

ORDINANCE NO. 3573

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LONGVIEW, WASHINGTON, AMENDING CHAPTER 5.08.350 OF THE LONGVIEW MUNICIPAL CODE BY REMOVING EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES TRANSPORT FEE AND ADOPTING THROUGH RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of Longview provides and oversees emergency medical services to ensure timely and effective response to medical emergencies within the community. As part of this responsibility, the City Council periodically establishes ambulance transport and mileage rates that serve as the City's official government rates.; and

WHEREAS, establishing clear and current rates ensures transparency, consistency, and alignment with rates approved for contracted ambulance providers. Maintaining consistent government rates supports billing accuracy, regulatory compliance, and uniform application of charges for emergency medical services; and

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LONGVIEW DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Findings. It is the intent of the Longview City Council that the recitals set forth are hereby adopted and incorporated as findings in support of this Ordinance.

Section 2. Amendment

5.08.350 Fire-EMS transport fee imposed.

- (1) A resident of the city, or an employee transported from his or her place of employment within the city, who supplies the city with the medical insurance information and documentation needed to bill his or her insurance provider for the fee, and who assigns his or her insurance benefits for the same to the city, shall not be billed for that portion of the fee that is in excess of amounts paid by his or her insurer(s).
- (2) A person who does not meet the criteria set forth in subsection (1) of this section, who supplies the city with the medical insurance information and documentation needed to bill his or her insurance provider for the fee, and who assigns his or her insurance benefits for the same to the city, shall be billed for that portion of the fee that is in excess of amounts paid by his or her insurer(s).
- (3) A person, regardless of residence or status as an employee within Longview, who does not supply the city with the medical insurance information and documentation needed to bill his or her insurance provider or who fails to assign such benefits to the city because he or she is unwilling, or because he or she does not have any type of insurance coverage for such charges, shall be billed for the entire fee.
- (4) The fee herein imposed shall not apply to persons transported by the city's fire department from jurisdictions outside the city's boundaries so long as those jurisdictions do not charge an EMS transport fee.

(5) The use of the term "insurance" or any variation thereof in this section shall include Medicare and Medicaid.

(6) The use of the term "EMS transport" in this section shall mean: transportation by ground ambulance vehicle and the provision of medically necessary supplies and services, including BLS ambulance services as defined by the state (Chapter 18.73 RCW). The ambulance must be staffed by an individual who is qualified in accordance with state and local laws as an emergency medical technician basic (EMT basic). Basic emergency medical technicians perform noninvasive, basic emergency treatment. (Ord. 3214 § 1, 2012).

Section 3. Corrections. Upon approval of the city attorney, the city clerk and the codifiers of this ordinance are authorized to make necessary technical corrections to this ordinance, including, without limitation, the correction of clerical errors; references to other local, state, or federal laws, codes, rules, or regulations; or section/subsection numbering.

Section 4. Severability. If any provision of this Ordinance is found to be invalid or unconstitutional, such invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions, which shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 5. Publication. This Ordinance shall be published by an approved summary consisting of the title. A summary of this Ordinance may be published in lieu of the entire ordinance, as authorized by State Law.

Section 6. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force five (5) days after its passage and publication as required by law.

PASSED by the City Council of the City of Longview, Washington, at a regular meeting thereof this 12th day of March, 2026.

APPROVED:



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



City Attorney

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