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
Viable 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)
Viable 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_