



# *CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT*

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MEETING DATE: September 3, 2013

ITEM NUMBER: CC-18

**SUBJECT:** Care Ambulance Service – Amendment Number One to Ambulance Services Agreement

**DATE:** August 13, 2013

**FROM:** Fire Department

**PRESENTATION BY:** Fred Seguin, Interim Fire Chief

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Fred Seguin  
Interim Fire Chief  
(714) 754-5106

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve the attached Amendment Number One so that Care Ambulance Service may continue emergency ambulance and patient billing services for a period of one (1) year when the current Agreement expires on September 1, 2013, at 07:30 a.m.

## **BACKGROUND:**

According to California Health & Safety Code Division 2.5, Chapter 4, Article 1, Section 1797.201, since the City of Costa Mesa provided and/or contracted for emergency ambulance services as of June 1, 1980, the City therefore retains all rights, remedies, and privileges regarding the provision, administration, and operational control of all prehospital Emergency Medical Services (EMS) within its jurisdiction including, but not limited to, emergency ambulance response and patient transport services.

Pursuant to its Section 1797.201 powers, on November 20, 2007 the City initiated a competitive process by issuing a "Request for Proposals," coordinated by the Fire Department, in which qualified ambulance companies were reviewed, analyzed, and compared. The Fire Department chose to use the competitive process format outlined in California Emergency Medical Services Authority Publication #141 due to its efficiency, rather than developing a new format.

On July 1, 2008, the City Council accepted the proposal submitted by Care Ambulance Service (1517 W. Braden Court, Orange, California, 92868) and authorized the Fire Department to negotiate an Agreement for the provision of emergency ambulance and patient billing services. An Agreement between the City of Costa Mesa and Care Ambulance Service was subsequently approved by both parties, and became effective on September 1, 2008, at 7:30 a.m., for a period of 2 years. A Professional Services

Agreement to extend for an additional 3 years was signed in August 2010, and expires on September 1, 2013.

**ANALYSIS:**

From the commencement of the current Agreement until the present time, Care Ambulance Service has met and fulfilled all contractual obligations and requirements. In fact, it is the opinion of the Fire Department that Care Ambulance Service has exceeded all expectations, and has helped foster a partnership that has been instrumental in maintaining Costa Mesa's high-quality EMS system. Based on its performance over the past 5 years, Care Ambulance Service still maintains a well-managed organization staffed by dedicated personnel who care about their mission and the patients they serve.

**ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:**

Because Care Ambulance Service has satisfied and exceeded the obligations, requirements, and expectations of the original Agreement, no other alternatives were considered.

**FISCAL REVIEW:**

No fiscal review is necessary for this item. The City provides citizens emergency ambulance services via a private ambulance company business, which also handles all EMS billing services for the City. There is no direct cost to the City for selecting or using a private ambulance company to provide emergency ambulance and patient billing services.

**LEGAL REVIEW:**

The City Attorney's Office drafted the Care Ambulance Amendment Number One with the assistance of Fire Department and other City staff. The attached final draft of the Amendment has been approved by the City Attorney's Office, Care Ambulance Service, and the Fire Department.

**CONCLUSION:**

Based on the aforementioned reasons, the Fire Department respectfully recommends that the City Council approve the attached Amendment Number One so that Care Ambulance Service may continue emergency ambulance and patient billing services for an additional period of 1 year, commencing on September 1, 2013, at 07:30 a.m.

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FRED SEGUIN  
Interim Fire Chief

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THOMAS R. HATCH  
Chief Executive Officer

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THOMAS P. DUARTE  
City Attorney

ATTACHMENT: 1 [Amendment Number One](#)