

PORT OF SEATTLE
MEMORANDUM

COMMISSION AGENDA

Item No. 5b
Date of Meeting December 13, 2011

DATE: December 2, 2011

TO: Tay Yoshitani, Chief Executive Officer

FROM: Randy Krause, Fire Chief *RJK*

SUBJECT: Interlocal Agreement between the Port of Seattle and King County for Emergency Medical Services

Amount of this Request: \$34,330 in 2012

Source of Funds: Fire Department 2012 Operating Budget

Total Value of the Interlocal Agreement (2012-2019): \$281,530 (\$41,200 payable annually, subject to CPI adjustment every January 1st, beginning in 2013 through December 31, 2019)

ACTION REQUESTED:

Request Commission authorization for the Chief Executive Officer to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with King County for emergency medical services effective March 1, 2012, through December 31, 2019, with two six-year options to extend the agreement for a maximum length of 20 years. The Port of Seattle will pay King County \$41,196 in 2012, and \$41,200 annually thereafter, subject to an annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) adjustment, for services from January 1, 2013, through December 31, 2019.

SYNOPSIS:

For over 25 years the Port has relied on King County to provide advance life support or paramedic services at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, in the area served by the Port's Fire Department. It is more cost-effective for the Fire Department to contract with King County to provide these emergency medical services than for the Fire Department to directly provide these services. The County has provided these services to nearby municipalities across jurisdictional lines as part of mutual aid, a common practice among municipal police and fire departments.

An example of the need for advance life support is when Airport emergency responders are called to cardiac incidents. The Airport responders provide heart stimulation, stabilize patients, administer oxygen, and other duties in preparation for the King County responders who provide the advance life support to communicate with emergency room doctors, administer drugs, and transport the cardiac patients to local hospitals. It is this very effective partnership and system

COMMISSION AGENDA

Tay Yoshitani, Chief Executive Officer

December 2, 2011

Page 2 of 3

that has enabled Sea-Tac Airport to have one of the best save rates for cardiac attacks in the entire country.

The proposed interlocal agreement with King County (attached) is a long-term agreement for King County to provide advance life support, including support for multi and mass casualty incidents, at Sea-Tac Airport, effective March 1, 2012, through December 31, 2019. There are two options to extend this agreement by amendment for additional six-year terms for a total of 20 years. Port of Seattle Legal has reviewed and approved the Inter-Local Agreement.

BACKGROUND:

The original agreement with King County for emergency medical services dates back to 1982; that agreement was extended and modified in 1985, 1987, and 1991. There have been addendums to these old agreements, including an addendum #8 executed in January 1999 by the Fire Chief that extended the duration of the agreement indefinitely and an addendum #9 executed in May 2007 by the CEO that raised the payment amount to \$40,000 annually but left undisturbed the provision in addendum #8 which said "This addendum shall commence on the 1st day of January, 1999, and shall remain in effect until terminated by mutual written agreement of the parties hereto." The addendums purport to extend indefinitely the original 1982 contract to pay King County \$40,000 annually for emergency medical services and purport to make the contract terminable only upon agreement by both the Port and King County. Legal Counsel has advised that the addendums to the 1982 agreement are no contractually reliable; therefore both the Port and King County recognized the need for a new agreement.

The Port Commission voted to authorize the CEO to enter into and implement an interlocal agreement for King County to provide advance life support or paramedic services at Sea-Tac Airport on March 23, 2010, but as explained in the Fire Department's October 12, 2012, memo to the Commission, the County delayed County Council approval of the interlocal agreement.

The scope of services to be provided by the County, i.e., paramedic services, remains materially unchanged from what the Port Commission voted to authorize in 2010. The main differences are as follows:

- 1) the compensation that the Commission previously authorized was \$40,000 annually as opposed to \$41,200 annually, subject to CPI adjustment; and
- 2) the duration of the agreement contemplated in 2010 was through December 31, 2020, with two options to extend the agreement for additional 10-year terms for a total of 30 years, whereas the duration in the proposed agreement (attached) is through December 31, 2019, with two options to extend for additional six-year terms for a total of 20 years.

For the interim, Sea-Tac Airport is covered by an interim agreement between the Port and County under which the Port pays the County \$46,866 to provide advance life support/paramedic services during 2011 and through the end of February 2012.

COMMISSION AGENDA

Tay Yoshitani, Chief Executive Officer

December 2, 2011

Page 3 of 3

The County's Contract Administrator and Deputy Prosecuting Attorney have indicated that they will forward the attached interlocal agreement to the County Council for review and approval. The County has indicated that it would like to see Port Commission approval of the attached interlocal agreement prior to County Council vote, and that provided the Port Commission approves it, the attached agreement will be placed on the County Council agenda before the first two months of 2012. The County has indicated that there is a remote possibility that the County Council will request some change to the attached agreement; if the change is a material departure from the attached agreement, the parties understand that the Fire Department will need to bring back a revised agreement for vote by the Commission.

PURPOSE OF AGREEMENT:

The proposed interlocal agreement with King County is to ensure continuity of advance life support/paramedic services at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport.

Under the proposed interlocal agreement, the County will provide advance life support to the Port, including support for multi and mass casualty incidents, in the area served by the Port's Fire Department at the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. The Port will be responsible for supporting or maintaining a system of basic life support services and for providing first response to out-of-hospital medical emergencies.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The cost of advance life support/paramedic services for 2012 is \$41,196, including \$6,866 for January and February 2012 under the interim agreement plus \$34,330 for the remaining months of 2012 and is included in the Fire Department's 2012 operating budget. The cost of King County's services from 2013 through December 31, 2019 (\$41,200 annually, subject to annual CPI adjustment) will be included in the Fire Department's annual operating budgets.

OTHER DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS REQUEST:

Proposed Interlocal Agreement between the Port of Seattle and King County for Emergency Medical Services.

PREVIOUS COMMISSION ACTION:

March 23, 2010: Commission approved a version of an interlocal agreement for King County to provide emergency medical services, for which the County did not request County Council approval.

