



City of Arts & Innovation

Public Safety Committee

TO: PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS DATE: OCTOBER 21, 2015

FROM: FIRE DEPARTMENT WARDS: ALL

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF PREMIER MEDICAL TRANSPORT'S APPLICATION FOR A MEDICAL TRANSPORT FRANCHISE - DIRECT SUBMITTAL

ISSUE:

The issue before the Public Safety Committee is consideration of an application from Premier Medical Transport for a Non-Emergency Basic Life Support and Critical Care Transport franchise.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Committee:

1. Receive information regarding the application for Medical Transport Franchise submitted by Premier Medical Transport, Colton, CA; and
2. Recommend that the City Council approve the Medical Transport Franchise to Premier Medical Transport.

BACKGROUND:

The Riverside Municipal Code (RMC) Chapter 5.66 applies to ambulance services. The City Council approves ambulance franchise agreements as well as the rates and charges for the services. The City's ambulance franchise administrator is the Fire Chief or Designee, Fire Chief Michael Moore has designated Deputy Fire Chief La Wayne Hearn. Ambulance service is the transportation of those in need of medical attention classified as Advanced Life Support, Basic Life Support or Critical Care.

Advanced Life Support provides pre-hospital emergency medical care, under the direct supervision of a base hospital at the scene of an emergency, during transport to an acute care hospital, during inter-facility transfer, and while in the emergency department of an acute care hospital until responsibility is assumed by the emergency or other medical staff of that hospital.

Basic Life Support is emergency first aid without invasive techniques until the individual may be transported to a medical facility or until Advanced Life Support medical care is available.

Critical Care Transport is the medical transport of a patient between medical facilities requiring medical staff supervision.

Current Ambulance Service Providers:

The City has contracts for ambulance services needed in the community. American Medical Response (AMR) is the exclusive provider for Advances Life Support transport services. AMR, Americare, Care, Cavalry, and Mission Ambulance Companies provide Basic Life Support and Critical Care Transports within the City.

Franchise Application:

Premier Medical Transport, based in the City of Colton, has submitted an application for a Medical Transport Franchise for Non-Emergency Basic Life Support and Critical Care Transportation (Attachment 1). The City's ambulance franchise administrator conducted an evaluation of the application including consultation with Riverside County Emergency Medical Services Agency as part of his investigation. The determinations are as follows:

- ***Determination if the public health, safety, welfare, convenience, and necessity require the granting of a franchise for the operating area and level of service for which the application has been made***

Upon consultation with the Riverside County Emergency Medical Service Agency, it was determined that there is no evidence to demonstrate any significant gaps related to ambulance services within the City of Riverside. However, in the City, there is a need for specialized transportation for hospice patients. Premier Medical Transport provides this unique service.

- ***Determination if the applicant meets all requirements of RMC Chapter 5.66***

Premier Medical Transport's statement of facts provides supporting information indicating capability and qualification to operate and render ambulance services. They have been inspected and approved to operate within Riverside County by the Riverside County Emergency Medical Service Agency and are in good standing with the agency. They are permitted to operate Basic Life Support and Critical Care Transportation services in Riverside County, except in the City of Riverside. They have technology that allows them the ability to monitor their field units and predict arrival times. Representatives from the three main area hospitals and skilled nursing facilities were surveyed regarding their performance and all were satisfied with the services. A site visit to the main office in Colton found the facilities and business practices to be professional. Premier Medical Transport is currently working on Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance certification.

Staff Recommendation:

City staff have reviewed the application from Premier Medical Transport and recommend that the Safety Committee make a recommendation to City Council for approval for a medical transport franchise to Premier Medical Transport.

FISCAL IMPACT:

An annual franchise fee of \$1,200 and \$100 inspection fee per ambulance is collected from all ambulance franchises each January, prorated for franchises that start mid calendar year, by the Fire Department.

Prepared by: Michael D. Moore, Fire Chief
Certified as to
availability of funds: Brent Mason, Finance Director/Treasurer
Approved by: Alexander T. Nguyen, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Attachments:

1. Application for Ambulance Franchise from Premier Medical Transport
2. Presentation