

CITY COUNCIL REPORT



Meeting Date: **March 19, 2024**
 General Plan Element: **Public Services & Facilities**
 General Plan Goal: **Provide a safe environment for all citizens, visitors and private interests.**

ACTION

Ambulance Transportation Service. Adopt Resolution No.13079 authorizing a FY 2023/24 General Fund Operating Contingency transfer of up to \$1,564,431 to the Fire Department Operating Budget for Scottsdale Ground Ambulance Transportation Program start-up costs.

BACKGROUND

On March 29, 2022, the City, on behalf of the Scottsdale Fire Department (SFD), filed its application for an initial Certificate of Necessity ("CON") to operate a ground ambulance service with the Arizona Department of Health Services ("ADHS"), Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma System (the "Bureau"). On June 14, 2022, the Bureau issued an Administratively Complete Notice. On January 5, 2024, a hearing was conducted before the Office of Administrative Hearings ("OAH") regarding SFD's application for a CON. On February 12, 2024, the Administrative Law Judge recommended that the Director of ADHS grant The City a CON. On February 20, 2024, the City filed a document formally accepting the judge's decision. The City is currently awaiting certification of the judge's decision by OAH and final approval of the City's application from the Director of ADHS before SFD can begin operating an ambulance service.

ANALYSIS & ASSESSMENT

Recent Staff Action

The start-up costs associated with this key program required an assessment of project needs for equipment, technology, and disposable goods. To ensure the financial legitimacy and reliability of the numbers in the financial report, Fire Department staff engaged city budget office, facilities management, procurement, and technology staff. Fire Department staff must adhere to generally accepted accounting principles, ensuring compliance with industry standards and legal requirements. These requests have undergone rigorous internal review and will be subjected to audits to provide an additional layer of validation and ensure the numbers' integrity and reliability.

RESOURCE IMPACTS

The readiness of the Fire Department to embark on the new venture of an ambulance transportation service is of paramount importance. This service signifies the Department's capacity and commitment to not only enhancing its fire service response capabilities, but also extending its reach into other vital community services. As noted by the judge in his decision recommending the City be

Action Taken Approved on Consent

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issued a CON, the City is experiencing significant growth, increasing tourism, and an aging population, all of which demonstrate that there is public necessity for SFD to operate an ambulance service. The initiation of an ambulance transportation service necessitates the acquisition of medical equipment, vehicles, and personnel with specialized training, which will ensure that the Department can swiftly respond to medical emergencies. These efforts underscore the Fire Department's comprehensive approach to public safety and preparedness, enhancing the community's overall resilience.

On November 21, 2022, the City Council approved Resolution No. 12660 authorizing a budget appropriation and cash transfer for the purchase of four ambulances.

This action requests funding for the following Scottsdale Ground Ambulance Transportation Program start-up costs:

1. \$864,447 - New ambulance service for items such as computer equipment, uniforms, portable radios, cardiac monitors, tools, etc.
2. \$699,984 - Costs associated with the transition to Maricopa Ambulance Service not providing medical soft goods and medications because of the new ambulance service: the remaining 12 fire stations for medication, vending machine, medical soft goods, operative IQ software and the modification of station 602 to accommodate the ambulance staff.

Total: \$1,564,431

OPTIONS & STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Recommended Approach

Adopt Resolution No. 13079 authorizing a FY 2023/24 General Fund Operating Contingency transfer of up to \$1,564,431 to the Fire Department operating budget for Scottsdale Ground Ambulance Transportation Program start-up costs.

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT(S)

Fire Department

STAFF CONTACT(S)

Thomas Shannon, Fire Chief, 480-312-1821, tshannon@scottsdaleaz.gov

APPROVED BY

Tom Shannon

Tom Shannon, Fire Chief
(480) 312-1821, tshannon@scottsdaleaz.gov

3/5/24 12:58 MST

Date

Sonia Andrews

Sonia Andrews, City Treasurer
480.312.2364, sandrews@scottsdaleaz.gov

3/5/24 12:58 MST

Date

Jim Thompson

Jim Thompson, City Manager
(480) 312-2811, jthompson@scottsdaleaz.gov

3/5/24 12:58 MST

Date

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution No. 13079

RESOLUTION NO. 13079

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SCOTTSDALE, MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA, AUTHORIZING A FY 2023/24 GENERAL FUND OPERATING CONTINGENCY TRANSFER IN THE AMOUNT OF UP TO \$1,564,431 TO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT OPERATING BUDGET FOR SCOTTSDALE GROUND AMBULANCE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM START-UP COSTS.

WHEREAS, the City wishes to provide funds for start-up costs associated with the Scottsdale Ground Ambulance Transportation Program, which will begin phased implementation upon final approval by the Director of the Arizona Department of Health Services of the City's application for a Certificate of Necessity to operate a ground ambulance service; and

WHEREAS, Article 6, Section 11 of the Scottsdale City Charter permits the transfer of any unencumbered appropriation balance or portion thereof between general classifications of expenditures within an office, department, or agency or from one office, department, or agency to another with the approval of the City Council; and

WHEREAS, Section 2 of Ordinance No. 4460 allows expenditures to be made from budget contingencies and reserves upon recommendation of the City Manager and approval of the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the City is required to balance its budget and all associated funds; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Scottsdale, Maricopa County, Arizona, as follows:

Section 1. The City Council hereby authorizes a FY 2023/24 General Fund Operating Contingency transfer in the amount of up to \$1,564,431 to the Fire Department Operating Budget for Scottsdale Ground Ambulance Transportation Program start-up costs.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Council of the City of Scottsdale, Maricopa County, Arizona this _____ day of _____, 2024.

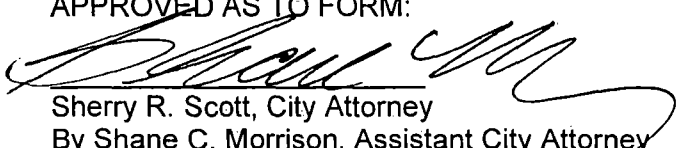
CITY OF SCOTTSDALE, an Arizona
municipal corporation

ATTEST:

Ben Lane, City Clerk

David D. Ortega, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Sherry R. Scott, City Attorney
By Shane C. Morrison, Assistant City Attorney

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