



AB 5833

Emergency Medical Transport Revenues

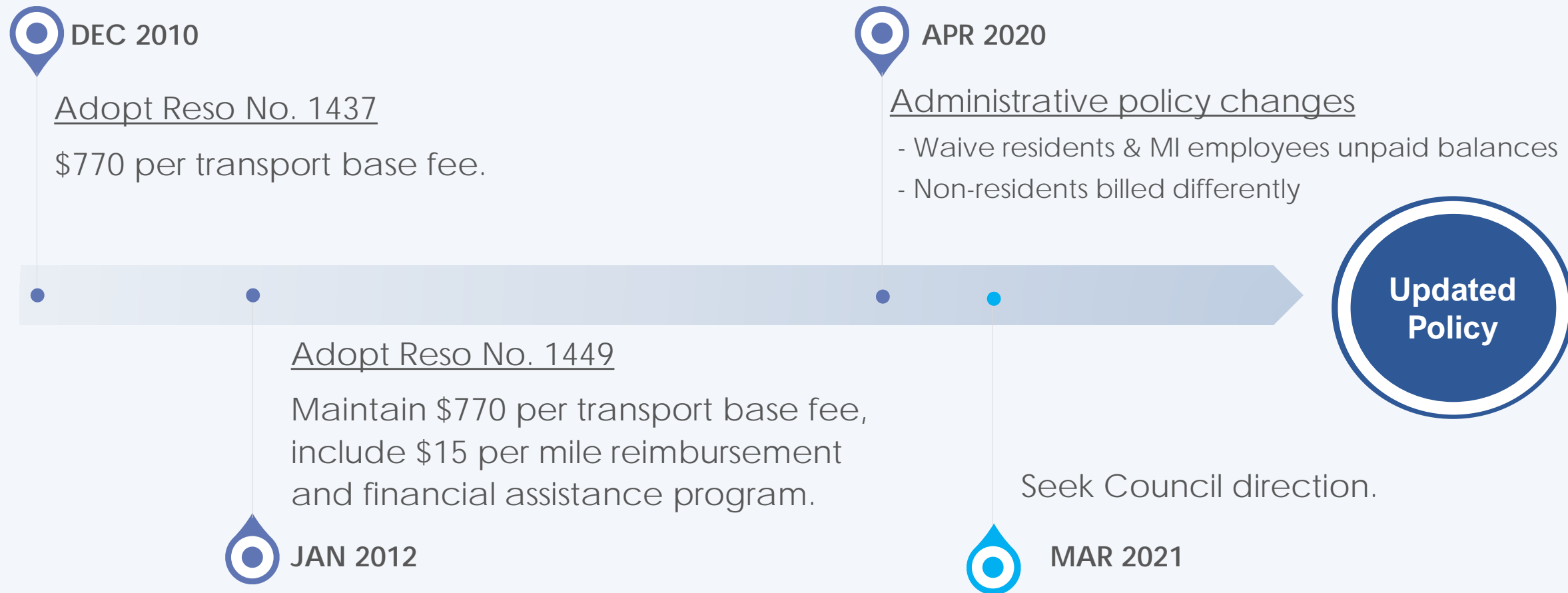
March 16, 2021

Agenda

- ❑ Medical Transport Fees Background
- ❑ Current Transport Fees
- ❑ Considerations for City Council

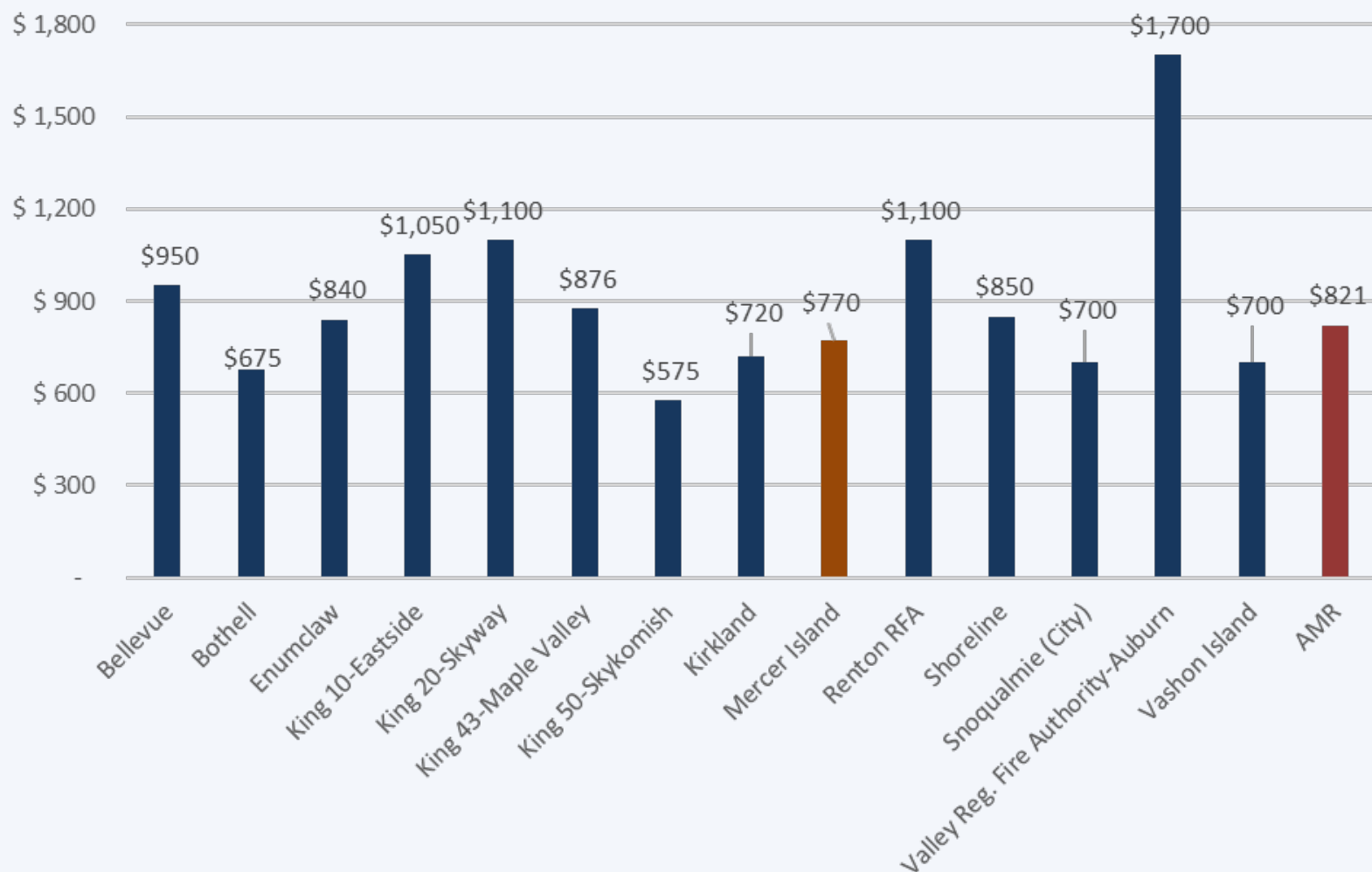


Timeline - Medical Transport Fees



Regional Comparison

Proposed Medical/ BLS Transport Base Fee (2021)



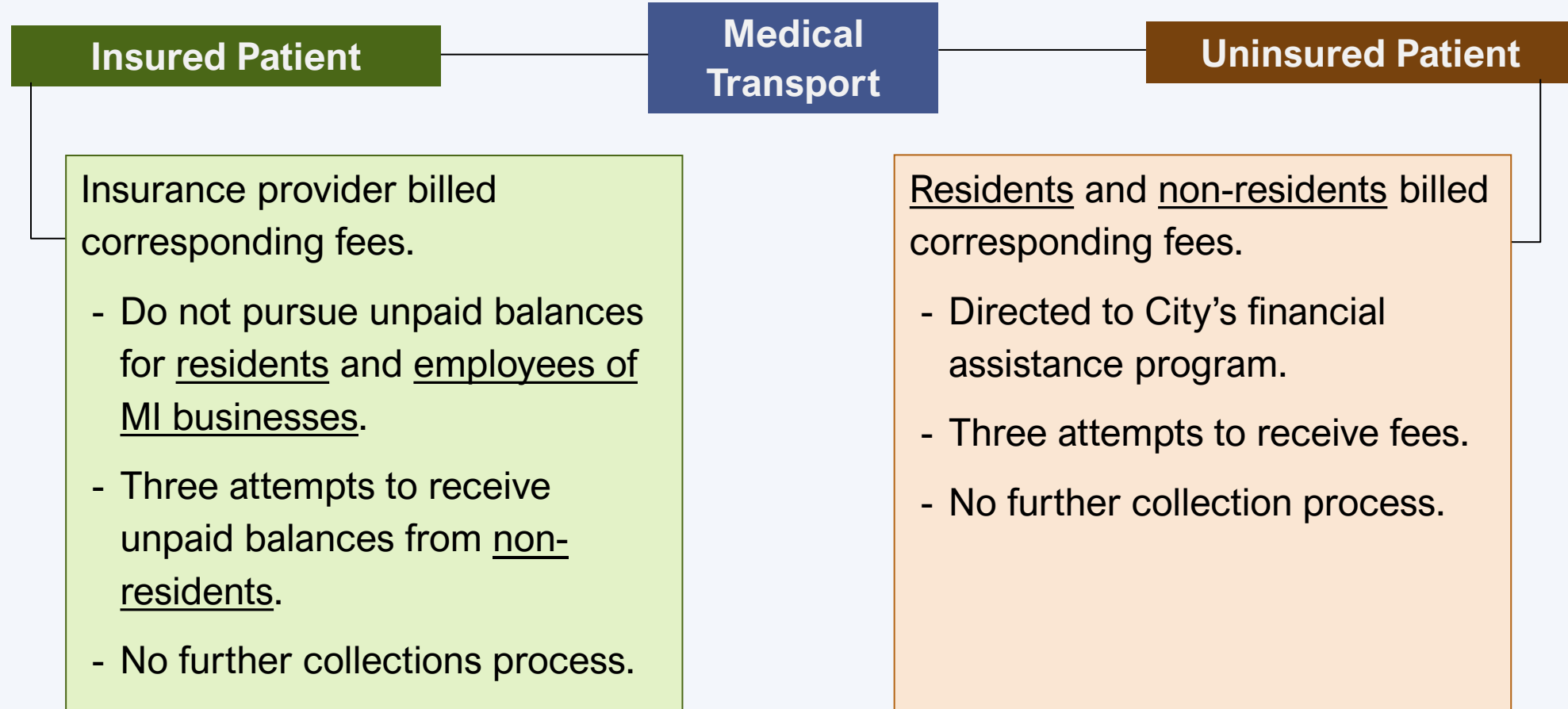
Transport Rates on MI

2021 MEDICAL TRANSPORT FEES	Mercer Island Fire	American Medical Response
Base Fee	\$770	\$821
Per mile reimbursement	\$15	\$20
Annual escalator	NONE	H/C CPI-W or 3.5%
Percent of MI Annual Transports*	65%	35%

**Average emergency medical transports between 2018-2020.*



Current MIFD Policy



Current AMR Policy

Medical
Transport

Insured & Uninsured
Patients

Insurance providers and uninsured patients are billed the corresponding fees.

All patients held responsible for unpaid balances.

Unpaid balances pursued through a collections process.

Employ a debt forgiveness program tied to federal income poverty level.



Financial Assistance

- ❑ Eligibility depends on patient's
 1. Status of insurance coverage (i.e., uninsured)
 2. Financial resources to pay for care
 3. Whether a third party is legally responsible to cover medical costs.

- ❑ A sliding payment schedule and forgiveness program are available for patients with incomes at or below the current federal poverty level.



Questions



Questions from Council

1. What is the relationship between these this and GEMT?
2. How are AMR fee schedules determined?
3. Is it legal, practical, or advisable to simply link City fees to AMR fees?
4. How do City fees compare to costs for providing these services?
5. What other fees, if any, does the MIFS levy for emergency services?
6. What do other cities do regarding waiver of copays?



Questions for Council

1. What considerations would you suggest concerning setting transport fees and an annual inflator?
2. What considerations would you suggest concerning charges to residents versus non-residents and unpaid balances?
3. Should staff consider implementing a collections process?
4. Suggestions to improve the existing financial assistance program?

