

Communication from Public

Name: California Ambulance Association

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Council File No: 25-0583

Comments for Public Posting: On behalf of the California Ambulance Association (CAA), which represents ambulance providers across California, we support the full adoption of the proposal before the Los Angeles City Council Transportation Committee for a rate adjustment. We value LADOT's longstanding role in rate regulation, patient advocacy, ensuring equitable access, and supporting the Los Angeles area.



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October 1, 2025

Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: SUPPORT CF#: 25-0583 LADOT Proposal Presented to the Los Angeles City Transportation Commission

Dear Councilmembers,

On behalf of the California Ambulance Association (CAA), which represents ambulance providers across California, we support the full adoption of the proposal before the Los Angeles City Council Transportation Committee for a rate adjustment. We value LADOT's longstanding role in rate regulation, patient advocacy, ensuring equitable access, and supporting the Los Angeles area.

CAA's advocacy at the state level reflects this same commitment. Working with Assemblymember Tasha Boerner, we helped shape AB 716, which took effect on January 1, 2024, eliminating "surprise" medical billing and making ambulance costs transparent and predictable. Patients now pay the same fixed cost-sharing whether providers are in or out of network, and uninsured patients are protected by guaranteed rates that match the discounted government prices set by Medicare or Medi-Cal. The law also prohibits ambulance bills from being sent to collections, thereby preventing damage to patients' credit, ensuring that the LA City rate structure has no detrimental impact on patients whatsoever. In fact, the existence of the rate structure ensures quality and equitable care for all residents.

At the local level, LADOT's fixed, uniform rate model advances the same principle of fairness, equity, and quality. For decades, Los Angeles has avoided the challenges seen in jurisdictions with "maximum" or "not-to-exceed" rates, where large payers drive reimbursement downward, reducing stability and limiting investment in workforce and readiness. Fixed rates protect access in every neighborhood and ensure providers compete on quality and outcomes, not price.

This proposal continues that legacy by aligning rates with rising costs and establishing a fair annual adjustment. The LA City rate structure and proposed rate increase aim to help address the ever-rising costs since the last rate adjustment in 2022, thereby strengthening system sustainability, supporting frontline personnel, and protecting patients, all without incurring a cost to the City or its residents.

CAA urges the Transportation Commission and City Council to adopt the proposal in full and to continue its role in rate regulation.

Doing so will maintain the strong foundation of Los Angeles' private ambulance system, ensure equal access for patients, and reaffirm the City's commitment to patient-centered care.

We sincerely appreciate your leadership and commitment to the well-being of Los Angeles residents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jaison Chand". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jaison" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Chand".

Jaison Chand, President
California Ambulance Association