

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 06/12/2026 03:38 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0410

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello Honorable Committee Members. I understand the City may need to recover costs for ambulance services, but I respectfully ask for more transparency before increasing the Basic Life Support fee (after having just recently increasing the Advanced Life Support fee). Calling 911 for an ambulance is not optional. People call when someone is sick, hurt, elderly, uninsured, unhoused, or in crisis. My concern is not only the fee increase itself, but the decision-making process. When a department recommends one amount, Council approves something different, and there is no clear financial impact analysis explaining the difference, it creates confusion and makes the process appear careless to the public. Please clearly explain how this fee was calculated, who will be most affected, how much is actually collected, how much becomes unpaid debt, and what happens when patients cannot afford the bill. I also ask the City to require LAFD to report back on how the money is used for Emergency Ambulance Services. This would help the public understand whether the fee increase is working as intended and whether it creates an unfair burden on residents. I am also attaching an article about the recent ambulance fee increases because it shows why the public may need clearer information before another increase is approved. NOTE: The first ordinance already increased ambulance rates from Advanced Lifesaving Support \$2,625 to \$2,915, Basic Life Support \$1,747 to \$1,862, & mileage from \$20 to \$29 per mile. That ordinance became effective April 30, 2026. Additional note: On March 11, 2026, Councilmember Lee introduced an amendment asking the City Attorney to prepare another ordinance to increase the Basic Life Support fee from \$1,862 to \$2,068, which was the amount ORIGINALLY recommended by LAFD. Thank you.

[https://www.westsidecurrent.com/la\\_city\\_council/weeks-after-ambulance-rates-increased-city-considers-another-hike/article\\_ee9a2074-c004-480b-9302-12c4108ff8f5.html](https://www.westsidecurrent.com/la_city_council/weeks-after-ambulance-rates-increased-city-considers-another-hike/article_ee9a2074-c004-480b-9302-12c4108ff8f5.html)

ENTERPRISE

# Weeks After Ambulance Rates Increased, City Considers Another Hike

Current Staff  
Jun 8, 2026



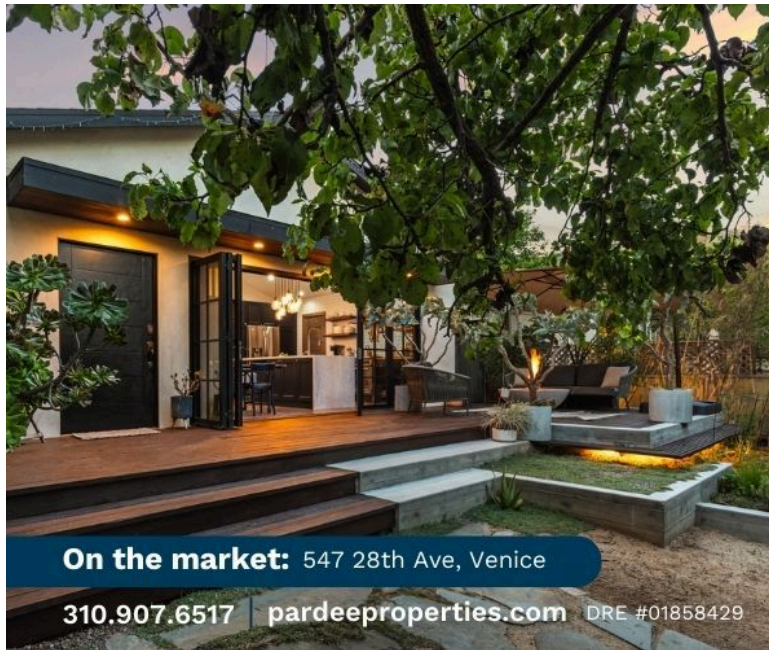
A row of social media sharing icons: Facebook (f), X (Twitter), WhatsApp, Email, Print, Copy, and Bookmark.

**LOS ANGELES** — Residents who need an ambulance could soon face another price hike — just weeks after the city’s last increase took effect.

City Council committees are now considering a new ordinance that would raise the city’s Basic Life Support ambulance fee from \$1,862 to \$2,068 per patient, adding another \$206 to the cost of the service.

The proposal, submitted by the City Attorney on May 19, comes less than a month after the city's last ambulance fee ordinance became effective on April 30.

That earlier ordinance already raised the cost of emergency ambulance service across the city. Advanced Life Support transports increased from \$2,625 to \$2,915. Basic Life Support transports increased from \$1,747 to \$1,862. Mileage charges jumped from \$20 to \$29 per one-way mile.



Now, City Hall is moving to raise the Basic Life Support fee again.

The latest increase traces back to a March 11 motion by Councilmember John Lee, who said the previous ordinance did not reflect the full amount recommended by the Los Angeles Fire Department. Lee's motion directed the City Attorney to prepare a new ordinance increasing the Basic Life Support fee to \$2,068, the amount LAFD had recommended in its fee analysis.

LAFD's report tied the proposed increases to cost recovery for emergency ambulance transport services and the city's policy of recovering the full cost of services where permitted and feasible.

The department estimated the Emergency Medical Service program costs about \$491.5 million annually. LAFD said the broader ambulance fee increases would generate about \$3.7 million in additional annual revenue, with the money deposited into the city's Emergency Ambulance Services revenue account.

An advertisement for Westside Current's business growth services. The background is a blurred image of a beach with palm trees. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent white box. The main headline is "Grow Your Local Business With the Westside Current". Below it, a sub-headline says "Unlock Your Full Potential with Expert Strategies & Tailored Solutions!". There are four bullet points, each with a checkmark icon: "Reach Over 250,000 Engaged Readers", "Website, Newsletters, Social Boost", "400k Social Media Reach", and "Hyper-local Targeting". At the bottom of the box, there is a dark blue button that says "Find out More", followed by the text "For More Information" and the email address "chris@westsidecurrent.com".

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The Fire Department said the proposed rates are intended to help the city recover the cost of providing emergency medical transport, though the increases would still leave Los Angeles below Los Angeles County’s ambulance rates. According to LAFD, the county charged \$3,329 for Advanced Life Support transports and \$2,223 for Basic Life Support transports as of July 2024.

The new ordinance has not yet been approved. According to the council file, the City Attorney’s May 19 report and draft ordinance were referred on May 20 to the Budget and Finance Committee and the Public Safety Committee.

For patients, the timing is the story. Los Angeles already approved one ambulance fee hike this year. Now, before many residents may even realize the new rates are in effect, the city is preparing to raise the cost of a basic ambulance ride again.