



CITY OF GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM

Report: Authorizing a five-year agreement of the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Medical Director contract with Dr. Angelica Loza-Gomez, M.D.

1. Motion to approve a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with Dr. Angelica Loza-Gomez, M.D. for the City of Glendale Fire Department and the Verdugo Fire Communication Center.

COUNCIL ACTION

Item Type: Consent Calendar

Approved for March 28, 2023 **calendar**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Los Angeles County Health Department regulations, as well as proper emergency medical care programming, require that the operation of an advanced life support (ALS) paramedic program and emergency medical services (EMS) dispatch center be provided under the supervision of a medical doctor experienced in the field of pre-hospital emergency medical care. The current contract expired on January 31, 2023, and a five-year contract will allow the Glendale Fire Department and the Verdugo Fire Communications Center to maintain operations under the supervision of a Medical Director throughout that time.

COUNCIL PRIORITIES

Safety Healthy and Community: Having the continuous oversight of a Medical Director is a requirement of the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services and is essential in providing the highest level of service to the community.

RECOMMENDATION

We request City Council approval for a Motion authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to approve a PSA between the City of Glendale on behalf of Glendale Fire and Verdugo Fire Communications Center (VFCC) with Dr. Angelica Loza-Gomez M.D. for Emergency Medical Director Services for a term of five years.

BACKGROUND

Dr. Angelica Loza-Gomez, M.D. has served as Medical Director for the GFD and the VFCC since February 2015. Dr. Loza-Gomez is double board certified in both Emergency Medicine and Emergency Medical Services. She is an Emergency Department Physician at the Los Angeles County-USC Medical Center, is a Professor of Emergency Medicine at the USC Keck School of Medicine and is a published author and national speaker that include publications related to pre-hospital and emergency department care. She is also currently the Medical Director for the Glendale Police Department and provides oversight for their Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) program.

ANALYSIS

Los Angeles County Health Department regulations, as well as proper emergency medical care programming, require that the operation of an advanced life support (ALS) paramedic program and emergency medical services (EMS) dispatch center be provided under the supervision of a medical doctor experienced in the field of pre-hospital emergency medical care. Filling this position is extremely difficult as there are a limited number of qualified physicians who are willing to provide these services. Dr. Loza-Gomez has been the Medical Director for the Glendale Fire Department and VFCC for the last eight years and she has acquired a significant amount of institutional knowledge that brings inherent value. Staff did a review of the compensation for a medical director in comparable cities and has determined that the proposed fee is competitive in the market and is less than the rate being paid in other cities, such as Santa Monica.

STAKEHOLDERS/OUTREACH

N/A

FISCAL IMPACT

The PSA contract with Dr. Angelica Loza-Gomez, M.D. will cost \$81,120 in the first year (\$49,920/\$4,160 per month with Glendale Fire and \$31,200/\$2,600 per month Verdugo Fire Communication Center) and would increase by 3% each year for the duration of the 5-year contract. It is proposed that this contract be approved to be effective starting on February 1, 2023, to allow for uninterrupted compensation for the contractor. The Fire Department and the VFCC is already currently budgeted to cover the cost of these contracts and no new appropriation is being requested at this time. The City Council proposed funding is outlined below:

Existing Appropriation		
Amount	Account String	Funding Source
\$49,920	43110-1010-GFD-4001	General Fund
\$31,200	43110-5800-GFD-4005	Fire Communication Fund

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

This item is exempt from campaign disclosure requirements.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1: The City Council may approve the motion.

Alternative 2: The City Council can consider any other alternative not proposed by staff.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

Prepared by:

Todd Tucker, EMS Battalion Chief

Approved by:

Roubik R. Golanian, P.E., City Manager

EXHIBITS/ATTACHMENTS
