



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL **DATE: JULY 26, 2016**
FROM: FIRE DEPARTMENT **WARDS: ALL**
SUBJECT: PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 5.66 OF THE RIVERSIDE MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO AMBULANCE FRANCHISES

ISSUE:

Adopt an Ordinance to amend Riverside Municipal Code (RMC) Chapter 5.66 relating to ambulances, specifically as it relates to franchise processing.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council introduce and subsequently adopt an Ordinance (Attachment 2) amending RMC Chapter 5.66 (Attachment 1) relating to ambulance franchise processing and creation of a permit process for non-emergency transports.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On June 2, 2016, the Public Safety Committee, with Chair Perry, Vice Chair Melendrez and Member Burnard present, met to consider proposed revisions to RMC Chapter 5.66 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.

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 RMC Chapter 5.66 relating to ambulance franchise processing and creation of a permit process for non-emergency transports. The Committee unanimously voted to recommend that the City Council approve the proposed revisions as outlined in the written staff report.

At the March 17, 2015 City Council meeting, Fire Department staff proposed revisions to RMC

Chapter 5.66 relating to ambulance franchise processing. Following discussion, the City Council continued discussion of an amendment to RMC Chapter 5.66, 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.

On September 22, 2015, the City Council received and filed the six-month performance report on ambulance services.

DISCUSSION:

The proposed ordinance includes revisions to RMC 5.66 eliminating the requirement to establish “public convenience and necessity.” Other revisions include:

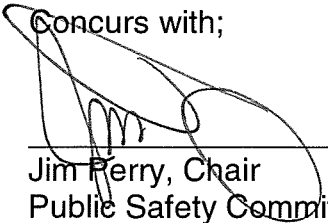
1. The process for approving non-emergency ambulance permits will be streamlined and require approval by the ambulance administrator only;
2. City Council approval will still be required for all 9-1-1 Originated Call Franchises;
3. Current accreditation with the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS) will be required for all franchise and permit applicants;
4. City Council or the Administrator may revoke an existing franchise or permit, respectively; and
5. Terms and conditions for Suspension, Revocation and Amendment were added to the Riverside 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: Alex T. Nguyen, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Concurs with;



Jim Perry, Chair
Public Safety Committee

Attachments:

1. RMC Chapter 5.66
2. Ordinance
3. Presentation