

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-13

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF RICHLAND, WASHINGTON,
AMENDING RICHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 13.06.400
RELATED TO THE DAILY AMBULANCE UTILITY FEE.**

WHEREAS, since 1976, the City of Richland has provided emergency transport service to Richland citizens; and

WHEREAS, Richland City Council is authorized by RCW 35.21.766, RCW 35.27.370(15), and Chapter 13.06 of the Richland Municipal Code to set fees, rates, and charges to support an ambulance utility, emergency medical services (EMS), and ambulance transport service; and

WHEREAS, the current ambulance transport fee of \$1,042 for Richland residents, \$1,563 for non-residents, and the per-mile rate of \$14 were set by Richland City Council on September 6, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the current daily service fee of \$0.3288 (\$10 monthly equivalent) was set by Richland City Council on November 21, 2023; and

WHEREAS, a three-year funding approach was developed to support staffing of Fire Station No. 76 that consists of both general and medical utility funds, including a \$0.0483 (\$1.47 monthly equivalent) increase to the daily service fee in the first year; and

WHEREAS, the ambulance transport fee and per-mile rate will remain unchanged; and

WHEREAS, to execute the funding strategy developed to support Fire Station No. 76, the daily service fee increase will go into effect on utility bills generated on or after June 1, 2024, raising the total fee amount from \$0.3288 per day to \$0.3771 per day, which equates to \$11.47 monthly.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City of Richland as follows:

Section 1. Richland Municipal Code Section 13.06.400, entitled Charges established, as first enacted by Ordinance No. 28-06, and last amended by Ordinance No. 2023-28, is hereby amended to read as follows:

13.06.400 Charges established.

The daily ambulance utility fee shall be as follows effective for utility bills generated on or after ~~December 1, 2023~~ June 1, 2024:

User Classification	Rate
Residential	\$0.3288 <u>\$0.3771</u> per day – per unit
Multifamily Residences	\$0.3288 <u>\$0.3771</u> per day – per unit
Adult Family Homes*	\$0.3288 <u>\$0.3771</u> per day – per facility

User Classification	Rate
Assisted Living Facilities*	\$0.3288 <u>\$0.3771</u> per day – per facility
24-Hour Nursing Facilities*	\$0.3288 <u>\$0.3771</u> per day – per facility
Group Homes*	\$0.3288 <u>\$0.3771</u> per day – per facility
Physicians Clinics*	\$0.3288 <u>\$0.3771</u> per day – per facility
Schools*	\$0.3288 <u>\$0.3771</u> per day – per facility
Commercial/Business	\$0.3288 <u>\$0.3771</u> per day – per unit
City Public Areas	\$0.3288 <u>\$0.3771</u> per day – per parcel or area

Section 2. This Ordinance shall be published in the official newspaper of the City of Richland on April 7, 2024 and take effect on June 1, 2024.

Section 3. Should any section or provision of this Ordinance be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, that decision shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole or any part thereof, other than the part so declared to be invalid.

Section 4. The City Clerk and the codifiers of this Ordinance are authorized to make necessary corrections to this Ordinance, including but not limited to the correction of scrivener's errors/clerical errors, section numbering, references, or similar mistakes of form.

PASSED by the City Council of the City of Richland, Washington, at a regular meeting on the 2nd day of April, 2024.

Theresa A Richardson

Theresa Richardson, Mayor

Attest:

Jennifer Rogers
Jennifer Rogers, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:

Heather Kintzley
Heather Kintzley, City Attorney

First Reading: March 19, 2024

Second Reading: April 2, 2024

Date Published: April 7, 2024