



# AB 5824

## Ground Emergency Medical Transport Program

March 16, 2021

# Agenda

- ❑ Mercer Island Fire & GEMT
- ❑ 2020 GEMT Reimbursement
- ❑ Future Budgetary Impacts



# Mercer Island Fire

- ❑ Of the 2,300 emergency calls MIFD receives each year, 67% are for emergency medical services.
- ❑ Funding for Emergency Medical Services includes:

Funding	FY 2021	Percent of total
King County EMS Levy	\$645,000	9.4%
Annual EMS Utility Charge	\$628,000	9.1%
EMS Transport Fees	\$303,000	4.4%
MI General Fund	\$5,300,000	77.1%



# GEMT Program

- ❑ Ground Emergency Medical Transport Program established to allow Fire agencies to pursue reimbursements for ambulance services provided to Medicaid patients.
- ❑ Established in 2016. GEMT is a form of medical transport revenues.
- ❑ Funding stream relies on the **number of Medicaid patients MIFD transports.**
- ❑ Between July 1, 2019–June 30, 2020, **MIFD transported 35 Medicaid patients.**



# MIFD & GEMT

- ❑ July 2019 – June 2020 the initial period MIFD filed a GEMT annual cost report.
- ❑ Staff submitted the GEMT cost report early December of 2020.
  - ❑ Aggregates all MIFD costs with a nexus to emergency medical transport.
  - ❑ Per reimbursement guidelines, staff estimated about \$150,000 reimbursement.
- ❑ February 2021, Washington HCA sent notice for a \$232,535 reimbursement.



# Budgetary Impacts

- ❑ GEMT reimbursements are difficult to predict.
  - ❑ **Small change has a big impact.** Reimbursements tied to number of Medicaid patient transports.
  - ❑ **Unknowable patient mix.** State & Federal reimbursement varies per Medicaid patient.
  - ❑ **Susceptible to reforms.** Changes to Medicaid or State-instituted caps could impact funding stream.
- ❑ Staff will propose uses for 2020 reimbursement at the 2020 year-end report out.
- ❑ Staff will establish a 2-3 reporting periods baseline for revenue projections.



# Questions

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