



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:17-4367

Agenda Item Number: 19.

Agenda Date: 8/31/2017

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: SAFD

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Charles N. Hood

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: City Wide

SUBJECT:

EMS Medical Direction, Control and Training Interlocal Agreements with UTHSCSA

SUMMARY:

An Ordinance authorizing Interlocal Agreements with the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UTHSCSA) to provide the San Antonio Fire Department (SAFD) with Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system oversight, EMS Medical Direction services and amending the prior Interlocal Agreements between the parties to provide for certain payments out of residual funds. If approved, the two new agreements would begin on October 1, 2017 and end on September 30, 2020. These agreements may be extended by mutual agreement of the parties on the same terms and conditions, except for price, for up to two one-year renewal periods. Costs for the Medical Control and Training agreement are \$1,840,730 in FY 2018, \$1,927,459 in FY 2019, and \$1,929,034 in FY 2020. Costs for the Medical Direction Agreement are \$1,298,509 in FY 2018, \$1,324,369 in FY 2019 and, \$1,350,746 in FY 2020.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

UTHSCSA has provided the Fire Department with EMT Basic and Paramedic training, EMS Medical Director services and EMS system oversight for over 40 years. The Health Science center has been an important partner and asset to the department over the years and has been the sole provider for SAFD since the inception of the EMS system in 1974. The current Agreements with UTHSCSA, which expire on September 30, 2017, were approved by City Council on November 12, 2015, by Ordinances 2015-11-12-0951 and 2015-11-12-0952.

Residual funds accumulated during the course of the current and prior agreements between the parties. The amendment to the current agreements will allow the parties to apply these residual funds to the payment of outstanding invoices.

In order for the SAFD to provide emergency medical services, the State requires the City to have Medical Director Services, Emergency Medical Technician and Paramedic professional training that has been approved by the Texas Department of State Health Services in accordance with the Texas Administrative Code, and mandated continuing education for all levels of Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) and Paramedics. The State requires the city to operate its EMS system under a State of Texas licensed physician. In addition, the City is required to have treatment and transport protocols approved and signed by the Medical Director.

The medical training and continuing education is provided to all members of the SAFD. The training and provision of emergency medical services is key to the mission of the Fire Department. This year to date, 80% of all calls responded to were medical in nature.

ISSUE:

The City operates the Emergency Medical Services throughout the City of San Antonio and other municipalities. These two contracts with the UTHSCSA will meet the State mandated requirements to train emergency medical personnel and oversee the City's Emergency Medical System.

The Medical Control and Training Agreement budget is as follows:

	Year 1 Oct 1, 2017-Sept 30, 2018	Year 2 Oct 1, 2018-Sept 30, 2019	Year 3 Oct 1, 2019-Sept 30, 2020
Salaries & Benefits	\$1,203,288	\$1,227,354	\$1,251,901
Travel, Rent, Supplies	272,103	316,982	283,471
Advanced Procedures Lab	198,000	207,900	218,295
Indirect Costs (10%)	167,339	175,224	175,367
Total	\$1,840,730	\$1,927,460	\$1,929,034

The Medical Direction Agreement budget is as follows:

	Year 1 Oct 1, 2017-Sept 30, 2018	Year 2 Oct 1, 2018-Sept 30, 2019	Year 3 Oct 1, 2019-Sept 30, 2020
Salaries & Benefits	\$1,130,863	\$1,153,380	\$1,176,347
Travel & Supplies	49,600	50,592	51,604
Indirect Costs (10%)	118,046	120,397	122,795
Total	\$1,298,509	\$1,324,369	\$1,350,746

Additional expenses to complete training for EMT Basics and Paramedics will be coming from the SAFD FY 2018 general fund budget.

The expenses are as follows:

	Year 1 Oct 1, 2017-Sept 30, 2018	Year 2 Oct 1, 2018-Sept 30, 2019	Year 3 Oct 1, 2019-Sept 30, 2020
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Tuition EMT Basic Fees	\$71,600	TBD	TBD
Tuition Paramedic Training	233,150	TBD	TBD
Recertification	42,000	TBD	TBD
Textbooks	80,562	TBD	TBD
National Registry	1,620	TBD	TBD
Total	\$428,932		

Failure to provide the Interlocal Agreements would impede State-mandated EMS Medical Direction and therefore the City of San Antonio could not provide Emergency Medical Services in total to its constituents. Additionally, EMT Basic and Paramedic initial and continuing education training currently provided by the UTHSCSA would cease, thereby, creating a deficit in the number of newly trained firefighters and paramedics, a reduction in the number of currently certified Basic EMTs and Paramedics, and the de-authorization of Paramedics and Basic EMTs to perform their patient care duties.

ALTERNATIVES:

There are currently no other locally accredited education systems that would be able to provide medical direction and education for the SAFD.

FISCAL IMPACT:

An agreement in an amount not to exceed \$1,840,730 in FY 2018, \$1,927,459 in FY2019 and, \$1,929,034 in FY 2020 for EMT training and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system oversight. Funding for the Medical Control and Training agreement in the amount of \$1,840,730 and for the Medical Direction Agreement in the amount of \$1,298,509 in FY 2018, has been included and appropriated by City Council in the FY 2018 Fire Department General Fund Budget. Funding for the two subsequent contract periods is contingent upon FY 2019 and FY2020 budget appropriations.

RECOMMENDATION:

The staff recommends the approval of the three year Interlocal Agreements with the University of Texas Health Science Center to provide the City with State-mandated EMS oversight and training.