



CITY OF KIRKLAND
Fire & Building Department
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MEMORANDUM

To: Dave Ramsay, City Manager

From: Stephanie Day, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator

Date: June 26, 2007

Subject: Greater Kirkland Citizen Corps Council Resolution

RECOMMENDATION

The City Council passes a resolution to recognize the Greater Kirkland Citizen Corps Council (GKCCC).

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION

The primary goal of the Greater Kirkland Citizen Corps Council is to provide public education, training and volunteer opportunities to support community and family safety in coordination with the City of Kirkland emergency preparedness and emergency management efforts. A Liaison from the Emergency Management Division, currently Stephanie Day, is responsible for coordinating efforts between the GKCCC and the City, much like Kari Page's working relationship with the Neighborhood groups. They are a separate organization with their own funding mechanisms and ability to operate independently from the City.

In 2006, a group of dedicated Kirkland citizens came together to form what's now known as the Greater Kirkland Citizen Corps Council (GKCCC). The Council is comprised of members from our local community such as CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) graduates, ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Services) volunteers, City Council members, Neighborhood Associations and the Senior Council. The intent of the GKCCC is to be an 'umbrella' organization for disaster and emergency preparedness volunteer groups, coordinating and supporting training and providing a ready resource of trained disaster volunteers, and supporting the City's emergency response during a disaster.

In the event of a disaster, the GKCCC would first activate within their own neighborhoods, ensuring their personal safety and assisting their immediate neighbors. The EOC (Emergency Operation Center) would then work with the GKCCC to coordinate volunteers from various groups such as CERT and ARES. Across the nation, and in our region, many citizen corps are developing and offering needed support to emergency workers. By utilizing trained, dedicated and hard working volunteers, we are better able to service the citizens in the community and the City. Through the support of the Greater Kirkland Citizen Corps Council, Kirkland citizens will have the information and training they need to be safer and help their communities do

the same. They will tailor activities to the Kirkland community and build on our strengths to develop and implement a strategy to promote participation.

The passage of this resolution would allow the GKCC to be recognized as the “official” citizen corps for Kirkland; this provides them opportunity for grant funding for their training and education programs. Without federal and state grant funding, it would fall on the City to fund these types of programs. In addition, your support and endorsement through this resolution provides them credibility when seeking more volunteers in the various emergency assistance teams.

The passage of a resolution recognizing the GKCC would be consistent with other jurisdictions throughout the country and our neighboring cities like Redmond, Sammamish, and Woodinville. We believe this partnership in disaster planning and response makes Kirkland a safer place to live and work.

RESOLUTION R-4653

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND
RECOGNIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GREATER KIRKLAND CITIZEN
CORPS COUNCIL.

WHEREAS, the mission of Citizen Corps is to harness the power of every individual through education, training, and volunteer service to make communities safer, stronger, and better prepared to respond to the threats of terrorism, crime public health issues, and disasters of all kinds; and

WHEREAS, Citizen Corps asks citizens to embrace their personal responsibility to be prepared; to receive training in first aid and emergency skills; and to volunteer to support local emergency responders, disaster relief, and community safety; and

WHEREAS, the Citizen Corps mission is accomplished through a national network of state, local, and tribal Citizen Corps Councils; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Kirkland and Citizen Corps Council has been established within the City of Kirkland; and

WHEREAS, members of the Kirkland City Council have agreed to serve as part of the leadership for the Greater Kirkland Citizen Corps Council; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the Greater Kirkland Citizen Corps Council will provide public education, training and volunteer opportunities to support community and family safety in coordination with the City of Kirkland's emergency preparedness and disaster management efforts;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Kirkland as follows:

Section 1. The establishment of the Greater Kirkland Citizen Corps Council is hereby recognized and commended.

Section 2. All citizens of the City of Kirkland are encouraged to develop a household preparedness plan, including a disaster supply kit, and to participate in emergency preparedness training opportunities.

Passed by majority vote of the Kirkland City Council in open meeting this ____ day of _____, 2007.

Signed in authentication thereof this ____ day of _____, 2007.

MAYOR

Attest:

City Clerk