

SECTION 8	OPERATIONS AND SERVICES
<i>Revision</i>	The OPERATIONS AND SERVICES section of the RFA Plan is subject to amendment by a majority vote of the RFA Governance Board.
<i>Adopted</i>	
<i>Revised</i>	

A. FIRE PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.

1. All current operational and service delivery aspects of the City of Bellingham Fire Department shall be transferred to the RFA on the Effective Date.
2. Current staffing models, standards of coverage, deployment standards, field operations, command staffing, and operational policies and procedures of the City of Bellingham Fire Department shall be transferred to the RFA and continued at the current level of service on the Effective Date.
3. The RFA will adopt two levels of service. Within the city limits and the UGA, the RFA will adopt the current City of Bellingham Fire Department standards. Outside of the UGA but within the boundaries of the RFA, the RFA shall adopt the current Whatcom County Fire District No.8 standards.
4. All current automatic aid and mutual aid agreements, and any other contractual services agreements, documents, or memorandums currently in place with the City Fire Department and the District shall be transferred to the RFA on the Effective Date to provide continuous, seamless readiness and emergency services coverage.

B. FIRE PREVENTION SERVICES.

1. Existing Service Providers:
 - 1.1. The City of Bellingham, through the Bellingham Fire Department currently provides Fire Prevention Services pursuant to RCW 19.27 within the boundaries of the City of Bellingham:
 - 1.2. Whatcom County currently provides Fire Prevention Services within the District.
2. Fire Prevention Service Providers on Effective Date:
 - 2.1. On the Effective Date, Fire Prevention Services within the boundaries of the RFA shall be provided as follows:

- a. Within the City Bellingham: The City of Bellingham will be responsible for the adoption of the fire code (including any amendments) and for setting any fees related to construction or operational permits. The RFA will provide fire prevention services and administer the fire code within the City of Bellingham in accordance with the ILA. The City of Bellingham shall designate the RFA Chief as its Fire Chief and the RFA Fire Marshal as its Fire Marshal, and the City will provide enforcement and prosecution support when appropriate.
- b. Within unincorporated Whatcom County: Whatcom County shall provide Fire Prevention Services.

C. FIRE INVESTIGATION SERVICES.

1. Existing Service Providers:

1.1. The City of Bellingham, through the Bellingham Fire Department currently provides Fire Investigation Services within the boundaries of the City of Bellingham:

1.2. Whatcom County currently provides Fire Investigation Services within the District.

2. Fire Investigation Services on Effective Date:

2.1. On the Effective Date, Fire Investigation Services within the boundaries of the RFA shall be provided as follows:

- a. Within the City Bellingham: The RFA will provide origin and cause investigation to the City of Bellingham and the City of Bellingham shall designate the RFA Chief as its Fire Chief and the RFA Fire Marshal as its Fire Marshal. The RFA shall cooperate with the City of Bellingham in any criminal investigations as appropriate.
- b. Within unincorporated Whatcom County: Whatcom County shall provide Fire Investigation Services.

D. PUBLIC EDUCATION SERVICES

- 1.** On the Effective Date of the creation of the RFA, the RFA shall provide Public Education Services throughout the jurisdiction of the RFA.

E. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SERVICES.

1. Existing Service Providers:

- 1.1. The City of Bellingham Fire Department staff assigned to the Life Safety Division shall be transferred over to the RFA.
- 1.2. The RFA Life Safety Division shall be organized as provided in **Appendix D**.
- 1.3. The City of Bellingham agrees to designate the Chief and Fire Marshal of the RFA as the Chief and Fire Marshal of the City of Bellingham.
- 1.4. Unless otherwise noted in the RFA Plan or the Inter-local Agreement, the transfer of authority and the Life Safety Division of the RFA shall be seamless and shall initially model the current Life Safety Division of the City of Bellingham Fire Department.
- 1.5. The RFA shall enforce Fire Code within City of Bellingham and, except as provided in the Inter-local Agreement, the City shall provide the necessary prosecution and police support for enforcement of code enforcement issues.
- 1.6. The RFA shall conduct origin and cause investigation within City of Bellingham and, except as provided in the Inter-local Agreement. The RFA shall cooperate with the City of Bellingham in any criminal investigations as appropriate.
- 1.7. The City of Bellingham Fire Department staff assigned to the Life Safety Division shall be transferred over to the RFA.
- 1.8. The City of Bellingham Fire Department staff assigned to the Prospect Communication Center shall be transferred over to the RFA.

RFA SECTION 8 PLAN REVISION DISPOSITION:

The **OPERATIONS AND SERVICES** section of the **RFA Plan** is subject to amendment by a majority vote of the RFA Governance Board.