City Council Action Financial Impact Report

Title of Item: Ordinance amending the Medical Service Program

Originating Department: Finance

Description of Impact

The ordinance is not expected to have any impact on City revenue or on the cost to citizens. The amendment spells out the terms of the TotalCare program but does not make any changes to the program. The TotalCare program was previously defined as the program operated by EMSA. The amendment places the program terms within the City code. Incorporating the terms of the program in the ordinance does not have a financial impact.

The amendment also allows the City to remove utility customers who are substantially behind on their utility bill from the program. This change will only impact those customers who do not have water service, but have rural trash service, known as rural refuse customers. The City has chosen, for public health reasons, to pick up the refuse at all City residences, regardless of payment status. Several thousand of these customers did not opt out of the TotalCare program, but have not paid their utility bill. These customers currently receive the benefits of TotalCare without paying the cost. The ordinance change presented will provide a mechanism for the Utilities Department to remove them from the program. This change is not expected to have any impact on City revenues or costs to citizens since these customers are not paying the City anything. This change is expected to benefit EMSA since these customers will now be responsible for out of pocket expenses for emergency ambulance transport. The impact on EMSA cannot be estimated because of the difficulty of tracking a subset of customers in the Utility system through the billing process at EMSA. Increased revenue at EMSA would eventually result in a reduced level of support from the City through the Medical Service Program.

Summary of Impact

- a. Cost to City Organization: None.
- b. Cost to Citizens: None.
- c. Cost to Business Community: None.
- d. Revenue Produced: None.

Source of Funds

Fund Name: Medical Service Program Fund

Agency Name: Non-Departmental

Department Head Signature:

OMB Review Completed by: 6