



Travis County Commissioners Court Agenda Request

Meeting Date: August 13, 2013

Prepared By/Phone Number: Yolanda Reyes, (512)854-9106

Elected/Appointed Official/Dept. Head: Leslie Browder, County Executive, Planning and Budget

Commissioners Court Sponsor: Judge Samuel T. Biscoe

AGENDA LANGUAGE: Consider and take appropriate action on the *STAR Flight Fee's* for FY 2014 to take effect on October 1, 2013.

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF REQUEST AND ATTACHMENTS:

Please see attached documentation

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Please see attached documentation

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES: Please see attached documentation

FISCAL IMPACT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING: Please see attached documentation.

REQUIRED AUTHORIZATIONS:

Leslie Browder – Planning and Budget Office, 512-854-9106

Jessica Rio – Planning and Budget Office, 512-854-9106

David Salazar - County Judge's Office, 512-854-9555



Austin-Travis County
STAR Flight



7800 Old Manor Road
Austin, TX 78724
www.starflightrescue.org

Dispatch 1-800-531-STAR
Administration (512) 854-6464
Fax (512) 854-6466

To: Travis County Commissioners Court
Through: Danny Hobby, County Executive, Emergency Services
From: Casey Ping, Program Director, **STAR Flight**
Date: July 31, 2013
Subject: Increase in **STAR Flight** Fee's

Emergency Services and the **STAR Flight** management team has completed a review of our current fee structure. We recommend to the Commissioners Court that the following increases be approved:

STAR Flight Helicopter

Lift Off Fee

Travis County resident fee from \$3,400 to \$4,500

Non Travis County lift-off fee from \$7,500 to \$9,000

Mileage Fee (Loaded/One Way)

\$85 to \$105

STAR Flight Ground Ambulance- Critical Care (Speciality)

Base Fee

\$990 to \$1,500

Mileage Fee

\$12.50 to \$15.00

There are some areas of Travis County that the current resident lift-off fee is below the Medicare allowable and should be increased to achieve maximum reimbursement for these transports.

The fee increases are based upon increased cost (salaries, fuel, operations) and address increased maintenance costs along with reduced reimbursements and settlements that are occurring as a result of tough economic times. The uninsured also impacts the total cost of the services since little reimbursement is achieved.

See Attachment A for a complete history of fee increases in prior years.

The recommended fees are still very competitive within the air medical industry, especially when you consider the capability and safety equipment of the **STAR Flight** aircraft and personnel.

Travis County has not increased **STAR Flight** fees since 2010.

On the revenue side, there would be an estimated FY14 revenue increase of \$553,014, going from our original estimate of \$2,512,709 using current fees to our revised estimate of \$3,065,725 using our proposed fee increases assuming no change in call volume.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Thank you.

ATTACHMENT A

July 31, 2001

CURRENT RATE STRUCTURE

In County Lift Off:	\$1,600
Out of County Lift Off:	\$2,600
In and Out of County Mileage:	\$50

PROPOSED FY 2002 RATE STRUCTURE

In County Lift Off:	\$1,600
Out of County Lift Off:	\$3,400 (\$800 increase)
In and Out of County Mileage:	\$50

September 16, 2003

CURRENT RATE STRUCTURE

In County Lift Off:	\$1,600
Out of County Lift Off:	\$3,400
In and Out of County Mileage:	\$50

PROPOSED FY 2004 RATE STRUCTURE

In County Lift Off:	\$2,000 (\$400 increase)
Out of County Lift Off:	\$4,000 (\$600 increase)
In and Out of County Mileage:	\$50

June 14, 2005

CURRENT RATE STRUCTURE

In County Lift Off:	\$2,000
Out of County Lift Off:	\$4,000
In and Out of County Mileage:	\$50

PROPOSED FY 2006 RATE STRUCTURE

In County Lift Off:	\$2,000
Out of County Lift Off:	\$4,500 (\$500 increase)
In and Out of County Mileage:	\$55 (\$5 increase)

September 4, 2006

CURRENT RATE STRUCTURE

County Residents Lift Off:	\$2,000
Non County Residents Lift Off:	\$4,500
In and Out of County Mileage:	\$55

PROPOSED FY 2007 RATE STRUCTURE

County Residents Lift Off:	\$2,500	(\$500 increase)
Non County Residents Lift Off:	\$5,000	(\$500 increase)
In and Out of County Mileage:	\$65	(\$10 increase)

July 1, 2008

CURRENT RATE STRUCTURE

County Residents Lift Off:	\$2,500
Non County Residents Lift Off:	\$5,000
In and Out of County Mileage:	\$65

PROPOSED FY 2009 RATE STRUCTURE

County Residents Lift Off:	\$2,700	(\$200 increase)
Non County Residents Lift Off:	\$7,000	(\$2,000 increase)
In and Out of County Mileage:	\$85	(\$20 increase)

January 19, 2010

CURRENT RATE STRUCTURE

County Residents Lift Off:	\$2,700
Non County Residents Lift Off:	\$7,000
In and Out of County Mileage:	\$85

PROPOSED FY 2011 RATE STRUCTURE

County Residents Lift Off:	\$3,400	(\$700 increase)
Non County Residents Lift Off:	\$7,500	(\$500 increase)
In and Out of County Mileage:	\$85	(no increase)

August 13, 2013

STAR Flight Helicopter Fees

CURRENT RATE STRUCTURE

County Residents Lift Off:	\$3,400
Non County Residents Lift Off:	\$7,500
In and Out of County Mileage:	\$85

PROPOSED FY 2014 RATE STRUCTURE

County Residents Lift Off:	\$4,500 (\$1,100 increase)
Non County Residents Lift Off:	\$9,000 (\$1,500 increase)
In and Out of County Mileage:	\$105 (\$20 increase)

STAR Flight Ground Ambulance Fee

NOTE: Established in 2010 during Intermedix contract. NOTE: This is critical care rates. Not ALS2 rate charged by Austin-Travis County EMS.

CURRENT RATE STRUCTURE

Base:	\$990
Mileage:	\$12.50 per loaded mile

PROPOSED FY 2014 RATE STRUCTURE

Base:	\$1,500 (\$510 increase)
Mileage:	\$15.00 (\$2.50 increase)

