

MEDIC ONE/EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES STRATEGIC PLAN & LEVY REAUTHORIZATION

BLS Subcommittee meeting 4/4/2024

Summary

Meeting topics included a report out on issues being considered in the other levy planning subcommittees, a discussion on the BLS allocation distribution methodology, and a presentation on Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH).

Attendees

Chair: Armondo Pavone, City of Renton

Cynthia Bradshaw, King County EMS

Helen Chatalas, King County EMS

Cat Cotton, City of Snoqualmie

Brian Culp, KCFD #27 – Fall City

Chris Drucker, King County EMS

Becky Ellis, King County EMS

Jamie Formisano, Eastside Fire & Rescue

Matt Gau, Tri-Med Ambulance

Jason Gay, Burien Fire

Don Gentry, Mountain View Fire & Rescue

Tom Goff, King County Council

Natasha Grossman, Bellevue Fire

Jason Hammond, King County EMS

Steve Heitman, Renton RFA

Cory James, NORCOM

Vic Kave, City of Pacific

Vonnie Mayer, Valley Com

Kristine Mejilla, King County EMS

Amy Moorhead, Redmond Fire

Andres Orams, Shoreline Fire

Kaleigh Phillips, Redmond Fire

Dmitry Sharkov, King County EMS

Dave Tait, Bellevue Fire

Brad Thompson, VRFA

Liz Tusing, Redmond Fire

Aaron Tyerman, PSRFA

Dave Van Valkenburg, South King

Matt Vinci, Vashon Island Fire & Rescue

Jim Whitney, Redmond Fire

Issues discussed:

Report from Other Subcommittees

ALS Subcommittee: Review of Details of ALS funding and the different categories of the unit allocation were reviewed. There is regional support for the ALS program that supports BLS QI activities such as having paramedics conduct BLS Run Review and trainings.

Regional Services Subcommittee: The first three meetings will focus on program and Initiative review, starting with Training & Education. Workforce issues - hiring, retirements and retention – are front and center, and there is support across the region for increased training for all first responders.

Requests from last meeting

BLS Subcommittee participants were briefed on BLS call data and the Telephone Referral Program (aka Nurseline).

BLS Basic Allocation

Overview:

The regional Medic One/EMS levy provides BLS agencies with an allocation to help offset the costs of providing EMS services. The BLS Subcommittee will determine the total BLS Basic Allocation funding level for the next levy span, and how it will be distributed among the BLS agencies.

The current allocation methodology distributes the total first year's funding based 50% on assessed valuation (AV) and 50% on call volume. Subsequent annual increases are then distributed using the same methodology and added to each agency's previous year's base funding. Using AV and call volumes balances the financial contribution to the system with demand on the system.

Discussion:

King County EMS Division staff provided two BLS allocation distribution options. These methodologies would "reset" the first year of the levy and "keep whole" any agencies that are negatively impacted financially by this new formula, and inflate the annual allocation using CPI-W + 1%. The group discussed if AV should be a metric used to distribute the allocation; if there were other factors, such as the number of EMTs, that should be considered; and if the total allocation funding level should be increased.

Next steps:

King County EMS Division staff will calculate the allocation based solely on AV and based solely on call volumes for review at the May 2nd meeting.

Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH)

Overview:

Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) programs connect low-acuity, frequent EMS users and vulnerable clients to appropriate for their complex needs. MIH strategies center on identifying the patients' root causes of need and connecting them to local community health and social services. MIH has now grown to include 12 programs serving over 1.8 million residents (80%) throughout the region.

Discussion:

After EMS staff presented information on the MIH program, MIH providers shared their experiences working for the program.

Next steps:

A MIH proposal for the 2026-2031 levy span that was developed with input from the MIH Network will be brought to the May 2nd for review and discussion.

Next Meeting

May 2, 2024: 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Renton Fire Station 14
1900 Lind Ave SW in Renton

Items for discussion include reviewing BLS allocation methodology scenarios, the BLS Core Services and Training & QI programs, MIH, and 2026-2031 programmatic "Status Quo" finances.

BLS Allocation Modeling -- Reset 1st Year of Levy

Using 2024 to represent future 2025 to 2026 allocation

4/4/2023

Reset current 2024

Compare to Actual 2023 Allocation

Agency*	2024 Allocation	2024 RESET	Difference from 2024	Keep Whole from 2024	Total with Keep Whole
Bellevue Fire Department	\$3,917,585	\$4,086,487	\$168,902		\$4,086,487
Eastside Fire & Rescue	\$2,123,894	\$2,309,840	\$185,946		\$2,309,840
Woodinville Fire & Rescue	\$735,921	\$637,442	(\$98,479)	\$98,479	\$735,921
Mercer Island Fire Department	\$640,755	\$656,419	\$15,664		\$656,419
Redmond Fire Department	\$1,622,763	\$1,758,178	\$135,415		\$1,758,178
Kirkland Fire Department	\$1,592,498	\$1,705,027	\$112,529		\$1,705,027
Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority	\$2,397,275	\$2,442,845	\$45,570		\$2,442,845
SeaTac Fire Department	\$554,338	\$539,961	(\$14,377)	\$14,377	\$554,338
Fire District #43 - Maple Valley	\$585,364	\$485,728	(\$99,636)	\$99,636	\$585,364
Tukwila Fire Department	\$597,169	\$597,783	\$614		\$597,783
Renton Regional Fire Authority	\$1,807,137	\$1,885,260	\$78,123		\$1,885,260
Fire District #40	\$304,286	\$259,229	(\$45,057)	\$45,057	\$304,286
South King Fire	\$2,224,295	\$2,250,464	\$26,169		\$2,250,464
Shoreline Fire Department	\$1,018,242	\$988,047	(\$30,195)	\$30,195	\$1,018,242
Fire District #16 - Northshore(6)	\$534,890	\$560,218	\$25,328		\$560,218
Valley Regional Fire Authority	\$1,268,643	\$1,386,953	\$118,310		\$1,386,953
Fire District #2 - Burien	\$907,835	\$940,622	\$32,787		\$940,622
Fire District #11 - North Highline	\$545,468	\$278,532	(\$266,936)	\$266,936	\$545,468
Bothell Fire Department	\$500,335	\$504,993	\$4,658		\$504,993
Snoqualmie Fire Department	\$176,966	\$192,118	\$15,152		\$192,118
Fire District #13 - Vashon/Maury	\$266,685	\$214,254	(\$52,431)	\$52,431	\$266,685
Mountain View	\$377,760	\$237,931	(\$139,829)	\$139,829	\$377,760
City of Black Diamond	\$74,286	\$73,499	(\$787)	\$787	\$74,286
Enumclaw Fire Department	\$394,655	\$299,487	(\$95,168)	\$95,168	\$394,655
Fire District #45 - Duvall	\$212,660	\$179,111	(\$33,549)	\$33,549	\$212,660
Fire District #20 - Bryn Mawr /Skyway	\$264,544	\$265,730	\$1,186		\$265,730
Fire District #27 - Fall City	\$134,625	\$106,963	(\$27,662)	\$27,662	\$134,625
Fire District #47 - Palmer/Selleck	\$30,471	\$21,730	(\$8,741)	\$8,741	\$30,471
Fire District #50 - Skykomish	\$53,758	\$21,569	(\$32,189)	\$32,189	\$53,758
Fire District #51 - Snoqualmie Pass	\$30,353	\$9,033	(\$21,320)	\$21,320	\$30,353
Total	\$25,895,456	\$25,895,453	(\$3)	\$966,356	\$26,861,809

Jurisdictions

15

30

2020 - 2024 BLS Funding Formula -- Inflate from original 2020 Allocation

4/3/2024

(Difference is alternative minus actual)

Inflator (CPI-W +1%)

Agency	2024 Actual Allocation	2024 REVISED	Difference from 2024	2024 Keep Whole	2024 Total w Keep Whole	2025 Forecast	2025 Difference from 2024 A
Bellevue Fire Department	\$3,917,585	\$3,883,229	(\$34,356)	\$34,356	\$3,917,585	\$4,042,441	\$124,856
Eastside Fire & Rescue	\$2,123,894	\$2,111,724	(\$12,170)	\$12,170	\$2,123,894	\$2,198,305	\$74,411
Woodinville Fire & Rescue	\$735,921	\$758,588	\$22,667		\$758,588	\$789,691	\$53,770
Mercer Island Fire Department	\$640,755	\$636,635	(\$4,120)	\$4,120	\$640,755	\$662,738	\$21,983
Redmond Fire Department	\$1,622,763	\$1,600,782	(\$21,981)	\$21,981	\$1,622,763	\$1,666,414	\$43,651
Kirkland Fire Department	\$1,592,498	\$1,563,848	(\$28,650)	\$28,650	\$1,592,498	\$1,627,966	\$35,468
Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority	\$2,397,275	\$2,367,539	(\$29,736)	\$29,736	\$2,397,275	\$2,464,608	\$67,333
SeaTac Fire Department	\$554,338	\$558,464	\$4,126		\$558,464	\$581,361	\$27,023
Fire District #43 - Maple Valley	\$585,364	\$614,748	\$29,384		\$614,748	\$639,953	\$54,589
Tukwila Fire Department	\$597,169	\$596,927	(\$242)	\$242	\$597,169	\$621,401	\$24,232
Renton Regional Fire Authority	\$1,807,137	\$1,792,342	(\$14,795)	\$14,795	\$1,807,137	\$1,865,828	\$58,691
Fire District #40	\$304,286	\$295,854	(\$8,432)	\$8,432	\$304,286	\$307,984	\$3,698
South King Fire	\$2,224,295	\$2,192,172	(\$32,123)	\$32,123	\$2,224,295	\$2,282,051	\$57,756
Shoreline Fire Department	\$1,018,242	\$1,012,207	(\$6,035)	\$6,035	\$1,018,242	\$1,053,708	\$35,466
Fire District #16 - Northshore	\$534,890	\$529,543	(\$5,347)	\$5,347	\$534,890	\$551,254	\$16,364
Valley Regional Fire Authority	\$1,268,643	\$1,234,141	(\$34,502)	\$34,502	\$1,268,643	\$1,284,741	\$16,098
Fire District #2 - Burien	\$907,835	\$887,782	(\$20,053)	\$20,053	\$907,835	\$924,181	\$16,346
Fire District #11 - North Highline	\$545,468	\$615,248	\$69,780		\$615,248	\$640,473	\$95,005
Bothell Fire Department	\$500,335	\$508,991	\$8,656		\$508,991	\$529,860	\$29,525
Snoqualmie Fire Department	\$176,966	\$175,600	(\$1,366)	\$1,366	\$176,966	\$182,800	\$5,834
Fire District #13 - Vashon/Maury	\$266,685	\$280,161	\$13,476		\$280,161	\$291,648	\$24,963
Mountain View	\$377,760	\$414,666	\$36,906		\$414,666	\$431,667	\$53,907
City of Black Diamond	\$74,286	\$76,616	\$2,330		\$76,616	\$79,757	\$5,471
Enumclaw Fire Department	\$394,655	\$421,962	\$27,307		\$421,962	\$439,262	\$44,607
Fire District #45 - Duvall	\$212,660	\$224,279	\$11,619		\$224,279	\$233,475	\$20,815
Fire District #20 - Bryn Mawr /Skyway	\$264,544	\$267,185	\$2,641		\$267,185	\$278,139	\$13,595
Fire District #27 - Fall City	\$134,625	\$142,988	\$8,363		\$142,988	\$148,850	\$14,225
Fire District #47 - Palmer/Selleck	\$30,471	\$33,227	\$2,756		\$33,227	\$34,589	\$4,118
Fire District #50 - Skykomish	\$53,758	\$61,918	\$8,160		\$61,918	\$64,457	\$10,699
Fire District #51 - Snoqualmie Pass	\$30,353	\$36,089	\$5,736		\$36,089	\$37,568	\$7,215
Total	\$25,895,456	\$25,895,456	\$0	\$253,907	\$26,149,363	\$26,957,170	\$1,061,714

BLS CORE SERVICES

4/3/2024

2024 Allocation with \$5k distributed per agency

2024 Allocation with \$5k or \$10k minimums

BLS Core Services Agencies	2024 Allocation	2024 Allocation w/Adjustments	Difference from 2024	Adds to \$5k min	2024 Allocation with \$5k min	Adds to \$10k min	2024 Allocation with \$10k min
Bellevue Fire Department	\$156,603	\$136,456	(20,147)		\$156,603		\$156,603
Eastside Fire & Rescue	\$82,149	\$79,304	(2,845)		\$82,149		\$82,149
Woodinville Fire & Rescue	\$24,525	\$25,506	981		\$24,525		\$24,525
Mercer Island Fire Department	\$25,618	\$26,116	498		\$25,618		\$25,618
Redmond Fire Department	\$64,856	\$61,558	(3,298)		\$64,856		\$64,856
Kirkland Fire Department	\$63,633	\$59,848	(3,785)		\$63,633		\$63,633
Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority	\$95,816	\$83,582	(12,234)		\$95,816		\$95,816
SeaTac Fire Department	\$20,939	\$22,369	1,430		\$20,939		\$20,939
Fire District #43 - Maple Valley	\$17,737	\$20,625	2,888		\$17,737		\$17,737
Tukwila Fire Department	\$22,649	\$24,229	1,580		\$22,649		\$22,649
Renton Regional Fire Authority	\$72,245	\$65,646	(6,599)		\$72,245		\$72,245
Fire District #40	\$10,390	\$13,339	2,949		\$10,390		\$10,390
South King Fire	\$88,894	\$77,394	(11,500)		\$88,894		\$88,894
Shoreline Fire Department	\$40,711	\$36,784	(3,927)		\$40,711		\$40,711
Fire District #16 - Northshore	\$21,147	\$23,021	1,874		\$21,147		\$21,147
Valley Regional Fire Authority	\$50,668	\$49,616	(1,052)		\$50,668		\$50,668
Fire District #2 - Burien	\$36,268	\$35,259	(1,009)		\$36,268		\$36,268
Fire District #11 - North Highline	\$10,755	\$13,960	3,205		\$10,755		\$10,755
Bothell Fire Department	\$17,194	\$21,245	4,051		\$17,194		\$17,194
Snoqualmie Fire Department	\$7,074	\$11,180	4,106		\$7,074	\$2,926	\$10,000
Fire District #13 - Vashon/Maury	\$9,118	\$11,892	2,774		\$9,118	\$882	\$10,000
Mountain View	\$8,835	\$12,654	3,819		\$8,835	\$1,165	\$10,000
City of Black Diamond	\$2,102	\$7,364	5,262	\$2,898	\$5,000	\$7,898	\$10,000
Enumclaw Fire Department	\$11,383	\$14,634	3,251		\$11,383		\$11,383
Fire District #45 - Duvall	\$6,168	\$10,761	4,593		\$6,168	\$3,832	\$10,000
Fire District #20 -Bryn Mawr /Skyway	\$9,474	\$13,548	4,074		\$9,474	\$526	\$10,000
Fire District #27 - Fall City	\$3,859	\$8,441	4,582	\$1,141	\$5,000	\$6,141	\$10,000
Fire District #47 - Palmer/Selleck	\$828	\$5,699	4,871	\$4,172	\$5,000	\$9,172	\$10,000
Fire District #50 - Skykomish	\$1,008	\$5,693	4,685	\$3,992	\$5,000	\$8,992	\$10,000
Fire District #51 - Snoqualmie Pass	\$373	\$5,291	4,918	\$4,627	\$5,000	\$9,627	\$10,000
Total	\$983,019	\$983,014	(5)	\$16,830	\$999,849	\$51,161	\$1,034,180

Agencies

6

31

11

31

4/4/2024 BLS Subcommittee meeting
2026-2031 Medic One/EMS levy planning

Topics for discussion

TOPICS

1. Report from other subcommittees

2. Follow-up from last meeting

3. BLS Allocation Options

4. MIH

5. Meeting future challenges, including staffing and mental wellness

Reports from
Other
Subcommittees –
REGIONAL
SERVICES

3/21/24 – REGIONAL SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE

Review of the various Training and Education programs and financial overview of those investments.

Key Takeaways:

1. Regional support for increased training
2. Concerns about hiring, retention, having enough trainers

Reports from
Other
Subcommittees
- ALS

3/27/24 – ALS SUBCOMMITTEE

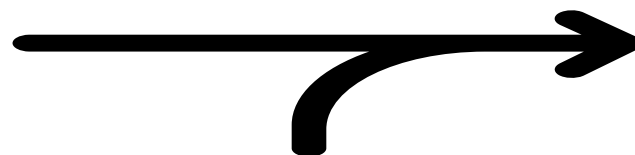
Thorough review of the issues the group will be considering and specifics of ALS financing.

Key Takeaways:

1. Key drivers impacting ALS costs were the economy and inflation
2. Regional support for the ALS Support for BLS Activities program

BLS
ALLOCATION
INFORMATION

Follow-up from last BLS
Subcommittee

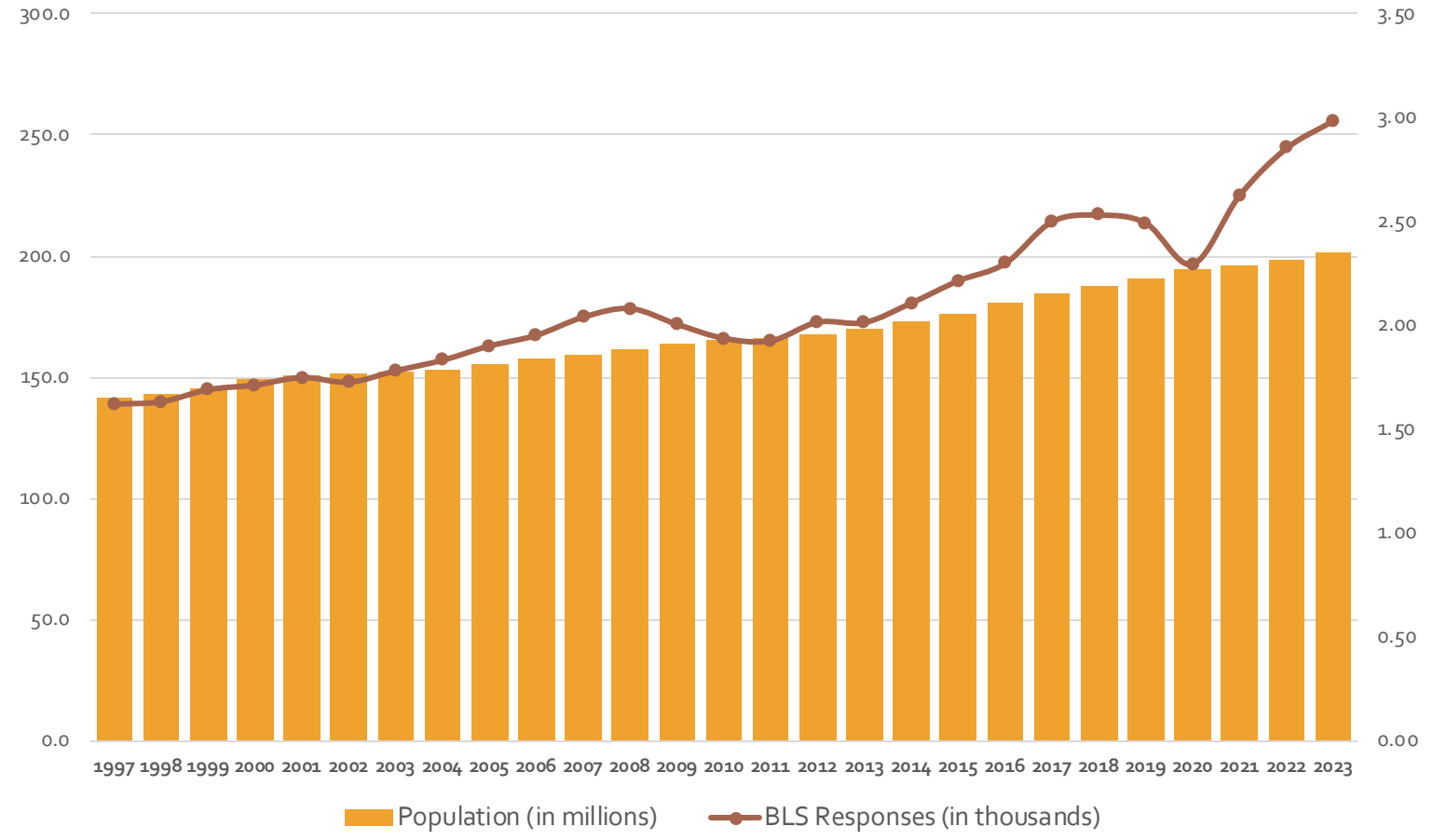




Call Definition

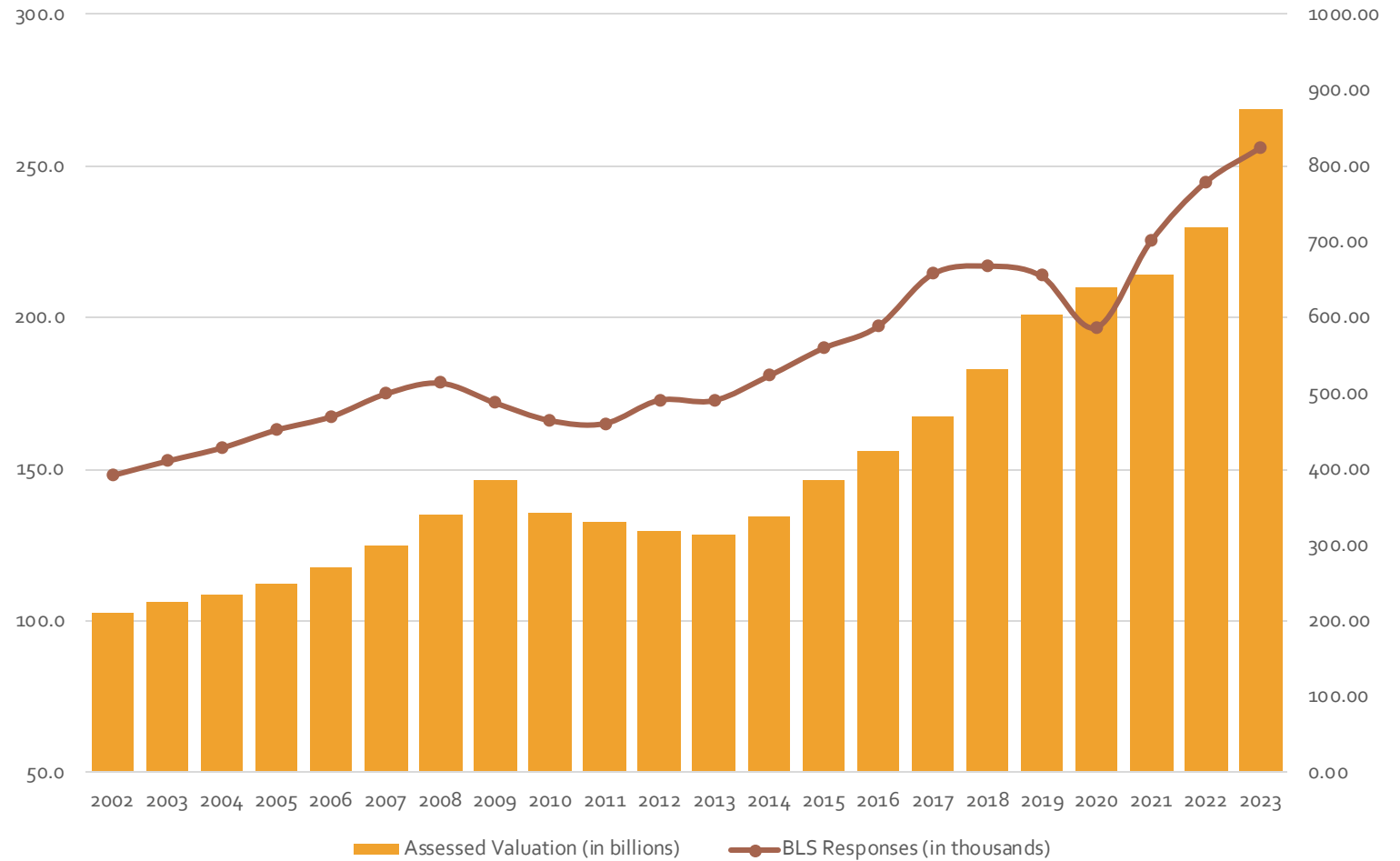
BLS call
volume to
population

Seattle-King County Population & BLS Responses 1997-2023



BLS call
volume
to Assessed
Valuation

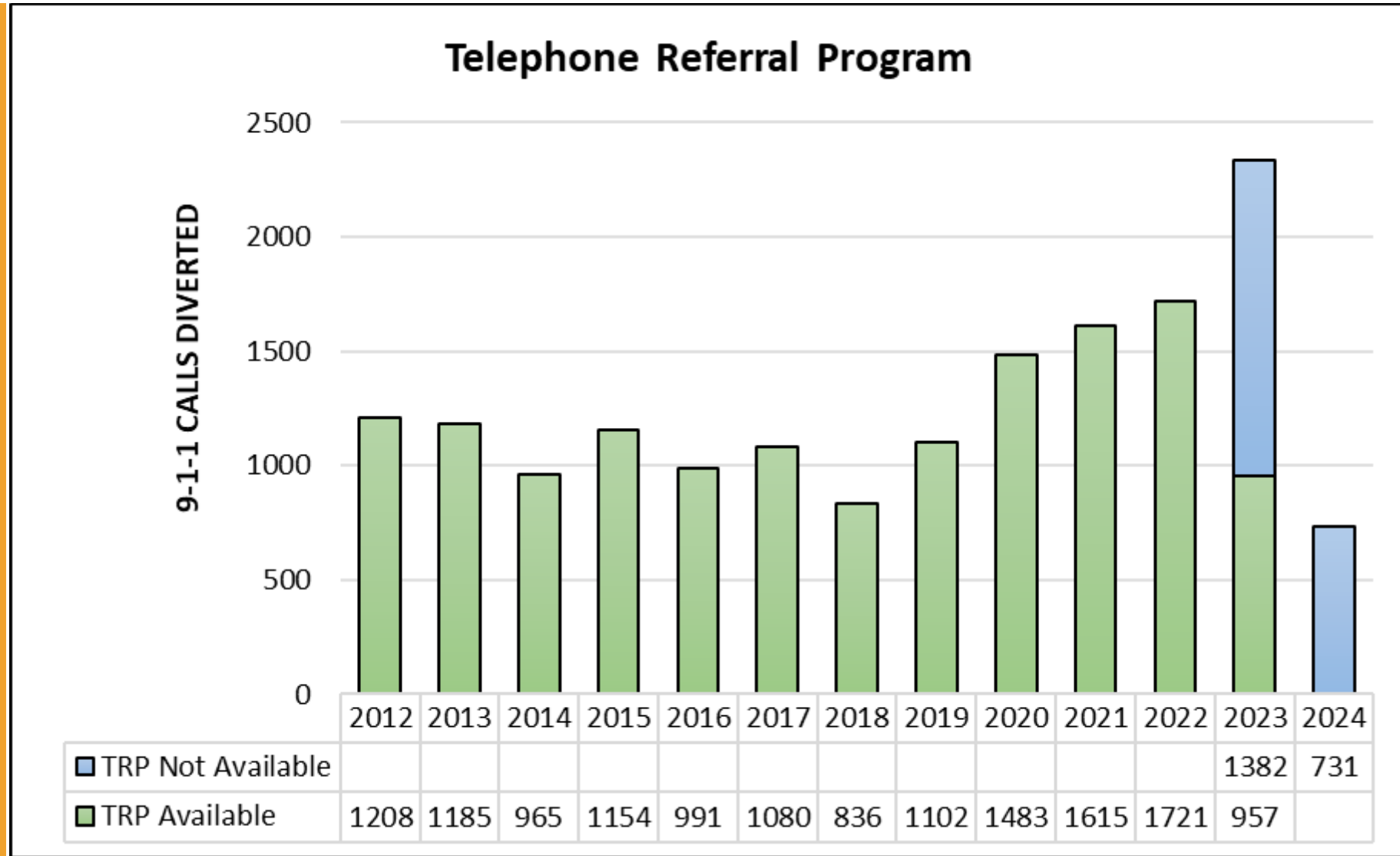
Seattle-King County AV & BLS Responses 2002-2023



Telephone Referral Program

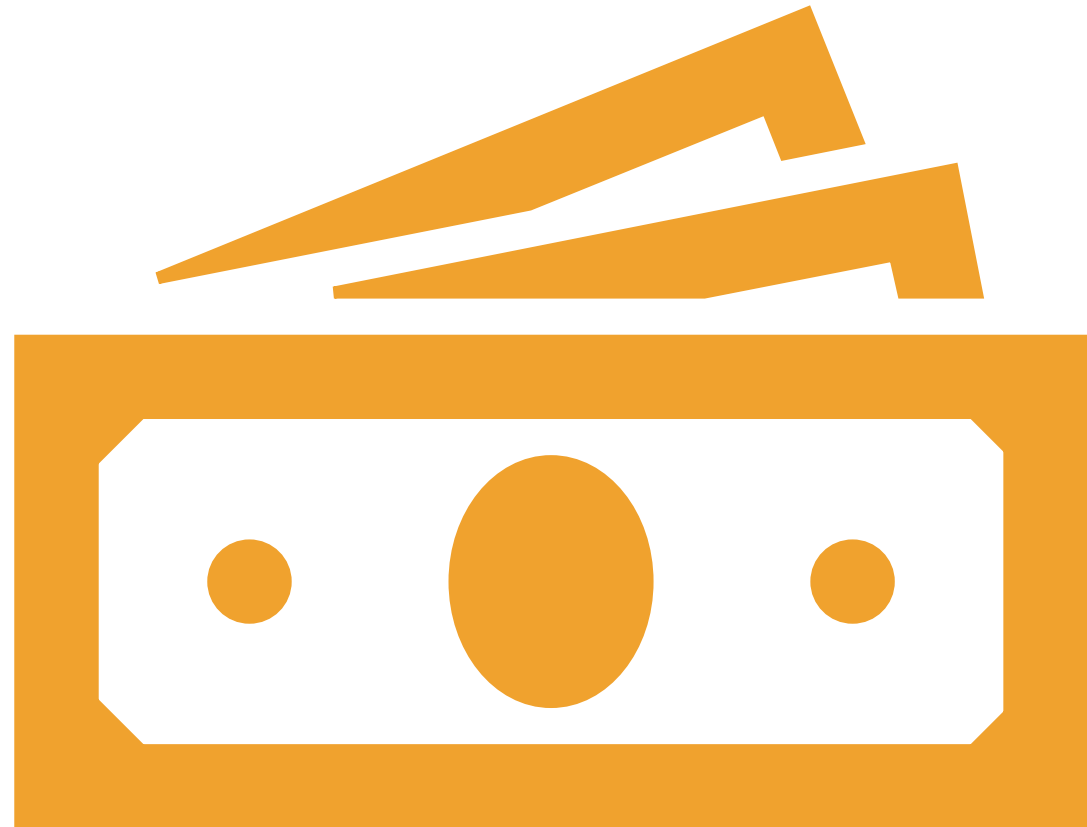
- A regional service funded via the EMS levy for more than 20 years.
- Diverts low-acuity 9-1-1 calls to a 24-hour consultation nurse triage line for medical advice and care instructions.
- Allows units to be available for higher acuity, emergent medical calls.
- As of 8/31, our contract with EvergreenHealth Healthline ended.
- The EMS Division tracks 9-1-1 calls that would have been diverted; however, these calls now receive a non-emergent BLS response.

Diverted
Calls through
the years



BLS BASIC ALLOCATION

To help offset costs of providing EMS services



BLS-specific funding: NEXT STEPS

- 2026-2031 levy span

- Issues to determine :

1. Total BLS Basic Allocation funding level
2. BLS Basic Allocation distribution formula
 - Maintain current methodology?
 - Reset 1st year?
3. BLS Core Services and BLS Training and QI funding
 - Total funding level
 - Maintain current funding formula?
4. Possible ways to simplify and streamline allocation and/or programs while being equitable

BLS Basic Allocation (2020-2025 levy)

- In 2020, the total allocation was distributed 50% on Assessed Valuation and 50% on call volumes.
- Each year after that, only the annual increase is distributed to agencies based 50% on AV and 50% on call volumes and added to the agencies' base amount from the previous year.
- Year-to-year increases are set at June - June CPI W + 1%.
- Allocations established for each jurisdiction (including agencies contracting for services)
- For General BLS Support. Can be used for any BLS cost.

BLS Allocation & Funding

BLS Allocation & Funding:

- 2020-2025 levy: Overall allocations increased by CPI-W +1% per year
- Prior to 2014: Increased by CPI-W

Allocation	Purpose/scope	2020-2025 Forecast
Basic BLS	General support; Any BLS expense	\$140.6 m
BLS Core Services	Unplanned expenses; Supplement other programs	\$5.3 m
BLS Training & QI	Run Review/ follow-up Supplemental Training	\$2.3 m
MIH		\$27.7 m

BLS Basic Allocation: DECISIONS

Reset baseline?

- Reset entire allocation in 1st year of levy

How to address agencies with reduced allocation?

- 2020-2025 levy added funding to make sure NO agencies had reduced funding

Supplement funding for smallest allocations?

- 4 agencies less than \$100k/year; 2 with less than \$40k/year

Inflate?

- Continue yearly inflation? Inflate by CPI-W, CPI-W +1% or?

BLS Allocation & Funding

BLS Funding:

- 2020-2025 levy: Overall allocations increased by CPI-W +1% per year
- Prior to 2014: increased by CPI-W

FOR REVIEW TODAY

Allocation/ Program	1 st Year of Levy	Future years – Added funds distributed by:
Basic BLS	Reset; 50% AV; 50% calls with keep whole	50% AV; 50% calls
Basic BLS	Model based on 2020	Each agency increased by inflator annually
BLS Core Services	Options for minimum amounts per agency	50% AV; 50% calls Could consider annual inflation by agency

Basic BLS Allocation Scenarios

Resetting allocation:

- Resets allocation to reflect “current” AV & Call Volume
- For modeling re-calculated 2024 allocation (distribute by AV & call volume %s)
 - Agencies with high % of call volume or AV higher allocations
 - Agencies with lower % of call volume or AV lower allocations
 - Smallest 3 agencies allocations less than \$50k
- Resetting allocation results in some agencies calculated to receive lower allocations (addressed by “keeping whole”)

Inflator currently CPI-W +1%

Scenarios	# agencies <i>increased</i> allocation	# agencies <i>decreased</i> allocation	Total Decreased Allocations
2024 reset	15	15	\$966 k
2024 reset +5% increase	18	12	\$783 k

Basic BLS Allocation Scenarios

Inflate each agency by inflator per year*:

- Increase each agencies 1st year allocation by standard inflator
 - Same as current MIH allocation
 - Why? Creates predictability for agencies
 - Simplifies allocation
- All agencies receive more funds in 2024 than 2023
- Results in “keep whole” agencies receiving additional funds
- Minimal reductions for other agencies (15 agencies; \$254k)

*inflator currently CPI-W +1%

Inflate individual 2020 allocations	Agencies with lower allocation	Total keep whole
2024 inflated compared to 2024 “as is”	15	\$254k
2024 inflated compared to 2023	0	0

Basic BLS Allocation Scenarios

Keeping Whole:

- Reduced individual agency allocations addressed in previous levy periods using concept of “Keep Whole”
 - Adds funds so no agencies receives less than previous year
 - Previous levies redistributed funds to cover keep whole
 - For 2020-2025 levy added funds to BLS allocation
- Implemented, keep whole is from past year to next year (2025 to 2026)
- Increasing total allocation can decrease amount of keep whole
 - Increasing above 5% does not reduce # of agencies “keep whole”

Reset Scenarios	Baseline Allocation	Total Keep Whole	Total Allocation	Keep Whole Add*
Actual 2020 from 2019	\$19.0 m	\$1.3 m	\$20.3 m	7%
2024 Reset to 2024	\$25.9 m	\$1.0 m	\$26.9 m	4%

*% of keep whole increase from normal allocation calculation (in addition to inflator)

BLS Core Services Scenarios

BLS Core Services:

Provides agencies funds for unplanned expenses or supplements other BLS programs

- Funds distributed same as Basic Allocation (50% AV; 50% call volume)
- Scenarios based on a minimum allocation per agency
 - Distribute \$5k to each agency; distribute remaining
 - Results in some agencies receiving less funds
 - Supplement agencies with allocation <\$5k or <\$10k

Inflator currently CPI-W +1%

Supplement agencies with low allocations	# of agencies	Added \$s
Agencies less than \$5k	6	\$17k
Agencies less than \$10k	11	\$51k

Other BLS Allocations: DECISIONS

BLS Core Services

- Keep as a separate program with allocation or roll it into the Basic BLS Allocation?
- Create a minimum amount per agency?

Continue BLS Agency BLS Training & QI

- Currently funding is mostly delegated to ALS agencies
- Leave as separate BLS funding?
- Roll into Basic BLS Allocation?

Mobile Integrated Healthcare

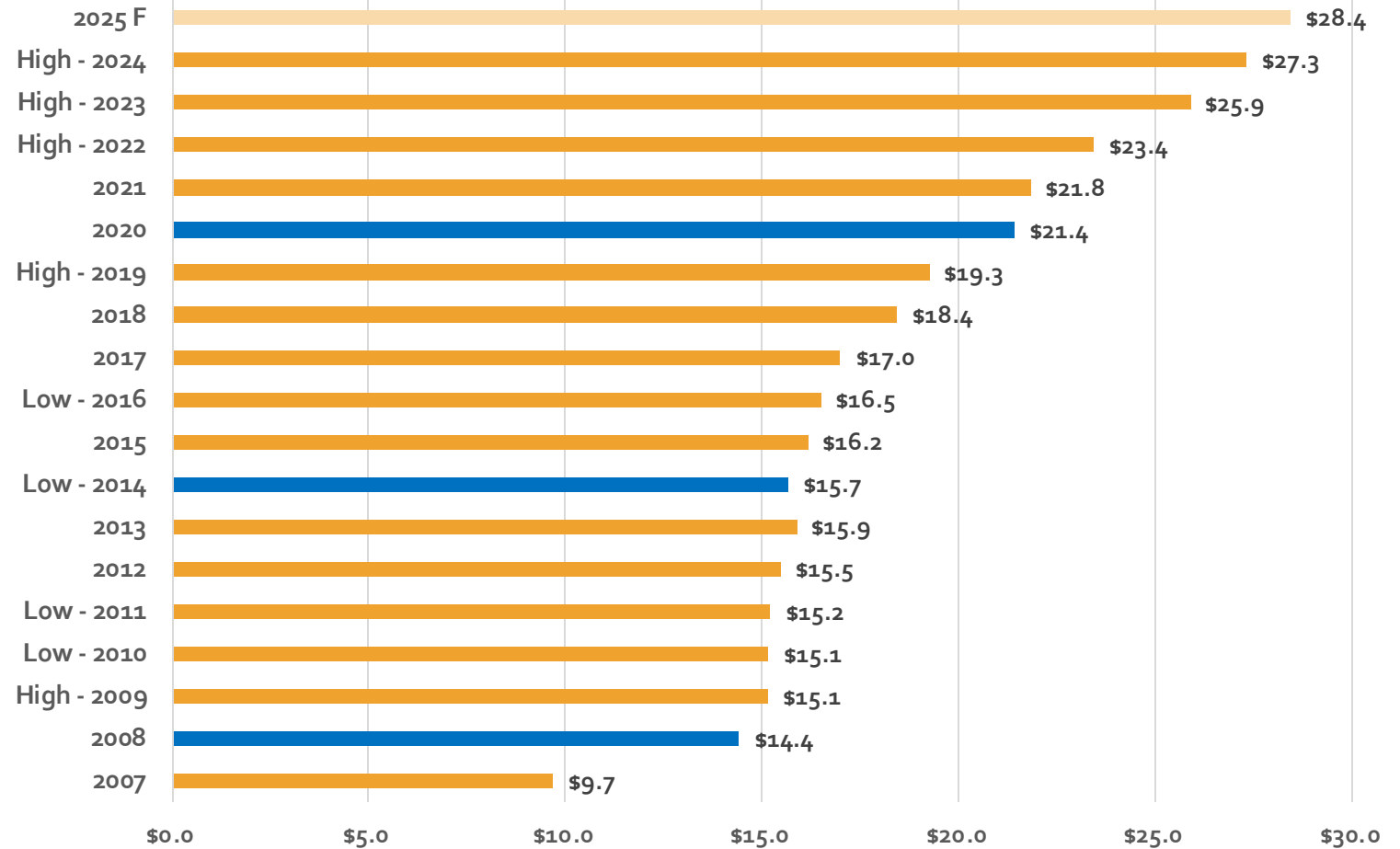
- Roll into Basic Allocation?
- Funding level?

BLS
Allocations
across the
years

(budget)

BLS Basic, QI & Core Funding

(\$in millions)



Low inflation years: 2010 (0.6%), 2011 (0.3%), 2014 (1.2%), 2016 (1.1%), 2021 (1.0%)

High inflation years: 2009 (4.2%); 2019 (3.7%); 2022 (6.3%); 2023 (9.5%); 2024 (4.5%)