

**CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Date: June 1, 2009
Reviewed by: BP

Subject: Approval of Amendment to the Ambulance Provider Agreement with Alameda County to Implement Payment for First Responder Services and to extend said agreement through June 30, 2011.

Report By: Marc McGinn, Fire Chief

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approve the attached amendment to the City's Ambulance Provider Agreement with Alameda County to extend the agreement until June 30, 2011 and add a requirement for payment by the County in the amount of \$71,488.59 for First Responder Advanced Life Support (FRALS) service provided by the City.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

In 1999, the City of Albany entered into an Ambulance Provider Agreement with Alameda County who governs the standards the City operates its ambulance service. This agreement has been amended periodically over the years to update the fee schedule for ambulance rates.

Regarding the FRALS portion of the agreement, the City of Albany elects to staff paramedics to first responding medical calls on fire engines. This is referred to as FRALS (First Responder Advanced Life Support). When the department's ambulance has been assigned to a medical call, the fire department's engine, staffed with at least one paramedic, responds to any additional medical calls. The arriving paramedic provides advanced life support and stabilizes the patient until another transporting ambulance (Berkeley or Piedmont) arrives.

Under a master agreement for FRALS in 1999, most cities in Alameda County received payment from the county EMS for providing this service. From 2001-2004, the City of Albany received payments as well, although the City was not a party to the FRALS master agreement. Negotiations with Alameda County EMS have now resulted in the attached amendment to Albany's Ambulance Provider Agreement and to clarify Albany's FRALS service to require County payment of a \$42,893.16 per year per station. The City will receive a total of \$71,488.59 amortized over the next two fiscal years, beginning in November 2009 through June 30, 2011.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT

Not applicable

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Payment schedule in exhibit E establishes compensation for the provisions of First Responder Advanced Life Support (FRALS) at the current rate of \$42,893.16 per station/per year. Albany has been approved for 1 station totaling \$71,488.59 for the term of the extension.

Attachments

1. Amendment to Ambulance Provider Agreement
2. Payment Schedule