

Public Safety Committee Meeting Date:
February 18, 2016

Attendance: Toby Nixon, Dave Asher, Penny Sweet, Marilynne Beard, George Dugdale, Joe Sanford, Dave Walker, Mark Jung, Melanie Mayock (BERK and Associates)

Agenda Item:	Action Items:
<p>1. Topic: Police Strategic Plan Notes: Melanie Mayock from the consulting firm of BERK and Associates asked the Public Safety Committee for comments on the Police Department. The Public Safety Committee's comments will be considered in the development of the Police Strategic Plan. Remaining Councilmembers will also be interviewed.</p>	
<p>2. Topic: Residential Fire Sprinkler Ordinance Notes: Battalion Chief Dave Walker presented information provided by State Farm Insurance regarding homeowners insurance implications for single family houses that have residential sprinkler systems (see attached). Sprinkler systems can result in a premium savings of up to 10% which would be about \$90 to \$100 per year in premium savings. Premium savings may not be immediate but sprinklers can prevent losses of between \$14,000 and \$47,000 for a single family residence. BC Walker indicated that a representative from NFPA would be willing to do a presentation on the benefits of fire sprinkler systems.</p> <p>The committee members did not reach a consensus recommendation regarding whether the City Council should enact an ordinance requiring sprinkler systems in all new single family residence construction. The Committee asked that the staff memo summarize the Committee's discussion with regard to whether and/or how residential fire sprinklers should be implemented in Kirkland</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staff will prepare a memo to the City Council for a regular meeting to discuss residential fire sprinklers.

Agenda Item:	Action Items:
<p>Future Agenda Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fire Strategic Plan Update (ongoing)• Prevention Based Efforts in Public Safety• Residential Fire Sprinkler Process• Crisis Intervention Training and Diversion• Public Safety Performance Measures• Quarterly Fire/EMS Response Data (Quarterly)• North Fire Station Siting• King County CMT Program Report• What policies and training to Police officers have to deal with cultural and language differences (post-Alabama)?• Continuity of Government plan• Regional Fire Authority feasibility• Dashboard review	

Residential Fire Sprinkler Systems

Insurance Industry Perspective

Scott Kramer, State Farm Insurance



Residential Fire Sprinkler Systems

- Life Safety Issue
 - Fires kill more people in the USA each year than all other natural disasters combined.
 - Nearly 4 out of 5 fires occur in the home.
 - 4 out of 5 fire deaths occur in the home.
 - Each fire also puts firefighters at risk when responding to and attacking fires.
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Residential Fire Sprinkler Systems

- Property Damage Issue
 - According to the NFPA – In 2005, 75% of residential fires took place in one and two family dwellings.
 - \$5.7 Billion in direct property loss
 - Additional Living Expenses (ALE) adds even more costs to the industry and ultimately to the public.
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Benefits of Residential Fire Sprinkler Systems

- Installing residential fire sprinkler systems positively impacts life safety and damage to property.
- Positive results from installing sprinkler systems from Scottsdale, AZ and Prince Georges County, MD.
 - Reduced fire deaths, injuries, fire damage, as well as other cost reductions.

Pricing an Insurance Policy

- Covering the Hardware
 - Value of residential fire sprinkler system is easily accounted for by increasing the Coverage A/Sec. I portion of a policy.
- Developing a Base Premium Rate
 - Rating for fire losses is only one piece of the entire rating process.
 - Base policy rates are based upon a variety of factors: construction type, availability of fire protection, loss experience, etc.

Pricing an Insurance Policy (Cont.)

- Many carriers already provide credits for fire extinguishers, smoke alarms, central station fire reporting alarms, and residential fire sprinkler systems.
- Amounts of credits will vary. Generally, the more protected the home, the larger the available credits.
- Short-term: Will not likely see an immediate impact on base policy premiums.
- Long-term: Loss experience will determine impact to base policy premiums and possibly size of initial discounts for installing residential fire sprinkler systems.

Residential Fire Sprinkler Systems

- Many insurance carriers have long supported initiatives to install sprinkler systems.
 - Affirmation for policyholders that they are doing the right thing.
- Credits provided by carriers will take some time to offset the initial investment of installing a residential sprinkler system.
- Credits are typically applied annually as long as the system is being maintained.

Residential Fire Sprinkler Systems

- Full home sprinkler protection is the ideal.
- NFPA 13D is acceptable
 - Supported by national design and performance standards.
 - Proven effective in saving lives and limiting damage to property.
- Selected room or single sprinkler coverage is not adequate.
 - No national design or performance standard
 - No data to support offering credits

Questions?

