



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-2119, **Agenda Item #:** 9.

5/21/2020

Posting Language

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Emergency Medical Services Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 2010910-001) to accept and appropriate \$550,000 in grant funds from the Health Resources Services Administration section of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for the CARES Act Provider Relief Program.

Lead Department

Emergency Medical Services.

Fiscal Note

Funding is available from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The grant period is February 4, 2020 through September 30, 2021. A City funding match is not required. A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information:

Contact Kerri Lang, Assistant Director, 972-7211; Jodi Hassinger, EMS Revenue Cycle Manager, 972-7039.

Additional Backup Information:

On March 27, 2020, the President signed the bipartisan CARES Act that provides \$100 billion in relief funds to hospitals and other healthcare providers on the front lines of the coronavirus response. This funding will be used to support healthcare-related expenses or lost revenue attributable to COVID-19 and to ensure uninsured Americans can get testing and treatment for COVID-19.

The U.S. Health and Human Services Department (HHS) began distributing the general distribution funds to healthcare providers on April 10, 2020. The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Department was distributed \$330,131 by HHS on April 13, 2020. On April 24, 2020, HHS notified healthcare providers of an additional allocation that can result in an additional distribution for EMS up to \$220,000.

As a recipient of these federal funds, EMS will not balance bill patients transported for COVID-19. Acceptance of these funds will also allow EMS the ability to request federal reimbursement for uninsured COVID-19 patients. These funds will offset lost revenue that results from COVID-19 transports and aid-at-scene.

The General Fund will not be required to contribute additional funds beyond those currently budgeted to this grant. When the grant funds expire, the Emergency Medical Services Department's need for continuing funding will be evaluated and may be denied.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Safety; Economic Opportunity and Affordability.