

# Memorandum



October 19, 2010

**Date:**

**To:** Honorable Chairman Dennis C. Moss  
and Members Board of County Commissioners

Supplement to  
Agenda Item No.  
801B

**From:** George M. Burgess  
County Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Burgess", written over the printed name of the County Manager.

**Subject:** Supplement to Recommendation to Reject all Proposals, Waive the Competitive Bidding Process and Bid Protest Procedures, and Allow for Parallel Negotiations with the Two Proposers that Submitted Proposals: Medical Transportation Services (Ambulance) RFP 692

This supplement is presented to advise the Board of County Commissioners that a temporary bridge contract has been issued for a six month term with the current provider, Randle-Eastern Ambulance Services, Inc. d/b/a American Medical Response (AMR) to ensure the continuity of the medical transportation services. AMR agreed to provide medical transportation (ambulance) services at no cost to the County. AMR provides ambulance services for the two groups identified as: Group 1 - Urgent /Non Urgent Response - County and Municipal Fire Rescue Systems, and Group 2 - Urgent/Non Urgent - Miami-Dade Corrections and Rehabilitation and Municipal Police Departments. The firm agreed to hold the current price structure only if the County eliminated the required response times and associated liquidated damages.

The original six month temporary bridge contract expires on September 15, 2010. AMR has agreed to an extension of an additional six months through this temporary bridge agreement, which would then expire March 15, 2011. This extension would allow time to complete the parallel negotiations as requested in the original memo for medical transportation services being presented at the September 14 Budget, Planning and Sustainability (BPS) Committee. The temporary bridge contract is issued under the Manager's Delegated Authority as no County funds are being expended. During the time period that the bridge contract has been in place (since March 16, 2010) AMR has been providing services in a satisfactory manner, and has not refused any calls for services.

The County also extended the existing contract for medical transportation services under the competitively established contract previously approved by the Board for Group 3 - Urgent/Non Urgent/Stretcher Community Health Facilities, with the current provider, MCT Express, Inc., d/b/a Miami Dade Ambulance Service (MCT Express). No changes were made to the terms and conditions associated with Group 3 services, and as permitted in the agreement, staff extended that contract for an additional 180 days. This contract expires on September 13, 2010.

MCT Express has advised they cannot perform these services for current rate of \$27.47. In order to continue services for Group 3, MCT Express requests that the County pay the current County rate allowed for Basic Life Support (BLS) transports of \$256, plus \$7.50 a mile, and the current County rate allowed for Advanced Life Support (ALS) transport of \$380, plus \$7.50 per mile. MCT Express would only bill the County if they were unable to collect payment from the patient (either through insurance or self pay). MCT currently bills the County for approximately 45 calls per month; approximately 20% of these calls are for ALS transports. The County currently pays approximately \$15,000 per year for ambulance services in Group 3. Based on

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and Members, Board of County Commissioners  
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the current reimbursement rates as stated above, this amount would increase to approximately \$200,000 per year.

As stated and further detailed in the original memo being presented to the BPS Committee along with this supplemental memo, we will not be extending this agreement beyond the September 13, 2010 date. All agencies that use the Group 3 services have been notified and have made alternate plans for contractual services. The Department of Emergency Management has scheduled a webinar for September 10th with the Community Health Centers to educate them on the alternate services.

  
Assistant County Manager