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## City Council Regular Meeting

**DEPARTMENT:** Fire / EMS  
**FROM:** K.T. Freeman, Fire Chief  
**MEETING:** May 15, 2022

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**SUBJECT:**

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction on a new enhancement for CPR response with automated external defibrillator (AED) deployed in police vehicles. (*Staff Contact: K.T. Freeman, Fire Chief*)

**SUMMARY:**

The Burleson Fire/EMS, Police, and Public Safety Communications departments are partnering to provide an enhanced response plan to cardiac arrest patients in our community. Despite improvements in resuscitation, out-of-hospital sudden cardiac arrest remains a substantial public health challenge accounting for approximately 10% of total mortality in North America. Efforts to improve resuscitation focus on the links in the chain of survival. One of the most important innovative methods that can improve survival from out-of-hospital cardiac arrest involves the use of early defibrillation. These efforts aimed at early defibrillation have involved equipping EMS and nontraditional responders (specifically the lay public) with automated external defibrillators (AEDs). Law enforcement also has a commitment to public safety but their role in resuscitation and early defibrillation has been modest and inconsistent across the nation. Providing law enforcement officers with basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) skills and training in the use of an AED can potentially increase survival rates from cardiac arrest. Experience from a handful of communities – most notably Rochester MN – have provided strong impetus for a beneficial role of police defibrillation. At times, police on patrol will have the ability to reach a victim of sudden cardiac arrest more quickly than Fire/EMS personnel. Every minute counts for the person who has experienced sudden cardiac arrest, due to the scientific fact that chances of survival decrease by about 10% for every passing minute that a person who is in a shockable cardiac rhythm does not receive AED care. The benefits of this Enhanced Public Safety CPR/AED Intervention initiative will provide a significant increase in the probability of survival for patients who experience sudden cardiac arrest in the City of Burleson.

**Options:**

N/A

**RECOMMENDATION:**

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

N/A

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Budgeted Y/N:

Fund Name:

Full Account #s:

Amount:

**STAFF CONTACT:**

K.T. Freeman

Fire Chief

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