



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA STATEMENT



January 5, 2021

File ID: 20-0523

TITLE

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHULA VISTA ACCEPTING PROPOSALS AND AWARDING AN AGREEMENT TO WITTMAN ENTERPRISES, LLC TO PROVIDE EMS BILLING AND COLLECTION SERVICES

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Council adopt the resolution.

SUMMARY

On January 28, 2020 Fire Department staff along with AP Triton consultants presented to Council an overview of the plan for fire department-based ambulance transport. At that time, City Council approved Chula Vista Council resolution 2020-014 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 implementation actions.

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.

On May 12, 2020 City Council approved Chula Vista Council resolution 2020-102 approving a program for the Chula Vista Fire Department to provide exclusive emergency ambulance transport services within the City of Chula Vista, the City of Imperial Beach and the Bonita Sunnyside Fire Protection District commencing on or about April 21, 2021, approving terms for a three party agreement implementing same, and authorizing and directing the City Manager to execute such agreement in a final form approved by the city attorney. This item asks the Council to accept proposals and award an agreement to Wittman Enterprises, LLC to provide third-party EMS billing and collection services, so the City may recover its cost of transport operations.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The Director of Development Services has reviewed the proposed activity for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and has determined that the activity is not a "Project" as defined under

Section 15378 of the State CEQA Guidelines because the proposal consists of a governmental plan of action related to the City's preparedness in the event of a natural or manmade disaster and which will not result in direct or indirect significant physical impacts on the environment. Therefore, pursuant to Section 15060 (c)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines the activity is not subject to CEQA. Thus, no environmental review is necessary.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Not Applicable.

DISCUSSION

The City of Chula Vista solicited proposals from qualified companies to provide medical billing services for the City. This award allows the City to get the best price for these contract services.

On September 18, 2020, the City of Chula Vista released a Request for Bid (RFB) for EMS Billing Collection Services (P04 2021) and conducted a competitive RFB process, pursuant to Chula Vista Municipal Code 2.56.080, to identify the most qualified and cost-effective company. Through the solicitation the City has selected Wittman Enterprises, LLC for the award. Wittman is well-known and well-respected for the medical billing services they provide to other agencies locally, and in particular for municipal providers of emergency ambulance transport.

A total of one thousand two hundred and forty-two (1,242) companies were notified through PlanetBids. Twenty-one (21) companies downloaded solicitation. Of the 21 companies that downloaded, seven (7) companies responded and three (3) were responsive. Upon review of the responses and subsequent staff presentation by the two finalists, it was decided to award the contract to Wittman Enterprises, LLC.

The agreement is for an initial 15-month term, April 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. At the City's discretion, there are three (3) one-year options to renew on a fiscal year basis, for a maximum contract term of 51 months ending on June 30, 2025.

The compensation to Wittman Enterprises, LLC is 3.25% of net receipts billed and collected with an anticipated amount not to exceed of \$500,000 annually, upon completion of all Required Services to City's satisfaction, and a not-to-exceed amount of \$2,500,000 through June 30, 2025.

DECISION-MAKER CONFLICT

Staff has reviewed the decision contemplated by this action and has determined that it is not site specific and consequently the 500-foot rule found in California Code of Regulations section 18704.2(a)(1) is not applicable to this decision.

CURRENT-YEAR FISCAL IMPACT

There are no General fund costs associated with this contract for medical billing services. The agreement will be funded by 3.25% net receipts billed and collected within the Transport Enterprise Fund (410728). The cost for the projected service fees is \$625,000 for the initial term, and \$500,000 annually for each additional term, not to exceed \$2,500,000 over the contract term.

ONGOING FISCAL IMPACT

No anticipated General Fund Impacts. The agreement is funded based on 3.25% net receipts billed and collected within the Transport Enterprise Fund with a not to exceed amount of \$2,500,000 over the contract term.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Agreement with Wittman Enterprises, LLC.