



Agenda Item:

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COUNCIL COMMUNICATION City Manager's Office

GENERAL INFORMATION

Agenda Date: 09/27/2004

Communication No.:

04-459

Agenda Item Type: Resolution

Roll Call

No.:

Submitted by: Phillip C. Vorlander, Chief of the Fire Department

SUBJECT—

Contract for Fire Recruit paramedic training services.

SYNOPSIS—

The Fire Department requests authorization to enter into a contract with Mercy School of Emergency Medical Services to provide emergency medical technician-paramedic (EMT-P) training to members of the 2004 Recruit Academy.

FISCAL IMPACT—

Total cost for this training is \$74,685.00. Funds are available in HRS 980100, SP720, Account Number 562050.

RECOMMENDATION—

Approval

BACKGROUND—

Maintenance of certification as an Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic (EMT-P) is a condition of employment for all new hire firefighters. To address this requirement, the Recruit Academy is configured into two phases. Phase 1 provides instruction in the policies, practices,

skills, techniques, and evolutions necessary for a recruit to function as a firefighter, as well as the education and training required for certification as an Emergency Medical Technician–Basic (EMT-B). Fire Department staff provide this training.

At the completion of Phase 1, new hires who possess EMT-P certification report to fire stations as probationary firefighters. Members of the class who do not possess EMT-P certification report to Phase 2 to receive the eight-week classroom component of EMT-P training. While the Des Moines Fire Department has staff qualified to instruct a paramedic education program, the Department is not a recognized EMT-P training institution. The Mercy School of Emergency Medical Services is the only provider of this education in central Iowa. In addition to presenting the classroom component of the paramedic training curriculum, the Mercy School oversees and coordinates the clinical portion of the training, which lasts approximately nine months and is integral to the recruits' station assignments.