



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
April 29, 2025

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
 From: Paul Buddenhagen, City Manager
 Submitted by: David Sprague, Fire Chief
 Subject: Contract: Public Consulting Group for Professional Services

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Public Consulting Group (PCG) for professional services related to the Ground Emergency Medical Transport (GEMT), Quality Assurance Fee (QAF), Intergovernmental Transfer (IGT), and Public Provider Ground Emergency Medical Transport (PP-GEMT) programs using the General Services Agency's (GSA) contract No. 47QTCA20D004Y for an amount not to exceed \$300,000 for the base contract period from May 1, 2025 through April 30, 2027 with one (1), two (2) year extension not to exceed \$300,000 from May 1, 2027 through April 31, 2029 in an amount not to exceed \$600,000 in total.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

PCG's compensation for contracted services are based on PCG's GSA Authorized Federal Supply Schedule Price List. In most cases, PCG is compensated once the City receives reimbursement from the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). The total contract with the extension, shall not exceed \$600,000. Funds will be available through the General Fund.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), in collaboration with Sacramento Metro Fire District, transitioned out of the GEMT Quality Assurance Fee (QAF) and the GEMT Certified Public Expenditure (CPE) programs. The new program, Public Provider Ground Emergency Medical Transport Intergovernmental Transfer Program (PP-GEMT IGT) went into effect on January 1, 2023 and significantly changed how supplemental payments were calculated. While the new program was being designed, the GEMT Certified Public Expenditure (CPE) program was put on hold in FY 2019 and cost reports were not being accepted by the DHCS. In order for the City to participate in the new PP-GEMT IGT program, the City is required to close out all reporting obligations that were put on hold beginning in FY 2019.

Since the GEMT program is no longer on hold, the Fire Department can receive supplemental payments from previous years. The Department must submit GEMT

reports for fiscal years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023. As the PP-GEMT IGT program evolves, additional work may be required from PCG to analyze City data or prepare documents related to these programs. If the PP-GEMT IGT program fails to launch, DHCS may revert back to the legacy program (GEMT-CPE) and PCG's services will be needed to assist with preparation of the required reports.

BACKGROUND

The Department provides city-wide first responder medical and transport services. When services are provided to a Medi-Cal recipient, allowable costs that are in excess of other Medi-Cal revenue received by the City qualify for supplemental payments through these programs.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

There is no environmental effect as a result of this Resolution.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

PCG's expertise, methodology, and approach to the report preparation is expected to yield an increase in supplemental payments compared to previous years.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

Staff would be required to painstakingly prepare and submit the five (5) cost-basis reports and any future reports and risk lower reimbursements to the City and a higher potential for a DHCS audit and subsequent repayment.

CONTACT PERSON

David Sprague, Fire Chief, (510) 981-3473

Attachments:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT: PUBLIC CONSULTING GROUP

WHEREAS, the Fire Department provides city-wide first responder medical and transport services. When services are provided to a Medi-Cal recipient, allowable costs that are in excess of other Medi-Cal revenue received by the City qualify for supplemental payments through these programs; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), in collaboration with Sacramento Metro Fire District, transitioned out of the GEMT Quality Assurance Fee (QAF) and the GEMT Certified Public Expenditure (CPE) programs, and

WHEREAS, the new program, Public Provider Ground Emergency Medical Transport Intergovernmental Transfer Program (PP-GEMT IGT) became effective January 1, 2023 and significantly changed how supplemental payments were calculated, and

WHEREAS, while the new program was being designed, the GEMT Certified Public Expenditure (CPE) program was put on hold in FY 2019 and cost reports were not being accepted by the DHCS, and

WHEREAS, in order for the City to participate in the new PP-GEMT IGT program, the City is required to close out all reporting obligations that were put on hold beginning in FY 2019, and

WHEREAS, the GEMT program is no longer on hold and to receive supplemental payments from previous years, the Fire Department must submit GEMT reports for fiscal years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023, and

WHEREAS, as the PP-GEMT IGT program evolves, additional work may be required from PCG to analyze City data or prepare documents related to these programs. If the PP-GEMT IGT program fails to launch, DHCS may revert back to the legacy program (GEMT-CPE), PCG's services will be needed to assist with preparation of required reports.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager enter into a contract with Public Consulting Group (PCG) for professional services related to the Ground Emergency Medical Transport (GEMT), Quality Assurance Fee (QAF), Intergovernmental Transfer (IGT), and Public Provider Ground Emergency Medical Transport (PP-GEMT) programs using the General Services Agency's (GSA) contract No. 47QTCA20D004Y for an amount not to exceed \$300,000 for the base contract period from May 1, 2025 through April 30, 2027 with one (1), two (2) year extension not to exceed \$300,000 from May 1, 2027 through April 31, 2029 in an amount not to exceed \$600,000 in total.

