



**BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF MERCER ISLAND**

**AB 6283  
June 6, 2023  
Regular Business**

**AGENDA BILL INFORMATION**

<b>TITLE:</b>	AB 6283: Initial Discussion of Regional Fire Service Proposals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only <input type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution
<b>RECOMMENDED ACTION:</b>	Discussion only. No action necessary.	

<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>	City Manager		
<b>STAFF:</b>	Jessi Bon, City Manager Robbie Cunningham Adams, Management Analyst		
<b>COUNCIL LIAISON:</b>	Salim Nice	Lisa Anderl	Craig Reynolds
<b>EXHIBITS:</b>	1. Regional Fire Service Proposal Cost Analysis 2. Regional Fire Service Proposal Q&A 3. Eastside Fire & Rescue "4-Platoon" Shift Schedule Explainer		
<b>CITY COUNCIL PRIORITY:</b>	4. Focus efforts and actions to be an environmentally and fiscally sustainable, connected, and diverse community.		

<b>AMOUNT OF EXPENDITURE</b>	\$ n/a
<b>AMOUNT BUDGETED</b>	\$ n/a
<b>APPROPRIATION REQUIRED</b>	\$ n/a

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this agenda bill is to review and discuss with the City Council the proposals received in response to the Regional Fire Services Request for Proposals (RFP).

- The City Council directed the City Manager to seek proposals from the City of Bellevue and Eastside Fire & Rescue at the April 4, 2023 City Council meeting (see [AB 6249](#)).
- The City posted the [request for proposals \(RFP\) for regional fire services](#) on the City's Let's Talk Page and received timely proposals from the [City of Bellevue](#) and [Eastside Fire & Rescue](#).
- On May 2, 2023 the City Council created the Regional Fire Service Proposal Review Ad Hoc Committee to assist the City Manager with review and evaluation of the regional fire service proposals (see [AB 6264](#)). Mayor Nice and Councilmembers Reynolds and Anderl were appointed to serve on the committee.
- The City Council Ad-Hoc Committee has met four times and along with staff reviewed in detail the initial proposals. The staff also met with representatives from both the City of Bellevue and Eastside Fire & Rescue on several occasions to seek clarification on various components of their respective proposals.

- Staff prepared an initial analysis of the estimated costs for regional fire services for each agency, compared to the estimated costs for a stand-alone Mercer Island Fire Department in 2024 (see Exhibit 1).
- Staff also prepared a Q&A document to assist in understanding the various components of each proposal (see Exhibit 2).
- Finally, Eastside Fire & Rescue uses a “4-Platoon” shift scheduling system, which is different than Bellevue and Mercer Island. The document that explains the difference between the two models is included for reference as Exhibit 3.

This information is being presented for initial discussion only and no action will be taken at the City Council meeting.

## BACKGROUND

During the April 4, 2023 City Council Meeting, the Council authorized and directed the City Manager to seek proposals from the City of Bellevue and Eastside Fire & Rescue for a regional fire service model (see [AB 6249](#)). The City posted the [request for proposals \(RFP\) for regional fire services](#) on the City’s Let’s Talk Page and received timely proposals from the [City of Bellevue](#) and [Eastside Fire & Rescue](#).

The City Council discussed the process to evaluate these proposals during its Meeting on May 2, 2023 (see [AB 6264](#)). Acting on the City Manager’s recommendation, the City Council created the Regional Fire Service Proposal Review Ad Hoc Committee to assist the City Manager with review and evaluation of the proposals in May and June of 2023.

The City Manager, City Staff, and the Ad Hoc Committee met several times in May to review and evaluate the proposals in preparation for a presentation and update to the City Council.

Additional information on the consideration of a regional fire services model is available on the City’s [Let’s Talk page](#).

## ISSUE/DISCUSSION

Staff will present an overview of the Regional Fire Services Proposals received from the City of Bellevue and Eastside Fire and Rescue, including an initial financial analysis.

### Financial Analysis

Staff prepared an initial analysis of the estimated costs for regional fire services as presented by each agency, compared to the estimated costs for a stand-alone Fire Department in 2024 (see Exhibit 1). Staff will provide an overview of the details and assumptions of each proposal.

### Q&A Matrix

Staff prepared a Q&A document to assist in understanding the components of each proposal (see Exhibit 2).

### Eastside Fire & Rescue “4-Platoon” Shift Schedule Explainer

Eastside Fire & Rescue uses a “4-Platoon” shift scheduling system, which is different than Bellevue and Mercer Island. Staff requested Eastside Fire & Rescue provide information on how the “4-Platoon” system

works compared to the current scheduling model used by Mercer Island and Bellevue, which is attached as Exhibit 3.

## **NEXT STEPS**

This information and overview of the Regional Fire Services Proposals is being presented to provide the City Council with an opportunity to discuss the proposals and seek clarification on issues prior to the City Manager preparing a formal recommendation.

The City Manager will prepare a recommendation to the City Council on the adoption of a Regional Fire Services Model, at which time the City Council may take action. The date for that meeting has not been set.

## **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Discussion only. No action necessary.