

#### MFD EMS DELIVERY



- 2024 Interfacility Transport Ambulance Feasibility Study
- Merced County EMS Ambulance RFP Update
- First Responder Advanced Life Support (FRALS) Update
- Staff Request



# 2024 Interfacility Transport Ambulance Feasibility Study

# 2024 IFT Ambulance Feasibility Study



- Feasibility Study overview
- Cost Assessment
- Feasibility Summary
- Staff Recommendation

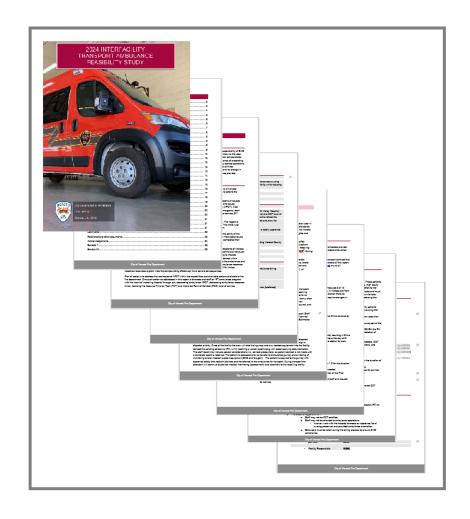


# 2024 IFT Ambulance Feasibility Study



# 2024 Interfacility Transport Ambulance Feasibility Study

- Comprehensive twenty six page system assessment .
- Detailed financial review and cost assessment.
- Conducted by a local EMS system expert.



# **Ambulance Transport - Cost**



### **Ambulance Operations Cost**

		Call	l Volume Require	ments		
Shift/ Coverage	Daily Deployment Cost	Annual Deployment Cost	Amortization Schedule	Days of Operation	Annual Required Call Volume	Daily Required Call Volume
			BLS			
8 hrs	\$ 970.03	\$ 339,511.20	\$ 41,344.00	350	1,174	3.4
8/16 hrs	\$ 1,940.06	\$ 679,022.40	\$ 41,344.00	350	2,220	6.3
8/24 hrs	\$ 2,910.10	\$ 1,018,533.60	\$ 41,344.00	350	3,266	9.3
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12 hrs	\$ 1,697.56_	\$ 594,144.60	\$ 41,344.00	350_	1,958	5.6
12/24 hrs	\$ 3,395.11	\$ 1,188,289.20	\$ 41,344.00	350	3,789	10.8

# **Feasibility Summery**



#### Conclusion

Is it feasible? <u>YES</u> ✓

- Operationally <u>YES</u>

- Financially YES

<u>Is it right for Merced?</u>

#### **Staff Recommendation**



Although it is feasible, staff recommendation is to not pursue BLS IFT ambulance staffing at this time.

#### **Reasons:**

- A single ambulance will not be sufficient to support the amount of IFT's out of Mercy Hospital.
- Negative impacts on private ambulance sustainability.
- Overall, potential negative impact on the through-put of the hospital thus increasing APOT.

# Additional Ambulance Opportunities



- Fireline Paramedic Assignments 2025
- Incident Ambulance (\*Responding to State OES Request"
  - State OES ALS ambulance unit reimbursement rates:
    - **\$2,848** unit rate per day
    - 14-day deployment \$39,872
    - Personnel cost reimbursement
- Community Event Stand-By
- Surge Capability





# Merced County EMS Ambulance RFP Update

# Merced County EMS Ambulance RFP



- Merced County Emergency Ambulance Service is administered through an Exclusive Operating Agreement (EOA)
- 5 Year agreement awarded via competitive bid process
- Current agreement set to expire June 2025
  - RFP scheduled for release Q4 2024
  - 5-year Term beginning July 2025

## **Merced County EMS Ambulance RFP**



#### Can MFD bid?

#### Typical requirements include?

- The Bidder must have existed and continuously provided Prehospital Emergency Medical Services for at least the last five (5) years in the United States.
- Each of the Bidder's Key Personnel shall be regularly and continuously engaged in the business of providing or directly overseeing the provision of emergency medical services for a minimum of two (2) continuous years within the last five (5) years.
- Bidder's estimate of working capital needed to fund implementation, start up and ongoing operational costs, and methods and sources of funding.

#### Estimated Cost

- Capital Investment (Start-up) Cost \$15 Million
- Lead time for equipment estimated 4 6 months



# First Responder Advanced Life Support (FRALS) Update

#### **Problem Statement**



- Current contracted provider is in breach of contract and has not met response time requirements. (10:59 90% of the time)
- 2024 Q2 Merced County EMS Agency reported 975 late responses for High Call Density areas.
- 2024 Q2 Merced County EMS Agency reported 14/27 measures failed on contracted providers clinical performance.

# First Responder ALS







• What is First Responder ALS (FRALS)?

#### Paramedics on:

- > Fire Engines
- **≻Ladder Trucks**
- **≻**Squads

### EMT vs. Paramedic – What is the difference?



#### EMT

- Basic Life Support
- 170 hours of training
- Min. training for MFD firefighters
- Basic airway management
- Basic patient stabilization

#### Paramedic

- Advanced Life Support
- 1200 1800 hours of training. (Approx. 2-year process)
- Advanced Airway Management
- Cardiac monitoring
- Medication administration
- Pain management

# First Responder ALS





#### Current Program Progress

- **✓** Contract with Medical Director
- **✓** Controlled Substance Plan
- **☑** EMS Quality Improvement Plan
- **✓** CE/EMS Training Plan
- ePCR Program Acquired
- FF/Paramedic Job Classifications
- **✓** Licensed Paramedics Hired/Trained
- Merced County EMS FRALS Provider Designation
  - Tentative Approval Received (July 22, 2024)
  - Draft Agreement Under Review (Estimated completion November 2024)

# First Responder ALS – What have we invested?



- What have we invested so far?
  - Paramedic Training \$500K
    - 7 Fully Licensed Paramedics
    - 3 Pending Licensure
    - 3 Final Stage of Training
    - 6 Beginning Training
  - Ambulance \$300K
  - ALS Equipment/Supplies \$80k
  - Medical director \$24K
  - ePCR Program \$8K
  - Controlled Substances \$3k



# First Responder ALS





- >FRALS Implementation Plan
  - **▶1**<sup>st</sup> ALS Company Jan 2025
  - **>**2<sup>nd</sup> ALS Company − July 2025
  - >3rd & 4th ALS Company July 2026

# First Responder ALS





- Current Program Needs
  - □ Permanent EMS Program Manager
  - ☐ Three ALS Cardiac Monitors
  - ☐ Command Vehicle for EMS Program Manager

# Regulatory Requirements



<u>California Code of Regulations – Title 22. Social Security Division 9. Prehospital Emergency Medical Services Chapter 4. Emergency Medical Technician – Paramedic Article 7. System Requirements</u>

- § 100168. Paramedic Service Provider
  - An approved paramedic service provider shall:
    - (1) Provide emergency medical service response on a continuous twenty-four (24) hours per day basis, unless otherwise specified by the LEMSA, in which case there shall be adequate justification for the exemption (e.g., lifeguards, ski patrol personnel, etc.).
    - (2) Utilize and maintain telecommunications as specified by the LEMSA.
    - (3) Maintain a drug and solution inventory as specified by the LEMSA of equipment and supplies commensurate with the basic and local optional scope of practice of the paramedic.
    - (4) Have a written agreement with the LEMSA to participate in the EMS system and to comply with all applicable State regulations and local policies and procedures, including participation in the LEMSA's EMSQIP as specified in Chapter 12 of this Division.
    - (5) Be responsible for assessing the current knowledge of their paramedics in local policies, procedures and protocols and for assessing their paramedics' skills competency.

#### **Council Action Items**



- A. Adopt 2024 Interfacility Ambulance Feasibility Study as information only.
- B. Accept First Responder ALS update as information only.
- C. Approve the staff recommendation of Resolution 2024-104 adding 1 Battalion Chief position for ALS Program Management.
- D. Approve supplemental appropriation of \$50,000 from unencumbered Measure Y funding to purchase additional needed equipment.
- E. Waive the competitive bidding requirements to purchase 3 ALS Cardiac Monitors.