



SMALL TOWN, BIG BEACH™

DATE: September 16th 2019

ISSUE: AirMedCare Network Municipal Site Membership for Emergency air and ground ambulance service.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve Public/Private partnership agreement with the AirMedCare Network to provide residents living within the City of Gulf Shores Corporate Limits prepaid membership for ground ambulance- and helicopter/air emergency transport through the AirMedCare Network Municipal Site membership.

BACKGROUND: The City of Gulf Shores' Vision 2025 Key Strategy to provide Leading Edge Healthcare for our citizens was the starting point of this project. Identifying ways to improve the health, safety, and general wellbeing of our residents is paramount. One issue identified by staff is the high cost of non-covered emergency transport service via ambulance and helicopter. We are aware through our personal and professional experience, that residents have experienced exorbitant out of pocket medical bills for air and ground ambulance even after co-pays. Looking for solutions to this issue, we approached Medstar Emergency Medical Services. They are the exclusive ground ambulance provider in Baldwin County, who also operates two Medical Helicopters. Together we have found a solution that we feel will greatly benefit the citizens of Gulf Shores who live within the Corporate Limits.

Residents would be covered under an AirMedCare Network membership when transported by Medstar Air Care 1 and Medstar Emergency Medical Services (or any other AirMedCare Network Provider).

City of Gulf Shores Corporate Limit Resident Benefits:

- **NO OUT OF POCKET EXPENSE for the City of Gulf Shores Corporate Limit Residents insured at the time of transport when pick up location is in Baldwin County, Alabama**
- **DISCOUNTED TRANSPORT BILL for City of Gulf Shores Corporate Limit Resident's uninsured at the time of transport when pickup location is in Baldwin County, Alabama. Bill reduced to the Medicare Allowable Rate**

Residents are eligible to upgrade to full member status at \$45/yr (\$35/yr over 60) providing a \$40 to \$50/yr discount! If you are a current member, and set to expire within the next year, you will be able to renew for the \$45 rate as well.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION: None



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BUDGET IMPLICATIONS: This non-budgeted annual expense of \$163,798.40 is proposed to be amended into the 2019 General Fund Budget

RELATED ISSUES: A separate agreement is currently under discussion to provide this as an Employee Benefit for the 2020 budget.

ATTACHMENTS:

- AirMedCare Network Municipal Site Membership

DEPARTMENT: Fire and Emergency Services

STAFF CONTACT: Keith Martin