



Staff Report

File #: 23-476
Version: 1

Date: 12/11/2023
Item #: 3.3b.

TO: Mayor and City Council
THROUGH: Keith Stahley, City Manager
FROM: Mike Niblock, Fire Chief

SUBJECT:

Marion County Ambulance Service Area Franchise Agreement Renewal.

Ward(s): All Wards
Councilor(s): All Councilors
Neighborhood(s): All Neighborhoods
Result Area(s): Safe and Healthy Community

SUMMARY:

The Marion County Board of Commissioners has the authority to assign Ambulance Service Areas (ASA) within Marion County, complying with ORS Chapter 682. Under the Marion County ASA plan, the County has designated ten ASAs. The City of Salem has been granted a renewal of the exclusive franchise to ASA No. 1 for a five-year term ending December 31, 2028.

ISSUE:

Shall the City Council authorize the City Manager to execute the Ambulance Service Area Franchise Agreement between the City of Salem and Marion County, renewing the City's exclusive right and responsibility to provide ambulance services in Marion County from January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2028?

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the City Manager to execute the Ambulance Service Area Franchise Agreement between the City of Salem and Marion County, renewing the City's exclusive right and responsibility to provide ambulance services in Marion County from January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2028.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

The Agreement grants an exclusive franchise and right to the City of Salem, through the Fire Department, to provide emergency and non-emergency ambulance services in ASA No.1. ASA No.1 includes the City of Salem and surrounding areas. The Agreement is substantially like the current franchise agreement. The most substantive change is the requirement to seek and obtain re-approval of any subcontract agreements before renewal of the franchise agreement. The Agreement also includes additional provisions requesting that the city will include the county in the process of selecting a sub-contractor by being part of the selection committee, providing the county with a copy of the sub-contractor contract, and providing the county with all violations of the sub-contractor to include fines and liquidated damages. The agreement is effective from January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2028.

The City provides ambulance services through a public/private partnership contract with Falck Northwest Corporation and Salem Fire Department resources. Executing the Agreement will ensure the City maintains oversight and leadership over providing emergency medical services to its citizens and surrounding areas.

The Agreement is in the best interest of the City and the residents of Salem.

To thoroughly evaluate its Emergency Medical Services (EMS), the City of Salem sought the advice of AP Triton, an EMS Consultant. We are comprehensively examining our EMS system, including its deployment and potential future transportation models. Our goal in doing this continuous assessment is to use the sophisticated analytics capabilities offered by AP Triton to determine what aspects of our EMS procedures are working well and where we can make improvements. Our goal is to improve the care of our community by making data-driven decisions that optimize resource allocation, minimize hospital wait times, increase the quality of treatment, and decrease response times. To better meet the requirements of our community, the City of Salem is dedicated to implementing cutting-edge technology, such as AP Triton, which will allow us to improve our emergency medical services continuously.

BACKGROUND:

Marion County Code requires all persons providing emergency and non-emergency ambulance services in Marion County to have a franchise agreement with the County. The City of Salem's franchise agreement expires on December 31, 2023.

MIKE NIBLOCK
FIRE CHIEF

Attachments:

1. Franchise Agreement (ASA#1) HE-5719-23.