to the general fund; and

WHEREAS, through contractual agreements the City intends to continue to provide emergency medical transport services to the City of Imperial Beach and the Bonita Sunnyside Fire Protection District.

WHEREAS, the City has the authority to provide emergency medical transport services itself under applicable state and local law including California Health & Safety Code Sections 1797.201 and 1797.224, the City Charter [Section 200], and Chula Vista Municipal Code Section 5.10.310.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Chula Vista, that it directs the City Manager to engage in all necessary administrative actions to implement Fire Department based emergency medical transport services, to begin negotiations for contractual services to the City of Imperial Beach and the Bonita Sunnyside Fire Protection District and to bring back for City Council consideration and approval any and all necessary Council level implementing actions.

Presented by

Approved as to form by

Jim Geering
Fire Chief

Glen R. Googins
City Attorney