

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Resolution authorizing execution of the 2020-2025 Emergency Medical Services Advanced Life Support (ALS) contract with King County in an amount up to \$11,389,720 for the first year of the contract.

Jay Hagen, Fire Chief, 452-6892

Dave Beste, Battalion Chief, 452-6982

Fire Department

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As directed by Council on January 21, this Resolution authorizes staff to execute the 2020-2025 Emergency Medical Services ALS contract with King County. Bellevue Fire Department receives revenue annually to help off-set costs incurred by the department. The amount of ALS funding received from the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Levy is calculated at the beginning of the levy period and is increased annually. The agreement amount in 2020 is up to \$11,389,720.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Resolution No. 9746.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

The planning process for the 2020-2025 EMS Levy began with the first meeting of the EMS Levy Advisory Task Force in January 2018. The all-inclusive process brought together regional leaders, decision-makers, and stakeholders to assess the needs of the system and develop recommendations to direct the system into the future. Councilmember Jennifer Robertson represented the City of Bellevue on the EMS Advisory Task Force.

All representatives of stakeholder agencies provided detailed programmatic review and financial analysis associated with the EMS Levy. This review was done through four subcommittees: Advanced Life Support (ALS), Basic Life Support (BLS), Finance and Regional Services. Bellevue Fire Department staff participated on all subcommittees. Director of Intergovernmental Relations Joyce Nichols, Battalion Chief Dave Beste and Fiscal Manager Krystal Hackmeister also served on the subcommittees.

ALS services, which are provided by firefighter/paramedics, are physician-level invasive procedures that include endotracheal intubation, intra-cardiac injections, administration of IV/drug therapy and cardiac defibrillation. Bellevue currently operates four full-time paramedic units under the King County EMS program. Bellevue's service area for paramedic services includes Mercer Island and areas east of Bellevue to Snoqualmie Pass.

The City Council adopted Resolution No. 9612, endorsing the placement of the county-wide ballot proposition for funding EMS on the November 2019 County ballot. On November 5, 2019, the King County voters overwhelmingly approved a six-year levy of \$0.265 per \$1,000 assessed value (AV), thus providing funding for 2020 through 2025. The Levy allows for the continuation of standardized ALS care throughout the County and offsets some of the local costs associated with providing BLS services.

In preparation for the November 2019 Countywide EMS Levy vote, the King County EMS Steering Committee updated the six-year EMS financial plan to ensure that 100 percent of the ALS expenditures would continue to be covered by Levy funding. In addition, as part of the levy planning process, King County also approved fiscal policies to include sufficient reserves to mitigate unforeseen financial risk; adapting existing reserve policies to meet King County financial policies; and ensuring additional protection and flexibility to meet emerging needs.

The current ALS contract is for six years and will encompass the entire levy period through 2025.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

City Financial Policy: Pursuant to RCW 35A.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.

City Contracting Policies: Bellevue City Code 4.28.040A: Council approval is required for contracts greater than \$90,000.

Fiscal Impact

This Resolution authorizes the execution of the six-year Emergency Medical Services Advanced Life Support Services (ALS) agreement with King County. The amount in 2020 is set at up to \$11,389,720 and is based on the qualified reimbursable costs incurred by the Bellevue Fire Department. For the additional five years of the agreement, the allocation will be determined annually by King County.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Resolution authorizing execution of the 2020-2025 Emergency Medical Services Advanced Life Support (ALS) contract with King County in an amount up to \$11,389,720 for the first year of the contract.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS

Proposed Resolution No. 9746

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

ALS Agreement with King County Public Health