

DRAFT Statement of Shared Values and Principles

Redline showing Committee input from 3.28.23

Proposal is to share this with the City Councils at the 4.19 meetings

The following statement of shared values and principles to guide us in developing a plan for an RFA to be created by [the Olympia and Tumwater RFA Planning Committee](#)

Values and Principals are not presented in rank order of priority.

Our Values Include: [\(note: for ease of reading the re-ordering is not redlined\)](#)

1. **Ensuring operations meet or exceed current service levels in terms of their ability to support a safe and healthy community.**
2. **Providing a safe, supportive and professional environment for our first responders.**
3. **Participatory Governance.** Jurisdictions which are part of the RFA should have a meaningful voice in the operating decisions of the RFA. The RFA Board should seek to make decisions by consensus whenever possible.
4. **Pro-Active Oversight, Planning and Continuous Improvement.** We are committed to planning for the future and proactively identifying and addressing the needs of our communities, identifying and implementing ways to better meet those needs.
5. **Promoting interagency collaboration, communication and strong working relationships.** The RFA will act in the collective best interests of all its public safety partners, not just those served by the RFA.
6. **Making data-driven decisions.** The RFA should take strategic action based on the facts after a thorough and objective analysis of the issues.
7. **Being an effective and efficient steward of public funds.**
8. **Affordable and sustainable financial model.** The RFA should implement an affordable and sustainable financial model that can facilitate consistent service levels over time as the community served continues to grow.
9. **Strong engagement with our local communities.** The RFA should be a positive and engaged member of the communities it serves with pro-active outreach to the public.

Our Operating Principles Include:

- [A. The RFA Board will be committed to the success of the RFA and will be engaged in actively learning and understanding the work of the agency.](#)

~~A.B.~~ We will strive to operate nimbly, with the ability to make decisions and respond quickly when necessary.

~~B.C.~~ We seek to understand and address the unique needs of the communities we serve. We strive to address these needs equitably in all operating and financial decisions.

~~C.D.~~ We work to attract, develop and retain high quality staff.

~~D.E.~~ We will ensure all City Fire Department staff in good standing at the time of annexation are offered at least equivalent positions within the RFA.

~~E.F.~~ We will retain the history and identity of the Olympia and Tumwater {City} Fire Departments after the annexation, through maintaining existing {City} Fire Department signage on vehicles and stations in each member~~the~~ City.

~~F.G.~~ We strive to employ rigorous quality assurance and reporting practices.

~~G.H.~~ We manage agency budgets to control or reduce costs.

~~H.I.~~ We seek to limit spikes in budgets from year to year, by use of planning capital investments over time, developing reserves and other means.

~~I.J.~~ We commit to being transparent, accessible and responsive to our customer agencies and the public.

~~J.K.~~ In contracting to provide services to other agencies, we are mindful of our own costs of service: communities within the RFA boundaries should not incur additional costs from these external service contracts.