



CITY OF KIRKLAND
Fire & Building Department
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MEMORANDUM

To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager
From: J. Kevin Nalder, Director Fire and Building Department
Date: October 2nd, 2012
Subject: Fire Prevention Week Proclamation

RECOMMENDATION:

Council proclaims that October 7th through the 13th, 2012, is Fire Prevention Week.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

Each year, our nation observes "National Fire Prevention Week" during the second week of October. This week commemorates the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, in which more than 250 people were killed, 100,000 were left homeless, and more than 17,400 buildings were destroyed.

Recent studies conducted by the NFPA indicate most citizens drastically overestimate how much time they have to escape fire – and underestimate how fast fires develop and grow.

This year's theme, "**Have Two Ways Out – Be Rabbit Ready,**" encourages families to be prepared for fires and to practice home escape plans with thoughts to secondary means of escape. It also encourages families to react quickly to the presence of fire.

Less than one third of families have and practice a home escape plan but studies show citizens are responsive to public education efforts. Families who have planned and practice a home escape plan are less likely to die in a fire.

Kirkland firefighters are emphasizing these themes while visiting residences and living facilities leading up to Fire Prevention Week, by distributing educational pamphlets and home escape plan worksheets for families.



A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND

Proclaiming October 7-13, 2012 as "Fire Prevention Week" in Kirkland, Washington

WHEREAS, since 1925, the President of the United States has signed a proclamation each year pronouncing a week of observance for fire prevention; and

WHEREAS, the National Fire Protection Association, the world's leading advocate in fire prevention, encourages communities to participate in its annual "Fire Prevention Week" campaign; and

WHEREAS, the educational theme being promoted by the National Fire Protection Association for Fire Prevention Week 2012 is "**Have 2 Ways Out – Be Rabbit Ready**"; and

WHEREAS, residents who have planned and practiced a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire; and

WHEREAS, Kirkland citizens are capable of taking personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

WHEREAS, Kirkland firefighters will be making additional efforts to educate the public, including public safety announcements thru City communications; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kirkland is committed to ensuring the safety and security of those living in and visiting our City;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Joan McBride, Mayor of Kirkland, do hereby proclaim October 7-13, 2012 to be "**Fire Prevention Week**" in the City of Kirkland, to encourage residents to protect their homes and families from fire by practicing a home escape plans, by making sure they have working smoke detectors, and by eliminating fire hazards which can cause the loss of life and property.

Signed this 2nd day of October 2012

Joan McBride, Mayor