

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## <u>Innovative Emergency Care Helps Pasadena Hospitals During Pandemic</u>

**{February 9, 2021 – Pasadena, TX}** In an effort to help deter hospital/ER overcrowding during the COVID-19 pandemic, Mayor Jeff Wagner is pleased to announce the City of Pasadena's EMS partner has been designated as a *Federal ET3 Healthcare Model Provider*.

**Pasadena's Acadian Ambulance Service**, the designated EMS provider for the City of Pasadena, is one of only 205 agencies selected nationwide by the *Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS)* to serve as an *Emergency Triage, Treat & Transport Model Provider (ET3)*. Under this program, CMS will pay for transportation and treatment services for Medicare beneficiaries using Acadian Ambulance within Pasadena city limits.

The ET3 Model will also initiate on-the-spot diagnosis/treatment options with a qualified health care practitioner or provide transportation to alternative destinations, such as a primary care doctor's office or urgent care clinic. The patient can choose between traditional hospital transportation or the various treatment options under ET3.

"Our hospitals and ER staff have been on the frontlines of this pandemic since it began; they deserve whatever assistance we can provide. This ET3 program is an innovative way to help our senior citizens get the quality care they need, while helping to alleviate hospital overcrowding due to the COVID-19 pandemic," said Mayor Jeff Wagner.

**About the City of Pasadena, Texas** - Rich in Texas history and community spirit, Pasadena is the second-largest city in the Greater Houston Metropolitan Area, with a population of 150K+. Located northwest of Galveston and south of the Houston Ship Channel, Pasadena's residents comprise a highly-skilled, dedicated and diverse workforce.

**About Acadian Ambulance** – Employee-owned and accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services, partnering with multiple municipalities in Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee.

