



## CITY OF KIRKLAND

123 Fifth Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033 425.587.3650  
www.kirklandwa.gov

---

### MEMORANDUM

**To:** Kurt Triplett, City Manager

**From:** J Kevin Nalder Director Fire and Building Department  
Helen Ahrens-Byington, Deputy Fire Chief, City Emergency Manager

**Date:** December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012

**Subject:** CERT class graduation

#### **Recommendation:**

That the Council recognizes the graduates of our Community Emergency Response Team course with a brief explanation of the program and awards them Certificates of Completion.

#### **Background Discussion:**

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program teaches citizens how to be prepared and trains them to be able to help others after a disaster. The 26-hour CERT course is taught by a trained team of first responders and other professionals. Training covers the Incident Command System, disaster preparedness, fire suppression, basic medical assessment and first aid, light search & rescue operations, and disaster psychology.

CERT members understand the risks disasters pose to people and property. They have taken steps to reduce hazards and lessen the impact of disasters once they have occurred. When disasters overwhelm local response capability, they are trained to take care of themselves and give critical support to their family members, neighbors, and others in their immediate area until professionals arrive. When first responders arrive, CERT's will be able to provide them with useful information and support. Later, they will be able to help City reestablish stability to the community. CERTs may also help with non-emergency projects that help improve the safety of their community.

Kirkland's 14<sup>th</sup> CERT course was made possible in partnership with the Kirkland Seventh-Day Adventist Church with a donation that covered the instructor cost and the many volunteers that help coordinate the class and drill. The church also donated use of their building for the 8 weeks of class. This CERT class completed their final simulated drill on November 18<sup>th</sup> and come before Council for graduation and recognition of their success. The next course will be held in winter/spring of 2013. Residents and people who work or attend school in the City of Kirkland are welcome to participate. Residents outside this area will be accepted on a space-available basis.

The students graduating:

<b>STUDENT</b>	<b>NEIGHBORHOOD</b>
Carolyn Brock	Bothell
Katrin Fletcher	Juanita
Stuart Hall	North Rose Hill
Richard Kellerman	Juanita
Nipaporn Lertdamrongluck	North Rose Hill
Jeffery Marman	Juanita
Toby Nixon	Evergreen Hill
Jerry Starr	Juanita
Susan Vossler	Finn Hill

Students graduating from previous classes:

<b>STUDENT</b>	<b>NEIGHBORHOOD</b>
Meg Gustafson	Juanita
Jen Mahan	Evergreen Hill