ORDINANCE NO. 26-001

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SCHEDULE OF FEES OF THE SANTEE-LAKESIDE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR THE RECOVERY OF ACTUAL COSTS FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, AMBULANCE SERVICES, AND OTHER SERVICES RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OF LIVES

WHEREAS, the Santee-Lakeside Emergency Medical Services Authority ("Authority") established and adopted a Schedule of Fees on December 20, 2022, pursuant to Ordinance No. 22-001 and increased the Resident Ambulance Transport fee on May 17, 2024, pursuant to Ordinance No. 24-001.

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the adoption of the Schedule of Fees and the amendment thereto, the Authority has found that it does not have sufficient revenue to provide emergency medical services, ambulance services, and/or other services relating to the protection of lives that the Authority is charged with providing and wishes to revise the Resident Ambulance Transport fee, the Non-Resident Ambulance Transport fee and adopt an annual increase of all fees based upon the CPI-U, Medical Care Component, Not Seasonally Adjusted, for the San Diego-Carlsbad area, as published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, ("CPI-U") in connection with said Schedule of Fees; and

WHEREAS, the Authority is authorized under Health and Safety Code Section 13916 to recover its actual costs reasonably borne in providing its services; and

WHEREAS, the Authority provides emergency medical services, ambulance services, and other services relating to the protection of lives to both residents living within the geographical area of the Authority and to non-residents working in, visiting or travelling through the geographical area of the Authority; and

WHEREAS, the Authority has determined that an annual increase in all fees based on the CPI-U more accurately reflects the increase in actual costs incurred by the Authority rather than the current three percent (3%) annual increase established and adopted by the Authority's Schedule of Fees, pursuant to Ordinance No. 22-001; and

WHEREAS, the Authority has made a reasonable calculation of the actual costs it bears in providing emergency medical services, ambulance services, and other services relating to the protection of lives with respect to Resident Ambulance Transport and Non-Resident Ambulance Transport within its geographical area; and

WHEREAS, the Resident Ambulance Transport and Non-Resident Ambulance Transport fees amended by this ordinance are calculated based on recovering no more than the Authority's actual costs of providing emergency medical services, ambulance services, and other services relating to the protection of lives in connection with both the Resident Ambulance Transport or Non-Resident Ambulance Transport at an incident for which such services are performed by the Authority; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Resident Ambulance Transport fee and Non-Resident Transport fee amended and adopted by this ordinance is a reasonable charge for a specific local government service or product provided directly to the payor that is not provided to those not charged, and which does not exceed the actual costs to the Authority of providing the service or product; and

WHEREAS, the Authority published notice of its intention to amend the Resident Ambulance Transport fee and Non-Resident Transport fee found on the Authority's existing Schedule of Fees and an amendment thereto providing for an annual increase in all fees based on the CPI-U pursuant to Government Code section 6066 at a public meeting to be held on June 8, 2026, and made available all data required by law prior to the public meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Commission of the Authority heard and considered any objections or protests to the proposed revision to the Resident Ambulance Transport fee, Non-Resident Ambulance Transport fee and annual increase in all fees based on the CPI-U at its public meeting on June 8, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Commission of the Santee-Lakeside Emergency Medical Services Authority ordains as follows:

SECTION 1. FINDINGS

The above recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein as findings as though set forth in full.

SECTION 2. STATUTORY AUTHORITY

This ordinance is enacted pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Sections 13910 through 13919.

SECTION 3. APPLICABILITY

This ordinance amends the cost-recovery fee for Resident Ambulance Transports and Non-Resident Ambulance Transports found in the Authority's Schedule of Fees **(EXHIBIT A)** and charged by the Authority in accordance with Health and Safety Code Section 13916. By adopting this ordinance, the Authority is adopting reasonable user fees to recover the actual costs associated with providing emergency medical services, ambulance services, and other services relating to the protection of lives. The cost-recovery fees are charged solely to the user of such services. In addition, this ordinance amends the Authority's Schedule of Fees to include an annual increase in all fees based on the CPI-U which more accurately reflects the increase in actual costs incurred by the Authority in providing said emergency medical services, ambulance services, relating to the protection of lives.

SECTION 4. AMENDED FEE FOR RESIDENT AMBULANCE TRANSPORT AND NON-RESIDENT AMBULANCE TRANSPORT AND ANNUAL INCREASE IN ALL FEES BASED ON THE CPI-U FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, AMBULANCE SERVICES, AND OTHER SERVICES RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OF LIVES

(a) The fee for Resident Ambulance Transport found in the Schedule of Fees relates to the protection of lives and is intended to recover the actual and reasonable costs borne by the Authority in providing such services to each person. The fee for Resident Ambulance Transport found in the Schedule of Fees is hereby amended from the amount of $1,240.00 to the amount of $2,800.00 effective 30 days from the date of final passage.

(b) The fee for Non-Resident Ambulance Transport found in the Schedule of Fees relates to the protection of lives and is intended to recover the actual and reasonable costs borne by the Authority in providing such services to each person. The fee for Non-Resident Ambulance Transport found in the Schedule of Fees is hereby amended from the amount of $2,949.00 to the amount of $3,442.00 effective 30 days from the date of final passage.

(c) The Authority has determined that an annual increase in all fees, effective July 1st of each year, based on the CPI-U more accurately reflects the increase in actual costs incurred by the Authority rather than the current three percent (3%) annual increase established and adopted by the Authority's Schedule of Fees **(EXHIBIT A).**

(d) Fees for emergency medical services, ambulance services, and/or other services relating to the protection of lives shall be charged to each person who receives such Authority provided services.

(e) The Authority, or its designee, is authorized to revise the Authority's Schedule of Fees adopted on December 20, 2022, and as amended on May 17, 2024, solely with respect to the amended Resident Ambulance Transport fee, Non-Resident Ambulance Transport fee and annual increase in all fees based on the CPI-U adopted in this ordinance and to take all actions necessary to update and charge said amended fees upon the effective date. The annual increase in all fees based upon CPI-U will be applicable to the amended Resident Ambulance Transport fee and Non-Resident Ambulance Transport fee adopted in this ordinance just as it will be applied to all other fees in the Authority's Schedule of Fees.

SECTION 5. FEE COLLECTION

(a) If the Authority provides emergency medical services, ambulance services, and/or other services relating to the protection of lives to a person, the Authority, or its designee, will send an invoice seeking payment of the appropriate fee(s) to the person who received the service and to the insurance company that provides insurance coverage for the person (the "insurer"), if the person, or his or her representative, has identified to the Authority the insurer to which the invoice should be sent.

(b) The Authority, or its designee, will apply the Authority's policies and procedures for invoicing, billing, and receiving payments for each fee charged under this ordinance.

SECTION 6. ADMINISTRATION OF THE FEES

The Authority, or its designee, may delegate to any public or private entity all or some of the tasks required for the administration of the fees. Administration of the fees will consist of tasks including, but not limited to, tracking of applicable services provided by the Authority, identification of financially responsible parties, calculation of total fees to be charged, invoicing and payment collection, and the processing of waiver requests and appeals.

SECTION 7. NO EFFECT ON SERVICES BASED ON ABILITY TO PAY

Emergency medical services, ambulance services, and/or other services relating to the protection of lives will continue to be provided without regard to whether a person is insured by an insurer, without regard to whether a person has the ability to pay the fee(s), and without regard to whether a person has or has not paid the fee(s) in the past.

SECTION 8. NO WAIVER OF OTHER MEANS OF COST RECOVERY

This ordinance does not preclude the Authority from recovering its emergency response costs in any other manner authorized by law.

SECTION 9. SEVERABILITY

If the amended Resident Ambulance Transport fee, Non-Resident Ambulance Transport fee, annual increase in all fees based on the CPI-U or any provision of this ordinance is held invalid or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, that holding shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining fees or provisions of this ordinance or in the previously adopted Schedule of Fees with Ordinance No. 22-001 and as amended in Ordinance No. 24-001. The Commission declares that it would have adopted each remaining part of this ordinance irrespective of any such invalidity. Additionally, this ordinance solely amends the Resident Ambulance Transport fee in the Schedule of Fees as adopted in Ordinance No. 24-001, the Non-Resident Ambulance Transport fee in the Schedule of Fees as adopted in Ordinance No. 22-001 and amends the Schedule of Fees to include an annual increase on July 1st of each year in all fees based on the CPI-U rather than the current three percent (3%) annual increase established and adopted by the Authority's Schedule of Fees **(EXHIBIT A).** As such, no other provision or fee of Ordinance No. 22-001 or Ordinance No. 24-001 is amended by this ordinance and all the other fees and provisions of Ordinance No. 22-001 and Ordinance No. 24-001 continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 10. EFFECTIVE DATE

Pursuant to Section 25123 of the Government Code of the State of California, the ordinance shall take effect and be in full force and effect 30 days from the date of final passage.

SECTION 11. PUBLICATION

The Clerk of the Commission shall cause this ordinance to be published in accordance with the requirements of Section 25124 of the Government Code of the State of California.

INTRODUCED AND READ *at a regular meeting of the Commission of the Santee-Lakeside Emergency Medical Services Authority, County of San Diego, State of California, on the 8th Day of June 2026, and thereafter* ***PASSED AND ADOPTED*** *at a regular meeting of the Commission of the Santee-Lakeside Emergency Medical Services Authority, County of San Diego, State of California.*

AYES: Bingham, Minto, Robles, Trotter.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

Chairperson
Jim Bingham

Clerk of the Commission
Janise Bocskovits

Exhbit A to Ordinance 26-001

2026
SANTEE-LAKESIDE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY
SCHEDULE OF FEES

Fee Study Rate increase as of July 8, 2026 per Ordinance # 26-001

Description	Fee
Resident Ambulance Transport	$ 2,800.00
Non-Resident Ambulance Transport	$ 3,442.00
Non-Transport (Treat & Release)	$ 162.00
Mileage	$ 44.00 /mile (minimum 1 mile)
Oxygen	$ 69.00
Night Charge (1900-0700)	$ 43.00
*Standby Charge	$ 256.00 /hour

2026
SANTEE-LAKESIDE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY
SCHEDULE OF FEES

Rates increase July 8, 2026 by CPI-U, Medical Care Component per Ordinance # 26-001

Description	**Fee**
Resident Ambulance Transport	$ 2,948.00
Non-Resident Ambulance Transport	$ 3,624.00
Non-Transport (Treat & Release)	$ 170.00
Mileage	$ 46.00 /mile (minimum 1 mile)
Oxygen	$ 72.00
Night Charge (1900-0700)	$ 45.00
*Standby Charge	$ 269.00 /hour