


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	21-387	Meeting:	September 13, 2021
	Agenda Item:	34	Roll Call:	21-1425
	Submitted by:	John F. TeKippe, Fire Chief		

AGENDA HEADING:

Approval of City of Des Moines Fire Department and Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Fire Training Academy agreements:

- A) Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training agreement (prerequisite)
- B) Paramedic training agreement

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of the Fire Department and DMACC agreements to provide required EMS training for new fire fighters during the 98th Fire Training Academy, beginning January 2022.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount:

- A) EMT - \$9,989
- B) Paramedic - \$115,213

Funding Source: Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Fire Operating Budget, FD101500, General Fund, Page 91.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The EMT and paramedic agreements continue the method of EMS instruction and program management the Fire Department has used with great success. Both agreements result in instruction and program coordination utilizing both Fire Department and DMACC staff. These agreements are the seventh such agreement with DMACC for as many consecutive training academies. The resultant program provides increased oversight for Fire Department staff as well as allowing the training to be completed in a time efficient manner.
- Paramedic certification is a job requirement and condition of employment for new fire fighters. EMT certification is a prerequisite for paramedic training and certification.
- The upcoming 98th Basic Fire Training Academy is set to begin January of 2022. The training academy is set in four (4) phases:
 - Phase 1 - EMT training (prerequisite for paramedic training)
 - Phase 2 - Suppression, rescue, and specialty training
 - Phase 3 - Paramedic training
 - Phase 4 - Field training

- EMT Agreement:
 - EMT training and certification is the prerequisite for paramedic training and certification.
 - Fire Department Training and EMS Section staff serve as lead instructors during the EMT training being under the umbrella of an accredited DMACC curriculum.
 - DMACC provides all books, testing fees, continuing education credits, and administrative oversight.
 - New fire fighters who have previously completed EMS certifications also receive continuing education credit for the EMT training.
 - The agreement and instruction are planned to begin in January 2022 and continues through Phase 1 of the Training Academy.

- Paramedic Training Agreement:
 - DMACC staff serve as lead instructors during the paramedic training and incorporate Fire Department staff who are approved instructors and evaluators. Programming is also coordinated on-site with staff from the Fire Department Training and EMS sections.
 - The cost of the agreement is a fully accredited program to include instruction, textbooks, workbooks, testing fees, and administrative oversight. This cost is based on the entire course, not based on a per student fee. However, DMACC does pro-rate if less than the maximum number students allowed is not reached.
 - The paramedic training program's classroom/didactic portion is carried out over approximately 16 weeks, beginning in May/June 2022.
 - An additional 275 hours of field experience and 276 hours of clinical experience are required and are conducted at area hospitals. The field and clinical experience concludes in the winter of 2022. The training occurs on a 40-hour week schedule until completed. Main instruction takes place on the premises of the Fire Department Administration Maintenance and Training facility with some supplemental off-site instruction. This element greatly enhances the resources readily available to students and instructors each day and improves department oversight.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: October 19, 2020

Roll Call Number: [20-1670](#)

Action: [Agreement](#) for EMT training and agreement for paramedic training with Des Moines Area Community College. ([Council Communication No. 20-445](#)) Moved by Boesen to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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