

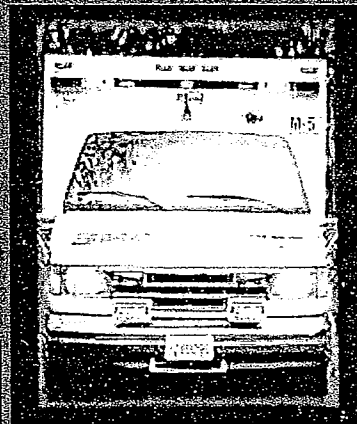


# Public Health

Seattle & King County

HEALTHY PEOPLE. HEALTHY COMMUNITIES.

## *Medic One/Emergency Medical Services*



## *2008-2013 Strategic Plan*

*January 2007*



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Developing a strong regional consensus about Medic One/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) priorities was critical to drafting the *Medic One/EMS 2008-2013 Strategic Plan*. Throughout this tiered process, Stakeholder Committees reviewed and approved the plan in each phase of its development. The King County EMS Division would like to thank the numerous members of these Committees who so willingly gave their time, access and expertise to assist in the planning of the *Medic One/EMS 2008-2013 Strategic Plan*.

### Steering Committee Members:

<b>Allen Church</b>	Chief, South King Fire & Rescue
<b>Gregory Dean</b>	Chief, Seattle Fire Department
<b>Mickey Eisenberg, MD</b>	Regional Medical Director, King County EMS
<b>Tom Hearne</b>	Director, EMS Division, Public Health - Seattle & KC
<b>Marcus Kragness</b>	Chief, Shoreline Fire Department
<b>Mario Trevino</b>	Chief, Bellevue Fire Department

### Technical Stakeholders consisting of representatives from the following areas:

- Medical Program Directors
- Paramedic Providers
- Fire Departments and Districts
- Dispatch Agencies
- Private Ambulance Companies
- Labor

<b>Bob Berschauer</b>	Director of Operations, American Medical Response
<b>Jeff Blake</b>	Chief, Kirkland Fire Department
<b>Allen Church</b>	Chief, South King Fire & Rescue
<b>Michael Copass, MD</b>	Medical Director, Seattle Medic One Program
<b>David Daniels</b>	Chief, Renton Fire Department
<b>Gregory Dean</b>	Chief, Seattle Fire Department
<b>Mickey Eisenberg, MD</b>	Regional Medical Director, King County EMS
<b>Chris Fischer</b>	Director, Valley Communications Center
<b>Tim Fuller</b>	Chief, Redmond Fire Department
<b>Tom Hearne</b>	Director, EMS Division, Public Health - Seattle & KC
<b>Greg Kipp</b>	Chief Administrative Officer, Public Health - Seattle & KC
<b>Marcus Kragness</b>	Chief, Shoreline Fire Department
<b>John Rickert</b>	Commissioner, South King Fire & Rescue
<b>Jim Schneider</b>	Chief, Kent Fire & Life Safety
<b>Mario Trevino</b>	Chief, Bellevue Fire Department
<b>Mike Wilson</b>	District #8 Representative, WA State Council of Fire Fighters
<b>Keith Yamane</b>	Acting Chief, Vashon Island Fire & Rescue

Finance Representatives from:

**Auburn Finance Department**  
**City of Bellevue Finance Department**  
**Bellevue Fire Department**  
**Federal Way Finance Division**  
**King County Office of Management & Budget**  
**Kirkland Department of Finance & Administration**

**Redmond Finance & Business Solutions Department**  
**Renton Finance Department**  
**Seattle Finance Department**  
**Seattle Fire Department**  
**Shoreline Finance Department**  
**Vashon Island Fire & Rescue**

Elected Official Committee Members:

**Ron Sims, Chair** King County Executive, King County\*  
**Terry Anderson, Vice Chair** Councilmember, City of SeaTac\*

*Cities with 50,000 + in population:*

*City of Bellevue:*

**Grant Degginger** Mayor, City of Bellevue\*  
**John Chelminiak** Councilmember, City of Bellevue\*\*

*City of Federal Way:*

**Mike Park** Mayor, City of Federal Way\*  
**Linda Kochmar** Councilmember, City of Federal Way\*\*

*City of Kent:*

**Tim Clark** Councilmember, City of Kent\*  
**Jim Schneider** Chief, Kent Fire Life & Safety\*\*

*City of Renton:*

**David Daniels** Chief, Renton Fire Department\*  
**Larry Rude** Deputy Chief, Renton Fire Department\*\*

*City of Seattle:*

**Gregory Nickels** Mayor, City of Seattle\*  
**Gregory Dean** Chief, City of Seattle Fire Department\*\*

*City of Shoreline:*

**Bob Ransom** Mayor, City of Shoreline\*

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*Suburban Cities Association:*

**Ron Hansen** President, Suburban Cities Association\*  
Councilmember, City of Shoreline

\* Denotes Representative

\*\* Denotes Alternate Representative

*King County Council:*

**Polly St. John**

Senior Legislative Analyst\*  
King County Council Budget Committee

*King County Fire Commissioners Association:*

**Roger Hershey**

President, King County Fire Commissioners Association\*  
Commissioner, South King Fire and Rescue

**Jim Farrell**

Boardmember, King County Fire Commissioners Association\*  
Commissioner, King County Fire Protection District 44  
Mountain View Fire and Rescue

*Labor:*

**Greg Markley**

WA State Council of Fire Fighters\*

*Medical Directors:*

**Michael Copass, MD**

Medical Director, Seattle Medic One Program\*

**Mickey Eisenberg, MD**

Regional Medical Director, King County EMS\*

*Paramedic providers not represented by cities with 50,000+ in population:*

**Gayle Sommers**

Commissioner, Vashon Island Fire and Rescue\*

**Rosemarie Ives**

Mayor, City of Redmond\*

**Jane Christenson**

Assistant to the Mayor, City of Redmond\*\*

\* Denotes Representative

\*\* Denotes Alternate Representative

The willingness of King County EMS Division staff to facilitate and lead meetings, prepare briefings, and provide substantial financial research and costing support was greatly appreciated.

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Finance Officer

**Linda Culley**

Community Programs Section Manager

**Mike Helbock**

Training Section Manager

**Michele Plorde**

Planning Section Manager

Participation in the development of the recommendations was certainly not limited to those identified on the committees above; interested parties convened to monitor the process, resulting in the development of subcommittees and technical work groups that grew substantially over the span of this levy planning process. The King County EMS Division would like to recognize and thank these individuals who spent an inordinate amount of time sharing their ideas and insight. They went above and beyond our expectations for participation in this process.

The broad-based membership of these committees, coupled with an open process that sought input from numerous interested constituencies, assures that the *Medic One/EMS 2008-2013 Strategic Plan* clearly reflects the collective thoughts and perspectives of the communities served by the Medic One/EMS system.



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**Commonly Used Acronyms:**

Emergency Medical Services (EMS)  
Advanced Life Support (ALS)  
Basic Life Support (BLS)  
Regional Services/Strategic Initiatives (RS/SI)

Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD)  
Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)  
Assessed Value (AV)



## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **STRATEGIC PLAN OVERVIEW**

The Medic One/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system provides life-saving medical assistance to all residents of King County. It is recognized as one of the best emergency medical services programs in the country, and its response model has garnered an international reputation for innovation and excellence in out-of-hospital emergency care. It serves over 1.8 million people throughout King County and, on average, responds to a medical emergency in the region every three minutes. In 2005, Medic One/EMS responded to over 162,000 calls for assistance.

The highly praised patient and program services of the Medic One/EMS system are funded by a Medic One/EMS levy that expires December 31, 2007. To continue providing this vital service in 2008 and beyond, a new strategic plan, defining the roles, responsibilities and programs for the system, and a levy rate to fund these approved functions, needed to be crafted.

In early October 2005, the King County EMS Division initiated a region-wide effort to review the issues and options facing our system, and develop recommendations for the next strategic plan. This process brought together Stakeholders that represented the full range of Medic One/EMS providers - urban and rural fire departments and districts, paramedic providers, emergency physicians and medical directors, labor representatives, finance specialists, dispatch agencies and private ambulance companies. Elected officials and appointees from large cities, suburban cities, and fire districts joined the discussions later in the process to advise the group about potential political concerns with the recommended levy proposal.

In total, these Stakeholders spent one year reviewing the needs of the Medic One/EMS system, the financial and programmatic policies necessary to meet these needs, and the impacts that a specific levy type, length and rate might have on the regional system and taxpayers. In addition, issues regarding the state requirements for validation and the timing of when to ask voters to support such a levy had to be considered.

In October 2006, regional representatives developed consensus around the future funding and operational plans for a 2008-2013 Medic One/EMS levy, unanimously endorsing a levy proposal that they deemed appropriate and prudent.

This document summarizes the results of these discussions, and includes the Stakeholders' approved proposals:

- A six-year Medic One/EMS levy at \$.30 per \$1,000 Assessed Value (AV);
- A financial plan that provides full funding for Advanced Life Support (ALS)/ paramedic service and identifies ALS as a funding priority;
- The funding of an anticipated 3.0 new paramedic units over the span of the six-year levy period to maintain existing levels of services in anticipation of moderate growth in call volumes and anticipated increases in the age of the population in the region;
- Provision of paramedic service to outlying areas;
- A funding increase for Basic Life Support (BLS) services, tying BLS financial support to incidents where BLS most closely supports paramedic services;

