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1 **R2019-66: TO ENDORSE THE COMMUNITY OUTREACH BY**  
2 **PARAMEDIC EDUCATION (“COPE”) PROGRAM WITHIN THE CITY OF**  
3 **MYRTLE BEACH AS A FULLY FUNDED GRANT PROGRAM OF THE**  
4 **STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOL AND**  
5 **OTHER DRUG ABUSE SERVICES (DAODAS) TO ADDRESS OPIOID**  
6 **ADDICTION WITHIN THE CITY, AND MATTERS RELATED THERETO.**

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7 **Applicant/Purpose:** Staff / to provide a resolution indicating the City’s intention to  
8 support & participate in the Community Outreach by Paramedic Education (“COPE”)  
9 program.

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11 **Brief:**

- 12 • The COPE program is funded by a DAODAS grant & administered cooperatively  
13 b/w specially trained paramedics & local drug abuse counselors.
- 14 • The program does not require any funding from the City.
- 15 • Funding is available under program guidelines to reimburse the City for the  
16 successful referral contacts made by Paramedics to COPE participants at the  
17 rate of \$200/successful referral contact.

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19 **Issues:**

- 20 • Through COPE, our paramedics & local counselors follow-up w/ patients that  
21 have previously suffered overdoses to discuss potential paths out of addiction.
- 22 • In the proposed resolution:
  - 23 ○ Council recognizes the opioid abuse crisis & addiction in our community.
  - 24 ○ Council endorses the COPE program & agrees to support the City’s Fire  
25 Department, & the Paramedics engaged in the program, in cooperating  
26 wherever possible to make appropriate referrals to the Program so as to  
27 maximize the positive impact of the Program on our community.

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29 **Public Notification:** Normal meeting notification.

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31 **Alternatives:**

- 32 • Do not pass resolution.
- 33 • Amend resolution.

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35 **Financial Impact:** The City will receive funding at a rate of \$200/successful referral  
36 contact.

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38 **Manager’s Recommendation:** I recommend approval.

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40 **Attachment(s):** Proposed resolution.

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4 CITY OF MYRTLE BEACH  
5 COUNTY OF Horry  
6 STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
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8 ENDORSING THE COMMUNITY OUTREACH BY  
9 PARAMEDIC EDUCATION (“COPE”) PROGRAM  
10 WITHIN THE CITY OF MYRTLE BEACH AS A  
11 FULLY FUNDED GRANT PROGRAM OF THE  
12 STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT  
13 OF ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG ABUSE  
14 SERVICES (DAODAS) TO ADDRESS OPIOID  
15 ADDICTION WITHIN THE CITY, AND MATTERS  
16 RELATED THERETO.  
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19 WHEREAS, the prevalence of opioid abuse and addiction have had, and threaten to continue  
20 to have, an adverse impact on the well-being of many of the residents in the City of Myrtle  
21 Beach; and  
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23 WHEREAS, the State of South Carolina Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services  
24 (DAODAS) has established a program for Community Outreach by Paramedic Education, or  
25 “COPE”; and  
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27 WHEREAS, the COPE Program addresses opioid abuse and/or addiction by offering paramedic  
28 educational visits along with appropriate referrals for treatment for those impacted by  
29 opioids; and  
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31 WHEREAS, the COPE Program is funded by a DAODAS grant and is administered by a  
32 cooperative effort between private sector paramedics and local drug abuse counselors; and  
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34 WHEREAS, the COPE Program does not require any funding from the City of Myrtle Beach; and  
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36 WHEREAS, funding is available under program guidelines to reimburse the City for the  
37 successful contacts made by its Paramedics to COPE participants at the rate of \$200 per  
38 successful contact;  
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40 NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City of Myrtle Beach, in Council duly assembled, that  
41 the City recognizes the crisis of opioid abuse and addiction in our communities and therefore,  
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- 43 (1) hereby endorses the COPE Program, and agrees to support the City’s  
44 cooperation, and whereas possible, to make appropriate referrals to the  
45 Program so as to maximize the positive impact of the Program upon our  
46 community; and
- 47 (2) the Manager or his designee is hereby authorized to accept, record and re-  
48 appropriate any and all such funds as may be reimbursed, in the amounts  
received, to the same accounts and for the same purposes as the original  
expenditures for which reimbursement is made under the COPE program.
- (3) the authorization provided hereby shall extend for the duration of the COPE  
program and shall not expire at the end of the current fiscal year.

49 SIGNED, SEALED and DATED, this 12th day of November, 2019.

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BRENDA BETHUNE, MAYOR

54 ATTEST:

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57 JENNIFER STANFORD, CITY CLERK