



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR

December 3, 2013

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From:  Christine Daniel, City Manager

Submitted by: Gil Dong, Fire Chief

Subject: Revenue Agreement: California DHCS for Ground Emergency Medical Transportation Services Reimbursement Program

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a revenue agreement with the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), and any amendments and/or supplemental agreements thereto, including any changes to the projected annual revenue amount, for the supplemental reimbursement of Ground Emergency Medical Transportation (GEMT) services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries, for the period commencing retroactively on January 30, 2010 until the agreement is terminated or the GEMT program ends pursuant to the repeal of State or federal statutory authority to make payments or claim federal reimbursement.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

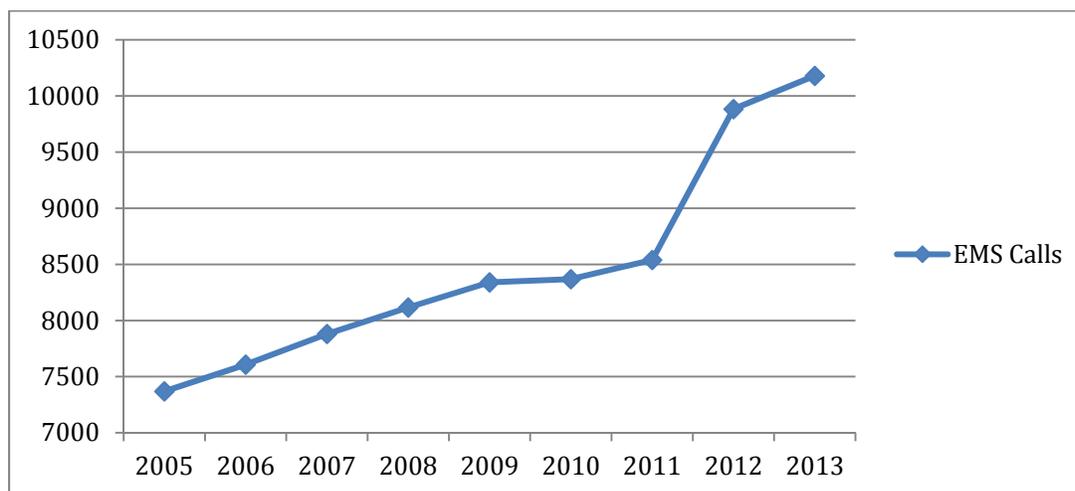
This agreement sets out the conditions under which the City receives supplemental reimbursement for uncompensated actual costs incurred for the provision of emergency medical services for Medi-Cal beneficiaries. There is no fixed "not to exceed" amount specified in the agreement because the amount of revenue will fluctuate each year based on the actual direct and indirect costs. Preliminary cost estimates suggest the reimbursement amounts listed below, but these amounts are expected to increase once the final cost reports are prepared.

For the period January 30, 2010 to June 30, 2010:	\$183,000
For the period July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011:	\$470,000
For the period July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012:	\$262,000
For the period July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013:	\$134,000

The revenue received through this agreement will be deposited into budget code 010-6405-341-7900 (ambulance fees). This agreement has been entered into the citywide contract management system and assigned CMS No. N4ULT

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City of Berkeley has provided continuous ambulance transport services to the community since 1977. Since 2005, the Fire Department has experienced a sharp increase of 28% in Emergency Medical Services (EMS) calls as illustrated in the chart below. As a result of this increase, the department is conducting a cost analysis of adding a fourth transport ambulance. The City currently relies on mutual aid responses from Albany and Piedmont Fire Departments, as well as Paramedic Plus, the County's contracted paramedic transport provider, when unable to respond to a call. In the previous calendar year, the City requested close to 2,000 responses from outside agencies.



The Fire Department transports approximately 6,000 patients each year. That number has steadily increased over the past five years to an estimated 6,900 transports. The difference between EMS calls versus transports can be primarily attributed to calls cancelled en route, cancelled on scene, or patient refusal to be transported.

It is estimated that in each fiscal year, 420 transports are Medi-Cal fee-for-service transports, and would be eligible for supplemental reimbursement under the GEMT program. Currently, payment for Medi-Cal fee-for-service beneficiaries is capped at \$117 per transport. Participation in this program allows the City to recoup additional monies to cover the actual cost of providing transport services to the community and may provide revenue to staff an additional transport unit on a part-time basis to meet increasing demand for emergency medical transports.

BACKGROUND

California Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code 14105.94, enacted October 2, 2011, authorized the Ground Emergency Medical Transportation Services (GEMT) supplemental reimbursement program. This voluntary Certified Public Expenditure (CPE)-based program provides additional funding to eligible governmental entities that provide GEMT services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved State Plan Amendment (SPA) 09-024 on September 4, 2013, authorizing the federal share of the supplemental reimbursement

payments based on uncompensated costs for Medi-Cal fee-for-service transports, effective January 30, 2010.

GEMT service providers in this program will receive supplemental reimbursement payments by completing an annual cost report form. The supplemental reimbursement payment is based on actual expenditures that have already been incurred for the provision of GEMT services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries. The reimbursement amount is 50% of allowable total certified costs, as defined in SPA 09-024.

Because the GEMT program is retroactive to January 30, 2010, several cost reports are due during the current fiscal year. The submittal periods for the cost reports are:

For the period January 30, 2010 to June 30, 2010:	12/2/13 – 3/1/14
For the period July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011:	12/2/13 – 3/1/14
For the period July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012:	2/1/14 – 3/1/14
For the period July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013:	2/1/14 – 3/1/14

All future annual cost reports are due five months (November 30), following the end of the fiscal year (June 30).

Participation in the GEMT program is voluntary, but as a participating provider agency, the City will be required to enter into an agreement with the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District (on behalf of DHCS) to reimburse for its share of the allocated administrative costs associated with overseeing the program.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Authorization of this agreement by the City Council will allow for additional revenue to be brought into the City's General Fund.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

CONTACT PERSONS

Aaron Lee, Assistant Fire Chief, 981-5502

Melanie Jones, Administrative and Fiscal Services Manager, 981-5507

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

REVENUE AGREEMENT: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES FOR GROUND EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION SERVICES REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Berkeley Fire Department has been the emergency transport provider agency for the City of Berkeley since 1977; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley is eligible to receive supplemental reimbursement for cover the actual cost of providing transport services for eligible Medi-Cal fee-for-service beneficiaries; and

WHEREAS, any cost reimbursement will be retroactive to eligible Medi-Cal fee-for-service transports beginning on January 30, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley will be required to submit cost reports for FY 2010, FY 2011, FY 2012, and FY 2013 in the current fiscal year, with all future annual cost reports due five month (November 30), following the end of each fiscal year (June 30); and

WHEREAS, this revenue contract has been entered into the City's contract management database and assigned CMS. No. N4ULT.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is authorized to enter into an Agreement with the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), and any amendments and/or supplemental agreements thereto, including any changes to the projected annual revenue amount, for the supplemental reimbursement of Ground Emergency Medical Transportation (GEMT) services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries, for the period commencing retroactively on January 30, 2010 until the agreement is terminated or the GEMT program ends pursuant to the repeal of State or federal statutory authority to make payments or claim federal reimbursement. A record signature copy of said contract and and/or supplemental agreements to be on file in the office of the City Clerk.