



Memorandum

To: Code & Regulation Committee

From: Angela L. Hammer, Legal Director

Subject: Proposed Ordinance to Assess Lift-Assist Fees

Date: June 4, 2026

Staff recommends approval of the attached ordinance establishing lift-assist fees pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/11-6-12. The statute authorizes municipalities to fix, charge, and collect reasonable fees from assisted living facilities and nursing home facilities for lift-assist services rendered by a municipal fire department, firefighter, emergency response unit, or public safety employee.

The statute defines a “lift-assist service” as a response to an assisted living facility or nursing home facility by personnel of a fire department, emergency response unit, or another public safety department providing automatic or mutual aid to the municipality, for the purpose of lifting a patient or other individual from the individual’s current position to a desired position. The statute excludes lifting performed during a response to a request for transportation to a health care facility, such as a hospital or emergency room.

Under the statute, a municipality may charge a reasonable fee only after the sixth lift-assist service provided to the same assisted living facility or nursing home facility in that year. The fee may not exceed the City’s actual personnel and equipment costs for the services rendered in connection with the lift assist.

In collaboration between the Fire Department and Finance Department, staff determined the costs of each lift assist is \$470. Therefore, staff recommends a lift assist fee in the amount of \$470 be assessed for the seventh and each subsequent lift assist in 2026 at an eligible facility. The lift assist fee will be established in the annual fee schedule for 2027 and thereafter.