

RESOLUTION 2023-36

A Resolution of the City Council of Sterling Heights, Michigan in support of the implementation of a Ground Emergency Medical Transportation Program in Michigan.

WHEREAS, the city of Sterling Heights Fire Department provides Ground Emergency Medical Transportation (GEMT) services, the beneficiaries of which are many Medicaid recipients; and,

WHEREAS, the GEMT Program available through the United States Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services provides monetary reimbursement to public providers for GEMT services rendered to Medicaid patients; and,

WHEREAS, the state of Michigan is not currently participating in the GEMT Program, which is a voluntary enrollment program at both the state and local levels; and,

WHEREAS, according to the US Census Bureau, approximately 14% of residents within the city of Sterling Heights are Medicaid recipients; and,

WHEREAS, implementation of the GEMT Program in the state of Michigan has potential to yield hundreds of thousands of federal reimbursement dollars critical to maintaining quality GEMT services in and for the city of Sterling Heights; and,

WHEREAS, the emergency services sector has struggled with workforce recruitment and retention in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic; and,

WHEREAS, the GEMT Program will help Michigan municipalities, including the city of Sterling Heights, to recruit and retain firefighter/paramedics; and,

WHEREAS, the GEMT Program is shown to have expanded access, quality, and sustainability of emergency services for Medicaid recipients in participating states; and,

WHEREAS, the MI-GEMT Coalition is advocating for the passage of legislation directing the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to enroll in the GEMT Program; and,

WHEREAS, the MI-GEMT Coalition includes as members the Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs, Michigan Municipal League, Michigan Townships Association; and,

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the city of Sterling Heights hereby affirms its support for and urges the Michigan House of Representatives, Senate and Governor to enact legislation directing the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to enroll in the GEMT Medicare and Medicaid Services State Plan Amendment process.

Mayor Michael C. Taylor
Mayor Pro-Tem Liz Sierawski

Councilmember Deanna Koski
Councilmember Michael V. Radtke
Councilmember Maria G. Schmidt

Councilmember Henry Yanez
Councilmember Barbara A. Ziarko

AYES: Michael C. Taylor, Liz Sierawski, Deanna Koski, Michael V. Radtke Jr., Maria G. Schmidt, Henry Yanez and Barbara A. Ziarko

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED 7/0.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that the foregoing is a Resolution duly made and passed by the City Council of the City of Sterling Heights at their regular meeting held on Tuesday, December 5, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, with a quorum present.



Melanie D. Ryska
Melanie D. Ryska, City Clerk