

SECTION 3	FORMATION AUTHORITY
<i>Revision</i>	The FORMATION AUTHORITY section of the RFA Plan is subject to amendment or revision only by submission of a revised RFA Plan to the electorate for approval.
<i>Adopted</i>	Date Council Adopted: Date Commissioners Adopted:
<i>Revised</i>	

A. REGIONAL FIRE PROTECTION SERVICE AUTHORITY.

1. Chapter 52.26 RCW provides statutory authority for the formation of a Regional Fire Authority by the City of Bellingham and Whatcom County Fire District 8.

B. PLANNING COMMITTEE AUTHORITY.

1. RCW 52.26.030 and RCW 52.26.040 provides statutory authority to form and operate a Planning Committee.

2. The Participating Jurisdictions formed a Planning Committee consisting of two (2) members of the City Council, the Mayor of the City of Bellingham, and three (3) Commissioners of the Fire District.

3. The Planning Committee developed and presented to the elected officials of each Participating Jurisdiction the RFA Plan.

C. RFA PLAN APPROVAL AUTHORITY.

1. The legislative body of each Participating Jurisdiction reviewed and approved the RFA plan by Joint Resolution and called for an election to approve the RFA Plan.

2. The RFA Plan is being submitted to the voters of the City and the District as a single ballot measure that must be approved by a 60% majority vote.

3. The Planning Committee has authority to take all necessary actions on behalf of the Participating Jurisdictions, perform all necessary duties as required to place the RFA Plan before the voters and to comply with the public hearing requirements contained in RCW 52.26.230.

4. Should the RFA Plan be approved by 60% of the voters of the Participating Jurisdictions, the Bellingham Bay Regional Fire Authority shall be formed on, October 1, 2018, in accordance with RCW 52.26.070.

5. Upon voter approval of the RFA Plan, the City and the District shall continue to exist as Washington State Municipal Corporations. The exclusive purpose of the continued existence of the District shall be to levy and collect taxes and/or other fire

protection district revenue to be transferred to the RFA until such time as the RFA collects its own revenues and to provide representation to the newly formed RFA Governance Board.

If the RFA Plan is not approved by 60% of the voters, then operations relating to the services set forth herein shall remain with the City of Bellingham Fire Department.

RFA SECTION 3 PLAN REVISION DISPOSITION:

The **FORMATION AUTHORITY** section of the **RFA Plan** is subject to amendment or revision only by submission of a revised RFA Plan to the electorate for approval.