


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER	Number:	23-517	Meeting:	November 20, 2023
	Agenda Item:	26	Roll Call:	23-1622
	Submitted by:	John F. TeKippe, Fire Chief		

AGENDA HEADING:

Approval of City of Des Moines Fire Department and Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) Partnership training agreements for DMACC to provide Emergency Medical Service (EMS) training during the fire training academy and allow the Fire Department's annual purchase authority of up to \$250,000 per Fiscal Year (FY) for annual renewals to include:

- Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training agreement (prerequisite to paramedic)
- Paramedic training agreement

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of the Fire Department and DMACC agreements to provide required EMS training for new firefighters during the Fire Department's Fire Training Academy. In addition, to allow the Fire Department to renew agreements, upon review from the City Legal Department, as needed to fulfill hiring needs through FY2029.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: Authority of up to \$250,000 annually for EMT and Paramedic Training Agreements

Funding Source: FY2024 Fire Operating Budget, FD101500 (Academy), General Fund, Page 100

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The EMT and Paramedic agreements continue the method of EMS instruction and program management the Fire Department has employed with great success. Both agreements result in instruction and program coordination utilizing both Fire Department and DMACC staff and resources. This partnership is a culmination of a long history of such agreements with DMACC for many 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 Fire Department's Fire Training Academy paradigm of instruction consists 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 Training Agreement (Phase 1):
 - EMT training and certification is the prerequisite for paramedic training and certification.
 - DMACC staff serve as lead instructors and incorporate Fire Department staff who are approved instructors and evaluators. Programming is also coordinated on-site with staff from the Fire Department's Training and EMS sections, under the umbrella of DMACC's accredited curriculum.
 - DMACC provides instruction, books, testing fees, continuing education credits, and educational administrative oversight.
 - New firefighters who have previously completed EMS certifications also receive continuing education credit for the EMT training.

- Paramedic Training Agreement (Phase 3):
 - 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's 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 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 departmental oversight.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: January 9, 2023

Roll Call Number: [23-0040](#)

Action: [Agreements](#) with DMACC for EMT Training and Paramedic Training. ([Council Communication No. 23-005](#)) Moved by Boesen to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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