



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE**  
**City Commission Agenda Memo**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

**#23-0903**

---

**TO:** Honorable Mayor & Members of the  
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

**FROM:** Greg Chavarria, City Manager

**DATE:** September 19, 2023

**TITLE:** Motion Approving the City of Fort Lauderdale's Fire Rescue Department's  
Participation in the Supplemental Payment Program for Medicaid  
Managed Care Patients with the State of Florida's Agency for Health Care  
Administration - **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

---

**Recommendation**

Staff recommends the City Commission approve the City's participation in an Intergovernmental Transfer (IGT) program between the City of Fort Lauderdale and the State of Florida (State) to provide supplemental payment for Medicaid Managed Care patients and authorize the City Manager to execute the Public Emergency Medical Transportation Letter of Agreement with the State.

**Background**

This program provides for supplemental payments for allowable costs that are in excess of other Medicaid revenues received for emergency medical transportation services to Medicaid eligible recipients.

There are two (2) types of Medicaid transports. The "Fee for Service" transports are billed and collected directly from the State of Florida's Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA). The second type of transports are billed and collected from the Managed Care Organizations (MCO) providers working under contract with AHCA. The average reimbursement for the services per Medicaid patient is approximately \$177 per transport. This amount is significantly lower when compared to the average reimbursements for Medicare and private health insurance patients and the actual costs associated with Emergency Medical Transports. The average reimbursements for Medicare and private health insurance patients are \$453 and \$627, respectively. Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue currently receives supplemental payments for Medicaid "Fee for Service" patients through the CPE program annually.

In 2016 the State authorized the creation of a Certified Public Expenditure (CPE) program to provide supplemental payments to publicly owned and operated emergency medical transportation providers for Medicaid "Fee for Service" patients transport to local hospitals. This program leverages the approximately 65.05% share of Federal Medicaid

reimbursement by allowing the State to certify the public expenditure incurred by the Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue as the State share.

In 2019, the State Legislature authorized the expansion of the program to include the Medicaid Managed Care population (State Bill 2500, signed by the Governor on 6/21/2019). In June 2020, the State Legislature appropriated \$89M (State Bill 5001) on 6/29/2020 for the State Fiscal Year.

Unlike the “Fee for Service” Medicaid transports, current transport fee revenues are billed and collected through the Managed Care Organization (MCO) providers. The supplemental payment program requires agreements with AHCA and the MCO’s. Unlike the current CPE (PEMT) program which required no appropriation for the State share, these revenue and expense submissions for Medicaid Managed Care transports are funded through an IGT (Intergovernmental Transfer) cash match with a federal fund contribution. The reimbursement of submitted expenses will be through AHCA via the MCO. Exhibit 2 is the final approved payment model for FY2023. Based on the City’s IGT contribution of \$939,556.74 for FY2023, the City will receive \$2,410,958.22 in additional revenues representing a net revenue income of \$1,471,401.49.

In order to leverage the approximate 57.96% federal share, the Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue Department, along with other participating providers, will provide the State share through an IGT, and later be reimbursed by the MCO’s. AHCA will collect the IGT’s from each participating provider, submit the total State Share to the Federal Government (CMS – Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services). The designated IGT contribution provided by the City of Fort Lauderdale is estimated at \$1,157,477.64. The Federal Government will then provide the Federal Share back to AHCA. AHCA which will in turn then distribute the funds to the MCO’s for distribution back to the participating providers. It is anticipated that the City will receive \$2,753,276.98 in revenues which will realize an approximate \$1,595,799.34 in net revenue, reflecting the approximate 57.96% Federal Share and the 42.04% percent State share of the program. Exhibit 3 lists the eligible governmental agencies that can currently participate in this program as well as the anticipated IGT contributions and estimated net new federal funding for FY2024.

To be eligible for this reimbursement program, the qualifying agency must have been a participant in the most recent PEMT reimbursement program and must also be a “non-Medicaid governmental agency”. In addition, each participating agency must sign and execute Letter of Agreements with the respective MCO entities within each Medicaid Region within the State of Florida (Exhibit 1).

At its meeting of July 7, 2020, the City Commission approved a motion authorizing the City Manager to execute Letters of Agreement with the Managed Care Organizations under contract with the State of Florida’s Agency for Health Care Administration (CAM 20-0505).

At its meeting of September 15, 2020, the City Commission approved a motion authorizing the City of Fort Lauderdale’s Fire Rescue Department’s Participation in the Supplemental Payment Program for Medicaid Managed Care Patients with the State of Florida’s Agency for Health Care Administration. (CAM 20-0717).

At its meeting of September 22, 2022, the City Commission approved a motion authorizing the City of Fort Lauderdale's Fire Rescue Department's Participation in the Supplemental Payment Program for Medicaid Managed Care Patients with the State of Florida's Agency for Health Care Administration. (CAM 22-0876).

### **Resource Impact**

Funding for this revenue and contribution is contingent upon the approval of the FY 2024 Adopted Budget.

#### **Source:**

<b><i>Funds available as of October 1, 2023</i></b>					
<b>ACCOUNT NUMBER</b>	<b>INDEX NAME (Program)</b>	<b>CHARACTER CODE/ SUB-OBJECT NAME</b>	<b>AMENDED BUDGET (Character)</b>	<b>AVAILABLE BALANCE (Character)</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
10-001-4020-522 342-602	Fire Rescue Support	Charges for Services/Public Emergency Medical Transport – MCO	\$14,256,337	\$14,256,337	\$2,753,276.98
				<b>APPROPRIATION TOTAL ►</b>	\$2,753,276.98

#### **Use:**

<b>ACCOUNT NUMBER</b>	<b>INDEX NAME (Program)</b>	<b>CHARACTER CODE/ SUB-OBJECT NAME</b>	<b>AMENDED BUDGET (Character)</b>	<b>AVAILABLE BALANCE (Character)</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
10-001-4020-522 40-4207	Fire Rescue Support	Other Operating Expenses/Promotion al Contribution	\$13,895,116	\$13,895,116	\$1,157,477.64
				<b>APPROPRIATION TOTAL ►</b>	\$1,157,477.64

### **Strategic Connections**

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan*, specifically advancing:

- Public Safety Focus Area
- Goal 6: Build a safe and well-prepared community.
- Objective: Provide quick and exceptional fire, medical, and emergency response.
- The Internal Support Focus Area
- Goal 8: Build a leading government organization that manages all resources wisely and sustainably.
- Objective: Maintain financial integrity through sound budgeting practices, prudent fiscal management, cost effective operations and long-term planning.

This item advances the *Fast-Forward Fort Lauderdale Vision Plan 2035: We Are United*.

**Attachments**

Exhibit 1 – Public Emergency Medical Transportation Letter of Agreement

Exhibit 2 – FY2023 MCO Final Payment Model

Exhibit 3 – FY2024 MCO Draft Payment Model

---

Prepared by: Paul C. Vanden Berge, Public Safety Administrator, Fire  
Rescue Department

Department Director: Stephen W. Gollan, Fire Rescue Department