

2026 Budget Summary

Personnel

Operations	Adding 8 Entry Level Firefighters and 1 Training Driver/Engineer. Anticipating known vacancies this will increase suppression shift staffing to 29 assigned.
ALS	We have 3 Paramedics graduating in 2026 and are anticipating sending 6 more candidates to start training in August.
Administration	Continuing to contract for social media and communication work, adding Finance Specialist, HR Lead, and MIH Lead positions in 2026.
Support Services	Adding a Facilities Manager, Mechanic, and Facilities Technician position.

Funds

Carryover	Maintain a carryover target of at least 25% of operating expenses, minus average revenues, plus \$700 thousand for unanticipated expenses. We are currently estimating that we have about \$9.1 million in unallocated general funds above the necessary level to end 2026.
Reserve Funds	Maintain 15% minimum reserve of annual operating expenses, about \$6.2 million. Total for all general and reserve funds is approximates \$29 million.
General Benefits Fund	We will not need to transfer funds to cover anticipated liabilities and expenses. We ensure full coverage of all anticipated and potential liabilities by maintaining a reserve at approximately \$1.8 million.
General Capital Fund	Transferring funds in as part of our annual commitment to cover annual and future purchases. We made an early payment for the heavy rescue ion 2025 that will decrease the fund to nearly \$1.3 million, but with transfers from general fund we will replenish the fund to about \$3.2 milliion by end of 2026.

Budget

Assessed Valuations	Current estimates for assessed valuations indicate an average of 9.3% increase across all communities.
Revenues	We continue to look for efficiencies and are anticipating an overall decrease in our equivalent levy rate (Tax levy and FBC) of about \$.089, or a 8.4% decrease. Our overall revenues from taxes and FBC will be about the same as 2025 levels.
Expenses	Overall increase in expenses of approximately 9.9% (not including ALS and MIH). Increases are primarily due to COLA of 2.7%, and high inflationary costs for equipment and supplies.

2026 Budget

Last Update: 11/6/2025

Revenue vs. Expenses- GENERAL EXPENSE Fund (10-004-0010)

REVENUES (tax and FBC)				
Property Tax & FBC	2026 Estimate	Notes	Tax Revenue Calculation	
Property Tax Levy	\$22,227,211		\$ 0.7000	Fire Levy Rate
Excise Tax	\$ -		65.7%	Fire Levy Rate %
1% Adjs. and Appeals	(\$222,272.11)	1.00%	\$ 0.3622	Equiv FBC Rate
Fire Benefit Charge	\$11,500,000		34.3%	Equiv FBC Rate %
Adjs. and Appeals	(\$500.00)	Adjusted	\$ 1.0552	Actual Levy Equiv
Total Property Taxes and FBC	\$ 33,504,439		(\$0.0887)	Diff from Prev Year

REVENUE (other)	2026 Estimate	Change	2025	Change
Net Property Taxes and FBC	\$ 33,504,439	79.08%	\$ 31,180,318	7.45%
ALS Overhead	\$ 418,149	0.99%	\$ 407,156	2.70%
BLS Allocation- KCEMS (no core, MIH)	\$ 1,910,990	4.51%	\$ 1,622,710	17.77%
BLS Transports	\$ 1,300,000	3.07%	\$ 1,200,000	8.33%
FMO Operational Permits	\$ 150,000	0.35%	\$ 150,000	0.00%
FMO Plans Review	\$ 200,000	0.47%	\$ 200,000	0.00%
Fire Service Contracts	\$ 1,064,417	2.51%	\$ 1,087,465	-2.12%
WA DOT	\$ -			#DIV/0!
Dep of Health (DOH)	\$ 38,172		\$ 36,011	6.00%
Town of Woodway	\$ 600,654	incl -10% ALS	\$ 583,159	3.00%
DSHS (Fircrest)	\$ 69,449		\$ 123,586	-43.81%
Paramount Petroleum-Snohomish	\$ 16,936		\$ 15,978	6.00%
Shoreline CC	\$ 74,472		\$ 70,257	6.00%
King County Properties	\$ 127,105		\$ 127,117	-0.01%
Ronald Wastewater	\$ 3,237		\$ 3,054	6.00%
Shoreline School	\$ 1,317		\$ 1,242	6.00%
Northshore School	\$ 4,149		\$ 3,914	6.00%
SPU (hydrants)	\$ 75,926		\$ 73,147	3.80%
Sound Transit Operations	\$ 53,000		\$ 50,000	6.00%
Rental Property (NW 195th St)	\$ 19,200		\$ 17,400	10.34%
St Edwards State Park	\$ 4,448		\$ 4,196	6.00%
Bothell Exec Serv ILA	\$ 150,000		\$ 173,508	-13.55%
Bothell Fleet ILA*	\$ 250,000		\$ 58,800	325.17%
Fall City Fleet ILA*	\$ 75,000		\$ 35,280	112.59%
Deployments (reimb, matches OT exp)	\$ 400,000	0.94%	\$ 400,000	0.00%
GEMT (increased transport fees & true up)	\$ 3,000,000	7.08%	\$ 3,050,000	-1.64%
CPR/Other	\$ 15,000	0.04%	\$ 15,000	0.00%
Investment Interest (KC Treasury)	\$ 350,000	0.83%	\$ 380,000	-7.89%
Misc. Revenues **	\$ 52,500	0.12%	\$ 40,000	31.25%
Total Other Revenues	\$ 8,861,056		\$ 8,552,331	3.61%
TOTAL- Revenue	\$ 42,365,495	100.00%	\$ 39,732,649	6.63%

* Fleet ILAs are estimates only based off expectation of annual work.

** Misc Revenues: Zone 1, Training refunds, NCW fuel, registration fees charged, USAR, Rebates, Other Misc revenues

EXPENSES			EXPENSES	
EXPENSES CATEGORY	2026 Estimate	Change	2025 Estimate	Change
Salary & Benefits	\$ 35,991,813	85.73%	\$33,338,266	7.96%
Maintenance & Operations	\$ 5,989,468	14.27%	\$5,010,655	19.53%
Inter-Governmental		0.00%	\$0	#DIV/0!
Inter-Fund Operational Transfers (from Rev)	\$ -	0.00%	\$0	#DIV/0!
TOTAL- Budget	\$ 41,981,281	100.00%	\$ 38,348,921	9.47%

Projected Balance	\$	384,214
% Over or Under Revenue		0.92%

+ Exp UNDER Rev / - Exp OVER Rev

GEN RESERVE FUND	Amount
Minimum RESERVE fund balance (Res. 14-08)	\$ 6,297,192
Reserve ENDING cash balance	\$ 6,066,237
2026 Transfer into Reserve Fund	\$ 230,955

Min. 15% Operating expenses (not incl. transfers)

Per KC Finance daily cash balance report

Reserve needed minus Reserve ending cash balance

REVENUES		Calculation and Comparison	
2025	Change	\$ 13,272,000	2025 FBC Amount
\$20,178,661	10.15%	\$ 11,500,000	2026 FBC Amount
\$0		\$ 500	FBC Adjustment- Appeals
-		\$ 11,500,500	this is the NEW FBC for 2026
\$ 13,272,000	-13.35%	-13.35%	FBC Increase over 2025
\$1.1439	-8.41%		
\$ 33,450,662	0.16%	\$29,048,044,910	2025 AV
Note: Combined SFD/NFD		\$31,753,158,618	2026 AV (at time of adoption)
		9.31%	AV Change
		\$31,753,158,618	2026 AV (per County of 10-30-25)
		\$20,178,661	2025 Tax Levy Amount
		\$22,227,211	2026 Tax Levy Amount
		10.15%	Fire Levy Increase

Services Contracts	FORECAST
WA DOT	\$ -
Dep of Health (DOH)	\$ 38,172
Town of Woodway	\$ 600,654
DSHS (Fircrest)	\$ 131,001
Paramount Petroleum	\$ 16,936
Shoreline CC	\$ 74,472
Transit/Water, KCHA	\$ 141,795
Ronald Wastewater	\$ 3,237
Shoreline School	\$ 1,317
Northshore School	\$ 4,149
SPU (hydrants)	\$ 75,926
Sound Transit	\$ 53,000
Rental Property	\$ 17,400
St Edwards St Park	\$ 4,448
Bothell Exec Serv ILA	\$ 173,508
Bothell Fleet ILA*	\$ 58,800
Fall City Fleet ILA*	\$ 35,280
Total	\$ 1,430,095

Inflator

6%

2025 incl catchup

need to add Northshore

Library Currently FBC
DOT Should be \$74k FBC