



STAFF REPORT

DATE: August 25, 2026

FROM: Joe Barna
Deputy Executive Director of Administration

TO: Administrative Committee

SUBJECT: PUBLIC-BASED AMBULANCE REIMBURSEMENT RATES – RESOLUTION NO. 2026-03

Adopt Administrative Committee Resolution No. 2026-03 establishing the initial Public-Based Ambulance reimbursement rates effective October 1, 2026.

Background Information

Administrative Committee Policy 3.016 establishes the methodology for calculating Public-Based Ambulance reimbursement rates. The initial 2026 rate-development workbook applies that methodology using verified personnel, ambulance and equipment capital, maintenance and operations, authorized adjustment, and medical supply restock inputs.

For benchmark purposes, each Benchmark-Eligible Agency was evaluated using a standardized 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 produced the highest Benchmark-Eligible Adjusted Agency UHC Profile and is therefore the 2026 benchmark. This results in an Agency-Owned Ambulance rate of \$181.73 per Unit Hour. The Priority-Owned Ambulance rate is \$164.06 per Unit Hour after removal of the capital and maintenance and operations components borne by Priority Ambulance. No deviation from the default benchmark-selection methodology was used.

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

The initial calculation applies the 3.00 percent RFP inflation index identified in the 2026 rate-development workbook as a separate Authorized Adjustment Rate for the initial 2026 Rate Year. It is applied once after personnel, capital, and maintenance and operations costs are calculated and is not embedded in those underlying component calculations. Staff therefore treats it as a separate rate adjustment rather than a duplicate escalation of the component inputs.

Because complete County Contract Public-Based Ambulance restock actuals are not yet available, the initial medical supply restock add-on is \$40.43 per Completed Transport, based on the highest documented comparable Priority Ambulance Arizona operation. Future annual reviews will use eligible actual County Contract operating data as provided by Policy 3.016 once a complete operating period is available.

Rate	Amount	Payment Basis
Medical Supply Restock Add-On	\$40.43	Per Completed Transport; Agency-Owned Ambulances only

Fiscal Impact

The fiscal impacts associated with the Public-Based Ambulance reimbursement rates were contemplated during preparation of the current fiscal year budget and are included within the appropriations approved in the adopted CONFIRE budget. Adoption of the proposed Resolution does not require an additional appropriation or funding request. Expenditures will remain subject to available appropriations, applicable Public-Based Ambulance Agreements, and delegated authority.

Attachments

- Administrative Committee Resolution No. 2026-03 - Initial Public-Based Ambulance Unit Hour Cost and Medical Supply Restock Reimbursement Rates