



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action Item for the City Council Meeting June 10, 2025

DATE: June 10, 2025

TO: Peter Zaroni, City Manager

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Galleri multi-cancer early detection tests for the Fire Department

CAPTION:

Resolution authorizing a two-year professional services agreement with Grail, Inc., of Menlo Park, California, for Galleri multi-cancer early detection tests for the Corpus Christi Fire Department in an amount not to exceed \$311,520.00, with FY 2025 funding of \$233,640.00 from the General Fund

SUMMARY:

This resolution authorizes the execution of a two-year service agreement with Grail, Inc., of Menlo Park, California, for Galleri multi-cancer early detection tests for the uniformed members of the Corpus Christi Fire Department.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

Cancer is the most dangerous threat to firefighter health and safety today. Cancer caused 66 percent of the career firefighter line-of-duty deaths from 2002 to 2019, according to data from the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF). Heart disease caused 18 percent of career LODDs for the same period. Cancer caused 70 percent of the line-of-duty deaths for career firefighters in 2016.

Firefighters have a 9 percent higher risk of being diagnosed with cancer and a 14 percent higher risk of dying from cancer than the general U.S. population, according to research by the CDC/National Institute for Occupational Health and Safety (NIOSH).

Currently, there is no cancer testing being done by the Fire Department for its members. The Fire

Department does have several members who have been diagnosed with cancer, but it was discovered by their doctors and testing after the employee was already experiencing symptoms. Many cancers are only found incidentally or when symptoms appear. Cancer is often found too late, when survival rates are lower, and treatment options may be limited. Cancer treatment costs more when diagnosed in later stages. Having earlier detection with these tests will provide the employee with a better possibility of catching the cancer diagnosis in its earlier stages before symptoms appear.

About 70% of cancer deaths are caused by cancers with no recommended screening. The Galleri test is done through a simple blood draw and can detect more than 50 different types of cancer. It works by detecting fragments of DNA in the blood that have been "shed" by cancer cells. Screens for many aggressive cancers, before symptoms appear. The more aggressive the cancer, the more likely Galleri is to detect it, such as pancreatic, head & neck, colorectal, lung, and other cancers.

Although medical costs from cancer are significant (48%), indirect cancer-related costs for cancer treatment, such as productivity, sick leave, disability, clinic visits, fatigue, and decreased physical and/or cognitive functioning, are even higher (52%).

GRAIL provides a Patient Advocate who supports the patient throughout their "Cancer Signal Detected" journey with finding a local in-network PCP if they don't have one, providing or pointing to resources that mitigate the risk and support the patient.

Additionally, House Bill 198, which has passed the House and Senate and has been sent to the Governor for signature, mandates that a political subdivision that employs firefighters shall offer an occupational cancer screening to each firefighter at no cost to the firefighter.

PROCUREMENT DETAIL:

This procurement is a direct purchase with Grail, Inc., of Menlo Park, California, for Galleri multi-cancer early detection tests for the Fire Department, and falls under a statutory exception within Local Government Code 252.022(a)(4) as these services are for personal, professional and/or planning services.

ALTERNATIVES:

The alternative is not to approve the service agreement for cancer testing. However, if testing is not completed, firefighters would be at risk of discovering a cancer diagnosis in later stages when survival rates are lower and treatments are more expensive. It would also cause CCFD to be out of compliance with the state mandate of providing cancer screening for firefighters when House Bill 198 is signed.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The fiscal impact for CCFD in FY 2025 is an amount of \$233,640.00 for the first year of the two-year service agreement, with the remaining cost of \$77,880.00 to be funded in FY 2026 through the annual budget process.

FUNDING DETAIL:

Fund:	1020	General Fund
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Organization/Activity:	12010	Fire Stations
Department:	10	Fire Department
Project # (CIP Only):	N/A	
Account:	537370	Wellness Program
Amount:	\$311,520.00	

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the resolution authorizing a two-year service agreement with Grail, Inc., of Menlo Park, California, for Galleri multi-cancer early detection tests for the Fire Department, as presented.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Service
Agreement Price
Sheet
Resolution