

Overview: Medic One/EMS Levy



Current 6-year Medic One/EMS levy expires December 31, 2025



Hosted a regional 8-month process rooted in partnerships and consensus-building



Developed recommendations for Strategic Plan and finance plan (levy) for King County voters to renew in 2025



Next step: Legislative approval process

Any time you call 9-1-1 for a medical emergency, you are using the Medic One/EMS system.

- Serves over **2.3 million people** and responds on average **every 2 minutes**.
- Responded to over **255,000 calls** in 2024.
- Survival rate for cardiac arrest was **51%** in 2023.
- Cardiac arrest patients are **2 to 3 times more likely to survive** here compared to other cities.

Why does our system work so well?

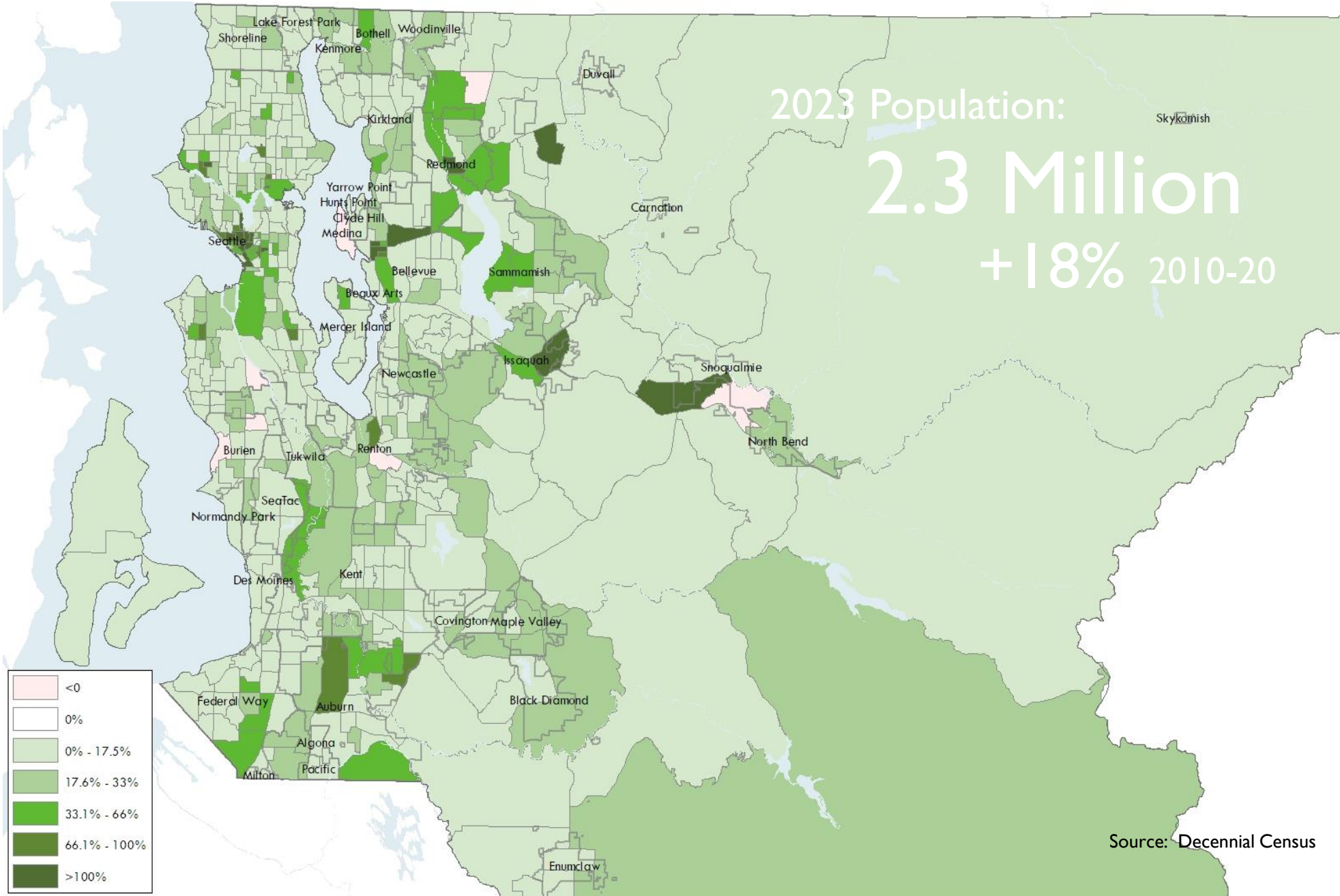
Achieve excellent outcomes because of the unique configuration of our system. It includes the following key components:

- Regional system based on partnerships.
- Uses a tiered response model founded on medicine and science.
- Equity-driven and committed to providing high-quality care.
- Uses innovative strategies to obtain superior medical outcomes and continually improve.
- Funded by an EMS levy which has proven to be reliable and stable.

2023 Population:

2.3 Million

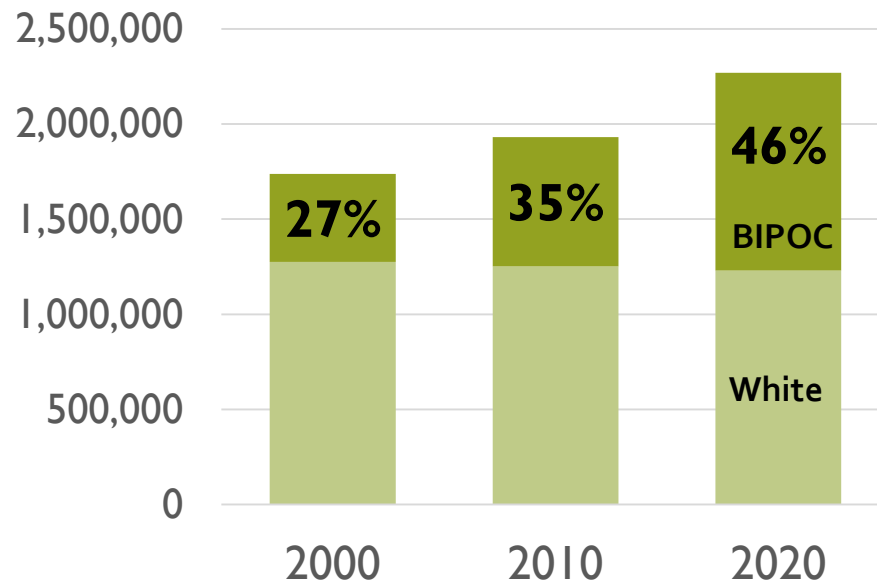
+18% 2010-20



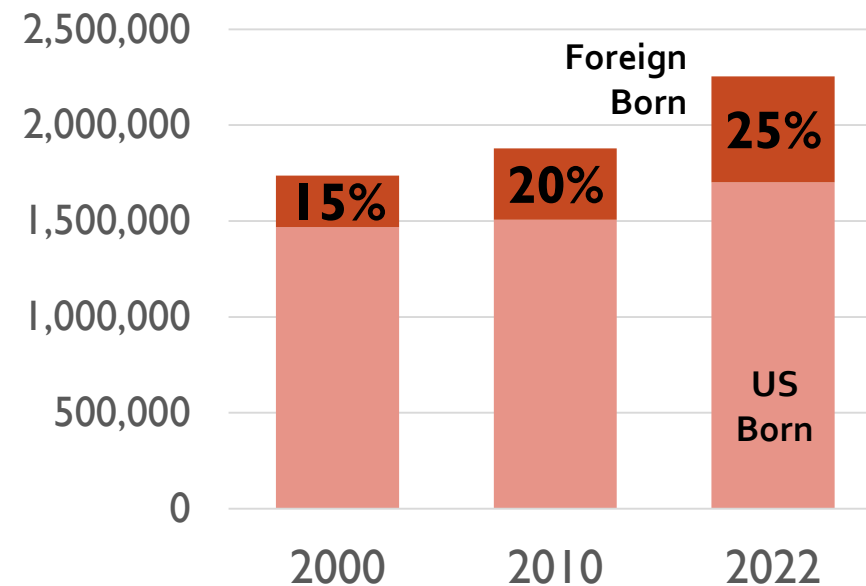
Source: Decennial Census

Increasing Diversity

100% of net population growth 2010-20
was in Communities of Color,
particularly Asian, Hispanic, and
Multiracial communities



King County Residents born outside
the US increased 48% 2010-22



Strategic Planning Process:

EMS Advisory Task Force

Governing body: **20 elected officials** and decision-makers:

- Representatives:
 - Cities with 50,000+ in population (11)
 - Sound Cities Assn (3)
 - Fire Commissioners (3)
 - King County Council (2)
- Chaired by KC Executive Office (1)
- Four Subcommittees (chaired by a TF member): ALS, BLS, Regional Services, and Finance

2020-2025 EMS Levy Facts

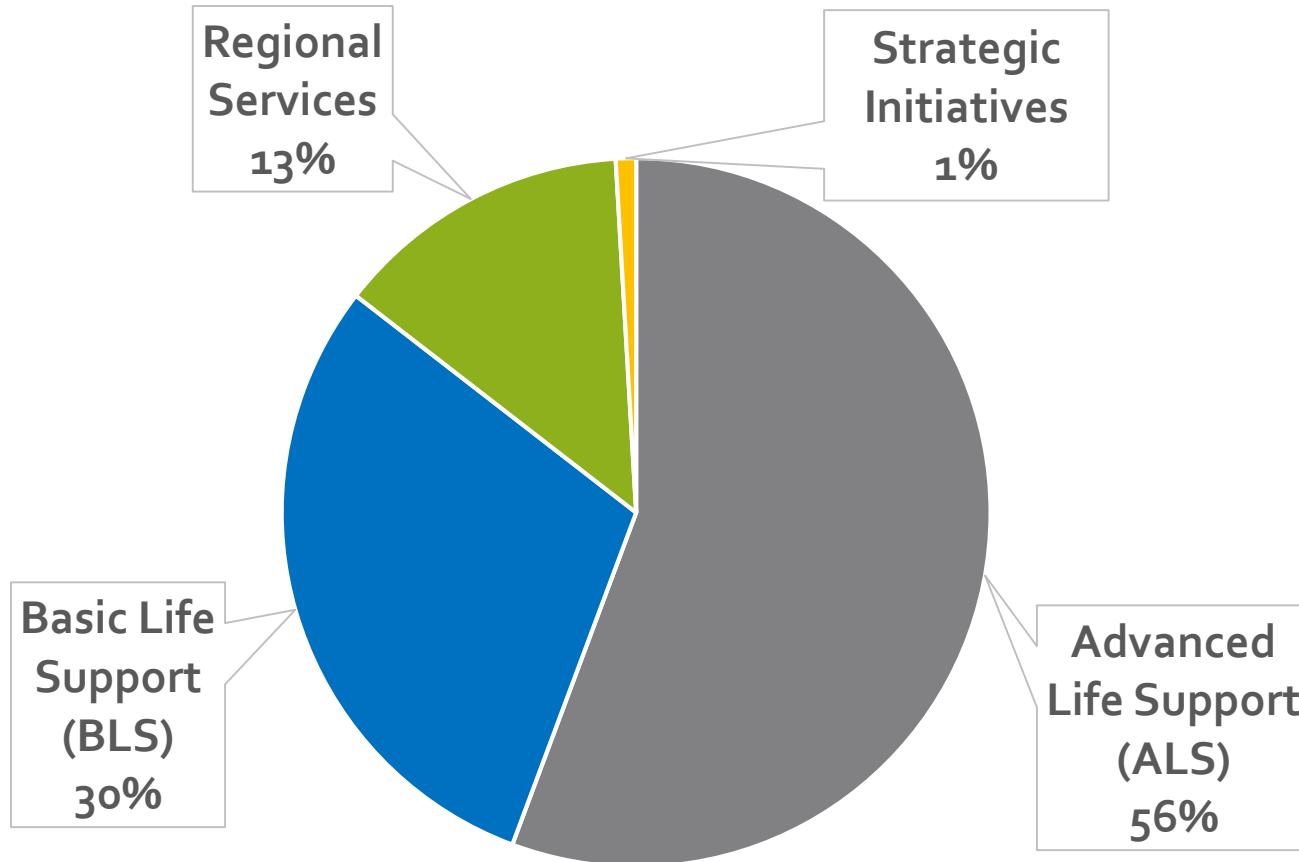
- 6-year levy, starting rate of 26.5 cents/\$1,000 AV
- Generate \$1.115 billion over 6 years
- KC programs funded by levy (\$664.2m):
 - Advanced Life Support (ALS)
 - Basic Life Support (BLS)
 - Regional Services/Strategic Initiatives
 - Reserves
- Cost to the homeowner (2020): **\$159***

* \$600,000 King County median residence value in 2020 per King County Assessor

Key Task Force Recommendations:

ALS Subcommittee	BLS Subcommittee	Reg Services/SI Subcommittee
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. CONTINUE using the ALS allocation to determine ALS costs (inflate annually using CPI-W +1% and appropriate vehicle inflator).2. INCLUDE a “place holder” in the Financial Plan to potentially fund a 12-hour unit in the 3rd (2028) and 5th (2030) years of the levy.3. CONTINUE using reserves and contingencies to cover costs that fall outside the allocation.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. INCREASE total BLS funding by \$5 million in the first year of the levy:<ol style="list-style-type: none">\$3 million to BLS Basic Allocation\$2 million to MIH2. INFLATE funding annually at CPI-W + 1%.3. DISTRIBUTE NEW BLS funding and annual increases using a more equitable distribution methodology of 60% call volume/40% AV.4. SUPPORT mental wellness and equity and inclusion efforts proposed by the King County Fire Chiefs Association.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. CONTINUE delivering programs that provide essential support to the system.2. ENHANCE programs to meet regional needs, including<ul style="list-style-type: none">- expanding Initial EMT Training- renewing the Telephone Referral Program.3. MAINTAIN AND DEVELOP Strategic Initiatives that leverage previous investments made by the region to improve patient care and outcomes:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- ECHO (Community-based partnerships)- PRIME (Data systems improvements)- New: Emergency Medical Dispatch (tech. impro.)

DISTRIBUTION BY PROGRAM – KC EMS Fund



Program	\$s in millions
ALS	\$511.8
BLS	\$273.9
Reg'l Svcs	\$124.9
SI	\$8.5
TOTAL	\$919.1

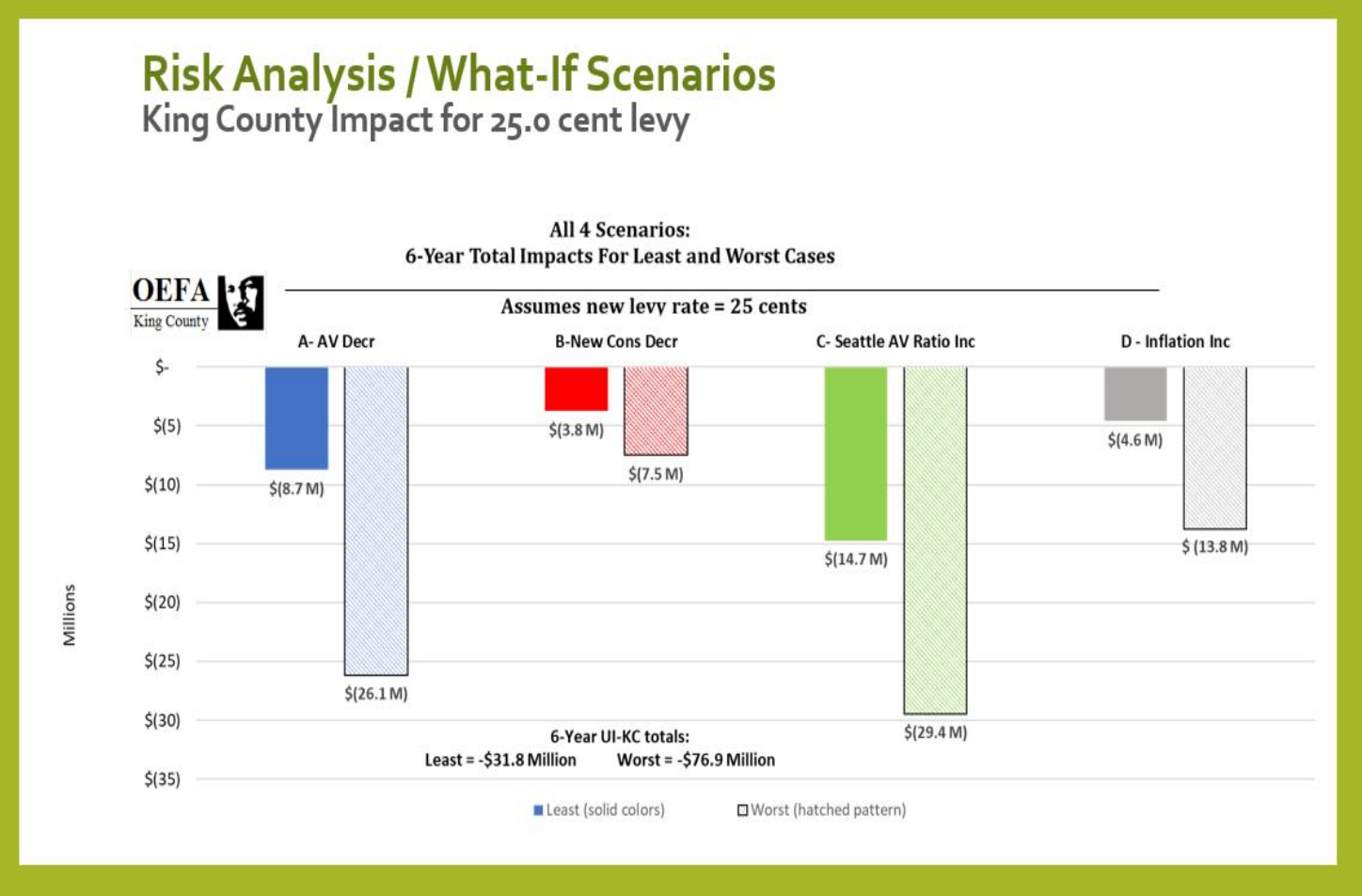
	2025 Redmond	Est 2026 Redmond
ALS (3 units):	\$11.44m	\$12.18m
BLS:	\$2.14m	\$2.56m
	(\$353K – MIH)	(\$495K - MIH)

Finance Subcommittee Recommendations

1. **CONDUCT** a risk analysis to determine appropriate reserve funding to help safeguard the Medic One/EMS system from unforeseen financial risk.

2. **INCORPORATE** sufficient reserves and contingencies to mitigate financial risk and provide flexibility.

3. **SUPPORT** forwarding a Financial Plan, with expenditures and reserves projected at \$1.5 billion over the six-year span, and a 25-cent levy rate.



Risk Analysis Range: Least = -\$31.8 Million Worst = -\$76.9 Million

Recommended 2026-2031 EMS Levy Financial Summary

Financial Summary	Total <i>(in millions)</i>
Total Expenditures	\$1,438.0
Reserves (Programmatic & Rainy Day)	\$67.7
TOTAL Expenditures & Reserves	\$1,505.7
2026-2031 Property Tax Forecast (<i>25 cent levy rate</i>)	\$1,470.8
Other Revenues (KC EMS Fund)	\$17.5
Carryforward from 2020-2025	\$64.4
TOTAL Available Revenues	\$1,552.7
Funds available for KC Supplemental/Economic Reserves	\$47.0

Risk Analysis Range: Least = -\$31.8 Million Worst = -\$76.9 Million

Summary:

- ✓ **Supported subcommittee programmatic recommendations**
- ✓ **Levy Rate:** 25.0 cents
 - ✓ Annual cost to the homeowner: \$212 (average \$850,000 home)
- ✓ **Length:** 6 years (2026-2031)
- ✓ **Ballot Timing:** General Election in Nov 2025