

MEDIC ONE/EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

STRATEGIC PLAN & LEVY REAUTHORIZATION

BLS Subcommittee meeting 5/3/2018

Summary

Topics included reports from the other subcommittees and further discussion concerning the BLS funding allocation.

Attendees

Chair: Larry Rude, Fire Commissioner, Eastside Fire & Rescue

Andy Adolfson, Bellevue Fire

Ken Barrack, Redmond Fire

Jeff Bellinghausen, South King Fire & Rescue

Dave Beste, Bellevue Fire

Cynthia Bradshaw, KCEMS

Seth Buchanan, Kirkland Fire

Richard Burke, Eastside Fire & Rescue

Rick Chaney, South King Fire & Rescue

Helen Chatalas, KCEMS

Mark Correira, Snoqualmie Fire

Matt Cowan, Shoreline Fire

Kevin Coughlin, KC Fire Commissioners

Chuck DeSmith, Renton Regional Fire Authority

Todd Dickerboom, Bellevue Fire

Pam Fernald, City of SeaTac

Erik Friedrichsen, KCEMS

Krystal Hackmeister, Bellevue Fire

Jason Hammond, KCEMS

Tracie Jacinto, KCEMS

Vic Kave, City of Pacific

Melina Kuzaro, Valley Regional Fire Authority

Michelle Lightfoot, KCEMS

Stacie Martyn, Bellevue Fire

Rick Myking, Renton Regional Fire Authority

John Nankervis, Shoreline Fire

Joyce Nichols, City of Bellevue

Kevin Olson, Valley Regional Fire Authority

Eli Panci, Kirkland Fire

Michele Plorde, KCEMS

John Rickert, South King Fire & Rescue

Chris Santos, Seattle Fire

Tommy Smith, Redmond Fire

Mark Thompson, KC Fire Commissioners

Issues discussed

Report from Other Subcommittees

- ALS Subcommittee: Reviewing details of the unit allocation, including suggested enhancements, and baseline data for understanding projected demand.
- Regional Services Subcommittee: The subcommittee meets next week to discuss proposed strategic initiatives that are based on the issues and needs heard in all three subcommittees. This includes enhancing Vulnerable Populations to incorporate efforts to better understand and meet the mental wellness needs of our EMS workforce.

BLS Funding

Overview:

The EMS levy provides BLS agencies with an allocation to help offset costs of providing EMS services. Agencies use the allocation to pay for a variety of EMS-specific items

including personnel, equipment and supplies. The BLS Subcommittee is tasked with determining the total level of funding that will be allocated to BLS for the span of the next levy, and how to distribute it among the BLS agencies.

BLS Working Group review of the allocation:

At the April 5, 2018 BLS Subcommittee, the idea of using a new “unit allocation” methodology was broached, and referred to the BLS Working Group for its review. The Working Group convened on April 24, 2018, to discuss this, and other methodologies. Alternatives reviewed were geared toward simplicity, equity, consistency, providing flexibility, and streamlining administration and oversight.

Workgroup participants acknowledged that using AV and call volumes (indicating service level) respects and balances jurisdictions’ financial investment with service needs. As such, the Group agreed to recommend to the BLS Subcommittee that they support using the current distributive methodology based on AV and call volumes over the span of the next levy.

Discussion:

Other funding issues were brought up while discussing the allocation methodology:

1. Increasing the total BLS allocation “bucket” to reflect increases in BLS calls
Consider tying increased funding to:
 - Call volume increase
 - A metric associated with ALS
 - % of levy
2. Rebasng the allocation for the first year of the new levy span to more accurately reflect current assessed valuation and call volumes; and
3. Distribution methodology for Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) funding.

Subcommittee Report

A document highlighting the Accomplishments and Decisions Made by the BLS Subcommittee was reviewed and edited.

Actions Taken

1. The Subcommittee endorsed distributing the BLS allocation based on the current 50% AV/ 50% call volume methodology.
2. The Subcommittee endorsed inflating the MIH funding by CPI + 1 annually, and allocating the funds using a distributive model (exact parameters TBD).
3. The Subcommittee endorsed presenting the Subcommittee Report to both the Finance Subcommittee and *EMS Advisory Task Force* at their May meetings.

Issues to be resolved:

1. Total BLS allocation funding level and usage policies within the allocation.
2. MIH funding distribution methodology and usage policies

Next Meeting

June 7, 2018:

1:00 – 3:00 pm

Renton Fire Station 14

1055 South Grady Way in Renton

Items for discussion include total BLS funding level and usage policies.