



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

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March 26, 2024

The Honorable Dave Upthegrove
Chair, King County Council
Room 1200
C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Upthegrove:

This letter transmits a report on the King County Office of Emergency Management (KCOEM) interagency coordination, in response to Ordinance 19592 Section 10.A, along with a proposed Motion that, if enacted, would acknowledge receipt of the report.

As required by Ordinance 19592, this report on KCOEM's interagency coordination provides a description of the elements of coordination work, the ways in which County departments and agencies coordinate, and the KCOEM's role in coordinating with the departments and agencies. It also describes the key components of the County's emergency management planning, policies, and functions.

As part of fulfilling its King County Code (KCC) responsibilities, the KCOEM is responsible to ensure interagency coordination when planning for and responding to emergencies and disasters. Emergency operations are inherently complex, requiring emergency managers to employ multiple methods and resources to ensure alignment amongst all relevant parties regarding crucial facts and assumptions. KCOEM's coordination efforts are addressed through multiple nested emergency plans and utilize different technological platforms. Collectively, these resources make up the elements of the interagency coordination program. Thus, rather than a standalone program; rather, interagency coordination is achieved through the content of emergency management plans and programs, as well as established emergency management coordinating groups and relationships.

In July 2022, King County earned its second consecutive accreditation through the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP). EMAP accreditation demonstrates that King County has proven its capabilities in disaster preparedness and response systems. Overall, the EMAP process ensures that programs evaluate plans, policies, and procedures to gauge compliance with standards certified by the American National Standard Institute (ANSI). The

The Honorable Dave Upthegrove

March 26, 2024

Page 2

KCOEM-led full accreditation means that the County's emergency management enterprise demonstrated compliance with sixty-four standards considered by the industry to be performance criteria for emergency management programs. As of July 2022, there were only 91 accredited programs worldwide. King County was one of only 23 accredited counties in the US, and one of four programs in Washington State.

Thank you for your consideration of this report and proposed Motion. If your staff have questions, please contact Brendan McCluskey, Director, Office of Emergency Management, at 206-205-4060.

Sincerely,



for

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers
 ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff
 Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council
 Karan Gill, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive
 Penny Lipsou, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive
 Lorraine Patterson-Harris, County Administrative Officer, Department of Executive
 Services (DES)
 Brendan McCluskey, Director, Office of Emergency Management