

# Mayor and Council Communication

**DATE:** 05/14/24

**M&C FILE NUMBER:** M&C 24-0437

**LOG NAME:** 35MEDSTAR EMS FOR INDIVIDUALS IN POLICE CUSTODY

## **SUBJECT**

(ALL) Authorize Execution of an Interlocal Agreement with the Metropolitan Area Emergency Medical Services Authority, d/b/a Medstar, to Provide for City Reimbursement to Medstar for Costs Associated with Emergency Medical Services Provided to Individuals in Fort Worth Police Department Custody, in an Amount Up to \$250,000.00 Per Fiscal Year, with Options to Renew

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that City Council authorize the execution of an Interlocal Agreement with the Metropolitan Area Emergency Medical Services Authority, d/b/a Medstar, to provide for the City to reimburse Medstar for costs associated with Emergency Medical Services provided to individuals in Fort Worth Police Department custody, in an amount up to \$250,000.00 per Fiscal Year, with options to renew.

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## **DISCUSSION:**

The purpose of this Mayor and Council Communication (M&C) is to authorize execution of an Interlocal Agreement with the Metropolitan Area Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Authority, d/b/a Medstar (Medstar), for reimbursement of the costs of EMS provided by Medstar to individuals in Fort Worth Police Department (Police) custody.

Arrested individuals are taken to the City of Fort Worth holding facility at 350 West Belknap and detained until a Magistrate determines whether probable cause exists. If probable cause for the arrest is found to exist, then the arrested individual is transferred to the Tarrant County Sherriff's Department's custody (the County). Once the arrested individual is in the custody of the County, the person's care becomes the County's responsibility.

If this M&C is approved by City Council the agreement would be executed to have an effective date of October 1, 2023. Under the agreement Medstar will provide medical evaluation, treatment, and transportation for emergency and non-emergency calls for service to persons confined in City holding facilities or otherwise in the custody of Police or its contractors, and the City will reimburse costs at an agreed rate. The agreement will require Medstar to staff any ambulance providing this service with at least two individuals licensed or certified to render emergency medical care. Medstar will also make the initial determination whether a transport is an emergency or non-emergency situation.

The City will contact Medstar to request EMS; Medstar will charge the City fees as determined by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services fee schedule in effect for the locality at the time services are provided. Medstar will provide the City with a monthly invoice to include detailed information such as the date of service, relevant locations, miles traveled, costs, and the information concerning the individual who required EMS.

Funding is budgeted in the General Oper & Maint category Crime Control & Prev Distr Fund for the Police Department.

**BUSINESS EQUITY:** A business equity goal is not assigned when purchasing from an approved purchasing cooperative or public entity.

**AGREEMENT TERM:** Upon City Council's approval and execution of the Agreement by the Assistant City Manager, the initial term will expire September 30, 2024, with options to renew.

**RENEWAL OPTIONS:** The Agreement will be reviewed annually. After the initial term, the agreement may be renewed on an annual basis by mutual written agreement of Medstar and the City, for unlimited renewal terms.

**A Form 1295 is not required because:** This contract will be with a governmental entity, state agency or public institution of higher education: Metropolitan Area EMS Authority d/b/a Medstar

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## **FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:**

The Director of Finance certifies funds are available in the current operating budget, as previously appropriated, in the Crime Control & Prev Distr Fund to support the approval of the above recommendation and execution of the agreement. Prior to an expenditure being incurred, the Police Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds.

**Submitted for City Manager's Office by:** Valerie Washington 6192

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