




Interoffice Memorandum

Public Hearing

May 16, 2022

TO: Mayor Jerry L. Demings
-AND-
County Commissioners

FROM: Raul Pino, M.D., M.P.H., Director
Health Services Department 

CONTACT: **Christian C. Zuver, M.D., Medical Director**
EMS/Office of the Medical Director
407-836-7606

SUBJECT: Ordinance Pertaining to Emergency and Nonemergency Medical Care and Transportation in Orange County, Florida
Public Hearing – May 24, 2022

Orange County's EMS/Office of the Medical Director ("EMS") has received several applications for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity ("COPCN") since April 2019. COPCNs are required for a person to provide emergency medical care and transportation services in Orange County, Florida (the "County"). The COPCN application process is described in Chapter 20, Article III of the Orange County Code of Ordinances (the "Code").

On August 6, 2019, the Orange County Board of County Commissioners (the "Board") held a public hearing on an application for a COPCN and directed staff to evaluate certain issues in the COPCN application process. On October 12, 2021, the Board held a discussion on the issues identified by EMS and EMS's recommended modifications to the Code. On March 8, 2022, the Board held a work session and provided feedback to EMS on the issues and recommended modifications to the Code. In accordance with Florida Statutes, EMS sought additional feedback and recommendations from the local or regional trauma agency, municipalities within the County, and other stakeholders within the emergency medical services system.

Attached is a proposed ordinance pertaining to emergency and nonemergency medical care and transportation in the County that amends Chapter 20, Article III of the Code ("Proposed Ordinance"). Among other changes, the Proposed Ordinance amends the Code's definitions, the duties of EMS and the County's Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council ("EMSAC"), and the COPCN application process. The Proposed Ordinance requires EMS to conduct a survey of the community's need for additional services, requires EMSAC to review COPCN applications and make recommendations to the Board, and includes guidelines for determining the public convenience and necessity. Finally, the Proposed Ordinance requires certificate holders to abide by certain customer service policies and to submit annual reports with data related to call volume, response times, and staffing levels.

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval and execution of an Ordinance Pertaining to Emergency and Nonemergency Medical Care and Transportation in Orange County, Florida; Amending Chapter 20, Article III of the Orange

County Code of Ordinances; Providing for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity; Providing for Certification Procedures and Standards when Operating as an Emergency Medical Services Provider; Providing for Alternative Transportation Services; Providing for Repeal of Laws in Conflict; and Providing for Filing of Ordinance and Effective Date.

Attachments

- c: Byron W. Brooks, AICP, County Administrator
Jeffrey J. Newton, County Attorney
Danny Banks, Deputy County Administrator
John Goodrich, Deputy Director, Health Services Department
Dylan Schott, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office