

MEDIC ONE/EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
STRATEGIC PLAN & LEVY REAUTHORIZATION
EMS Advisory Task Force
5/30/18 meeting notes

Task Force Members present:

The Honorable Tom Agnew, Councilmember, City of Bothell
The Honorable Bob Baggett, Deputy Mayor, City of Auburn
Allen Church, Chief, South King Fire & Rescue
The Honorable Reagan Dunn, Councilmember, King County
The Honorable Pam Fernald, Councilmember, City of SeaTac
The Honorable Vic Kave, Councilmember, City of Pacific
The Honorable John Marchione, Mayor, City of Redmond
Krystal Marx, Councilmember, City of Burien
The Honorable Karen Moran, Deputy Mayor, City of Sammamish
Matthew Morris, Chief, Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority
Jennifer Robertson, Councilmember, City of Bellevue
Larry Rude, Fire Commissioner, King County Fire Commissioner/Eastside Fire & Rescue
Harold Scoggins, Chief, Seattle Fire
The Honorable Keith Scully, Councilmember, City of Shoreline
Rachel Smith, Chief of Staff to King County Executive Dow Constantine
The Honorable Penny Sweet, Councilmember, City of Kirkland
Mark Thompson, Fire Commissioner, South King Fire & Rescue

Attendees

Matt Abers, Snohomish County FD 26	Andrew Kim, King County Council
Jeff Bellinghausen, SK Fire & Rescue	Michelle Lightfoot, King County EMS
Dave Beste, Bellevue Fire	Mike Marrs, KCFD #2
Cynthia Bradshaw, King County EMS	Joe Monteil, King County Medic One
Seth Buchanan, Kirkland Fire	John Nankervis, Shoreline Fire
Brant Butte, AMR	Kevin Olson, Valley Regional Fire Authority
Helen Chatalas, King County EMS	Eli Panci, City of Kirkland
Jeff Clark, Eastside Fire & Rescue	Michele Plorde, King County EMS
Matt Cowan, Shoreline Fire	Dr. Tom Rea, King County EMS
Erik Friedrichsen, KC EMS	John Rickert, South King Fire & Rescue
Krystal Hackmeister, Bellevue Fire	Chris Santos, Seattle Fire Department
Steve Heitman, Mercer Island Fire	Tommy Smith, Redmond Fire
Mark Horaski, Valley Regional Fire Authority	Mitch Snyder, Puget Sound RFA
Lyman Howard, City of Sammamish	Eric Timm, King County Medic One
Kirsty Jones, NORCOM	Bryn Vanderstoep, King County Council
Keith Keller, King County Medic One	Ernie Walters, Snohomish County FD 26

Summary:

This is the second gathering of the *EMS Advisory Task Force*. At this meeting, the Subcommittee Chairs reported back on work completed and preliminary recommendations developed thus far in the levy planning process. Members received an overview of the region's demographics, the health of its economy and major economic drivers impacting the levy, setting the stage for

reviewing the costs needed to support future EMS operations. Finally, levy ballot timing considerations were discussed.

Discussion Items:

Draft Recommendations Status Reports: *See meeting materials.* The Task Force supported the Subcommittees proceeding with their proposed next steps.

Reserves and Assessed Valuation: Task Force members stressed the need for appropriate reserves to ensure the system can weather an economic downturn. The Finance Subcommittee is scheduled to take up this issue at its July meeting.

Levy Rate:

Starting rate of 2014-2019 levy:	33.5 cents
2019 estimated levy rate:	22.3 cents
Status Quo:	24.5 cents
Initial Proposed:	26.5 cents

These are early estimates, and will most likely change as the Programmatic Recommendations and reserves are finalized.

Ballot Timing: EMS levy validation requirements at the state level were recently amended, opening up the option of running the levy measure at a primary election. Task Force members were interested in considering this, contingent what other issues may be on the same ballot.

Messaging: Ballot title matters! How we communicate the performance, value and levy rate of the Medic One/EMS system is key. Need to determine simplest and strategic ways to explain the cost and levy rate increases. It is important that Stakeholders speak with one voice, and use consistent speaking points and facts. It was proposed that population growth be referenced and to consider using a focus group to help develop Stakeholders' messaging. The EMS Division will generate communications materials as the recommendations are further refined.

Other Items: Consider impacts of levy rates on junior taxing districts; watch for indicators of voters' mood; population plays a large role in EMS use – the growth in the region should be incorporated into communications pieces; additionally, review population projections vs actuals to help determine accuracy of data being used.

Upcoming Task Force Meetings:

Tuesday, July 31, 2018 1 pm – 3 pm 2100 Building (2100 24th Ave S, Seattle), Rm B

Tuesday, Oct 16, 2018 1 pm – 3 pm Tukwila Community Center (12424 42nd Ave S, Tukwila)

For more information on the EMS Advisory Task Force and the levy reauthorization process, please contact Helen Chatalas at 206-263-8560.