

EMS Levy Renewal

Ben Noble, City Budget Office, Director



Background

- King County voters approved the current six-year levy (2014-2019) in 2013
- Seattle's EMS operation is separate from the County's
 - For prior levies, the City and County executed Interlocal Agreements transferring to the City a portion of revenues based on the Assessed Value (AV) of taxable property within city limits
 - This levy will follow the same practice
- The Medic One/EMS Levy Advisory Task Force, comprising elected and appointed officials from around the county, developed the details of the levy over a year of meetings

Current and Proposed New Levy Comparison

- Current 2014-2019 Levy
 - Total Revenues for Seattle: \$284 Million
 - Average Property Tax Rate (over six years): \$0.273 per \$1,000 AV
- Proposed 2020-2025 Levy
 - Total Revenues for Seattle: \$436 Million
 - Average Property Tax Rate (over six years): \$0.257 per \$1,000 AV
- Higher AV can raise more revenue at a lower tax rate

Levy Revenues and SFD Budget

	2013	2019	\$ Change
EMS Levy Revenues - Seattle	\$34.6 M	\$52.5 M	+\$18 M
SFD Adopted Budget*	\$166 M	\$220 M	+\$54 M
*Does not include grants received during the year.			

- Proposed New Levy Revenues in 2020: \$68.3 Million

The New Levy and the City Budget

- The 2020 Endorsed Budget assumed the EMS Levy would be renewed, and budgeted available General Fund revenues to address baseline cost increases among existing city priorities
- Since then, based on a new County forecast of AV (March 2019), the County reduced the proposed levy rate from \$0.27 to \$0.265 for 2020, thereby reducing levy proceeds to the City
- There is no new unprogrammed money

