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ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA,
AMENDING VARIOUS SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 5.66 OF THE
RIVERSIDE MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING AMBULANCES.

The City Council of the City of Riverside does ordain as follows:

Section 1: Section 5.66.020 of the Riverside Municipal Code is amended as follows:

“Section 5.66.020 Franchises/permits.

A. *Required.* It shall be unlawful for any person, either as owner, agent or otherwise, to operate, conduct, maintain, advertise or otherwise be engaged in or profess to be engaged in the operation of ambulance services originating in the City, except in conformance with a valid franchise to do so granted by the Council for 911 Originated Calls for service or a valid permit to do so granted by the Administrator.

...

D. *Exceptions.* The equipment and personnel standards specified in this chapter apply to all ambulance services; however, the franchise requirements shall not apply to:

- 1. Ambulance transportation services provided by the City;

...

- 4. Ambulances operating upon approval of the Administrator in the event of a temporary, sudden or unexpected increase in patient volume that has the potential to severely challenge or exceed the capacity of the present ambulance delivery system.

5. Ambulances operating upon approval of the Administrator where permitted ambulance services are verified to be delayed or unable to provide the necessary service requested by the hospital and the impact to patient care is probable.

...”

Section 2: Section 5.66.040 of the Riverside Municipal Code is amended as follows:

“Section 5.66.040 Application for a franchise or extension of a franchise.

A. *Procedure and information required.* Prerequisites to the granting of a franchise or a permit or an extended term of an existing franchise or permit to an applicant shall include payment of a

1 nonrefundable fee as set by resolution of the Council and the filing with the Administrator of an
2 application in writing on a form to be furnished by the City, which shall provide, at a minimum, the
3 following information:

4 1. Name and description of applicant;

5 ...

6 18. Verification of applicant's current accreditation with the Commission on Accreditation of
7 Ambulance Services ("CAAS"). A variance can be granted by the Ambulance Administrator for
8 CAAS accreditation completion within six-months to 18-months of permit issuance. Failure to
9 comply will result in revocation of the permit.

10 ...”

11 Section 3: Section 5.66.050 of the Riverside Municipal Code is amended as follows:

12 **“Section 5.66.050 Processing of application.**

13 A. Upon receipt of an application and a nonrefundable fee as set by resolution, the Administrator shall
14 conduct an evaluation to determine if the applicant meets all requirements of this chapter. The
15 Administrator shall consult with and, if possible, obtain the assessment of the application by the Health
16 Officer or the Local EMS Agency as part of his or her investigation. Within 45 days after the
17 completion of his or her evaluation, the Administrator shall for a franchise, prepare and issue a report
18 to the Committee, present a copy to the applicant, and request that a meeting of the Committee be
19 called within 1445 days to consider the report and other testimony. After due deliberation, the
20 Committee shall make its recommendation to the Council on whether to approve or deny the franchise
21 application. For a permit, the Administrator shall determine if the applicant has met all the
22 requirements of this chapter, and if so, issue a permit according to the procedures set forth in this
23 chapter.”

24 Section 4: Section 5.66.090 of the Riverside Municipal Code is amended as follows:

25 **“Section 5.66.090 Extension of franchises/permits.**

26 Subject to the maximum term limitation of the City Charter, franchises/permits may be extended by
27 the City Council or the Administrator for a period of up to three years upon application of the
28 franchisee/permit holder if the franchisee/permit holder proposes no substantial change in the content

1 of the franchise ordinance or the permit, and if the City Council or Administrator determines that the
2 franchisee/permit holder has during the period of the franchise/permit operated in conformity with the
3 provisions of this chapter, the franchise ordinance or the permit, the operational agreement and the
4 rules and regulations of the City, and that the franchisee/permit holder is capable of continuing
5 operation in conformity with the rules and regulations of the City.”

6 Section 5: Section 5.66.180 of the Riverside Municipal Code is amended as follows:

7 **“Section 5.66.180 Ambulance rates.**

8 A. No ambulance service shall charge more for its services than the rates and charges approved by the
9 City. Rates and charges are initially set by Council resolution.

10 B. Proposed special rates or proposed changes in existing approved rates and charges shall be
11 submitted to the Administrator for review. The Administrator shall review all data and evidence
12 submitted in justification of the proposal. For increases of greater than fiveten percent, the
13 Administrator shall recommend approval or denial thereof to the Committee, which in turn shall make
14 its own recommendation to the Council. The Administrator may approve increases up to five percent
15 annually to compensate for increased ambulance operation costs as measured by the consumer price
16 index. In addition to, and not in lieu of, a consumer price index increase, the Administrator may also
17 grant rate increases up to and including five percent annually when extraordinary cost increases are
18 supported by adequate documentation.

19 ...”

20 Section 6: Section 5.66.195 of the Riverside Municipal Code is amended as follows:

21 **“Section 5.66.195 Permit for ambulances.**

22 A. ~~Each permit holder shall annually submit for inspection to the Administrator 50 percent of its fleet~~
23 ~~of ambulances operating in the City such that all ambulances of a franchisee operating in the City are~~
24 ~~inspected on a biannual basis.~~ Each permit holder shall annually submit for inspection to the
25 Administrator, at a minimum 50 percent of its fleet of ambulances operating in the City, such that all
26 ambulances of a franchisee operating in the City are inspected on a biennial basis.

27 ...”

I, Donesia Gause, City Clerk of the City of Riverside, California, hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was duly and regularly introduced at a meeting of the City Council on the _____ day of _____, 2026, and adopted at a meeting of the City Council on the _____ day of _____, 2026, by the following vote, to wit:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the City of Riverside, California, this _____ day of _____, 2026.

DONESIA GAUSE
City Clerk of the City of Riverside

314017 JSG 05/27/26