

BY AUTHORITY

ORDINANCE NO. **4270**

COUNCILLOR'S BILL NO. **36**

SERIES OF 2024

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILLORS  
**Ezeadi, Nurmela**

**A BILL  
FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2024 BUDGET OF THE GENERAL FUND AND  
THE GENERAL CAPITAL OUTLAY REPLACEMENT FUND AND AUTHORIZING A  
SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FROM THE 2024 ESTIMATED REVENUES IN  
THE FUND**

THE CITY OF WESTMINSTER ORDAINS:

Section 1. The 2024 appropriation for the General Fund and General Capital Outlay Replacement Fund initially appropriated by Ordinance No. 4221 is hereby increased by \$2,092,002. This appropriation is for the receipt of funds from the EMS Supplemental reimbursement.

Section 2. The \$2,092,002 increase shall be allocated to City Revenue and Expense accounts as described in the City Council Agenda, dated October 28, 2024 (a copy of which may be obtained from the City Clerk) increasing City fund budgets as follows:

|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| General Fund                           | \$2,092,002        |
| General Capital Outlay Replacement     | <u>2,092,002</u>   |
| Total Appropriations                   | \$4,184,004        |
| Less Appropriations from Transfers     | <u>- 2,092,002</u> |
| Total Appropriations, Net of Transfers | <u>\$2,092,002</u> |

Section 3 – Severability. The provisions of this Ordinance shall be considered as severable. If any section, paragraph, clause, word, or any other part of this Ordinance shall for any reason be held to be invalid or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, such part shall be deemed as severed from this ordinance. The invalidity or unenforceability of such section, paragraph, clause, or provision shall not affect the construction or enforceability of any of the remaining provisions, unless it is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction that a contrary result is necessary in order for this Ordinance to have any meaning whatsoever.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage after the second reading.

Section 5. This ordinance shall be published in full within ten days after its enactment.

INTRODUCED, PASSED ON FIRST READING, AND TITLE AND PURPOSE ORDERED PUBLISHED this 28th day of October, 2024.

PASSED, ENACTED ON SECOND READING, AND FULL TEXT ORDERED PUBLISHED this 25th day of November, 2024.

ATTEST:

*Nancy McNally*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

*[Signature]*

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

*David Frankel*



**2024 Supplemental Appropriation  
Account Tables**

These appropriations will amend General Fund revenue and expense accounts as follows:

REVENUES

| Description              | Account Number  | Current Budget | Amendment           | Revised Budget |
|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Reimbursements           | 1000.43080.0000 | \$ 4,785,000   | \$ 2,092,002        | \$ 6,877,002   |
| Total Change to Revenues |                 |                | <u>\$ 2,092,002</u> |                |

EXPENSES

| Description              | Account Number      | Current Budget | Amendment           | Revised Budget |
|--------------------------|---------------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Transfer to GCORF        | 10010900.79800.0450 | -              | 2,092,002           | 2,092,002      |
| Total Change to Expenses |                     |                | <u>\$ 2,092,002</u> |                |

These appropriations will amend General Capital Outlay Replacement Fund (GCORF) revenue and expense accounts as follows:

REVENUES

| Description                | Account Number  | Current Budget | Amendment           | Revised Budget |
|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Transfer from General Fund | 4500.45000.0100 | \$ -           | \$ 2,092,002        | \$ 2,092,002   |
| Total Change to Revenues   |                 |                | <u>\$ 2,092,002</u> |                |

EXPENSES

| Description                    | Account Number         | Current Budget | Amendment           | Revised Budget |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Capital Outlay - Public Safety | 80645010911.80400.8888 | 8,720,528      | 2,092,002           | 10,812,530     |
| Total Change to Expenses       |                        |                | <u>\$ 2,092,002</u> |                |



Agenda Item - 10.F.

## Agenda Memorandum

City Council Meeting  
October 11, 2021



*Advance the City's long-term sustainability to provide ongoing excellence in City services and a well-planned community that meets the needs of residents now and in the future.*

**Subject:** Ratification of Acceptance of Funds from the Colorado Emergency Medical Services Supplemental Payment Program FY2020 and Authorization to Apply for and Accept Funds from the Colorado Emergency Medical Services Supplemental Payment Program in Future Years

**Prepared By:** Jeromy Hill, Emergency Medical Services Chief

### Recommended City Council Action:

1. Ratify the acceptance of the funds in the amount of \$1,731,428.68 received from the FY2020 cycle of the Colorado Emergency Medical Services Supplemental Payment program.
2. Authorize the Fire Department to submit application to, and accept funds from, future cycles of the Colorado Emergency Medical Services Supplemental Payment program to include FY2021, FY2022, FY2023, FY2024, and FY2025 as applicable and available.

### Summary Statement:

- The Colorado Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Supplemental Payment Program is a voluntary, ongoing reimbursement opportunity for public ambulance providers to recover additional payment for EMS delivered to Health First Colorado (Medicaid) beneficiaries.
- Different from a traditional grant, this reimbursement program requires application, followed by submittal of a comprehensive cost report. Once the report is submitted, the costs for services are compared with the EMS agency's Medicaid reimbursement for the respective time period and the amount of supplemental payment, if offered, is derived from this comparison.
- Staff is requesting City Council to ratify the acceptance of the funds awarded for the FY2020 cycle, in the amount of \$1,731,428.68.
- Staff is requesting to apply for the Colorado EMS Supplemental Payment Program for the FY2021-FY2025 cycles and also authorization to accept any reimbursement funding awarded as a result of program application for the same cycles.

### Fiscal Impact:

None at this time. Staff is targeting options for appropriation/allocation of these funds and will return to City Council for authorization as needed.

### Source of Funds:

U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid services (CMS) via the Colorado EMS Supplemental Payment program.

### Policy Issue(s):

1. Should the City accept and receive the FY2020 Colorado EMS Supplemental Payment in the amount of \$1,731,428.68?
2. Should City Council authorize the Fire Department to submit application for participation in the Colorado EMS Supplemental Payment Program for the FY2021-FY2025 cycles and accept any reimbursement funding resulting from application to these cycles?

**Alternative(s):**

1. City Council could elect to not authorize receipt of the reimbursement funds awarded from the FY2020 cycle of the Colorado EMS Supplemental Payment program. As the certification has been signed and the deposit is forthcoming, declination of this award would require the City to provide a refund of the total amount to the fund source. This alternative is not recommended.
2. City Council could deny authorization for the Fire Department to submit application to, and receive funds from, the FY2021-FY2025 cycles of the Colorado EMS Supplemental Payment program. The FY2019 and FY2020 payments demonstrate a strong possibility for similar significant payments being granted for future cycles of the program. Acquisition of funds like these helps the City to achieve the strategic goal of "Advance the City's long-term sustainability to provide ongoing excellence in City services and a well-planned community that meets the needs of residents now and in the future." This alternative is not recommended.

**Background Information:**

The Fire Department provides fire suppression and EMS for the Westminster community and has delivered ambulance transport services since 1991. The Fire Department has five front-line advanced life support ambulances and transports roughly 6,200 patients a year to area hospitals. In 2020, the Fire Department responded to over 8,300 emergency medical incidents. The payor mix for these services provided was:

- Medicare: 32%
- Medicaid: 13%
- Commercial Insurance: 27%
- Private/Self-Pay: 28%

A typical ambulance invoice ranges from \$800 to \$1,400 for treatment and transport of an individual patient, depending upon the medical complaint and therapies needed. For Medicaid patients, the average reimbursement for these amenities is less than \$200 and the City is unable to collect any remaining balance.

The requirements for the Colorado EMS Supplemental Payment program are fulfilled up-front. First, an agency considering application is required to attend an annual training provided by Public Consulting Group (PCG) to orient staff with the program, cost reporting requirements, and any program changes since the previous cycle. Agencies are then required to submit a participation agreement.

After the first two items have been completed, the agency is granted access to a reporting portal where an exhaustive cost report is entered. These costs include, but are not limited to, all capital purchases, costs for services, payroll and overtime, durable equipment, disposable supplies, fuel, and office supplies. Each cost is evaluated to determine if it was attributable to the delivery of medical transport services, and if so, to what extent. This is a challenging mission in itself, but even more so as the program requires that this be done within a timeline of less than two months. Working long hours together, an inter-departmental team of employees from the Fire and Finance Departments put together the comprehensive product that was provided to PCG for review in late November. These numbers are then associated with the total number of EMS transports provided by the agency during the respective time period to calculate an average cost per transport.

Once the cost report is finalized, PCG performs a desk review of every submitted report, at which time they request additional information or clarification as needed. A portion of the reports also go through a comprehensive audit by PCG staff. PCG then coordinates with the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing to assess the data and the average cost per transport to compare with the actual number of Medicaid patients transported by the agency. It is this assessment that determines the amount of funds reimbursed, if any.

Per the City's grant policy, an "Authorization to Apply for Grant or Federal Award" was completed by the Fire Department and submitted to the Finance Department. Because the award amount is based upon information tendered by reporting costs to PCG, staff was unable to know for certain if reimbursement would be offered, and if so, what the amount of payment might be. For this reason, notification of City Council was delayed so that the information presented would be accurate. On September 1, 2021, Fire Department staff received notification that, based on evaluation of the data provided, a cost settlement in the amount of \$1,731,428.68 was approved by the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing for disbursement to the City. To be awarded this settlement, a certification signature was required by September 8, 2021. Advisement of the payment amount was made to staff from the Finance Department and Policy and Budget Department and the certification signature was provided. The date of deposit of these funds into the City account was September 29, 2021. Staff is requesting City Council's formal approval to accept and receive these funds. Fire Department and Policy and Budget staff will work together to determine the direction of the received funds and will request City Council approval once these appropriations have been defined.

In addition, staff is also requesting formal authorization from City Council to submit application to the Colorado EMS Supplemental Payment program, as well as authorization to accept any reimbursement granted, for the next five cycles of the program, to include FY2021, FY2022, FY2023, FY2024, and FY2025.

This project and the resulting outcome illustrate a profound example of City of Westminster employees' commitment to innovation and teamwork to enhance the financial sustainability of City operations and provide a continued high-quality level of services to the Westminster community. The inter-departmental project team has found great reward in working together to achieve this goal and should be very proud of their accomplishments.

Respectfully submitted,

*Donald M. Tripp*

Donald M. Tripp  
City Manager