ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE
RESOLUTION NO. 2026-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CONSOLIDATED FIRE AGENCIES ADOPTING ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE POLICY 3.016 AND ESTABLISHING INITIAL PUBLIC-BASED AMBULANCE UNIT HOUR COST AND MEDICAL SUPPLY RESTOCK REIMBURSEMENT RATES

WHEREAS, the Consolidated Fire Agencies (CONFIRE) is a joint powers authority organized under California Government Code section 6500 et seq. and the Joint Powers Agreement governing CONFIRE; and

WHEREAS, the CONFIRE Administrative Committee is authorized, subject to the Joint Powers Agreement, Board policies, adopted budget, controlling agreements, and applicable law, to direct CONFIRE operations and establish administrative policies and reimbursement rates within its delegated authority; and

WHEREAS, CONFIRE entered into San Bernardino County Contract No. 23-1282, as amended, for advanced life support and basic life support ground ambulance services, interfacility transport, critical care transport, and related services within designated exclusive operating areas; and

WHEREAS, CONFIRE's service model includes Public-Based Ambulances staffed by Participating Agencies under Public-Based Ambulance Agreements with CONFIRE, and those agreements provide or are intended to provide for reimbursement rates established annually by Administrative Committee resolution; and

WHEREAS, Administrative Committee Policy 3.016, Public-Based Ambulance Unit Hour Cost and Medical Supply Restock Reimbursement Rates, establishes a transparent, repeatable, cost-based methodology using verified personnel, ambulance and equipment capital, fleet maintenance and operations, and medical supply restock costs; and

WHEREAS, the initial 2026 rate-development workbook was prepared using the methodology established by Administrative Committee Policy 3.016 and documents the personnel, capital, maintenance and operations, authorized adjustment, and medical supply restock inputs used to derive the initial reimbursement rates; and

WHEREAS, applying the benchmark-selection methodology established by Administrative Committee Policy 3.016, Ontario Fire Department produced the highest Benchmark-Eligible Adjusted Agency UHC Profile, based on personnel cost of $158.77 per hour, capital cost of $10.50 per hour, maintenance and operations cost of $7.17 per hour, and a separately identified 3.00 percent Authorized Adjustment Rate, resulting in $181.73 per Unit Hour after rounding; and

WHEREAS, when a Participating Agency staffs a Priority-Owned Ambulance, Priority Ambulance bears the ambulance capital, maintenance and operations, and medical restock costs, supporting a rate of $164.06 per Unit Hour after removal of the $10.50 capital and $7.17 maintenance and operations components; and

WHEREAS, complete County Contract Public-Based Ambulance restock actuals were not yet available for the initial rate, so the 2026 workbook used comparable Priority Ambulance Arizona operations and selected the highest documented observed amount, $40.43 per Completed Transport, recognizing that those operations restock fire-based agencies following all responses, including responses that do not result in transport; and

WHEREAS, the Administrative Committee has reviewed the methodology, assumptions, material exclusions, and rate calculations summarized in Exhibit A and the supporting staff report, and finds that the rates are reasonable, allocable, documented, consistent with the approved cost-based reimbursement methodology, and appropriate for prospective implementation subject to applicable Public-Based Ambulance Agreements and available appropriations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Administrative Committee of the Consolidated Fire Agencies as follows:

Section 1. Recitals and Findings. The foregoing recitals are true and correct, are adopted as findings of the Administrative Committee, and are incorporated into this Resolution. Capitalized terms used but not separately defined in this Resolution have the meanings assigned to them in Administrative Committee Policy 3.016.

Section 2. Initial Rate Year and Effective Date. The initial 2026 Rate Year begins October 1, 2026. The rates established by this Resolution become effective October 1, 2026, and remain in effect until superseded by a subsequent Administrative Committee resolution and implemented in accordance with the applicable agency agreement.

Section 3. Approved Rates.

Rate	Amount	Payment Basis
Agency-Owned Ambulance Unit Hour Cost	**$181.73**	Per Unit Hour
Priority-Owned Ambulance Unit Hour Cost	**$164.06**	Per Unit Hour
Medical Supply Restock Add-On	**$40.43**	Per Completed Transport; Agency-Owned Ambulances only

The medical supply restock add-on is not payable for a Priority-Owned Ambulance or when the same supply cost is reimbursed through another source.

Section 4. Methodology and Benchmark Determination. The data periods, cost components, Authorized Adjustment Rate, benchmark selection, material exclusions, and calculations stated in Exhibit A are approved. For benchmark purposes, each Benchmark-Eligible Agency was evaluated using the Standard Benchmark Personnel Profile consisting of one Firefighter/Paramedic and one Firefighter/EMT, regardless of the agency's actual ambulance staffing or deployment model. Ontario Fire Department is approved as the benchmark profile because it produced the highest Benchmark-Eligible Adjusted Agency UHC Profile.

Section 5. Applicability and Prohibition on Duplicate Reimbursement. The rates apply only to Public-Based Ambulance services reimbursable under an applicable Public-Based Ambulance Agreement. A cost may be reimbursed only once. Costs included in the Unit Hour Cost may not also be claimed through the medical supply restock add-on or another reimbursement category.

Section 6. Contract Implementation. The Executive Director or designee is authorized to implement the rates, issue the approved rate schedule to affected Participating Agencies, and take administrative actions necessary to carry out this Resolution. When a Public-Based Ambulance Agreement expressly incorporates the annual Administrative Committee rate resolution, the reimbursement schedule is updated on the effective date. If an agreement requires an amendment or other approval, the new rate shall not be implemented until that action is completed.

Section 7. Fiscal Impact and Budget Limitation. The fiscal impacts associated with the reimbursement rates established by this Resolution were contemplated during preparation of the current fiscal year budget and are included within the appropriations approved in the adopted CONFIRE budget. Adoption of this Resolution does not require an additional appropriation or funding request. Actual expenditures will remain activity-driven based on approved reimbursement rates and eligible service activity and shall remain subject to available appropriations, applicable Public-Based Ambulance Agreements, and delegated authority.

Section 8. Annual Review. Staff shall conduct the annual rate review in accordance with Administrative Committee Policy 3.016. Beginning with the first review supported by a complete County Contract operating period, the maintenance and operations component shall use eligible actual costs of Agency-Owned Ambulances serving the County Contract exclusive operating areas, and the medical supply restock component shall use eligible actual restock costs and Completed Transports of Public-Based Ambulances serving those areas, as provided by Policy 3.016. Future rates shall be presented to the Administrative Committee for review and approval by resolution.

Section 9. Supersession, Severability, and Continuing Effect. On its effective date, this Resolution supersedes any prior Administrative Committee rate resolution or rate schedule for the same services to the extent permitted by the applicable agreement. If any provision of this Resolution is held invalid, the remaining provisions shall remain in effect. The Executive Director may correct non-substantive clerical errors without further Committee action, but any material change to a rate or methodology requires Administrative Committee approval.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this ____ day of __________________, 2026.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

ATTEST:

____ ____

Dan Harker, Chairperson
CONFIRE Administrative Committee

Liz Berry, Clerk of the Board

EXHIBIT A

INITIAL 2026 PUBLIC-BASED AMBULANCE RATE DETERMINATION SUMMARY

A. Rate Year and Data Basis

- Rate Year: Effective October 1, 2026, and continuing until superseded.
- Personnel data: 2026 blended California Fire Assistance Agreement base rates and agency-specific WC/UI/Medicare, retirement employer, and fringe rates reflected in the approved 2026 workbook.
- Capital data: Current replacement costs in the approved 2026 workbook, using the standard quantities, useful lives, and 33 percent reserve allocation established by Administrative Committee Policy 3.016.
- Maintenance and operations data: San Bernardino County Fire Protection District vehicle-management actuals for June 1, 2025 through June 1, 2026.
- Medical supply restock data: Comparable Priority Ambulance Arizona operation data reflected in the approved 2026 workbook because complete County-contract Public-Based Ambulance actuals were not yet available.
- Authorized adjustment: 3.00 percent RFP inflation index applied to each Baseline Agency subtotal after personnel, capital, and maintenance and operations costs were calculated. The supporting staff report identifies the applicable source period and basis for determining that the adjustment does not duplicate cost escalation reflected in the current-cost inputs.

• Approved annual calculation workbook: 2026 Public-Based Ambulance Rate-Development Workbook maintained in CONFIRE's official records.

• Capital schedule treatment: No deviation from the Appendix A standard asset quantities, useful lives, or 33 percent reserve allocation was used in the initial 2026 calculation.

B. Benchmark Selection

The 2026 rate-development workbook applied the benchmark-selection methodology established by Administrative Committee Policy 3.016. Benchmark personnel costs were standardized using one Firefighter/Paramedic and one Firefighter/EMT for each Benchmark-Eligible Agency, regardless of the agency's actual ambulance staffing or deployment model. Ontario Fire Department produced the highest Benchmark-Eligible Adjusted Agency UHC Profile and is therefore the approved 2026 benchmark.

Benchmark-Eligible Agency	Personnel	Capital	M&O	Subtotal	3% Adj.	Adjusted UHC
Chino Valley*	$168.72	$10.50	$7.17	$186.39	$5.59	$191.98
Ontario	$158.77	$10.50	$7.17	$176.44	$5.29	$181.73
Rancho Cucamonga	$129.11	$10.50	$7.17	$146.78	$4.40	$151.18
County Fire	$123.49	$10.50	$7.17	$141.16	$4.23	$145.39

** Chino Valley uses a dual-paramedic model and is not a valid comparator for selection of the standard firefighter paramedic/EMT benchmark.*

C. Approved Rate Calculations

Rate	Calculation	Approved Amount
Agency-Owned Ambulance UHC	($158.77 + $10.50 + $7.17) x 1.03	**$181.73 / Unit Hour**
Priority-Owned Ambulance UHC	$181.73 - $10.50 - $7.17	**$164.06 / Unit Hour**
Medical Supply Restock Add-On	Highest observed comparable operation	**$40.43 / Completed Transport**

D. Medical Supply Restock Comparator

Priority Arizona Operation	Observed Cost per Transport
Chandler	$33.77
Glendale	**$40.43**
Goodyear	$39.73
Scottsdale	$36.25

The initial $40.43 amount is a transitional benchmark. It will be replaced by the actual eligible restock costs and Completed Transports of County-contract Public-Based Ambulances when a complete operating period is available.

E. Fiscal Impact and Controls

- Activity-based fiscal formula: (Agency-Owned Ambulance Unit Hours x $181.73) + (Priority-Owned Ambulance Unit Hours x $164.06) + (eligible Agency-Owned Ambulance Completed Transports x $40.43).
- No additional revenue beyond the approved cost-based reimbursement methodology is included.
- No cost may be reimbursed more than once.
- The restock add-on is not payable for Priority-Owned Ambulances because Priority owns and restocks those ambulances.
- Implementation is limited to available appropriations, delegated authority, and the terms of the applicable agency agreement.

F. Future Annual Updates

Future reimbursement rates shall be calculated and approved in accordance with Administrative Committee Policy 3.016, as then in effect.