



Roll Call Number

26-0686

Agenda Item Number

39

Date June 08, 2026

**APPROVING ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH
WELLMARK BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD OF IOWA FOR
EMPLOYEE AND RETIREE HEALTH PLANS FOR THE PERIOD JULY
1, 2026 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2026**

WHEREAS, the City issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for employee health insurance on October 10, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Wellmark, 1331 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50309, received the highest overall score based on the criteria outlined in the RFP for the term July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Roll Call 19-0648 awarded the Services Only Agreement to Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Iowa for employee and retiree health plans for the period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Wellmark has provided claims administration services for the City's self-insured employee and retiree health plan since the City returned to a self-funded plan in FY11; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager recommends that the above-described agreement for administrative services related to the City's self-funded plan between the City and Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Iowa be exempted from the competitive requirements for good cause shown pursuant to Section 2-710(b) of the Des Moines Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS, in order to maintain consistency in plan administration and provider networks, it is recommended that the City continue the contract with Wellmark to administer the City's health plan.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Des Moines, Iowa:

1. Good Cause has been shown to exempt procurement of Administrative Services related to the City's self-funded plan from the City's Procurement Ordinance competitive procurement requirement.
2. The Agreement between the Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Iowa is approved, the City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to execute said document along with any renewals.

(Council Communication No. 26-203)



Roll Call Number

26-0686

Agenda Item Number

39

Date June 08, 2026

Moved by Gatto to adopt

Second by Voss

Approved as to Form:

/s/ Meg Norberg

Meg Norberg

Deputy City Attorney

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
BOESEN	✓			
SIMONSON	✓			
VOSS	✓			
BARRON	✓			
WESTERGAARD	✓			
MANDELBAUM	✓			
GATTO	✓			
TOTAL	7			

CERTIFICATE

I, LAURA BAUMGARTNER, City Clerk of said City hereby certify that at a meeting of the City Council of said City of Des Moines, held on the above date, among other proceedings the above was adopted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year first above written.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVED

Connie Boesen

Mayor

Laura Baumgartner

City Clerk