



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Fire Department

Date: September 23, 2010

To: Don Samuels, Chair, Public Safety & Health Committee
Referral to: Betsy Hodges, Chair, Ways & Means/Budget Committee

Subject: Fire Department Participation in State of Minnesota Medical
First Responder Reimbursement Pilot Project

Recommendation: Authorize the Fire Department to enter into a Joint Powers Agreement and accept reimbursement for services provided under the agreement.

Department Information

Prepared by: Karen Lowery Wagner, Director of Finance Approved by: Alex Jackson, Fire Chief Presenters in Committee: Charlotte Holt, EMS Director

Financial Impact

- No financial impact

Supporting Information

During the 2009 Legislative Session, \$250,000 was allotted to the Department of Public Safety for a Medical First Responder Reimbursement Pilot Project. The project is to provide a coordinated pilot project to establish a limited reimbursement program for services rendered and costs incurred while responding as registered Medical Response Unit.

Currently there is not an established process for Medical First Responders to obtain reimbursement for medical care provided to a patient prior to arrival of an ambulance or in tangent with an ambulance provider. To evaluate possible solutions for mechanisms for funding, the pilot project was created and funding provided. The objectives of the pilot project are:

- to determine what type of calls medical first responder units respond to;
- to evaluate the interventions that medical first responders have available to them;
- to evaluate the impact of medical first responders to the EMS system;
- to evaluate the impact of the medical first responders to the overall patient outcome;
- to evaluate reimbursement of medical first responders for services rendered.

The Minneapolis Fire Department submitted an application to participate in the pilot project and was selected as a successful candidate. Under the terms of the agreement, MFD will be reimbursed \$100.00 per medical first response call, up to a total reimbursement of \$70,000. The MFD will provide documentation and reports related to services provided and will submit monthly invoices for reimbursement.

At the conclusion of the pilot project on December 31, 2010, a report shall be made to the Legislature by March 1, 2011 as to the effectiveness and value of this reimbursement pilot program to the emergency medical services delivery system, any actual or potential savings to the health care system, and impact on patient outcomes.