



Health Services

Jenine Miller, Psy.D., Director of Health Services
Charles Evans, MD, Deputy Health Officer
James Flaherty, MD, Deputy Health Officer



Health Services

*Providing Mental Health, Environmental Health, Public Conservator,
Public Health, and Substance Use Disorders Treatment Services*

Date: March 31, 2026

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Jenine Miller, Psy.D., Director of Health Services

Subject: April Fee Hearing – EMS Fees

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) plays a critical role in protecting the health and safety of the community by ensuring timely, coordinated, and high-quality emergency response and medical care. To sustain these services and remain compliant with regulatory requirements, it is necessary to update the current EMS fee schedule.

A portion of the proposed fee increases is driven by requirements associated with the Local Emergency Medical Services Agency (LEMSA). As the designated authority responsible for EMS system oversight, Coastal Valley Emergency Medical Services, establishes mandates related to system coordination, quality assurance, provider certification, and regulatory compliance. These responsibilities require ongoing administrative, clinical, and operational support, which must be adequately funded to maintain system integrity and meet state standards.

In addition, some EMS fees have not been updated since 1994. Over the past three decades, the cost of providing services has increased substantially due to inflation, rising personnel costs, advancements in medical technology, expanded regulatory requirements, and increased demand for services. The current fee structure no longer reflects the true cost of delivering these services, resulting in a growing gap between program expenses and revenue.

Updating the fee schedule will help ensure that costs are more appropriately aligned with services provided, support long-term program sustainability, and reduce reliance on General Fund contributions where applicable.