



Legislation Text

File #: DIS 16-117, **Version:** 2

Discussion of issues relating to establishing a Pilot Program for an Employee Health Clinic.

Summary:

The City of Deer Park purchases health coverage for eligible employees, dependents and retirees from the TML MutlState Intergovernmental Employee Benefits Pool ("IEBP"). IEBP staff recently approached City officials to gauge our interest in having Deer Park serve as a pilot program for a new model of employee health clinic offered by a company called Medicine at Work. Under this model, covered individuals (City employees, retirees, dependents) receive medical services, including prevention, wellness and chronic care management services, from an on-site EMT provider with the assistance of a virtual physician. This value added benefit will provide ease of access to preventive/wellness/chronic care management services at NO out of pocket expense for the benefit eligible employee, retiree and/or dependents. Upon accessing the clinic housed at an on-site City of Deer Park location, covered individuals will be welcomed by an on-site medic that will be supported by a virtual physician. The physician may prescribe medications, make referrals to a network specialist, or continue to monitor the care of the patient at the clinic. When necessary, the on-site medic may give immunizations, take vital signs, assist with on-site laboratory services, etc. Under this yearlong pilot program, there will be no additional out of pocket cost to covered individuals when utilizing the clinic. Additionally, expenses associated with Medicine at Work will be funded by IEBP through the City of Deer Park's premiums/contributions paid to IEBP for healthcare benefits. The only "new" cost to the City will be office space access and utilization. Besides ease of access to benefit eligible employees, retirees and dependents, the on-site clinic services will interface electronically with IEBP's professional health coaches and medical file to improve the coordination of care and minimize gaps in care that could create medical complications. We have none available within any of our facilities, but recently learned we can rent space at the Economic Alliance Houston Port Region for \$350.00 per month.

On Tuesday evening, Ms. Susan Smith, Executive Director of IEBP, members of her staff, and officials from Medicine at Work will be in attendance at the Workshop to present more information about this pilot program.

Fiscal/Budgetary Impact:

\$350 per month (\$4,200 annually) office rental.

Discussion only in Workshop.