STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Budget Change Proposal - Cover Sheet
DF-46 (REV 07/23)

Fiscal Year	Business Unit Number	Department
2026-27	4120	Emergency Medical Services Authority

Hyperion Budget Request Name	Relevant Program or Subprogram
4120-001-BCP-2026-GB	3820 - Emergency Medical Services Authority

Budget Request Title
Disaster Response Vehicle Replacement

Budget Request Summary
The Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) requests $2,550,000 in 2026-27 from the General Fund to replace critical disaster response vehicles essential for statewide medical operations, with expenditure authority available through June 30, 2028.

Requires Legislation (submit required legislation with the BCP)	Code Section(s) to be Added/Amended/Repealed
☐ Trailer Bill Language ☒ Budget Bill Language ☐ N/A	

Does this BCP contain information technology (IT) components? ☐ Yes ☒ No *If yes, departmental Chief Information Officer must sign.*	Department CIO	Date

For IT requests, specify the project number, the most recent project approval document (FSR, SPR, S1BA, S2AA, S3SD, S4PRA), the approval date, and the total project cost.

Project No. **Project Approval Document:**

Approval Date: **Total Project Cost:**

If proposal affects another department, does other department concur with proposal? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Attach comments of affected department, signed and dated by the department director or designee.

Prepared By	Date	Reviewed By	Date
Tim Reed	1/10/2026	Gabrielle Santoro	1/10/2026
Department Director	**Date**	**Agency Secretary**	**Date**
Elizabeth Basnett	1/10/2026	Julie Souliere	1/10/2026

Department of Finance Use Only

Additional Review: ☐ Capital Outlay ☐ ITCU ☐ FSCU ☐ OSAE ☐ Dept. of Technology

Principal Program Budget Analyst	Date submitted to the Legislature
Nina Hoang	1/10/2026

A. Problem Statement

EMSA requests $2,550,000 in 2026-27 from the General Fund to replace critical disaster response vehicles essential for statewide medical operations, with expenditure authority available through June 30, 2028.

EMSA is required under the State Emergency Plan (SEP), Emergency Support Function (ESF) 8, and Health and Safety Code section 1797.150 to coordinate and deploy emergency medical resources statewide during disasters. This necessitates a reliable fleet to transport disaster medical caches, biomedical equipment, and temperature-controlled assets to incident sites.

EMSA's fleet includes five 2007 Ford E-450 medium trucks, three 2007 GMC C7500 box trucks, and one 2007 GMC C7500 refrigerated box truck that has exceeded the 12-year replacement threshold for medium trucks under State Administrative Manual (SAM) section 4126 and the State Fleet Handbook. These vehicles are now 17+ years old and increasingly unreliable. In just the past six months, EMSA has (1) replaced two engines at $30,000 each and (2) permanently retired another unit after a catalytic converter failure.

Additionally, EMSA now faces major repairs on a vehicle requiring a turbo valve replacement.

This leaves the fleet at risk of failure. If these vehicles break down during an incident, EMSA will not be able to deliver critical medical supplies and equipment. It also risks mission failure during major incidents, delaying or preventing medical support to affected communities.

In 2024-25, EMSA deployed these vehicles to 16 separate wildfire incidents, supporting the California Medical Assistance Teams (CalMAT) at California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) base camps. Program demand consistently ranges from 10 to 16 deployments annually, with no operational redundancy if more units fail, and adding thousands of miles to the already-worn vehicles as they travel across the state.

The 2022 Budget Act included funding to begin replacing this fleet. However, due to COVID-related supply chain disruptions and two-year manufacturer backlogs, EMSA was only able to procure part of the approved vehicles before the funds expired, leaving the fleet short of required replacements.

EMSA faces escalating maintenance costs, forced emergency rentals, higher medical contracting costs, and an increased likelihood of mission failures during statewide disasters.

Resource History

(Dollars in thousands)

Program Budget	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Authorized Expenditures	6,469	14,170	22,625	11,787	13,553	13,313
Actual Expenditures	6,850	9,745	10,934	15,941	12,249	N/A
Authorized Positions	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Filled Positions	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Vacancies	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Workload History

Workload Measure	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Disaster Medical Deployments Supported	21	5	4	13	17	10-16[1]

B. Justification

This funding will support the replacement of aging EMSA fleet vehicles that have exceeded the standard usage timeline outlined under the SAM and are at risk of mechanical failure. EMSA will be able to reliably deploy medical caches, biomedical equipment, and temperature-controlled supplies statewide during disasters. EMSA is requesting a two-year expenditure period due to prior procurement delays experienced, where manufacturer supply chain disruptions and a two-year backlog in truck production prevented full acquisition of the vehicles with authorized funding before it expired.

The request includes funding to replace:

- Five front line medium fleet vehicles (Ford E-450 replacements) at approximately $230,000 each, equipped with liftgates ($1,150,000 total).
- Three 26-foot box trucks (standard) at approximately $225,000 each, equipped with liftgates ($675,000 total).
- One 26-foot refrigerated box truck, critical for temperature-controlled medical logistics at approximately $250,000 each, equipped with liftgates ($250,000 total).

This brings the combined baseline procurement cost for these nine vehicles to approximately $2,075,000.

Additional equipment needed (upfitting):

- Interior Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Storage Racks/Shelving
  - Total: $91,000
  - Description: Modular racks for medical cache transport.
- Specialized Compartments and Tie-downs
  - Total: $48,000
  - Description: Oxygen tank brackets, medical bins, and fire-safe storage.
- Telemetry and Global Positioning System (GPS) Tracking System
  - Total: $27,000
  - Description: GPS and diagnostics tracking system.
- Radio and Communications Equipment
  - Total: $69,000
  - Description: P25 radios and programming (mounted and handheld).
- Emergency Lighting & Reflective Striping
  - Total: $36,000
  - Description: Amber strobes, reflective striping, and EMS decals.
- Electrical System Modifications
  - Total: $30,000
  - Description: Inverters and interior power system upgrades.

[1] This is the estimated number of disaster medical deployments EMSA anticipates supporting in 2025-26.

- California Sales Tax (Estimated at 7.25 percent)
  - Total: $138,000
  - Description: Applied to vehicle and equipment costs.
- Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Registration, Title, Asset Tagging
  - Total: $14,000
  - Description: DMV fees, decals, and state fleet asset tagging.
- Statewide Delivery and Transport
  - Total: $22,000
  - Description: Delivery to EMSA warehouse from vendor.

Upfitting and Associated Costs Total: $475,000

To fully outfit each vehicle with EMS-specific racks, telemetry, radios, specialized compartments, and to cover associated costs such as taxes, DMV fees, statewide delivery, EMSA is requesting a total of $2,550,000. This will allow the state to secure, customize, and prepare these vehicles for immediate deployment, so that EMSA can comply with the SEP, ESF 8, and Health and Safety Code section 1797.150.

This also allows EMSA to comply with SAM section 4126, which establishes vehicle replacement criteria for age and mileage. Under these standards, EMSA's medium trucks have exceeded the 12-year age threshold, requiring replacement to maintain operational readiness. This also aligns with the State Fleet Handbook, which directs agencies to review and replace fleet assets that no longer meet these established standards.

Without this funding, EMSA faces escalating maintenance and emergency rental costs, forced retirements, and a heightened risk of mission failure during statewide incidents. The new vehicles will be procured and outfitted through existing statewide DGS contracts. No additional contracted staff or services are requested.

C. Departmentwide and Statewide Considerations

This proposal directly supports EMSA's departmentwide mission to coordinate and deploy emergency medical resources statewide during disasters, as required under the SEP, ESF 8, and Health and Safety Code section 1797.150. Having a reliable and deployable fleet is critical to fulfilling these statutory responsibilities.

At the statewide level, this proposal strengthens California's overall emergency preparedness and mutual aid framework by maintaining the capacity to rapidly deliver medical resources during wildfires, earthquakes, pandemics, and other large-scale emergencies. In 2024-25, these vehicles were deployed to 16 different wildfire incidents across California, supporting CalMAT teams at CAL FIRE base camps to provide medical treatment to firefighting personnel. If these vehicles fail, EMSA would be unable to support firefighters statewide, to stay on the firefighting line with rapid medical treatment turnaround and would be unable to prevent these individuals from using the already overwhelmed local medical system.

This request also allows EMSA to comply with the operational readiness requirements in SAM sections 8617 and 4126 and the State Fleet Handbook, which collectively direct agencies to maintain fleet assets in deployable condition and replace vehicles that exceed established service life standards.

Maintaining a dependable fleet supports EMSA's efforts to equitably deliver timely medical support statewide, including to underserved and rural areas that often rely on state mutual aid resources. This reduces disparities in emergency medical access during major incidents.

This proposal is expected to have positive operational impacts by strengthening California's mutual aid system and reducing emergency costs to the state. It avoids the need for EMSA to utilize costly emergency contracts in the event EMSA vehicles are not operational

D. Outcomes and Accountability

This proposal will allow EMSA to maintain a reliable, mission-ready fleet to support statewide medical disaster operations, directly addressing the operational risks identified in the Problem Statement.

Expected outcomes include:

- Replacement of five aging medium fleet vehicles (E-450) and four box trucks that are beyond service life, restoring core fleet capacity for statewide deployment.
- Continued support of CalMAT teams at CAL FIRE base camps and other disaster sites without reliance on expensive emergency contracts.
- Compliance with SAM section 4126 and State Fleet Handbook requirements for timely vehicle replacement, reducing the risk of catastrophic fleet failures.

Projected workload impacts:

- EMSA expects to deploy these vehicles to 10 to 16 major wildfire or multi-county disaster incidents annually, consistent with recent trends (16 wildfire deployments in 2024-25).
- Replacement of these vehicles will reduce unscheduled maintenance events and downtime that currently disrupt deployments, creating consistent availability during peak fire season.
- Sustains delivery of disaster medical caches, biomedical assets, and temperature-controlled supplies statewide, maintaining EMSA's capability to support multiple simultaneous incidents without delay.

EMSA will track these outcomes through existing operational deployment logs, fleet maintenance records, and annual reports on mutual aid support missions, to be accountable for maintaining readiness under this investment.

Projected Outcomes

Workload Measure	CY	BY	BY+1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4
Disaster Medical Deployments Supported	10-16	10-16	10-16	10-16	10-16	10-16

E. Implementation Plan

Upon approval of this proposal, EMSA will carry out a two-year procurement and deployment process to replace its aging fleet, allowing for required approvals, manufacturer lead times, specialized upfitting, and delivery backlogs that have impacted statewide vehicle orders.

Implementation Plan

July - September 2026	Finalize detailed vehicle specifications, including specialized EMS upfitting (racks, telemetry, radios, temperature-controlled compartments) needed to meet operational requirements. Develop and submit a revised Fleet Acquisition Plan (FAP) to the DGS' Office of Fleet and Asset Management for review and approval, in compliance with SAM section 4116 and the State Fleet Handbook.
October - December 2026	Upon FAP approval, submit purchase requisitions through existing statewide DGS contracts. Coordinate with vendors on build schedules and upfitting timelines.
January - July 2027	Vendor factory scheduling and vehicle production. Conduct periodic inspections to comply with specifications. Begin receiving initial vehicles for DMV registration, state decals, and asset tagging.
August - December 2027	Complete delivery of remaining vehicles and perform final outfitting. Install EMSA-specific medical equipment and communications systems.
January - June 2027	Fully integrate new vehicles into EMSA's operational fleet, replacing outdated units. Conduct operational readiness checks and begin tracking deployment and maintenance metrics tied to these assets.

This phased approach over 24 months supports compliance with state fleet policies, accommodates vendor production schedules, and maintains EMSA's operational capability throughout the replacement process.

F. Supplemental Information (If Applicable)

Fiscal Detail Sheet

BCP Fiscal Detail Sheet

BCP Title: Disaster Response Vehicle Replacement

BR Name: 4120-001-BCP-2026-GB

Budget Request Summary

Personal Services

Personal Services	Current Year	Budget Year	BY+1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4
Positions - Permanent	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Positions	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**
Salaries and Wages Earnings - Permanent	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
Total Salaries and Wages	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total Staff Benefits	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Personal Services	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**

Operating Expenses and Equipment

Operating Expenses and Equipment	Current Year	Budget Year	BY+1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4
5368 - Equipment	0	2,550	0	0	0	0
Total Operating Expenses and Equipment	**$0**	**$2,550**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**

Total Budget Request

Total Budget Request	Current Year	Budget Year	BY+1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4
Total Budget Request	**$0**	**$2,550**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**

Fund Summary

Fund Source

Fund Source	Current Year	Budget Year	BY+1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4
0001 - General Fund	0	2,550	0	0	0	0
Total State Operations Expenditures	**$0**	**$2,550**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total All Funds	**$0**	**$2,550**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**

Program Summary

Program Funding

Program Funding	Current Year	Budget Year	BY+1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4
3820 -Emergency Medical Services Authority	0	2,550	0	0	0	0
Total All Programs	**$0**	**$2,550**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**