

# King County Emergency Medical Services

## Medic One/EMS 2008-2013 Strategic Plan

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### Introduction

*This newsletter is designed to update the EMS Advisory Committee and other interested parties on the progress of the Medic One/EMS 2008-2013 Strategic Plan. If you have questions, please contact me at (206) 263-8560.*

*Helen Chatalas*

### EMS Advisory Committee

The **EMS Advisory Committee** is scheduled to meet on **September 15, 2010** from 1 – 3 p.m. at Kent Fire Department, Station #73 (26512 Military Rd. S., Kent). Agenda items include a summary of the Proposed 2010 EMS Budget, including a review of reserve recommendations, the EMS 2010 Annual Report, and the EMS 2014-2019 Levy Planning Proposed Work Plan.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact **Michele Plorde** at (206) 263-8603.

### Regional Purchasing Program

The **Regional Purchasing Committee** is scheduled to meet on **September 8, 2010** from 10 – 11 a.m. at Mercer Island Fire Department, Station #91, (3030 78<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE, Mercer Island). Agenda items include a discussion on handling surplus or outdated stock; and an inter-agency equipment comparison regarding glucometers, backboards, and suction units.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact **Bill Oung** at (206) 263-8638.

### Community Medical Technician

July 1, 2010 marked the start of the **Community Medical Technician (CMT) Pilot Project**, conducted in partnership with South King Fire and Rescue, Kent Fire Department, and Valley Communications Center.

During a six-month period, two EMTs in a non-transport-capable vehicle will be dispatched to lower acuity medical patients that need the care of an EMT at the scene, but do not require transport. This enables BLS responders and transport-capable vehicles to be available for more serious medical emergencies.

South King and Kent share response duties by responding into their shared boundary areas on opposite days (South King operates Monday-Wednesday 0800-1600 and Kent Thursday-Saturday 0830-1630). Agencies will swap service days half-way through the project span.

After completion, the pilot will be evaluated for costs savings associated with EMS personnel, apparatus operations and replacement, along with its impact on the management of low-acuity EMS call growth. Should it prove successful, the CMT model could result in saving the EMS system substantial costs while still ensuring the most appropriate level of patient care.

For more information about the project, please contact **Jim Stallings** at (206) 263-8661.

### Other News & Announcements

#### *The Dispatcher Assisted Resuscitation Trial (DART)*

Findings from a recently concluded study have provided the EMS Division with an opportunity to take a new look at how bystander cardiopulmonary resuscitation, otherwise known as CPR, is performed. Results from the **Dispatcher Assisted Resuscitation Trial (DART)** shed new light on CPR showing that chest compression CPR is just as effective as traditional mouth-to-mouth resuscitation with survival rates nearly the same. Making CPR simpler may enable more people

to perform the life saving technique, and possibly lead to increased survival rates.

The New England Journal of Medicine recently published the DART study, and CPR methods were discussed on the July 29<sup>th</sup> airing of NPR's "Morning Edition." CTRL + click on the links below for more information:

<http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa0908993>

<http://www.npr.org/player/v2/mediaPlayer.html?action=1&t=1&islist=false&id=128826057&m=128839190>

#### *2010 EMS Annual Report*

The EMS Division recently completed its 2010 Annual Report to the King County Council. It will be making its way to all EMS agencies in King County, as well as individuals on the EMS Advisory Committee newsletter mailing list, in early September.

If you would like an additional copy of the report, please contact **Helen Chatalas** at (206) 263-8560.

#### *The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of CPR*

On July 9, 1960, the Journal of the American Medical Association published a landmark article describing the newly discovered technique of CPR performed on 20 patients who went into sudden and unexpected cardiac arrest at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Over 50 years later, an estimated 300 million people worldwide have been trained in CPR, and millions of lives have been saved with this technique. The EMS Division sends its heartfelt thanks to dispatchers, providers, medical directors, fire chiefs and EMS administrators who have collectively made our system one of the best in the world. **Happy 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday CPR!**