

**AGENDA**



**Recommendation for Council Action**

Austin City Council	Item ID	33458	Agenda Number	20.
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Meeting Date:	6/26/2014	Department:	Emergency Medical Services
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**Subject**

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 General Fund Operating Budget (Ordinance No. 20130909-001) to add 7.0 Telecom Cadet civilian full-time equivalent positions to the Emergency Medical Services Department.

**Amount and Source of Funding**

Funding is available in the Emergency Medical Services Operating Budget

**Fiscal Note**

A fiscal note is attached.

**Purchasing Language:**

**Prior Council Action:**

**For More Information:** Chief Ernesto Rodriguez, 512-972-7203  
Assistant Director Kerri Lang, 512-972-7211

**Boards and Commission Action:**

**MBE / WBE:**

**Related Items:**

**Additional Backup Information**

The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) communications section has had a high vacancy rate for entry-level call-taker and dispatch positions for the last two years due to the requirement that candidates for the Communications - Medic I position hold a minimum of an EMT Basic certification. This requirement narrows the pool of applicants and competes with the Field - Medic I candidates. To increase the pool of qualified applicants, EMS is proposing creating an intern program. Through the program, EMS will be able to hire non-certified personnel, provide job-specific training, and assist the employee in obtaining the required certification. Once the training is complete and the certification is obtained, the employee would be eligible to apply for the Communications – Medic I position.

The positions will be funded through personnel savings generated by the vacant Medic I and Medic II positions in the communications budget.