

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 52-23-01-F
of the
City Manager of the City of Eugene

**SETTING AMBULANCE, EMERGENCY AND NON-EMERGENCY
MEDICAL SERVICES RATES AND SUPERSEDING THE FEE
SCHEDULE ADOPTED BY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 52-17-01-F.**

The City Manager of the City of Eugene finds as follows:

A. Section 2.020 of the Eugene Code, 1971, authorizes the City Manager to determine and set fees and charges to be imposed by the City for services, goods, use of municipal property, and licenses and permits. In addition, Section 2.608 of the Eugene Code, 1971, specifically authorizes the City Manager to set all rates and fees for any ambulance service operated by the City.

B. Pursuant to the above authority, on April 21, 2017, I issued Administrative Order No. 52-17-01-F establishing the current Ambulance, Emergency and Non-Emergency Medical Services Rate Schedule.

C. On April 24, 2023, I issued Administrative Order No. 52-23-01, ordering that notice be given of the opportunity to submit written comments on my proposal to set new Ambulance, Emergency and Non-Emergency Medical Services' rates.

D. The Notice specified that comments on the proposed amendments could be submitted in writing until 5 p.m. on May 16, 2023, and that comments could also be submitted in writing and orally at the May 16, 2023 public hearing. No written comments were submitted within the time or in the manner provided in the Notice, nor were there any attendees or comments submitted at the public hearing.

E. Based on my investigation pursuant to the provisions of Sections 2.020 and 2.608 of the Eugene Code, 1971, I find that the fees should be set as proposed. (See Exhibit B to this Order)

F. The unamended Ambulance, Emergency and Non-Emergency Medical Services' rates adopted by Administrative Order No. 52-17-01-F are incorporated into the Fee Schedule attached as Exhibit A to this Order.

On the basis of these findings, I order that:

1. The Ambulance, Emergency and Non-Emergency Medical Services Rate Schedule attached as Exhibit A to this Order is the schedule of fees to be charged for the described services effective July 1, 2023.

2. The Rate Schedule attached to Administrative Order No. 52-17-01-F is superseded by the Ambulance, Emergency and Non-Emergency Medical Services Rate Schedule attached as Exhibit A to this Order, effective July 1, 2023.

Dated this 25th day of May, 2023.



Sarah Medary
City Manager



This Administrative Order becomes effective on the 24th day of June, 2023.

CITY OF EUGENE
Ambulance, Emergency and Non-Emergency Medical Services Rates Schedule
 (Effective July 1, 2023)

<u>Service Description</u>	<u>Rate</u>
<u>EMERGENCY AND NON-EMERGENCY TRANSPORT RATES</u>	
The City charges an “All Inclusive” Base Rate. There are no additional treatment, medication, or supply charges. The Base Rate becomes effective upon the transport of the patient from the incident.	
Base Rate	\$2,020.00 one way
*Out-of-Area User Base Rate	\$2,260.00 one way
<i>*For purposes of this fee schedule, “out-of-area user” means persons residing outside of the Cities of Eugene and Springfield’s fire first response area at the time of service.</i>	
Mileage	\$26.28 per mile
Mileage charges reflect the transport distance traveled rounded up to the nearest mile, with one listed mile as a minimum, beginning from the point of patient pick-up to the point of the patient’s appropriate delivery destination (“patient miles” only).	

MULTIPLE PATIENT SITUATIONS

When a single ambulance unit transports more than one patient at the same time from the same incident or unrelated incidents, each patient is charged the full base rate; however, an adjustment will be made for mileage charges. In instances where more than one patient is transported in the same ambulance, the mileage charge will be equally divided among the number of patients transported.

EXTRA ATTENDANT

When a patient’s condition warrants the presence of additional emergency medical technicians to assist the regular ambulance crew during a transport, a fee for each of the extra attendants will be charged. Situations and conditions where an extra attendant charge is applicable may include, but are not limited to: patients who are critically ill or injured; patients who are violent and combative; or patients who are morbidly obese. In each case, documentation of the need for additional assistance must indicate that additional assistance is necessary.

Each Extra Attendant	\$92.00 one way
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AID CALLS

The Aid Call rate will apply in lieu of the Emergency or Non-Emergency Transport rate when treatment has been provided to a patient, who, subsequent to treatment, refuses transport or does not meet the “medical necessity” definition for transport. “Medical necessity” is established when the patient’s condition is such that the use of any method of transportation other than an ambulance is contraindicated. Ambulance transport is not a medical necessity when some means of transportation other than an ambulance could be used without endangering the patient’s health.

<u>Service Description</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Base Rate	\$929.50 per service
*Out-of-Area User Base Rate	\$1,039.50 per service
<i>*For purposes of this fee schedule "out-of-area user" means persons residing outside of the Cities of Eugene and Springfield's fire first response area at the time of service.</i>	
 <u>FIRST RESPONDER FEE</u>	
The First Responder rates will be used whenever the Fire Department arrives at a location and provides assessment or treatment to the patient who, subsequent to treatment, is transported by ambulance to a health care facility. The fee may be waived if the Fire Chief or the Fire Chief's designee determines that payment of the fee would cause financial hardship to the patient.	
First Responder Fee	\$354.00 per service
 <u>WAITING TIME</u>	
If the time an ambulance crew has to wait to pick-up a patient for transport (while unavailable for other calls) is beyond thirty minutes, the waiting time rate will be charged in thirty-minute increments. The reason for the wait time must be documented and the first thirty minutes are not billed, but included in the base rate.	
Waiting Time	\$118.00 per half-hour
 <u>AMBULANCE PATIENT OFFLOAD TIME</u>	
AMBULANCE PATIENT OFFLOAD TIME	\$250.00 fifteen-minute increments
If the time an ambulance crew has to wait to offload a patient at the hospital (while unavailable for other calls) is beyond thirty minutes, the wait time rate will be charged in fifteen-minute increments back to the first minute.	
 <u>EVENT STAND-BY (2 HOUR MINIMUM)</u>	
Ambulance Stand-by	\$240.00 per hour
Engine Stand-by	\$375.00 per hour
Stand-by On Scene Coordinator	\$178.00 per hour
HazMat Technician	\$90.00 per hour
 Copy of Medic Report	 Amount charged by the City's adopted Public Records Request Fee Schedule for Fire Reports
 Late payment charge	 \$5.00
Charged for payments not received within 15 days after the due date indicated on the invoice.	

Service Description

Rate

Returned Check Fee

See Admin Order
Establishing a Fee for
Processing Checks
Returned for Non-
sufficient Funds

Interest Charge.....

Interest will accrue on
past due amounts at
the rate of 18% per
annum from the due
date until paid.

City Manager's Findings
Proposed Ambulance, Emergency and Non-Emergency Medical
Services Rate Schedule Amendments

● Pursuant to Section 2.020(2) of the Eugene Code, 1971, the City Manager has considered the following factors in determining the proposed Ambulance fees:

(a) Applicable policies, enactments and directives of the Council.

Findings: Per City Code 2.608, ambulance fee adjustments should be in the public interest, should be adjusted so, except as approved by the Council, they will not draw on general tax revenues of the city, and should ensure that those who receive the service pay in proportion to the cost of the service provided. The City Council has approved the transfer of funds from the General Fund to the Ambulance Transport fund as follows: FY20 \$104,362 and FY21 \$314,523; this does not include ARPA funds transferred in FY21 and FY22 related to COVID. These funds help with the structural deficit of the Ambulance Transport Fund.

An estimated 81% of transports are related to Medicaid which has a rate cap on how much is paid per transport. Currently, an average of 9.5% of transports are related to the unhoused and are non-billable.

A new patient offloading fee is being added as a result of the long period of time it can take to offload patients at the hospitals, during which time staff is responsible for the patient and not available to respond to other calls. An offload fee is being added that would be charged when staff have to wait over 30 minutes to offload the patient at the hospital.

(b) The amount charged by the City in the past.

Findings: The base rate currently charged by the City for ambulance transport is \$1,859.00, which was approved by the City Manager in May of 2017. The new proposed base rate of \$2,020.00 is an 8.7% increase over the current base rate. The out-of-area user base rate currently charged by the City is \$2,079.00. The new proposed out-of-area user base rate of \$2,260.00 is an 8.7% increase over the current out-of-area user base rate. The proposed increase to both base rates is based upon Medicaid rate increases.

(c) The full costs of providing the service supported by the fee.

Findings: The budgeted cost for the 2023-2025 biennium for Advanced and Basic Life services is \$31,443,476. Even with the proposed increases, the Ambulance Transport Fund is projecting a \$1.1 million deficit for the biennium. Fire is working on decreasing this deficit with the Ambulance Services Redesign and filling vacancies that will reduce overtime. In addition, as COVID cases have decreased, the number of transports has increased because people are less fearful of COVID exposure during ambulance transports. The FY22 Ground Emergency Transport cost report calculated that the average cost per billed transport in Eugene was \$3,005.97.

(d) The amounts charged by other comparable providers.

Findings:

Fire and EMS Entity	County	Fire-Med	BLS - Emergency	ALS1 Emergency	ALS2 Emergency	ALS 1 Non-Emergency	BLS Non-Emergency	Evaluation & Treatment No Transport	Transport Mileage (per mile)
Eugene/Springfield Fire & EMS (Proposed)	Lane	\$ 68.00	\$ 2,020.00	\$ 2,020.00	\$ 2,020.00	\$ 2,020.00	\$ 2,020.00	\$ 929.50	\$ 26.28
Eugene/Springfield Fire & EMS (Current)	Lane	\$ 68.00	\$ 1,859.00	\$ 1,859.00	\$ 1,859.00	\$ 1,859.00	\$ 1,859.00	\$ 929.50	\$ 24.18
Corvallis Fire	Benton	\$ 65.00	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 491.00	\$ 20.00
Lane Fire Authority	Lane	\$ 65.00	\$ 1,900.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 25.00
South Lane Fire and Rescue	Lane	\$ 65.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 20.00
Albany Fire	Linn	\$ 65.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 630.00	\$ 20.00
Jefferson Fire District	Linn	\$ 60.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 20.00
Lebanon Fire District	Linn	\$ 60.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 20.00
Salem Fire Department	Marion	\$ 70.00	\$ 1,185.00	\$ 1,392.00	\$ 1,470.00	\$ 1,392.00	\$ 939.00	\$ 682.00	\$ 25.00
Marion County Fire District #1	Marion	\$ 70.00	\$ 1,850.00	\$ 1,850.00	\$ 1,850.00	\$ 1,850.00	\$ 1,850.00	\$ 766.00	\$ 33.00
Keizer Fire District	Marion	\$ 70.00	\$ 1,850.00	\$ 1,850.00	\$ 1,850.00	\$ 1,850.00	\$ 1,850.00	\$ 766.00	\$ 33.00
Dallas Fire Department	Polk	\$ 65.00	\$ 1,715.08	\$ 1,715.08	\$ 1,715.08	\$ 1,715.08	\$ 1,715.08	\$ 538.54	\$ 25.15
Polk County Fire District #1	Polk	\$ 65.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 640.00	\$ 23.00
McMinnville Fire	Yamhill	\$ 75.00	\$ 1,894.00	\$ 1,976.00	\$ 1,976.00	\$ 1,976.00	\$ 1,894.00	\$ 558.00	\$ 28.00
TVF&R Yamhill County	Yamhill	\$ 65.00	\$ 2,119.47	\$ 2,119.47	\$ 2,119.47	\$ 2,119.47	\$ 2,119.47	\$ 596.10	\$ 27.81
3/24/2023 - Called or pulled information from website									

(e) The revenue needs of the City as determined by the adopted city budget.

Findings: Per City Code 2.608, fees should be adjusted so that the Ambulance Transport Fund does not draw on general tax revenues, except as approved by the City Council. The City Council has approved the transfer of funds from the General Fund to the Ambulance Transport fund as follows: FY20 \$104,362 and FY21 \$314,523; this does not include ARPA funds transferred in FY21 and FY22 related to COVID. The proposed fees will help fill the structural deficit of the Ambulance Transport Fund.

Factors listed in (a) – (e) above that are irrelevant or inapplicable in determining the amount of the fees, if any: n/a

- Pursuant to Section 2.608(1) of the Eugene Code, 1971, the City Manager has determined that:

(f) The proposed fees are in the public interest.

Findings: The proposed fees are in the public interest because they will help to support and fund emergency medical response.

Based upon the Lane County Ambulance Service Area Plan, Eugene Springfield Fire is the designated ambulance service provider for the community. Safe, efficient, and reliable emergency transportation is essential for public safety. The fee supports the efforts of Eugene Springfield Fire to hire and train EMT's as first responders to incidents and increase survival rates of patients. The fee also supports updating and replacing ambulances and the equipment used by EMT's in the care of patients.

An offload fee is being added that would be charged when staff have to wait over 30 minutes to offload the patient at the hospital, during which time staff is responsible for the patient and not available to respond to other calls in the community.

(g) Except as approved by Council, the proposed fees will insure the ambulance service will not draw on the general tax revenues of the City.

Findings: The combination of the rate increase and the redesign of the ambulance transport service should decrease the need for Fire to ask for Council approval to draw on the general tax revenues of the City of Eugene in order to provide ambulance service.

(h) The proposed fees will insure those who receive the service pay in proportion to the cost of the service provided

Findings: Eugene Springfield tries to bill all transports. If the patient does not pay, their account goes to collection. The patient also has the option to apply for a charitable write-off balance. Eugene Springfield Fire participates in FireMed so patients who have FireMed memberships at the time of transport will have the balance written off after insurance is billed.

Signature: Mike Caven
Mike Caven (May 20, 2023 17:58 PDT)

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