



## **CITY OF SEATAC ENTERS INTO INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE KENT REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY**

*Joint services to save \$113,521 in City's 2011 budget with no impact on safety*

**City of SeaTac, Wash., December 15, 2010** – The SeaTac City Council last night approved an Interlocal Agreement with the Kent Regional Fire Authority (RFA) for specific services effective January 1, 2011.

“The single most important aspect of SeaTac’s partnership with the Kent RFA is that our city maintains the same Captains, Battalion Chiefs and Firefighters at the same neighborhood stations,” said Todd Cutts, interim city manager. “We lose nothing in service to the community but gain everything in expertise, economies of scale and public education.”

The City of SeaTac will benefit from a team of full time experts serving the Kent RFA including a Fire Chief, Fire Marshal, Fire Inspector, emergency management specialists, fire investigators and full-time public educators teaching fire prevention in the community, especially in the schools.

“Our day-to-day operation will not be any different under this agreement than it is today with the same firefighters providing the same services at the same stations,” said Brian Wiwel, Acting Fire Chief. “I will be the Assistant Fire Chief for the City working with the exact same team of firefighters as before.”

Under the terms of the agreement either party may cancel the partnership with 60 days written notice. Likewise, the agreement can be extended as the parties mutually agree.

The City of SeaTac has recently convened an exploratory committee to study whether the City’s Fire Department should merge with the RFA on a permanent basis. The results of the committee’s work will be presented to the City Council in 2011.

Incorporated in February 1990, the City of SeaTac is located approximately midway between the cities of Seattle and Tacoma. The City of SeaTac is 10 square miles in area and has a population of 25,230. The City of SeaTac is a vibrant community, economically strong, environmentally sensitive, and people-oriented. The City boundaries surround the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, (approximately 3 square miles in area) which is owned and operated by the

Port of Seattle. For more information contact Jeff Robinson, interim assistant city manager, at (206) 973-4812.

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