



Agenda Item:

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COUNCIL COMMUNICATION City Manager's Office

GENERAL INFORMATION

Agenda Date: 12/19/2005
Agenda Item Type: Resolution

Communication No.: 05-701
Roll Call No.:

Submitted by: Phillip C. Vorlander, Chief of the Fire Department

SUBJECT—

Contract for Fire recruit paramedic training services.

SYNOPSIS—

This action will approve a contract with Mercy School of Emergency Medical Services for the provision of emergency medical technician-paramedic specialist (EMT-PS) training to members of its 2005 Recruit Academy.

FISCAL IMPACT—

Total net tuition for this training is \$63,750. Funds are available in HRS 980100, SP720, Account Number 562050.

RECOMMENDATION—

Approval

BACKGROUND—

Maintenance of certification as an Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic Specialist (EMT-PS) is a condition of employment for all new hire fire fighters. To address this requirement, the Recruit Academy is configured into two phases. Phase 1 provides instruction in the policies, practices, skills, techniques, and evolutions necessary for a recruit to function as a firefighter, as well as the education and training required for certification as an Emergency Medical Technician-Basic (EMT-B). Fire Department staff members provide this training.

At the completion of Phase 1, new hires that possess EMT-PS certification report to fire stations as probationary firefighters. Members of the class who do not possess EMT-PS certification report to Phase 2 to receive the fourteen-week classroom component of EMT-PS training. The Mercy School of Emergency Medical Services is the only provider of this education in central Iowa. The Des Moines Fire Department enjoys a mutually beneficial relationship with the Mercy School of EMS. The City is a provider of preceptors and clinical field experience for Mercy School of EMS students. As a result, in addition to presenting the classroom component of the paramedic training curriculum, the Mercy School oversees and coordinates the clinical portion of the training, which lasts approximately nine months. This is an integral component of our recruits' station assignments.