



*City of Arts & Innovation*

# Public Safety Committee

**TO: PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS** **DATE: JUNE 2, 2016**

**FROM: FIRE DEPARTMENT** **WARDS: ALL**

**SUBJECT: DISCUSSION ON PROPOSED REVISIONS TO CHAPTER 5.66 OF THE RIVERSIDE MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO AMBULANCE FRANCHISES - DIRECT SUBMITTAL**

## **ISSUE:**

Discuss proposed revisions to Chapter 5.66 of the Riverside Municipal Code relating to ambulances, specifically as it relates to franchise processing.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That the Committee receive the oral report and provide direction regarding amending Chapter 5.66 of the Riverside Municipal Code.

## **BACKGROUND:**

On September 24, 2013, the City Council held a workshop, at which time staff offered proposed amendments to Chapter 5.66 to address the Council's interest in further clarification. After full consideration, the City Council unanimously directed staff to bring forward the proposed ordinance for introduction and adoption, including changes under the definition of "public convenience and necessity," to strengthen the requirement that an applicant shall transport patients regardless of ability to pay, and respond to all requests for ambulance service.

On February 18, 2015 the Public Safety Committee, with Chair Soubrou, Vice Chair Melendrez and Member Davis present, met to consider proposed revisions to Chapter 5.66 of the Riverside Municipal Code relating to ambulance franchise processing and creation of a permit process for non-emergency transports. After due deliberation, the Committee unanimously voted to recommend that the City Council approve the proposed revisions as outlined in the written staff report.

On March 17, 2015, the City Council continued discussion of an amendment to Chapter 5.66 of the RMC relating to ambulance franchise processing and establishing a permit process for non-emergency transports until after the six-month report from the Fire Chief on ambulance services.

The attached proposed revisions to RMC 5.66 eliminates the requirement to establish "public convenience and necessity" and is intended to improve implementation of the ordinance, through the following revisions:

1. Authority may be given to the Administrator to approve franchise and permit agreements;
2. Under the proposed ordinance, a “Franchise” means any ambulance provider possessing a current franchise granted by the Council to provide 911 Originated Calls for service within the City.
3. A “Permit” means any ambulance provider possessing a current permit granted by the Administrator to provide non-emergency ambulance service within the City.
4. Current accreditation with the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS) will be required for all franchise and permit applicants;
5. City Council or the Administrator may revoke an existing franchise or permit, respectively; and
6. Terms and conditions for Suspension, Revocation and Amendment were added to the municipal code.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact associated with the proposed revisions to Chapter 5.66 of the Riverside Municipal Code.

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

Attachment: RMC Chapter 5.66