



**DENVER**  
THE MILE HIGH CITY

# **2021 Denver Health Operating Agreement**

Wednesday October 21, 2020  
Safety, Housing, Education, and  
Homelessness Committee

FOR CITY SERVICES VISIT | CALL  
**DenverGov.org** | **311**

- Introductions
- Overview of the Operating Agreement
- Changes for 2021
- Budget for 2021 Contract
- Questions and Close

- The Denver Health and Hospital Authority (DHHA) was formed as a state authority under state statute in 1997 to operate the former Denver General Hospital.
- City/County of Denver adopted a Charter amendment in 1996 to replace the Department of Health and Hospitals with the Department of Environmental Health (now Department of Public Health & Environment), which retained the authority and regulatory powers of the local public health agency.
- Annual Operating Agreement outlines services Authority provides to the City and City provides to Authority.

- Services are divided into Core Services and Non-Core Services.
  - **Core services** include the Medically Indigent Payment, Emergency Medical Services, Public Health, Denver CARES, prisoner medical services at DHHA (CCMF), etc.
  - **Non-Core services** include child welfare, jail medical services, marijuana public health impact monitoring and communication, etc.
- City also provides services to DHHA including payroll and legal services related to Career Service employees at DHHA, radio support, fuel, 911 call taker, etc...

**Phase I:** Off Cycle Negotiations (January – April)

**Phase II:** Kick-off (May)

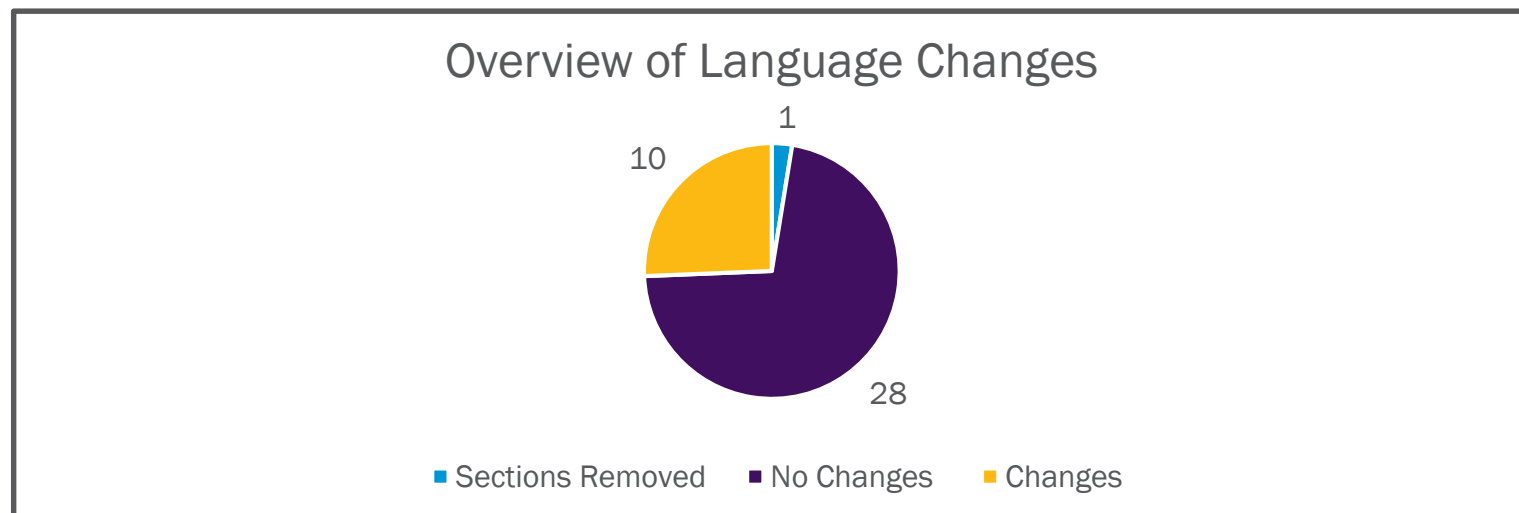
**Phase III:** General Negotiations (May- August)

**Phase IV:** Budget Meetings and Legal Drafting (July – October)

**Phase V:** City Council Ordinance Process (October – November)

- Held briefings with Safety Committee Members prior to Committee meeting

- 39 services in the Operating Agreement
- There were relatively few language changes for the 2020 Operating Agreement. Budgets and rates were updated in most sections.
  - Oversight/accountability provisions updated in the 2020 agreement as discussed at Committee last year will remain in the 2021 agreement as well
  - One section was removed/suspended in 2021 due to budget reductions - Marijuana Public Health Impact Monitoring and Epidemiology



## Highlights of Key Changes to Core and Appendix A

- Emergency Medical Services at DEN: updated time that a second ambulance is dedicated to DEN per day
- Public Health Services
  - Adding language around mid-cycle negotiations related to Public Health efficiencies
  - Added language addressing transfer of Protected Health Information between the two entities
  - Routine updates to performance metrics and targets
  - Minor updates to emergency preparedness procedures
- Medical Service for Prisoners: updated time Sheriff's Dept. has to arrange for transport of patient
- Lab Services for Office of Medical Examiner: added details related to courier services

## Highlights of Key Changes to Appendix B

- COSH & OUCH Line
  - Clarified role of COSH Medical Director related to authorized treating physician
  - Updated oversight details related to OUCH Line medical providers
- Nurseline
  - Updated details regarding medical providers supporting second level triage via Nurseline
  - Broadened options for using external medical language interpretation services
- Healthcare at Jail
  - Added Health Services Administrator position to oversee nursing functions at DCJ and DDC
  - Removed additional limited term healthcare staff
  - Added assurance that the City will provide necessary work space for Health services to perform requirement outlined in contract
- Marijuana Public Health Impact Monitoring and Epidemiology: these services have been suspended in the contract for 2021 due to budget reductions
- At-Risk Intervention and Mentoring (AIM) Program:
  - Provides clarifying detail on number of individuals providing services to
  - Updated # of positions & associated costs for the program (no increase in overall budget)

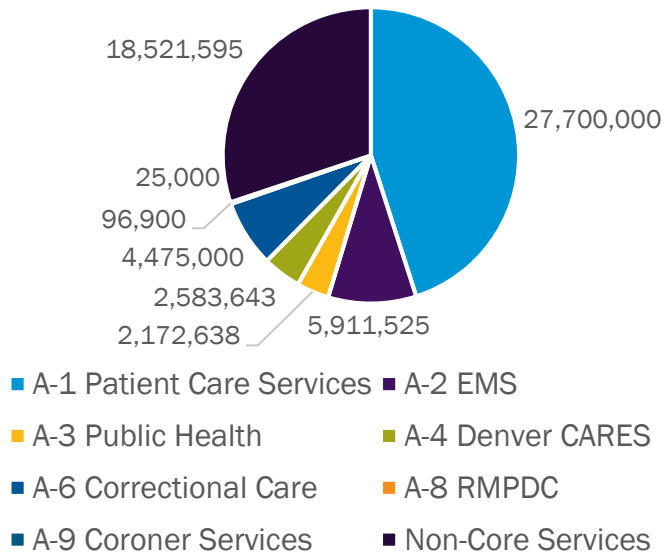


## Highlights of Key Changes to Appendix C

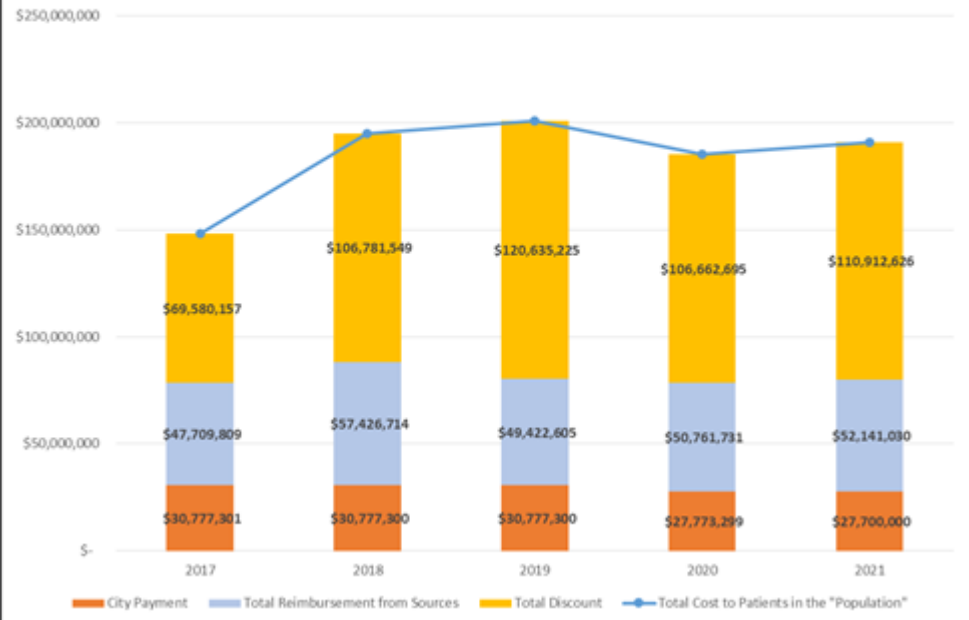
- Tech Services: Added internet access and maintenance for mobile routers for DHHA Paramedic vehicles

The total proposed 2021 contract amount is \$61,486,301 comprised of \$27,700,000 for Patient Care services, and \$33,786,301 for other core and non-core services. It also includes an approximate revenue amount \$3,744,445 for City services provided to DHHA.

Core Services Budget by Section



Breakdown of Total Cost for Medically Indigent Patient Population



Proposal Name	City Department	Duration	Net Financial Impact
Patient Care Services Payment Reduction (A-1, MI payment)	Denver Public Health & Environment	One-time	\$ 3,077,300
EMS 1.0 FTE Reduction (A-2)	Denver Fire Department	Permanent	\$ 86,136
Public Health Payment Reduction (A-3)	Denver Public Health & Environment	One-time	\$ 212,519
Denver CARES Payment Reduction (A-4)	Denver Public Health & Environment	One-time	\$ 500,000
Jail Medication Reduction (B-3)	Denver Sheriff Department	One-time	\$ 627,456
Marijuana Research Reduction (B-6)	Denver Public Health & Environment	Permanent	\$ 144,598
		<b>TOTAL REDUCTIONS</b>	<b>\$ 4,648,009</b>

Proposal Name	City Department	Duration	Net Financial Impact
EMS Wage Inflation (A-2)	Denver Department of Safety	Permanent	\$ 13,554
Public Health RNs 1.8 FTE (A-3)	Denver Public Health & Environment	Limited	\$ 175,847
Denver CARES Wage Inflation (A-4)	Denver Public Health & Environment	Permanent	\$ 113,032
Jail Medical Wage Inflation (B-3)	Denver Sheriff Department	Permanent	\$ 744,517
Jail Medical Equipment (B-3)	Denver Sheriff Department	One-time	\$ 26,756
		<b>TOTAL EXPANSIONS</b>	<b>\$ 1,073,706</b>

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