

## SEATAC FIRE TO JOIN KENT FIRE DEPARTMENT RFA

Contract to begin January 1, 2014

**City of SeaTac, Wash. December 27, 2013** – On January 1, 2014, the SeaTac Fire Department will join the Kent Fire Department Regional Fire Authority under a 20 year contract.

The contract completes a consolidation process which began in 2011. At that time an inter-local agreement between the SeaTac Fire Department and Kent Fire Department RFA provided the following services to the City of SeaTac:

- Chief Administration
- Emergency Management
- Fire Prevention
- Fire Investigation
- Training

Beginning in 2014, all emergency services are included in the contract, including emergency response.

The combined fire department will operate under the name Kent Fire Department Regional Fire Authority. Personnel will wear Kent Fire Department RFA uniforms, though all emergency apparatus will keep their current logos on them. The new department will protect approximately 50 square miles, including the cities of Kent, SeaTac, Covington, and King County Fire District 37 with 11 fire stations and over 200 firefighters (see attached map).

What changes can the residents and businesses expect beginning in 2014? On a day-to-day basis, there will be very little change. The public can still expect the same quick and professional emergency services that they have had in the past.

Both departments are self-funding.

There are several advantages to a contract for both the SeaTac and Kent Fire Departments:

- Both departments become more efficient as they operate under one administration, eliminating redundant services.
- Cost savings through economies of scale.
- Standardized training and emergency response.

• Consolidation of specialized skills such as high angle rescue and hazardous materials response.

The public can stay in touch with both departments through social media. Join us on Twitter at @kentfirerfa, Facebook, and on the Kent Fire Department RFA's website <a href="https://www.kentfirerfa.org">www.kentfirerfa.org</a>. The department can also be contacted by calling 253-856-4300.

## **About the City of SeaTac:**

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 27,110. The City of SeaTac is a vibrant community, economically strong, environmentally sensitive, and people-oriented. The City boundaries surround the <a href="Seattle-Tacoma International Airport">Seattle-Tacoma International Airport</a>, (approximately 3 square miles in area) which is owned and operated by the <a href="Port of Seattle">Port of Seattle</a>. For more information contact Jeff Robinson, economic development manager, at (206) 973-4812.

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