
City Council Regular Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Fire
FROM: K.T. Freeman, Fire Chief
MEETING: August 7, 2023

SUBJECT:

Consider approval of a Medical Services Mutual Aid Agreement between the City of Burleson and the Metropolitan Area EMS Authority dba MedStar Mobile Healthcare (MedStar). *(Staff Presenter: K.T. Freeman, Fire Chief)*

SUMMARY:

Beginning October 1, 2023 the City will transition out of the current Ambulance Service provider MedStar into a Fire Based EMS Transport system operated under the authority of the City. Upon transitioning out of the MedStar EMS Transportation system the City will assume responsibility for ensuring and providing acceptable levels of EMS transport services rather than MedStar. In order to help create an acceptable level of EMS response and transportation capabilities mutual aid agreements are developed and implemented between the City and other EMS Providers to help provide emergency services when the demand exceeds the City's capability to do so.

The purpose of Mutual Aid agreements in general is to create a collaborative arrangement between two or more emergency service providers to assist one another during times of needs. Additionally, a fundamental idea behind mutual aid agreements is that emergency situations and disaster can at times overwhelm the resources of a single agency or jurisdiction.

Key components contained within the proposed Medical Services Mutual Aid Agreement between the City and MedStar are, first and foremost the agreement benefits the communities served by both agencies through, resource sharing, combining resources and expertise, disaster preparedness, helping to maintain local coverage, the answering agency's participation in providing mutual aid is voluntary and based on maintaining an adequate level of emergency services within its own community. Lastly, if responding to a mutual aid request from MedStar would leave the City under-resourced, the City may decline the request at its sole discretion.

OPTIONS:

- 1) Approve as presented
- 2) Deny
- 3) Approve with changes

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve as presented

PRIOR ACTION/INPUT (Council, Boards, Citizens):

N/A

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A

STAFF CONTACT:

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