

AGENDA

**Recommendation for Council Action****AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL****Regular Meeting: March 1, 2018**Item Number: **022****Item(s) to Set Public Hearing(s)**

Set a public hearing to consider an ordinance on first reading approving an application submitted by American Medical Response of Texas, Inc. for a non-emergency medical transfer franchise under City Code Chapter 10-2. (Suggested date and time: March 22, 2018, 4:00 p.m. at Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Austin, TX.)

Lead Department	Emergency Medical Services
Fiscal Note	This item has no fiscal impact.
Prior Council Action	December 19, 1996, approved transfer of franchise from Gold Cross to American Medical Response (AMR); June 11, 1998, renewed AMR's franchise for a five-year term; April 24, 2003, renewed AMR's franchise for a five-year term; April 24, 2008, renewed AMR's franchise for a five year term; June 24, 2013, renewed AMR's franchise for a five year team.
For More Information	Kerri Lang, Assistant Director, 512-972-7211 Ernesto Rodriguez, Chief, 512-972-7148
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action	The Austin-Travis County EMS Advisory Board reviewed this agenda item on February 7, 2018 and a five year franchise extension was approved for recommendation on a motion of 8-0.

Additional Backup Information:

American Medical Response of Texas, Inc. has held a non-emergency transfer franchise with the City of Austin since 1996. The franchise will expire on June 24, 2018. American Medical Response is requesting a renewal of the franchise for a five year term.

In order for a private ambulance company to provide non-emergency medical transfer service within the city limits, it must obtain a franchise from the City of Austin. Chapter 10-2 of the City Code requires that a public hearing be held on an application for a transfer service franchise. The purpose of this RCA is to request that the City Council set a public hearing for 4:00pm on Thursday, March 22, 2018, regarding a non-emergency transfer franchise application. Currently, two companies hold non-emergency transfer franchises in Austin. Those companies are American Medical Response of Texas, Inc. (AMR) and Acadian Ambulance Services, Inc. (Acadian). A third company, Allegiance Mobile Health has also made application for a transfer service franchise, and that application is the subject of a public hearing on March 1, 2018. Non-emergency medical transfers typically occur between nursing home facilities and hospitals and are usually prescheduled by medical personnel.

Staff analysis of AMR's franchise renewal application has been complete with satisfactory findings. The analysis included a review of the applicant's operations and performance ratings as a current franchise provider in Austin. The Austin-Travis County Advisory Board reviewed that staff recommendations on February 7, 2018, and approved the extension request in an 8-0 vote.