

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	22090	Agenda Number	72.
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Meeting Date:	2/28/2013	Department:	Emergency Medical Services
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Subject

Approve second reading of an ordinance renewing a non-emergency transfer franchise to American Medical Response of Texas, Inc. under City Code Chapter 10-2.

Amount and Source of Funding

Fiscal Note

There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
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Prior Council Action:	January 17, 2013 public hearing and first reading.
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For More Information:	Ernesto Rodriguez, Director 972-7148
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Boards and Commission Action:	The Austin - Travis County EMS Advisory Board reviewed this as an agenda item at the meeting on November 14, 2012 and a five year renewal was approved on a motion of 7/0, with one abstention.
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MBE / WBE:	
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Related Items:	
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Additional Backup Information

The purpose of this RCA is to request that Council approve the franchise agreement for American Medical Response of Texas, Inc. on the second reading.

American Medical Response has held a franchise with the City of Austin since December, 1996. On Oct. 25, 2012, Austin-Travis County EMS (A/TCEMS) received an application from American Medical Response of Texas Inc. requesting a renewal of the franchise for another five-year term. All the required application elements have been submitted and the application fee has been paid in full.

In order for a private ambulance company to provide non-emergency transfer services within the limits of the City of Austin, the provider must hold a franchise from the City. Non-emergency transfers typically occur between skilled nursing facilities, hospitals, and private residences and are usually prescheduled by medical personnel. Currently, two companies hold such franchises, Acadian Ambulance Service, Inc. (Acadian) and American Medical Response of Texas Inc. (AMR).

A/TCEMS recommends approval of this franchise renewal. American Medical Response of Texas Inc. has proven over the past 17 years that they can provide satisfactory service to the Austin community. Call volume levels indicate that two franchise providers are necessary to handle the demand for non-emergency ambulance transfers. Failure to renew this franchise will result in only one franchise holder for the City of Austin. In its Nov. 14, 2012 meeting, the Austin-Travis County EMS Advisory Board reviewed staff recommendations and approved the franchise renewal for five years on a motion of 7/0 and 1 abstention.