



2014

Fire Exploratory Committee

SEPTEMBER 15, 2014



Fire Service Exploration in Tukwila

- February 2010 – Council Retreat
- June 2010 – Fire Services Options Presentation
- June 2010 – Council established Fire Exploratory Committee
- December 2010 – Council established Joint Fire Exploratory Committee
- June 2012 – Joint Fire Exploratory Committee ended
- February 2014 – 2014 Fire Exploratory Committee formed

2014 Fire Exploratory Committee



2014 Fire Exploratory Committee Review

April – September 2014

- Current Fire Department budget, staffing and services
- Service delivery options
- Fire Benefit Charge fundamentals
- Partnership Opportunities

Viabile Option- RFA

- Financial sustainability of high quality service
- Economies of scale
- Fire Benefit Charge
- Governance

What is a Regional Fire Authority?

- A special purpose district created by vote of the people
- A municipal corporation and an independent taxing authority
- Its boundaries are coextensive with two or more adjacent fire protection jurisdictions
- Governing body is elected officials of participant jurisdictions and elected commissioners of Authority

Regional Fire Authorities in WA State

- Kent Fire Department Regional Fire Authority (King County)
- North County Regional Fire Authority (Snohomish County)
- North Mason Regional Fire Service Authority (Mason County)
- Riverside Fire Authority (Lewis County)
- South Whatcom Fire Authority (Whatcom County)
- Valley Regional Fire Authority (King County)
- South East Thurston Fire Authority (Thurston County)
- West Thurston Regional Fire Authority (Thurston County)

Viabile Option - Kent RFA

- Experienced and established
- Successful relationship – Training Consortium
- Interested in partnership and further exploration

RFA Annexation (RCW 52.26.300)

- An adjacent fire protection jurisdiction is eligible
- Initiated by resolution of the governing body of the jurisdiction requesting annexation
- Governing body of RFA amends Plan
- City Council adopts a resolution approving the annexation and Plan amendment
- City Council requests annexation be placed on the ballot
- Annexation is authorized by majority vote of City residents

What has Changed since 2010?

- RCW amended to streamline process for annexation
- Kent RFA completed process with SeaTac
- Potential to revise fire benefit charge formula

Recommended Next Steps

- Financial Analysis
- Communications, messaging, community engagement
- Operations, Plan amendment
- Labor negotiations
- Resolutions
- Election
- Interlocal Agreement

Led by Steering Committee – Council, City, Kent RFA, Community

Thank you

Coming up next:
Fire Benefit Charge 101

Tukwila - the city of opportunity, the community of choice