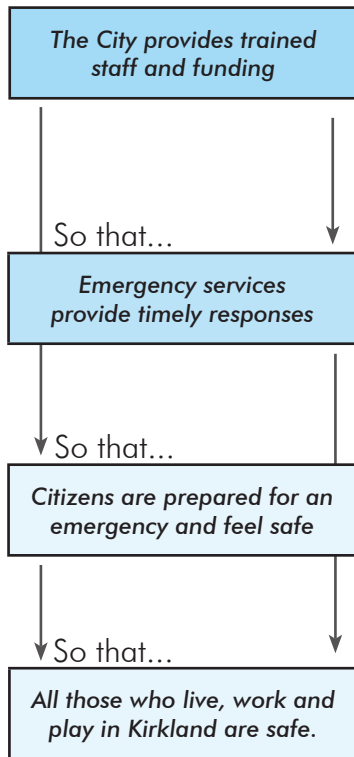


PUBLIC SAFETY

goal Provide for public safety through a community-based approach that focuses on prevention of problems and a timely response



MEASURE	2007	2008	2009	2010	Target
Total Police Services Funding	\$14,246,955	\$15,021,285	\$16,557,994	\$15,613,828	N/A
Total Fire and Emergency Management Services Funding	\$13,430,239	\$14,363,299	\$15,665,379	\$15,480,119	N/A
Sworn Police FTE's (authorized) ¹ per 1,000 population	1.41	1.38	1.37	1.33	N/A
Paid fire and EMS staffing per 1,000 population served ²	.96	.98	1	1.16	N/A
EMS response times under 5 minutes	49%	50%	48%	53%	90%
Fire response times under 5.5 minutes	47%	53%	51%	52%	90%
Building fires contained to area of origin	41%	80%	70%	82%	60%
Citizens have at least two working smoke detectors in their residence	*	**	*	93%	100%
Citizens are prepared for a three day emergency	*	69%	*	70%	90%
Citizens feel safe walking in their neighborhoods after dark	*	79%	*	78%	80%
Citizens feel safe walking in their neighborhoods during the day	*	98%	*	98%	90%

¹ The number of police officers hired
² Includes King County Fire District 41 because City of Kirkland has contracted with King County to provide fire services
 *Community survey occurs in even years
 **Not included in 2008 survey

HOW DO WE MEASURE PUBLIC SAFETY?

Staffing and funding help the City to provide timely responses to emergencies. Response times and containing fires to the area of origin are proxy measures for good performance. The likelihood of a successful outcome is higher the faster emergency services can reach the site of the emergency. Factors that affect response times include the distances between a station and the incident, geographical barriers and traffic.

Measures from the Community Survey provide standard indicators of how citizens feel about public safety and how well they are prepared for emergencies.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

- Kirkland residents' perceptions of safety meet or exceed the targets. Residents' feelings of safety during the day are comparable to those during the day in Bellevue (97%) and a little lower than Bellevue at night (84%).
- EMS and Fire response times fall short of the target but response times are slightly improved reflecting operational procedures and improved emergency call systems that reduce the time needed to exit the station.
- Kirkland residents' three day emergency kit preparedness falls below the target.

WHAT IS THE CITY DOING?

Public Safety continues to be the community's and City Council's highest priority service. Budget reductions approved for 2009 and 2010 were targeted to protect basic response capabilities.

The Police Department approaches public safety through a highly visible community-based proactive approach. The School Resource Officer (SRO) and Neighborhood Resource Officer (NRO) serve as liaisons between the community and the Police Department, enhancing relationships and providing crime prevention outreach. The NRO and SRO also assist in identifying crime trends and strengthen the connection between the Police and our community. Police visibility and accessibility in the community helps to enhance the feeling of safety and deter crime.

The Police Department also utilizes data to best focus resources to increase safety, such as reducing pedestrian or vehicle accidents by monitoring traffic through school speed zone enforcement, conducting outreach about pedestrian safety, and enforcing crosswalk violations.

The Fire Department is planning to consolidate two fire stations on Finn Hill into one more strategically located site to improve response times to a larger area.

To help the Kirkland community prepare for emergencies, the City has trained volunteers for the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). The Map Your Neighborhood program connects residents with information and materials to help them prepare for emergencies as a neighborhood. Project Impact offers retrofitting information and guidelines to enable residents to secure their homes against earthquake damage. The City website connects citizens to additional emergency preparedness resources, such as the Amateur Radio Emergency Services team and King County's 3 Days, 3 Ways emergency preparedness site.



Preventing Teen Drinking and Driving at Lake Washington High School

For fifteen years, the Kirkland Fire Department, the Kirkland Police Department and Youth Services have teamed up with the Lake Washington High School Prevention Action Care Team to address destructive behaviors in high school students, especially teen drinking and driving.

Every other year, Kirkland works with the King County Medical Examiner, Redmond Medic One and Airlift Northwest to deliver a message to students about the dangers of drinking and driving. The entire Lake Washington High School student body watches a simulated car accident involving a drunk driver, critical injuries and a fatality. The Police and Fire Departments respond to the crash by getting students out of the cars, testing the driver for alcohol and sending a student with critical injuries off on a simulated life flight in the Airlift Northwest helicopter.

This community effort engages many people and organizations in a proactive effort to educate high school students about the consequences and dangers of drunk driving.