



Staff Report

File #: 17-267

Version: 1

Date: 6/12/2017

Item #: 3.2b.

TO: Mayor and City Council

THROUGH: Steve Powers, City Manager

FROM: Mike Niblock, Fire Chief

SUBJECT:

Fire Department Fees and Charges for Pre-Hospital Emergency and Non-Emergency Medical Treatment and Ambulance Transport Services.

Ward(s): All Wards

Councilor(s): All Councilors

Neighborhood(s): All Neighborhoods

ISSUE:

Shall the City Council adopt Resolution No. 2017-28, increasing fees and charges for prehospital emergency and non-emergency medical treatment and ambulance transport services provided by the Salem Fire Department by 2.58 percent?

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt Resolution No. 2017-28 increasing fees and charges for prehospital emergency and non-emergency medical treatment and ambulance transport services provided by the Salem Fire Department by 2.58 percent.

SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND:

ORS 682.031 authorizes cities to regulate "ambulances and emergency medical services providers" provided that such regulation does not conflict with any of the following:

- Other state laws.
- Rules adopted by the Oregon Health Authority.
- The county plan for ambulance services and ambulance service areas.

Since 2005, the City has contracted with a private ambulance transport provider to meet most of the demand for prehospital emergency and non-emergency medical services within Salem. The City

Council regulates the rates that may be changed. This regulation applies equally to the Fire Department and any contractors such as Falck Northwest, the City's contracted ambulance provider.

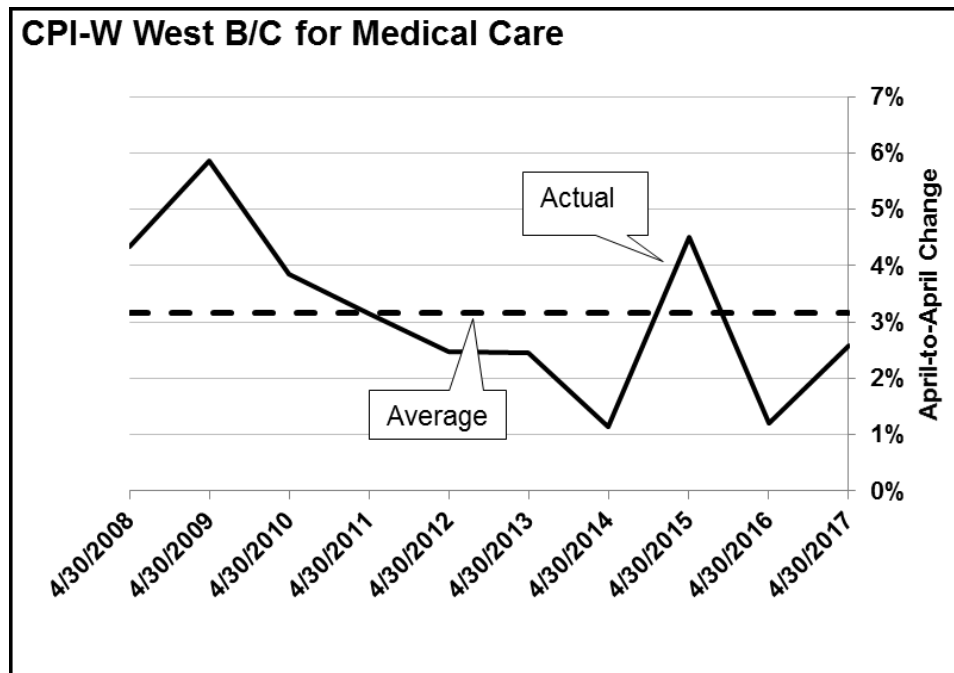
The City Council set the rates that are currently in effect on June 6, 2016, by adopting Resolution No. 2016-18.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

Like the rate increase proposed and adopted one year ago, this proposed rate increase is based on the April-to-April change in the CPI-W B/C for Medical Care. Staff recommends using this version of the Consumer Price Index for the following reason:

- It is directly related to medical services.
- It is directly related to cities of our size in our region.
- It is less volatile than other price indices that might have been chosen (especially those related to transportation).

Over the last ten years, the CPI-W West B/C for Medical Care has increased at an average rate of 3.15 percent per year. For the twelve months ended April 30, 2017, the increase was 2.58 percent. The chart below shows the history of this index.



The proposed increase will enable both the City and Falck Northwest to mitigate increasing financial pressure from factors such as fuel costs and the reimbursement policies of Medicare and Medicaid. At the same time, tying increases to a price index provides the public with increases that are reasonably stable and predictable.

The table below compares the proposed rates with current rates:

**DEPARTMENTAL EMERGENCY AND NON-EMERGENCY MEDICAL FEES
Current and Proposed**

Fee Type	Description	FY 2016- Current	FY 2017- Proposed
Advanced Life Support	Dispatched as Emergency with Advanced Life Support procedures	\$ 1,063.53	\$ 1,091.00
Advanced Life Support Bariatric	Dispatched as Emergency with Advanced Life Support procedures, transport requires bariatric cur	\$ 1,222.95	\$ 1,255.00
Advanced Life Support Emergency	Dispatched as Emergency with Support procedures	\$ 1,007.33	\$ 1,034.00
Advanced Life Support Emergency Bariatric	Dispatched as Emergency with Support procedures, transport bariatric curnev	\$ 1,158.33	\$ 1,189.00
Advanced Life Support Non Emergency	Dispatched as Non-Emergency Life Support procedures	\$ 1,007.33	\$ 1,034.00
Advanced Life Support Non Emergency Bariatric	Dispatched as Non-Emergency Life Support procedures, transport bariatric curnev	\$ 1,158.33	\$ 1,189.00
Basic Life Support Emergency	Dispatched as Emergency, no Advanced Life Support procedures	\$ 856.65	\$ 879.00
Basic Life Support Emergency Bariatric	Dispatched as Emergency, no Advanced Life Support procedures, transport bariatric curnev	\$ 985.21	\$ 1,011.00
Basic Life Support Emergency	Dispatched as Non-Emergency, Life Support procedures	\$ 678.42	\$ 696.00
Basic Life Support Emergency Bariatric	Dispatched as Non-Emergency, Life Support procedures, transport bariatric curnev	\$ 780.31	\$ 801.00
Advanced Life Support Scene Treatment	Dispatched as Emergency, Advanced Life Support procedures, no transport	\$ 491.48	\$ 505.00
Mileage	Fees for Mileage reflect the total miles traveled rounded to the nearest mile, beginning from the point of dispatch to the point of patient's delivery	\$ 16.28	\$ 17.00
Extra Attendant	When a patient's condition warrants the presence of additional medical personnel to assist crew during transport	\$ 47.44	\$ 49.00
Wait Time	Per hour for waiting time for a medical facility; charged in half hour increments after the first half hour	\$ 158.87	\$ 163.00

RACHAEL HOSTETLER
MANAGEMENT ANALYST II

Attachments:

1. Resolution No. 2017-28
2. Resolution No. 2017-28 Exhibit 1 Fee Schedule