Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Levy Renewal

Chief Harold Scoggins, Seattle Fire Department





Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Levy

- The King County EMS Levy first began in 1979 and was most recently approved by voters for a six-year levy cycle in 2019.
- This levy specifically funds EMS services across King County.
- The City is being asked to execute an Interlocal Agreement that will transfer a portion of revenue to Seattle, based on the Assessed Value (AV) of taxable property within city limits.
- The King County Council will vote in July to consider placing the levy on the November ballot.



Levy Renewal and the City Budget

• SFD's 2025 Adopted Operations budget is \$261M

- Approximately 73% of Operations is EMS related
- In 2025 SFD received \$64.3M from the EMS levy; approximately 1/3 of the City's EMS operations
- The 2026 Endorsed Budget assumed the EMS Levy would be renewed, and budgeted available General Fund revenues to address costs.
 - There is no new unprogrammed money; 100% of the EMS levy revenue supports SFD's emergency medical services



Proposed EMS Levy and City Revenues

The Medic One/EMS Levy Advisory Task Force, 20-body group comprising elected and appointed officials from around the county, developed the details of the levy over a year of meetings



Current 2020-2025 Levy

Total Revenues for Seattle: \$399 Million

Average Property Tax Rate (over six years): \$0.257 per \$1,000 AV



Proposed 2026-2031 Levy

Total Revenues for Seattle: **\$479 Million**

Average Property Tax Rate (over six years): \$0.25 per \$1,000 AV



Questions?

