

A Message from the Chair

Exciting things are happening with NORCOM – 14 partner agencies have signed the Interlocal Agreement creating the Northeast Regional Public Safety Communications agency (NORCOM), the search is on for a new Executive Director, and this newsletter is being created to keep you informed.

The idea of NORCOM was hatched in early 2004 with an initial modest study on the potential for regionalizing police and fire dispatch in our region. From that initial study, momentum grew and new partners joined the effort. A great deal of collective brain power over these past few years has allowed for it to now become a reality. The power of partnerships is clearly evident by the support of the principal agencies (listed to the right) and their respective elected boards.

NORCOM's [Statement of Values and Principals](#) recognizes the importance of the individuals who will lead this effort. A strong driving force to our success will be the dispatchers who will serve 650,000 east King County residents from this state of the art regional dispatch center.

As our agencies begin to transition dispatch services, I anticipate many of you will have questions and concerns. I encourage you to seek answers from your supervisors, from the Governing Board and hopefully from this newsletter.

Best Regards,
Marcus Kragness, Chief, Shoreline Fire Department
Chair, NORCOM Governing Board

Welcome to The Dispatch

The NORCOM Governing and Operations Boards are committed to a high level of communications as the new dispatch center takes shape. This publication will serve as an information sharing tool that will be distributed to all individual dispatchers from the cities of Kirkland and Bellevue, NORCOM board members, and to the city council members and fire commissioners of principle agencies.

In its initial launch, The Dispatch will be published every two months. If the need arises, it will be published more regularly. Content and story ideas are gladly accepted and should be emailed to Marie Stake, Communications Program Manager, City of Kirkland. All attempts to include the information in the upcoming issue will be made. (Have patience if it appears in a future issue).

Principal Agencies:

City of Bellevue
City of Bothell
City of Clyde Hill
City of Kirkland
City of Medina
City of Mercer Island
City of Snoqualmie
Eastside Fire & Rescue
King County Fire Protection District 27
King County Fire Protection District 45
King & Kittitas County Fire Protection District 51
Northshore Fire Department
Shoreline Fire Department
Woodinville Fire & Life Safety

Send your story ideas and story content to:
Marie Stake
Communications Prog. Mgr.

425-587-3021
mstake@ci.kirkland.wa.us

Technology Update: Request for Proposal Issued

The NORCOM Request for Proposal (RFP) was released on Nov. 5, 2007 for the purchase of integrated public safety systems. The technology systems will include:

- Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) is the core system used by call takers and dispatchers for call receipt, incident entry, dispatching, unit and incident status monitoring, messaging, and address verification.
- Mobile allows dispatchers and field personnel to exchange call data, vehicle location and unit status and provides in-vehicle query and mapping capabilities via wireless network.
- Police Records Management System (RMS) is the primary law enforcement data management system for incident reports, warrants, arrests and bookings, property and evidence, case management, crime analysis, etc.
- Jail Management System (JMS) allows corrections officers to manage booking, fingerprinting, inmate tracking, and other duties of jail operations.
- Police Field Reporting allows police personnel to complete and submit reports electronically from the field.
- Fire RMS is the primary data management system for fire agencies to track incident history, manage assets, track building occupancy, and perform reporting.
- Fire Field Reporting allows fire personnel to complete and submit incident reports from the field.

Vendors have over two months to respond to the RFP, with proposals due to NORCOM by mid-Jan. 2008. System demos will be scheduled with the short-list vendors in late February. If you are interested in attending the demos, please contact one of the Technology Committee members below. A vendor will be selected by the middle of April, and implementation activities begin in mid 2008.

The Technology Committee Members are:

- Woodinville (Bud Backer)
- Shoreline (Ron Zsigmondovics)
- Mercer Island (Chris Tubbs, Leslie Burns)
- Medina (John Kane)
- Kirkland (Gene Markle, Bill Hamilton, Joe Sanford, Kassie Tadsen, Brenda Cooper, Tracy Burrows)
- Bellevue (Bruce Vestal, Alan Komenski, Marnie Carrithers, Kevin Bryson, Mike Eisner, Denise McAuley, Carole Harper, Chelo Picardal)

Questions about the technology can be sent to the Technology Committee co-chairs Brenda Cooper (bcooper@ci.kirkland.wa.us) and Chelo Picardal (cpicardal@bellevuewa.gov).

For more information about CAD/RMS, contact:

Chelo Picardal, City of
Bellevue Information
Technology Department

(425) 452-6106

cpicardel@bellevuewa.gov

Upcoming Governing Board Meetings

December 14, 2007
8:30 – 10:00 am
Kirkland City Hall

January 11, 2008
8:30 - 10:00 am
Kirkland City Hall

What's On Your Mind?

In each issue of The Dispatch, this column will address issues, concerns and questions on the minds of our readers. If you have a suggestion for future columns, submit them to your agency's Governing Board member (listed to the right).

Probably the biggest question on the minds of most everyone is "What's the next step for NORCOM?" First, hiring an Executive Director to lead the NORCOM efforts is a top priority. The hiring process is being coordinated by Governing Board and the Executive Director Selection Committee. The Selection Committee is slated to present its recommendation for the Executive Director to the Governing Board at the December 14th Board Meeting.

Another key step is ensuring a smooth transition for NORCOM employees. Understanding the importance to potential NORCOM employees and their families, a multi-jurisdictional Human Resources Committee is working to put together options and recommendations for a competitive benefits package.

During the "transition phase" this Committee will make recommendations to the Governing Board on the best way to accomplish the principles of the NORCOM "Employee and Labor Relations Policy Statement" with the goal of achieving as seamless a transition as possible for NORCOM employees.

NORCOM Needs an Identity

What's an exciting new venture without a logo? As NORCOM forms itself, it needs a logo representative of its mission. Put on your creative hat and send in your suggestion for a "corporate" logo. Proposed logos will be published in an upcoming issue for readers to vote on.

Forward your ideas and/or graphics to:

Greg Grannis, City of Bellevue, ggrannis@bellevuewa.gov

Marie Stake, City of Kirkland, mstake@ci.kirkland.wa.us

Send them in by Friday, December 21, 2007

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