

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Ordinance authorizing 1) execution of an agreement with the Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA) to accept \$2,949,556 to fund the gap between the actual costs per Ground Emergency Medical Transport (GEMT) and the allowable amount received from Medicaid and; 2) further amending the 2019-2020 General Fund Budget adopted on December 3, 2018, as previously amended, to increase the appropriation by \$743,558.

Jay Hagen, Fire Chief, 452-6895
Krystal Hackmeister, Fiscal Manager 452-7670
Fire Department

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Ordinance executes an agreement with HCA to process the local match requirement to receive supplemental reimbursements, and increases the general fund budget appropriation by the local match requirement.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Ordinance No. 6464
If approved, effective date: 05/30/2019

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

Bellevue is eligible to accept \$2,949,556.70 in reimbursement from the GEMT Program for calendar 2017 transports. The amount was calculated to bridge the gap between the actual costs per GEMT and the already reimbursable amount received from Medicaid. In order to accept the reimbursement from the GEMT Program, a local match is required. The Bellevue local match calculated by Washington State HCA is \$743,557.70. The match payment must be received by HCA by June 3 in order to receive GEMT reimbursement. If the attached contract is executed, the net one-time revenue to be received by Bellevue will be \$2,205,999. Staff is researching for the availability of ongoing funding to bridge the gap for out years.

Washington's public hospitals have participated in a Certified Public Expenditure program since 1996. This program allows public hospitals and programs to seek additional Federal Medicaid dollars to offset the cost of providing services that are not fully covered under the current Washington Apple Health (Medicaid) rate schedule.

The GEMT Program provides a funding option allowed to publicly owned or operated qualified GEMT providers, to cover the cost differential between what Medicaid will cover and the actual cost per GEMT. Bellevue is a qualified GEMT provider. HCA has been administering and processing the applicable paperwork to facilitate the reimbursement process to eligible providers since 2017. The reimbursement is only for 2017 supplemental payments based on an agreement between HCA and the federal Medicaid office.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

Bellevue City Code

BCC 4.28 provides for the fair and equitable treatment of all persons involved in the purchasing process. Council approval is required to award the bid where the cost exceeds \$90,000.

Pursuant to RCW35A.34.200(d), the expenditures in the final budget shall constitute the City's appropriations for the fiscal biennium. Under provisions of State law and the City's operating procedures, the operating budget may be amended by an ordinance that amends the original budget and states the sources of funding for incremental appropriations.

Fiscal Impact

Executing this agreement will provide, on a one-time reimbursable basis, up to \$2,949,556.70 in federal funding to support the gap between a provider's actual costs per GEMT and the allowable amount received from Washington Apple Health (Medicaid). This action will increase the 2019-2020 General Fund appropriation by \$743,557.70. The net impact to Bellevue would be to receive \$2,205,999 in additional funding.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Ordinance authorizing 1) execution of an agreement with the Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA) to accept \$2,949,556 to fund the gap between the actual costs per Ground Emergency Medical Transport (GEMT) and the allowable amount received from Medicaid and; 2) further amending the 2019-2020 General Fund Budget adopted on December 3, 2018, as previously amended, to increase the appropriation by \$743,558.
2. Do not adopt the Ordinance and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS

Proposed Ordinance No. 6464

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

GEMT Annual Providers Participant Agreement

HCA IGT Contract