



## **CITY OF ORLAND STAFF REPORT**

### **MEETING DATE: November 21, 2023**

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**TO:** Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Pete Carr, City Manager

**SUBJECT:** Ambulance Services Cost Share (Discussion/Action)

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#### **BACKGROUND:**

City and County officials have been considering in recent months current emergency medical services (EMS) transport issues, potential improvements, and how the costs of improvements might be shared. Two members of the Council – Mayor Dobbs and Councilor Romano – were appointed to serve on a countywide ambulance ad hoc committee.

At a September 28 special meeting of the City Council, the four attending Councilmembers discussed with two attending County Board of Supervisors members the feasibility of a 50-50 share of the costs of start-up and operation of an additional Westside Ambulance unit. The new service would primarily be located in Orland, operate 12 hours a day, and respond to more than 200 calls/year during what is typically the heaviest demand period of the day. The objective is both to speed up EMS transport response and to relieve undue burden from the Orland Volunteer Fire Department.

Glenn County has \$750,000 of its ARPA funds set aside for the purpose of addressing ambulance needs, and recognizes it will need to budget for ongoing expenses in coming fiscal years. At its regular Board meeting Tuesday, October 10, Supervisors agreed to the purchase of an ambulance with its associated equipment for up to \$275,000, and discussed 50-50 participation with Orland in a cost-share of operational expenses which might be \$600,000, less unknown transport reimbursements. The City Council at its October 17 meeting indicated unanimous support for the 50-50 cost share approach. At its meeting Tuesday, November 7, Supervisors approved a draft agreement with Orland to share start-up costs other than ambulance, and operational costs up to \$650,000 a year.

Westside Ambulance is a local, private not-for-profit company which is granted by Glenn County, thru the Sierra-Sacramento Valley EMS Agency (S-SVEMSA), a ten-year exclusive operating territory which includes the City of Orland and largely overlaps the OVFD service area. Westside would lease the new vehicle from the County.

#### **ANALYSIS:**

Westside represents that its start-up costs, in addition to and beyond the ambulance itself and directly associated equipment, may be as much as \$30,000. Westside further projects that based on an assumed 345 calls it might be expected to receive \$271,575 in gross receipts against its \$650,000 in operating expenses, leaving \$378,425 to be cost-shared between Glenn County and City of Orland. The total exposure for Orland would be 50% of up to \$650,000 (\$325k) annually after the first year.

The attached agreement sets forth commitment to partner on start-up and operational costs thru May 2028. S-SVEMSA would pay Westside monthly and invoice the County and City quarterly. The County will establish an annual true-up mechanism.

Left undetermined at this point is the location of the 12-hr ambulance in normal circumstances and in contingency conditions.

Source[s] of funds for Orland's cost share obligation could be the Measure A Public Safety Fund, the General Fund, or a new local transactions & use tax to be presented to voters in November 2024 at the earliest.

Attachments (3):

1. Agreement Between County of Glenn and City of Orland to Share the Cost of a 12-hour per day ambulance serving the greater Orland area (Westside operating area).
2. Westside Ambulance Second Location Estimated Income worksheet
3. Westside Ambulance Second Location Start-up worksheet

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve the agreement as presented.

**FISCAL IMPACT OF RECOMMENDATION:**

Up to \$15,000 this fiscal year as part of start-up location expenses, up to \$325,00 annually going forward starting in FY24-25, from the fund designated by City Council.