

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD



BOARD AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE OF MEETING: September 14, 2021

To: Jim Marino, Village Manager

From: Bob Grabowski, Fire Chief

Topic: Intergovernmental Agreement - GEMT

PURPOSE

The State of Illinois oversees a program called Ground Emergency Medical Transportation Services (GEMT). The GEMT program provides supplemental payments to publicly owned or operated GEMT providers. The supplemental payments cover the funding gap between a provider's actual costs per GEMT transport and the allowable amount received from Medicaid and any other sources of reimbursement. In order to participate in the GEMT program, the Village must enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services for reimbursement of unrecovered costs of ambulance transports through Medicaid.

PROCESS

Medicaid payment rates for ambulance services are often 70% less than the cost of providing those services. An average Medicaid payment is \$120 per transport. Currently, the State reimburses municipalities a set amount for Medicaid transports, regardless of the actual cost of providing those services. Through this program, the federal government will pay to the State the difference between the set amount and the actual costs incurred for the Medicaid transports. When the State receives the funds from the federal government, it will reimburse the Village approximately 50% of the funds received. Once approved, the IGA and application will be submitted to the Illinois Department of Public Health by October 1, 2021.

OUTCOME

Revenue from this program is expected to be received starting in April of 2022. Based on projections, we anticipate \$200,000 will be reimbursed in the first year of the program.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

- **Funding Source:** No Financial Impact
- **Budgeted Amount:** N/A
- **Cost:** N/A

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LEGAL REVIEW: Completed

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Authorize the Village President to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Illinois Department of Health Care and Family Services for reimbursement of unrecovered costs of ambulance transports through Medicaid.

ATTACHMENT(S): Intergovernmental Agreement