

# **BLS Subcommittee**

## **Medic One/EMS Strategic Plan & Levy Reauthorization**

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Wednesday, July 10, 2024  
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Renton City Hall, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Conferencing Center  
1055 South Grady Way, Renton

Chair: Armondo Pavone, Mayor of Renton

### **Agenda**

- **Opening Remarks & Introductions** (5 minutes)
  
- **Report from Other Subcommittees** (10 minutes)
  
- **Total BLS Funding** (100 minutes)
  - BLS Allocation
  - BLS Core Services
  - MIH
  
- **Next Steps** (5 minutes)

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# Increase Options

	2026-31 PSQ	Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D	Option E
% of proposed levy		27.0%	27.7%	28.1%	28.6%	29.1%
2026 Increase above PSQ		\$1 million	\$2 million	\$3 million	\$4 million	\$5 million
Initial proposed increase		\$6.5	\$13.1	\$19.6	\$26.2	\$32.7
PSQ Increase	\$52.9	\$52.9	\$52.9	\$52.9	\$52.9	\$52.9
2020-2025 Baseline	\$175.9	\$175.9	\$175.9	\$175.9	\$175.9	\$175.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$228.9</b>	<b>\$235.4</b>	<b>\$241.9</b>	<b>\$248.5</b>	<b>\$255.0</b>	<b>\$261.6</b>
% increase from 2020-25		33.8%	37.5%	41.2%	45.0%	48.7%
<i>Levy Rate (cents)***</i>	<i>26.5</i>	<i>26.7</i>	<i>26.9</i>	<i>27.1</i>	<i>27.3</i>	<i>27.5</i>

Initial Proposed Increases	
ALS	\$ 9.6 m
RSSI	\$13.8 m

- 2026-2031 PSQ is 30% increase from 2020-2025 levy
- Option A matches BLS % of 2020-2025 planned levy
- Numbers in table do not include ALS Support for BLS Activities (shown on dashboard)
- Levy rate information very preliminary and will change (based on March 2024 forecast)

# Distribution Options

Increases (in millions)	Split	Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D	Option E
2026 Increase above PSQ		\$1.0	\$2.0	\$3.0	\$4.0	\$5.0
Increase above 2020-25		\$6.5	\$13.1	\$19.6	\$26.2	\$32.7
BLS % increase	50%	\$3.3	\$6.5	\$9.8	\$13.1	\$16.4
MIH % increase	50%	\$3.3	\$6.5	\$9.8	\$13.1	\$16.4
BLS % increase	60%	\$3.9	\$7.9	\$11.8	\$15.7	\$19.6
MIH % increase	40%	\$2.6	\$5.2	\$7.9	\$10.5	\$13.1
BLS % increase	75%	\$4.9	\$9.8	\$14.7	\$19.6	\$24.5
MIH % increase	25%	\$1.6	\$3.3	\$4.9	\$6.5	\$8.2

Note: includes rounding errors

# Stronger Together

## Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)/Equity, Racial and Social Justice (ERSJ)

### 2026-2031 Medic One/EMS Strategic Plan and Levy Reauthorization

#### **Commitment to ERSJ/DEI Best Practices**

The King County Fire Chiefs Association (KCFCFA) and the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Division, Public Health – Seattle & King County are deeply committed to dismantling systemic racism, advancing equity, and fostering social justice in our own organizations and within the diverse communities we serve. We are dedicated to growing our ERSJ/DEI infrastructure in a way that honors these values in order to ensure inclusive, culturally competent, and equitable patient experiences for all, including vulnerable populations historically marginalized with respect to access to care.

#### **Expenditures/Budget for the 2020-2025 Levy Period (Combined EMS Division & Fire Department support).**

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	Total
Expenditures	\$49,480	\$11,390	\$29,918	\$24,877	\$68,500	\$75,800	\$259,965
Budget	\$43,432	\$43,432	\$43,432	\$43,432	\$43,433	\$43,433	\$260,594

Internal EMS Division and external Fire Dept. financial support to be clearly delineated for the next levy period.

#### **KCFCFA Objectives: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)**

Long-term objectives to establish best DEI practice and support regional EMS partners efforts include:

- Continue to support recruitment and hiring efforts that improve the diversity of the workforce.
- Develop processes to establish and review EMS agency DEI data and policies.
- Continue to support DEI training for EMS personnel and leaders.
- Support implementation of the Regional Diversity Toolkit for EMS agencies.
- Ensure sustainable funding for ongoing DEI priorities, including the DEI Network.

#### **Proposed Budget for KCFCFA 2026-2031 Levy Period (External Fire Dept. DEI Funding).**

	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Total
Fire Dept DEI Funds	\$38,500	\$39,844	\$41,222	\$42,628	\$44,090	\$45,607	\$251,891

#### **EMS Division Objectives: Equity, Racial and Social Justice**

Long-term objectives to integrate ERSJ principles into EMS policies and practices include:

- Solidify the role of the Equity Inclusion and Belonging Manager and EMS ERSJ Core Team in EMS/Public Health business.
- Comprehensive ERSJ training for all staff (beginning with EMS leadership & EMS ERSJ Core Team).
- Continue to support and expansion of the Future Women in EMS/Fire program.
- Continued support of the S.T.A.R. program.
- Continued support of the Vulnerable Populations Strategic Initiative (VPSI).
- Incorporate Best Practices for Language Access in EMS programs.

#### **Proposed Budget for EMS Division 2026-2031 Levy Period (Internal EMS Division ERSJ Funding).**

	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Total
EMS Division ERSJ	\$38,500	\$39,844	\$41,222	\$42,628	\$44,090	\$45,607	\$251,891

# Mental Wellness Subcommittee Proposal

## King County Fire Chiefs Association

### 2026-2031 Medic One/EMS Strategic Plan and Levy Reauthorization

#### **Mission**

The King County Fire Chiefs Association Mental Wellness Subcommittee is proud of the many offerings, trainings, and workshops that have been provided to first responders to date, and advocates for continued support and funding through the 2026-2031 levy period. We do not wish mental wellness crises upon anyone within our community of first responders, medics, and dispatchers and *are committed to prevention first and foremost.*

#### **Overview**

Due to the many issues involving mental health fatigue, stress and even suicide in the first responder community, a survey was sent out to assess the resources needed to improve mental wellness of our King County first-responders. This included Fire and EMS personnel, 9-1-1 call receivers and dispatchers as well as administrative and support staff. The survey was conducted between January and March of 2018 and almost one-thousand individuals (N=984) responded.

Based on the survey results, the Subcommittee recommended several strategies, some of which were at the regional level and some at the agency level.

#### Regional Level:

- Training: Develop and offer regular training on mental wellness for FD leadership/Chief Officers; First Responders and other 9-1-1 personnel including retirees. Trainings can include annual face-to-face workshops; CBT on-line training or other ad hoc events.
- Conduct Gap Analysis and support pilot studies of FD mental wellness programs.
- Program Support: Organize and coordinate regular standing Mental Wellness Subcommittee meetings to ensure oversight and advocacy.

#### Local/Agency level:

- Adopt Policies to improve mental wellness culture; access to resources
- Offer targeted, regular Mental wellness training for First Responders in King County.
- Manage common registry of Peer Support Counselors in King County and increase awareness of Peer Support training opportunities.
- Increase awareness and availability of Wellness (prevention) training/programs at agency level.
- Improve access to Health Professionals (both in-person and “virtual” (on-line; phone)

#### **2020-2025 Impacts**

Since its inception, the Mental Wellness Subcommittee has met bi-monthly to organize and implement the following activities (through 2023):

- Sponsored speakers at FOUR KCFCA Leadership Conferences.
- Hosted FOUR basic trainings at Fire Academy.
- Sponsored EIGHT peer support trainings.
- Organized TWELVE focused trainings.
- Hosted TWO self-care retreats for leadership.
- Sponsored the purchase of TWO massage chairs for telecommunicators (NORCOM and Port of Seattle).
- Sponsored THREE telecommunicators to attend a conference.

**Expenditures/Budget 2020-2025**

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	Total
Expenditures	\$18,211	\$21,567	\$40,413	\$59,855	\$63,000	\$75,000	\$278,046
Budget	\$46,975	\$46,975	\$46,975	\$46,976	\$46,976	\$46,976	\$281,853

**Proposal for 2026-2031**

The Mental Wellness Subcommittee and the King County Fire Chiefs Association proposes the following approach to support the health of our region’s first responders, medics, and dispatchers:

**Goal:** Create and implement an overarching comprehensive Mental Wellness program that focuses on a regional system of support, reflects the needs of frontline workers, and garners the expertise of leaders in the mental wellness field.

**Objectives:**

1. Develop a broad strategic approach (Roadmap) to support agency-based and regional-level culture change that reflects frontline worker needs.
2. Solicit guidance and direction from experts in the field of mental wellness for first responders.
3. Continue to support basic and advanced peer support training (train-the-trainer model).
4. Continue to organize a variety of training, workshops, and learnings including panel discussions, progressive learning, and focus for Leadership, Dispatch, Frontline, and Administration.
5. Continue to monitor our annual workplan that will be presented regularly at the King County Fire Chief’s meetings. Engaging in this manner allows transparency and visibility of the ongoing work being done in support of this important work.

**Proposed Budget:**

Year	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Total
Budget	\$160,000	\$165,584	\$171,313	\$177,155	\$183,231	\$189,535	<b>\$1,046,818</b>