King County
Emergency Management

2022 Annual Report

The new "partners wall" at the entrance to the King County Regional Emergency Operations Center (EOC) features the logos of all 39 cities and the two federally recognized Tribes within the region, plus the Port of Seattle. The EOC and the administrative offices of the King County Office of Emergency Management are housed at the Regional Communications and Emergency Coordination Center in Renton.

Vision: *A County with disaster-ready communities where everyone is prepared for and can recover from emergencies.*

Mission: *We provide regional leadership to strengthen community resilience and access to emergency services.*

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The King County Office of Emergency Management (KCOEM) is part of the Department of Executive Services (DES), which is a partner and leader in Delivering Excellent Service every day. This is achieved by focusing on internal and external customers, and by treating everyone with fairness and respect. KCOEM, pursuant to King County Code, is responsible for:

- Providing effective direction, control, and coordination of King County Government emergency services functional units,
- Coordinating with other governments and the private, nongovernmental sector in compliance with a state-approved comprehensive emergency management plan, and
- Serving as the coordinating entity for cities, King County governmental departments, and other appropriate agencies, prior to, during, and after incidents and events of regional significance.

KCOEM has four key outcomes:

1. Plan and coordinate region-wide emergency response for jurisdictional and private sector partners.
2. Achieve a state of continuous improvement through the adoption of standards-based programs.
3. Develop resilient and inclusive systems for King County departments and the whole community.
4. Develop a strong workforce made up of internal and external partners, ready to coordinate emergency response and recovery.

These outcomes are achieved through various priorities:

1. Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Readiness
Strengthen EOC readiness by fitting the proper environment and layout, and improving technology, personnel training, and qualifications. Improve and update processes and procedures, and ensure opportunities for experience through exercises and real events.

2. Situational Awareness
Develop better situational awareness, including gathering, analyzing, assessing, processing, and distributing information to partners. Develop and distribute intelligence, using new and enhanced technology, and have the ability to see a broad perspective on threats and hazards.

3. Public Awareness and Education
Provide for overall regional readiness through raising public awareness, performing outreach activities and training, increasing options for and the reach of alert and warning systems, and using traditional

and social media for messaging. Increase public resilience through programs such as Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), disaster readiness skills, and other public education efforts.

    4. Disaster Risk Reduction

Help to ensure disaster risk reduction by using corrective actions and lessons learned to guide future emergency management work, and giving proper attention to the mitigation, prevention, and protection mission areas. Build the County's continuity framework through plan updates, workshops, and exercises.

Key Update: Consecutive Emergency Management Accreditation Program

In July 2022, King County earned its first consecutive accreditation (second overall) through the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP), an internationally-recognized achievement demonstrating that the County has proven its capabilities in disaster preparedness and response systems. Originally accredited in April 2017, King County began the accreditation process in early 2021 with a vigorous self-assessment prior to applying for accreditation. This was followed by a review conducted by volunteer emergency management assessors, who looked at documentation, conducted interviews, and viewed demonstrations of capabilities.

The accreditation process ensures that emergency management programs evaluate plans, policies, and procedures to gauge compliance with standards certified by the American National Standard Institute (ANSI). To achieve accreditation, applicants must demonstrate, through self-assessment, documentation, and peer assessment, verification that its program meets the *Emergency Management Standard*. The accreditation process evaluates emergency management programs on compliance with requirements in 16 areas, including: planning; resource management; training; exercises, evaluations, and corrective actions; communications and warning; and administration. These capabilities form the foundation of the nation's emergency preparedness system. Accreditation is valid for five years and accredited programs must maintain compliance with the Emergency Management Standard through submissions of annual reports. Programs are reassessed every five years to maintain accreditation status. EMAP is the only accreditation process for emergency management programs.

Spearheaded by KCOEM, King County's full accreditation means the County's emergency management enterprise demonstrated compliance with 64 standards considered by the industry to be performance criteria for emergency management programs. There are currently only 110 accredited programs worldwide. King County is one of just 31 accredited counties in the US, and one of four accredited programs in Washington State.

Figure 1 - EMAP 2022-2027 Accreditation Plaque

Key Item: Bolt Creek Fire - FM-5455-WA

In the early morning of September 10, 2022, a 20-acre brush fire started on Forest Service Road 6514, north of Skykomish, and quickly escalated to a wildfire. A large-scale response was activated that included regional fire response and law enforcement departments from King and Snohomish counties, local public utility partners, and the Red Cross. As the wildfire grew, affected residents were evacuated and a mass shelter was opened in Monroe.

On that morning, the KCOEM Duty Officer was notified about the growing wildfire in the area of the US-2 highway near Skykomish. Based on the information, the King County EOC activated to an enhanced level immediately, and later to Level 2 – Partial Activation. The Bolt Creek Fire, named because of the proximity of the origin to Bolt Creek, grew into a nearly 15,000-acre wildfire north and west of Skykomish. Situated primarily in King County, and impacting residents of King and Snohomish Counites, the Bolt Creek Fire was a complex incident that required coordination and collaboration between various levels of government across multiple jurisdictions. Partner agencies included the King County Sheriff's Office, Department of Local Services, Department of Natural Resources and Parks, and local fire agencies. Ultimately, a large, multi-agency response was established, including regional fire responders, King and Snohomish county departments, the Washington State Patrol, the Washington Department of Transportation, and the U.S. Forest Service.

Both counties issued evacuation notices to residents throughout the incident period. The first notification to residents from KCOEM occurred on September 10 at 12:00 p.m. and was distributed to approximately 226 contacts through Alert King County.

KCOEM assisted responding fire agencies in applying for a Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG). The FMAG Program is available to state, local, and tribal governments for the mitigation, management, and control of fires on publicly or privately owned forests or grasslands that would constitute a major disaster. Multiple agencies, including local mutual aid, state fire mobilization resources, federal land management agencies, private sector infrastructure providers, and two different incident management teams (IMT) responded to the fire, with a priority to protect critical infrastructure and structures in the communities along US-2. The highway and adjoining railroad, both critical transportation links between western and eastern Washington, experienced numerous closures for firefighter and community safety.

Response priorities included sustained multi-agency, multi-jurisdiction coordination and strategy development for addressing and communicating long-term impacts from the fire that may have been compounded by fall and winter weather.

The fire was declared under control at the end of October 2022.

Figure 2 - Bolt Creek Fire Evacuation Levels

Evacuation Levels
King County, Washington
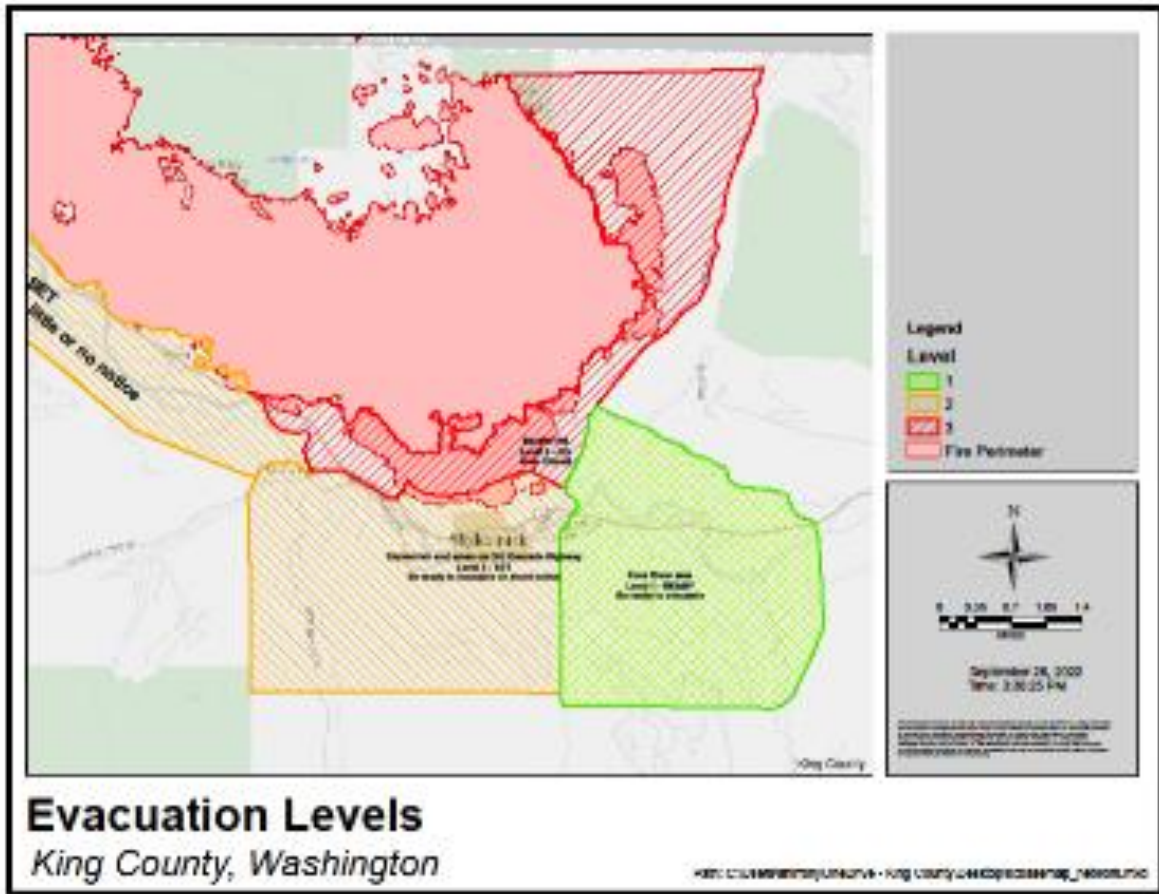
Priority: Emergency Operations Center Readiness

EOC Readiness: Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan

In 2022, KCOEM initiated innovative plan reform for the region's foundational doctrine, the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP). The CEMP outlines goals, roles and responsibilities, and concepts of operations to address all hazards in the five emergency management mission areas: Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery. The plan components undergoing review and updates are:

- The base plan, which is a philosophical and strategic statement on emergency management and the concepts of preparedness and operations;
- the Response mission area operational plan; and
- support function annexes.

Additionally, new plan components are being developed which include operational plans for the Recovery mission area and a combined Prevention-Protection mission area. Corresponding support function annexes are also under development. This multi-year planning effort involves coordinating with numerous partners such as city and county governments, special purpose districts, non-profit organizations, and private sector businesses. In 2022, KCOEM planners established working groups, reviewed updated federal and state guidance, and developed templates and surveys to begin collecting data to inform plan updates and development.

EOC Readiness: Training and Qualifications

To be fully functional during emergencies or disasters, the King County EOC relies on trained and qualified professionals ready to respond at a moment's notice. KCOEM dedicates time and resources to train professionals to fill various EOC roles, through both internal and external trainings. KCOEM employees are the first to staff EOC positions during emergencies and disasters, and as such, they need the knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform their roles effectively to save and sustain lives, stabilize emergency situations, and protect property and the environment.

In 2020, KCOEM established baseline training requirements for its personnel. In 2021, KCOEM identified training requirements for specific roles (positions) in the EOC and developed a training matrix and tracking system to monitor required and recommended training courses for KCOEM personnel and other partners who work in the EOC during emergency operations. Baseline competency courses include trainings such as the FEMA [Professional Development Series](#) (PDS), National Incident Management System (NIMS) courses, and basic EOC trainings. In 2022, KCOEM focused on encouraging staff members to complete required training. Part of this process included ensuring staff had the time and leeway to take online independent study courses, as well as bringing in-person courses to the EOC. For 2022, KCOEM staff members vastly increased their number of trainings completed. Figure 3 below shows the required (**REQ**) and recommended (REC) FEMA Independent Study and instructor-led courses, along with to whom each applies.

CPR/First Aid Training

In May 2022, all KCOEM personnel received CPR and first aid training from the King County Department of Human Resources Occupational Education and Training Section. Training included a unit on advanced bleeding control, how to perform CPR, the use of Automated External Defibrillators (AED), and how to use a tourniquet. This course was of particular importance as, just a week after completing the program, members of KCOEM staff used these skills in aiding a coworker experiencing a medical emergency. The

coworker was successfully revived and has since returned to work; the lifesavers received [multiple awards](#) for their actions, including recognition from King County Medic 1 and the Renton Regional Fire Authority.

Figure 3 - KCOEM Required and Recommended FEMA Courses

King County Office of Emergency Management Required and Recommended FEMA Courses	All Staff Members	FEMA PDS	Duty Officers	Planners	EOC Manager	EOC Operations	EOC Resource Management	EOC Planning	Other Non-OEM Personnel Working in the EOC	JIC/JIS/PIO
FEMA Independent Study Courses										
IS-5.A: An Introduction to Hazardous Materials			**REQ**			**REQ**				
IS-15.B: Special Events Contingency Planning for Public Safety Agencies				**REQ**				REC		
IS-26: Guide to Points of Distribution				REC			**REQ**			
IS-27: Orientation to FEMA Logistics							**REQ**			
IS-75: Military Resources in Emergency Management				REC		**REQ**				
IS-100.C: Introduction to the Incident Command System, ICS 100	**REQ**								**REQ**	
IS-200.C: Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response	**REQ**								**REQ**	
IS-201: Forms Used for the Development of the Incident Action Plan			**REQ**		REC	REC	REC	**REQ**		
IS-120.C: An Introduction to Exercises	**REQ**	X								
IS-230.D: Fundamentals of Emergency Management	**REQ**	X								
IS-235.C: Emergency Planning	**REQ**	X								
IS-240.B: Leadership and Influence	**REQ**	X								
IS-241.B: Decision Making and Problem Solving	**REQ**	X								
IS-242.B: Effective Communication	**REQ**	X								
IS-244.B: Developing and Managing Volunteers	**REQ**	X								
IS-247.B: IPAWS for Alert Originator			**REQ**							
IS-271.A: Anticipating Hazardous Weather & Community Risk			**REQ**							
IS-403: Introduction to Individual Assistance	REC									
IS-772: Individual Assistance PDA Orientation	REC									
IS-453: Introduction to Homeland Security Planning				**REQ**						
IS-700.B: An Introduction to the National Incident Management System	**REQ**								**REQ**	
IS-703.B: National Incident Management System Resource Management				REC			**REQ**			
IS-706: Intrastate Mutual Aid	REC					REC	**REQ**			
IS-800.D: National Response Framework, An Introduction	**REQ**									
IS-1300: Introduction to Continuity of Operations	REC			**REQ**						
IS-2000: National Preparedness Goal and System Overview	REC			**REQ**						
IS-2002: Introduction to FEMA Operational Planning				REC				**REQ**		
IS-2200: Basic Emergency Operations Center Functions	**REQ**								REC	
IS-2900: National Recovery Framework Overview	REC									
IS-2901: Introduction to Community Lifelines	**REQ**									
FEMA Instructor-led Courses										
E0143: Advanced Situational Awareness and Common Operating Picture			REC					REC		
E/G0191: EOC/ICS Interface	**REQ**							REC		
G0235: Emergency Planning				REC						
G0272: Warning Coordination			REC							
E/G0300: ICS 300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents	REC		**REQ**							
E/G0400: ICS 400: Advanced ICS for Command and General Staff	REC									
E0948: Situational Awareness and Common Operating Picture								REC		
E2002: FEMA Operational Planning Manual								REC		
E/G2300: Intermediate Emergency Operations Center Functions	REC									
E/L388 Advanced PIO Academy										REC
E105 Basic Public Information Officer										**REQ**
L8540: Basic Interagency Logistics Seminar/Logistic Center Tour							REC			
FEMA Position-specific Courses										
O305: All-Hazards Incident Management Team Introduction	REC									
E/L0950: NIMS ICS All-Hazards Incident Commander Course					REC					
E/L0958: NIMS ICS All-Hazards Operations Section Chief Course						REC				
E/L0962: NIMS ICS All-Hazards Planning Section Chief Course								REC		
E/L0964: NIMS ICS All-Hazards Situation Unit Leader Course								REC		
E/L0967: NIMS ICS All-Hazards Logistics Section Chief Course							REC			

EOC Readiness: Emergency Support Function Lead Agency Group

In July 2022, KCOEM formed the Emergency Support Function Lead Agency Group (ESFLAG), made up of representatives from the lead agencies of the County's Emergency Support Functions (ESF), which are part of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) and Emergency Response Framework. Emergency Support Functions provide the structure to group resources and capabilities into functional areas needed to best coordinate interagency support during incidents and events. County departments were asked to identify representatives to serve in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) during emergencies and disasters. The intent of the group is to better prepare the EOC team and critical partners for response operations in the EOC, and to address lessons learned from the COVID-19 after action review and other recent events. The ESFLAG met twice in 2022 and intends to meet quarterly in the future.

EOC Readiness: EOC Activations

The King County EOC is where regional coordination of information and resources to support incident management activities takes place. The personnel in the EOC serve some or all the following roles and responsibilities, depending on the incident or event:

- Collecting, analyzing, and sharing information.
- Supporting resource needs and requests, including allocation and tracking.
- Coordinating plans and determining current and future needs.
- Providing coordination and policy direction.

Since February 2020, KCOEM has been engaged in the region's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the longest sustained EOC activation in King County history. It supported Public Health – Seattle & King County (PHSKC), government and private sector partners, and thousands of people working at every level of pandemic response. As is true every year, several other emergencies required KCOEM resources as shown in Figure 4. Activation definitions are presented in Figure 5.

Figure 4 - Figure 4 - 2022 EOC Activations

Mission # / Event	2022 Dates [1]	Activation Level	Ops Periods [2]	Notes
21-5133/Winter Weather and Flooding	1/6 - 1/9	Enhanced	4	Heavy rain, heavy mountain snow, river flooding (began in 2021)
22-0760/February Weather Event	2/28 - 3/1	Enhanced	2	Heavy rain, mountain snow, river flooding
22-2724/July Heat Event	7/26 - 7/31	Enhanced	6	Extreme heat
22-3587/Bolt Creek Fire	9/10 - 10/3	Partial	24	Wildfire/FMAG declaration [3]
22-4894/December Cold Snap	12/20 - 12/23	Enhanced	3	Freezing rain, cold temperatures
20-0265/COVID-19 Pandemic	1/1 - 6/30	Enhanced	181	Continued from 2/29/2020
2022 Total (non-COVID)			**39**	*22 - total 2021 non-COVID*
		2022 Total	**220**	*387 - total 2021*

1 - 2022 activations ran concurrent with the continuous COVID-19 EOC activation through June 30, 2022
2 - Operational Period: shifts, usually 24 hours or less, with specific objectives and staff assignments
3 - Fire Management Assistance Grant

For the incidents noted above, such as hazardous weather, extreme heat, and extreme cold, there was some amount of prior notice. This allowed KCOEM to engage in pre-event planning and coordination with King County leadership, agencies, and other partners through regional coordination calls and

business continuity calls. Lessons learned from these events led to the enhancement of and updates to incident-specific playbooks that identify expected actions, along with roles and responsibilities for KCOEM, King County agencies, and other partners. For example, the 2021 Heat Incident Playbook was updated in 2022 to align with criteria set by the National Weather Service Heat Risk Tool and guidance from PHSKC. KCOEM continued to develop additional playbooks to outline the actions, critical tasks, roles and responsibilities, and coordination elements for Extreme Smoke, Extreme Cold/Snow/Ice, and Flooding. Additionally, KCOEM continues to socialize the essential elements of information (EEI) concept with partners who are expected to provide updates. Incident-specific EEIs are included in the extreme weather playbooks in use and under development.

Figure 5 - EOC Activation Levels

Emergency Operations Center Activation Levels (revised January 2020)

Level	Definition / Condition	Staffing Posture	Deliverables
Full	Incident requires full KCOEM staffing the Emergency Operations Center and activation of many Emergency Support Functions.	KCOEM staffing Emergency Operations Center with many Emergency Support Functions	• Situational Reports • Incident Support Plan • Actively updating WebEOC • Actively updating Emergency News blog
Partial	Incident requires staffing of the Emergency Operations Center by KCOEM staff and activation of select Emergency Support Functions (other departments or jurisdictions)	KCOEM staffing Emergency Operations Center with *select* Emergency Support Functions	• Situational Reports • Incident Support Plan • Actively updating WebEOC • Actively updating Emergency News blog
Enhanced	Incident monitored by Duty Officer, the Backup Duty Officer, and additional KCOEM staff (as needed).	Duty Officer Backup Duty Officer, with additional KCOEM Staff	• Situational Reports • Incident Support Plan (as needed) • Actively updating WebEOC • Actively updating Emergency News blog (as needed)
Steady-State	No anticipated incident or event. Monitoring by the Duty Officer.	Duty Officer	• Periodically monitoring and updating WebEOC

EOC Readiness: EOC Upgrades

In 2022 KCOEM upgraded the EOC infrastructure to acceptable ergonomic and industry standards. The infrastructure did not allow for effective integration of EOC audio/visual and information technology until 2021 and was not compatible with ergonomic standards. The EOC supported the COVID-19 response for more than two years and remained staffed on a daily basis for COVID-19 response operations until the middle of 2022. These upgrades also support hoteling and meeting space for County employees. Figure 6 shows the EOC in the current state.

Figure 6 - King County EOC

OC Readiness: Professional Emergency Management Training

KCOEM offers emergency management trainings, seminars, and exercises to stakeholders, including King County departments and our many external partners. In an effort to engage more emergency management professionals and first responders, KCOEM in 2022 increased the range of courses available via videoconferencing. See Figure 7 below for the topics addressed by these courses:

Figure 7 - Courses provided by KCOEM in 2021 and 2022

Course Name	Number of Courses[4]	
	2021	2022
WebEOC - Regional Training Event	3	4
Introduction to EOCs – Regional Training Event	2	4
Lunchtime Lecture: ICS-100 (Just-in-Time training)	3	
Lunchtime Lecture: ICS-200 (Just-in-Time training)	3	
ICS-300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents	2	2
ICS-400: Advanced ICS - Complex Incidents	8	2
G-191: EOC/ICS Interface		2
G-205: Recovery from Disaster: Local Community Role		1
O-305: Type 3 All-Hazards IMT		1
L-388: Advanced PIO		1
MGT-460: Planning for Disaster Debris Management		1
Understanding Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attacks		1
JIS/JIC/PIO Skills Training		5
Crisis Communications		1
Mass Care Forum		1
Summer Hazards Seminar	1	1
Winter Weather Seminar	1	1
Total	**23**	**28**

4 - Number of times the course was given during the year; many of these are multi-day courses.

<u>Select Course Descriptions</u>

- **WebEOC - Regional Training Event:** A 1.5-hour, remote-access class on how to use WebEOC, an information sharing tool used by EOCs. It consists of both an initial overview of WebEOC, as well as hands-on practice completing specific tasks using the software.
- **Introduction to EOCs:** This one-hour course is an introduction to EOCs for people designated to work in an EOC. It covers how EOCs operate and the main roles in an EOC.
- **ICS-300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents:** This three-day course provides training for personnel who require advanced application of ICS and expands upon information previously covered in the ICS-100 and ICS-200 courses.
- **ICS-400: Advanced ICS - Complex Incidents:** This two-day course provides training and resources for personnel who require advanced application of ICS and expands upon information covered in ICS-100 through ICS-300. The target audience is senior personnel performing in a management capacity in ICS.
- **G-191: EOC/ICS Interface:** This course reviews ICS and EOC responsibilities and functions and depends heavily on exercises and group discussions to formulate the interface. The course enables participants to begin developing an interface between an Incident Management Team and EOC personnel.
- **G-205: Recovery from Disaster: The Local Community Role:** This 2.5-day course covers foundational concepts in disaster recovery, along with the latest guidance on recovery planning.
- **L-388: Advanced PIO:** This five-day course provides participants with the knowledge and skills to establish, manage, and work within a JIC through multimedia lectures and individual and group activities.
- **O-305: Type 3 All-Hazards Incident Management Team:** This course focuses on the importance of developing and operating as a functional Type 3 All-Hazards Incident Management Team (AHIMT).
- **MGT-460: Planning for Disaster Debris Management:** This eight-hour management-level teaches participants how to identify debris management components and discusses best planning practices using existing plan examples and case studies.

Figures 8 - 11 provide information on the number of 2018 - 2022 KCOEM trainings and students reached.

Figure 8 - Number of Classes Per Year
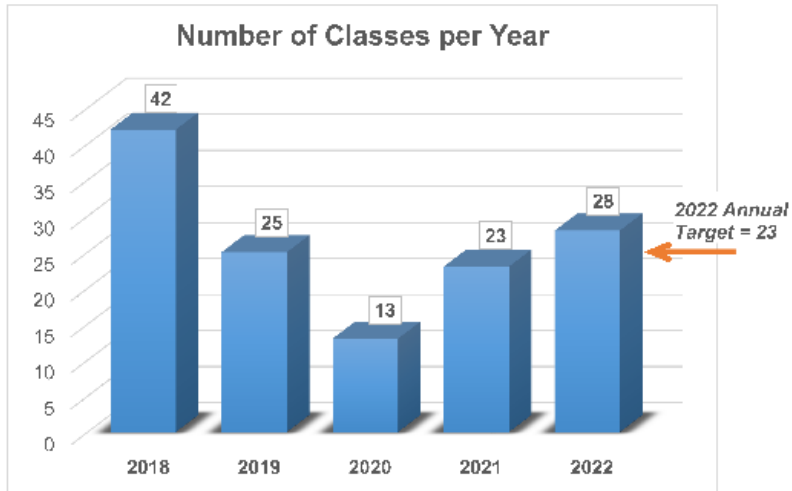
Figure 9 - Number of Students Per Year
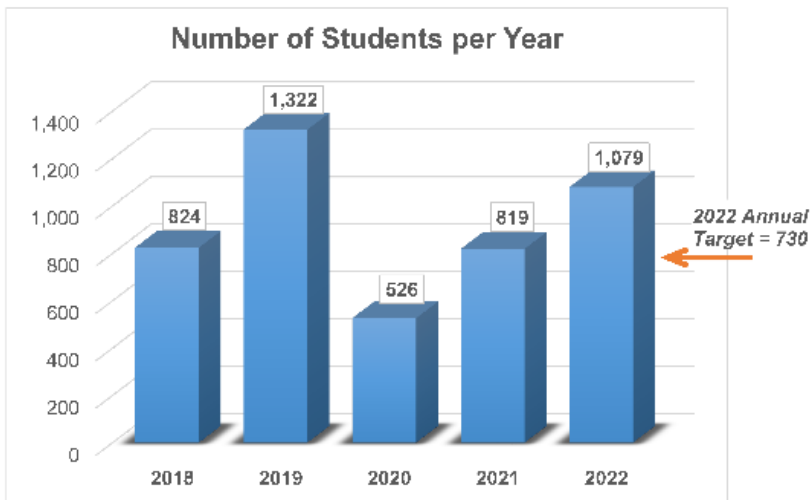
Figure 10 - Number of Classes Per Year
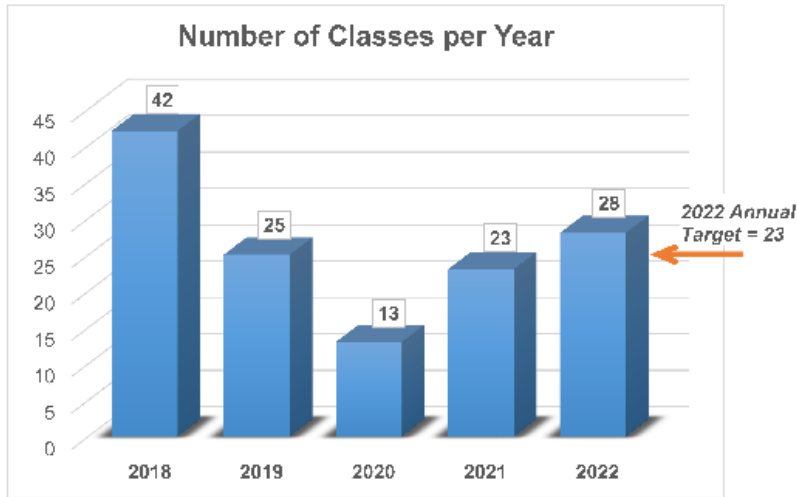
Figure 11 - Student Contact Hours Per Year
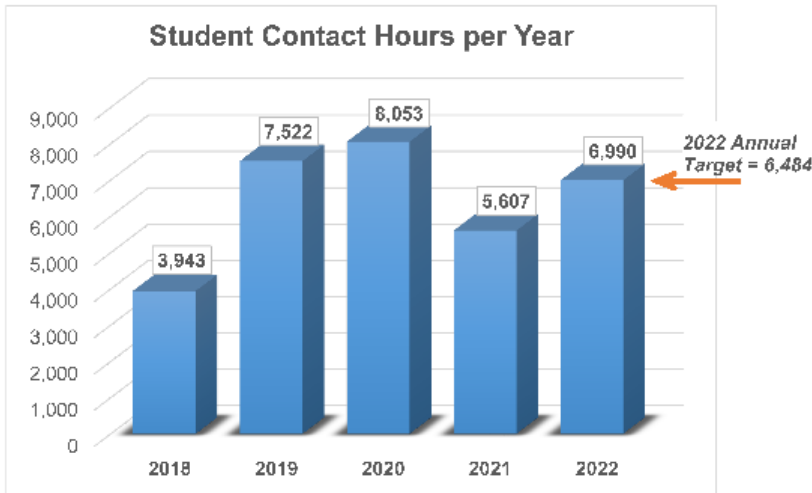
Figure 12 - 2018 through 2022 Summary of Class Hours

	2018	**2019**	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**
Total Class Hours	3,943	7,522	8,053	5,067	6,690
Number of Students	824	1,322	526	819	1,079
Number of Classes	42	25	13	23	28

EOC Readiness: EOC 101 Videos

Based on input from KCOEM staff members and partner agencies, KCOEM began developing a series of videos in partnership with King County TV at the start of 2022. The video series, known as "EOC 101," was created to give viewers a quick, digestible overview of the EOC and how it is organized. Each of the videos, which run four to six minutes, were designed to be used by partner agencies. The first four

videos in the planned six video series were completed in 2022, with the remaining two to be delivered in early 2023. Since these were designed with jurisdictional partners in mind, colleagues at city emergency management agencies helped with the scripts and were given starring roles in the videos. They are available on the KCOEM website at http://kingcounty.gov/EOC101. A selection of screenshots from the videos is included below.

Figure 13 - Example Screenshots from EOC 101 Videos

EOC Readiness: Emergency Management Webinar Series

In June 2022, KCOEM kicked off a professional webinar series to add depth to the training available on various emergency management topics. Partners were surveyed on topics of particular interest and KCOEM personnel reached out to subject matter experts in the identified categories to best fill the gaps in regional knowledge. The intent of the webinars is to host a TED-type session where hosts can share their expertise. The webinars, which are held bimonthly and are expected to be offered monthly in the future, are intended to facilitate more standardized knowledge in each area and expand the overall coverage of the topic. The webinars are hosted live and recorded. Interested parties can view them at a time of their choice if they are unable to attend in person. Topics for 2022 included:

- Fire Season: What to know about State Mobilization, FMAG, and King County;
- Debris Management after Disasters;
- Long-Term Disaster Recovery: Re-Engagement and Finding Vitality; and
- Establishing and Maintaining Community Organizations Active in Disasters.

Figure 14 - Screenshot Samples from 2022 Emergency Management Webinar Series
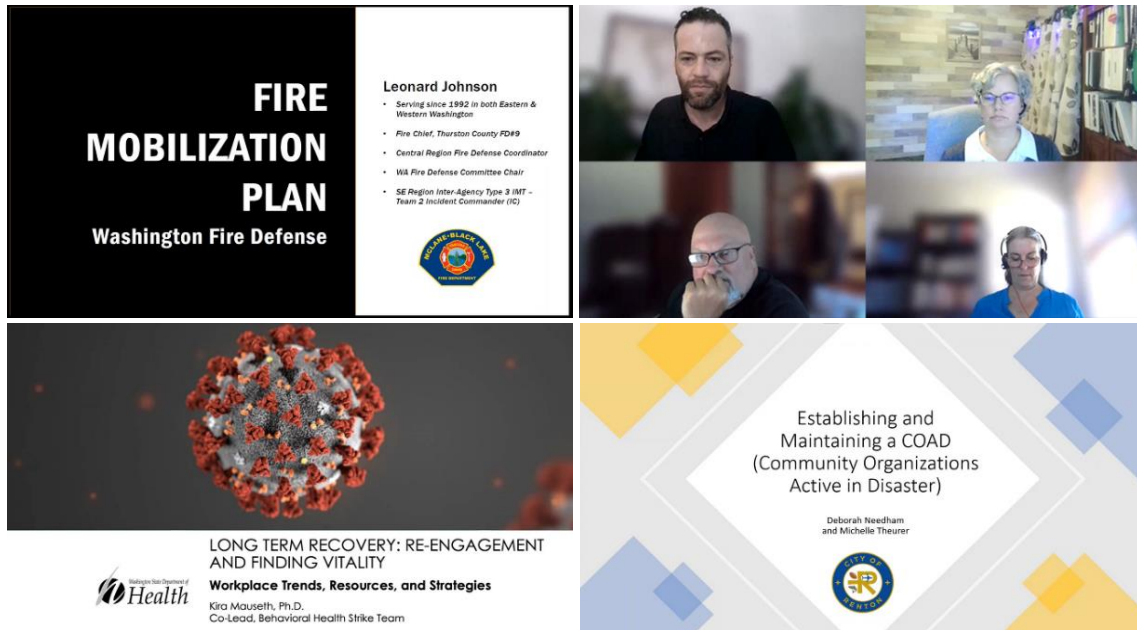
Priority: Situational Awareness

Situational Awareness: Duty Officer Activity and Coordination

KCOEM Duty Officers rotate through week-long shifts and are available 24/7 as the primary entry point into the emergency management system. Duty officers provide regional situational awareness to King County and partner organizations, and answer calls for support and resources in response to incidents and emergencies. The Duty Officer collects, analyzes and distributes information about the categories of situations identified in the critical information requirements (CIR) list. Sources of information include the National Weather Service, first responder organizations, state and federal agencies, jurisdiction partners, and King County departments, among others. This process helps KCOEM and partners inform operational decisions, such as changing the level of preparedness for an incident, activating the EOC, and dispatching resources to support an incident response operation.

Figure 15 - Duty Officer Activity Type and CIR Category for Incidents Reported in 2021 and 2022

ACTIVITY TYPE	CIR Category	2021 Total	2022 Total
Biological/Pandemic	Health/Mass Care	0	3
Civil Disturbance	Law Enforcement Activity	1	4
Communications Support	Communications	4	1
Cybersecurity Incident	Communications	1	0
Earthquake	Geological	7	0
Fire	Fire Department Activity	20	6
Flooding	Severe Weather	0	3
Government Operations	Government Operations	1	4
Hazmat	Fire Department Activity	67	96
KC Facility Issue	Government Operations	2	6
Landslide	Geological	5	2
Law Enforcement Activity	Law Enforcement Activity	5	3
Minor Resource Request		8	4
Mission Number Request		0	7

|			
Mutual Aid Request	Government Operations	1	0
Other		6	11
Other EOC activating	Government Operations	2	3
Public Alerting Request		1	5
Public Health (Non-Pandemic)	Health/Mass Care	0	2
Rescue	Fire Department Activity	2	1
School Operations	School Operations	2	1
Severe Weather	Severe Weather	2	8
Terrorism	Law Enforcement Activity	1	2
Transportation	Transportation	15	15
Tsunami Alert	Geological	0	1
Utility Emergency	Utility Emergency	2	6
Unclassified		0	9
	Total	**155**	**203**

Situational Awareness: Weekly Coordination Calls

As part of response operations during the COVID-19 pandemic, KCOEM started twice-weekly regional coordination calls with partners in March 2020. The coordination calls provided essential situational awareness and the opportunity for participants to raise other issues of immediate concern. The calls were later reduced to once per week, and in 2021, the agenda was expanded to include regular updates on COVID-19 and other topics, such as current emergency operations, weather outlook, resource management, COVID-19 case counts and transmission rates, and hospital capacity. The calls are intended as a forum for regional partners to hear from subject matter experts, and to exchange information among peers. The calls continued in 2022 and average 40 to 50 participants each call. Briefing topics were further expanded with regular reports from the Washington State Fusion Center, King County Flood Warning Center, King County Regional Homelessness Authority, and other agencies.

Situational Awareness: Snapshot Reports

During emergencies, KCOEM plays a critical role in informing partner agencies of the situation and impacts to support implementation of protective actions. Situational awareness information is shared through a variety of methods, including incident snapshots. These reports provide decision makers with relevant information regarding the nature and extent of the situation, any cascading effects, and the status of operations. In 2021, as part of an improvement process, KCOEM updated the snapshot template to include status color-coding of Community Lifelines, using a "stoplight system" (red/yellow/green). This gives readers a quick visual cue of the status of critical services and supports.

Figure 16 - Community Lifelines Overview
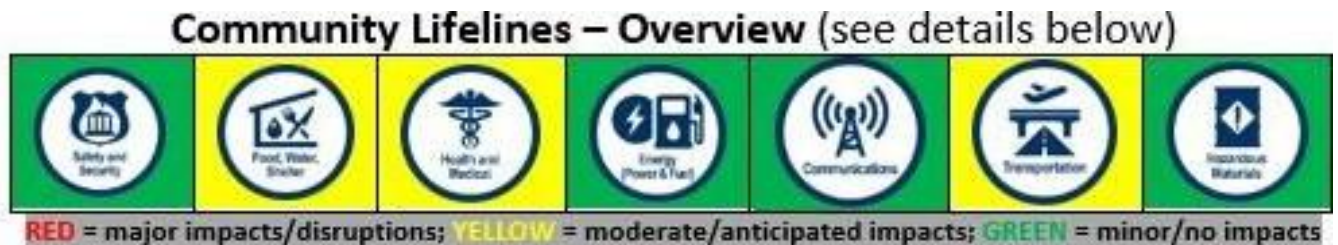
Priority: Public Awareness and Education

Public Awareness and Education: Mass Notification

The process of getting the word out to residents, businesses, and government employees during an emergency improved in 2022 through the continued integration of both internal and external alert and notification systems to reach a broader audience. To date, all cities in King County, except Seattle and Federal Way, have joined KCOEM's notification program, which is offered at no charge.

KCInform and ALERT King County Enrollment

KCInform is King County government's branded system for alerting employees to incidents and emergencies. County employee work email addresses and work phone numbers are automatically enrolled in KCInform. Employees are encouraged to enhance their accounts with personal contact information.

Figure 16 shows the number of employees registered with KCInform and whether they have added their personal contact information. Totals vary due to resignations, layoffs, and retirements. The total email addresses column includes work and personal email addresses and total phones column includes work, home, and cell phones.

Figure 17 - King County Employees Registered with KCInform

	Total Employees Enrolled	Total Email Addresses	Total Phones	Personal Emails	Home Phones	Cell Phones	Text-enabled Cell Phones
DEC 1, 2021	17,999	24,197	25,450	8,607	5,145	8,555	8,101
DEC 1, 2022	19,003	25,611	23,843	8,495	4,681	8,813	8,374
DIFFERENCE	+1,004	+1,414	-1,607	-112	-464	+258	+273

ALERT King County is the public-facing regional notification system serving residents, businesses, and visitors. Countywide, nearly 65,000 residents and businesses have enrolled since its launch in 2017. In June 2022, enhancements were made to the underlying system that controls ALERT King County. KCOEM was able to add eight additional languages for people to both register and receive alerts: Arabic, Chinese, French, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish. In September for National Preparedness Month, KCOEM developed a campaign to increase ALERT King County sign-ups in English and the eight other languages offered. Advertisements were translated and placed on strategically chosen billboards, as well as on Metro Transit buses that serviced various language population areas. Ads on Facebook and Twitter were also disseminated and translated into Spanish, Chinese, French, Korean, and Russian. These efforts resulted in approximately 2,200 new registrations, compared to the monthly average of 80 registrations, including registrations in English, Spanish, French, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, and Chinese.

Figure 18 - Example of ALERT King County Metro Ad

Figure 19 shows the monthly ALERT King County opt-in registrations, along with a trend line, and number of registrants at the end of 2020, 2021, and 2022. Figure 19 shows the number of ALERT King County opt-in registrations by month for 2022, including notable spikes in registrations during the September National Preparedness Month ad campaign and the December winter storms.

Figure 19 - Monthly Alert King County Opt-in Trend

Figure 20 - 2022 ALERT King County Opt-In Numbers by Month
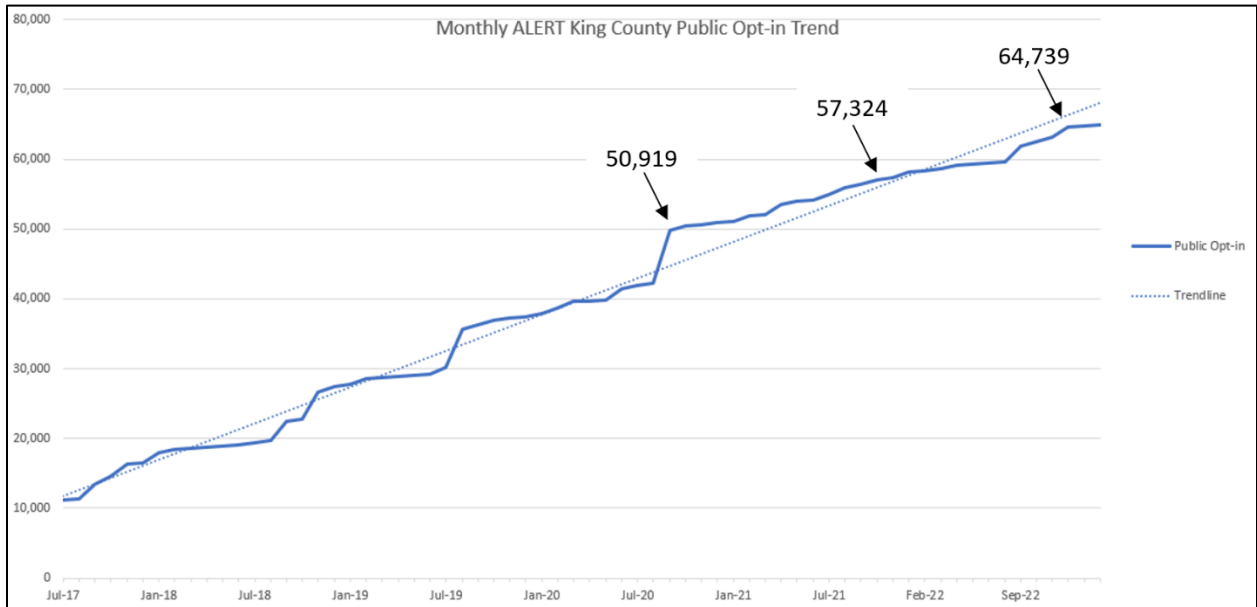
Figure 20 - 2022 ALERT King County Opt-In Numbers by Month
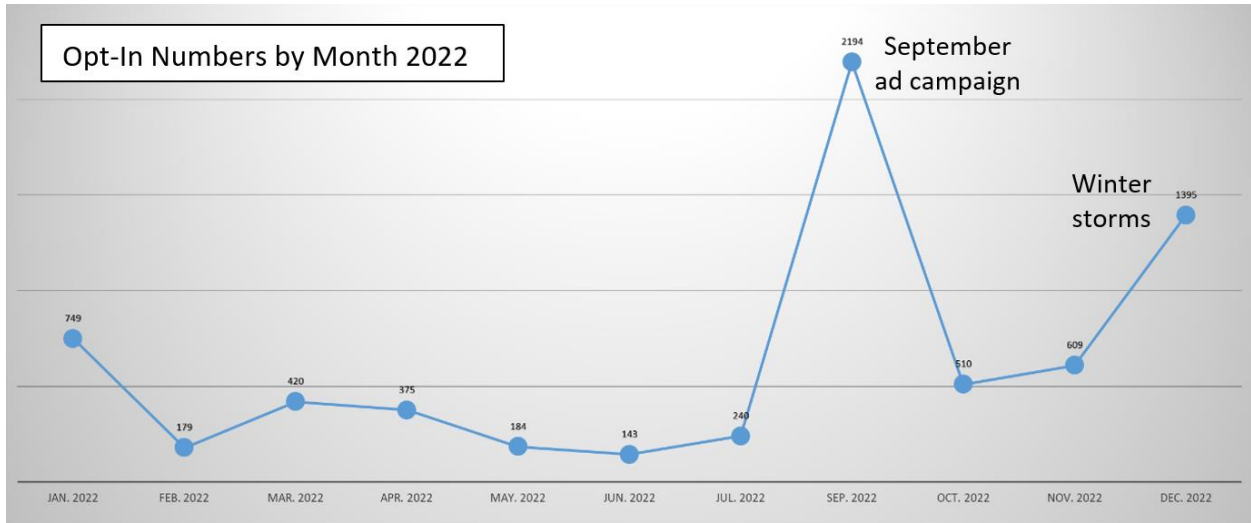
In 2022, over 6,300 messages were sent through KCInform and ALERT King County. King County government agencies and partner cities sent most of these messages, while other partner agencies used the system sparingly. Figure 21 shows the number of messages sent by jurisdiction. Figure 22 displays the same information visually.

Figure 21 - KCInform and Alert King County Messages Sent by Jurisdiction in 2021 and 2022

Jurisdiction	Messages Sent 2021	Messages Sent 2022
Cities	398	185
Hospitals	4	27
Fire Districts	13	0
Water Districts	8	0
Transit Provider	6	0
King County Government	6,823	6,108
Total	*7,252*	*6,320*

Figure 22 – KCInform and Alert King County Messages Sent by Jurisdiction in 2021 and 2022
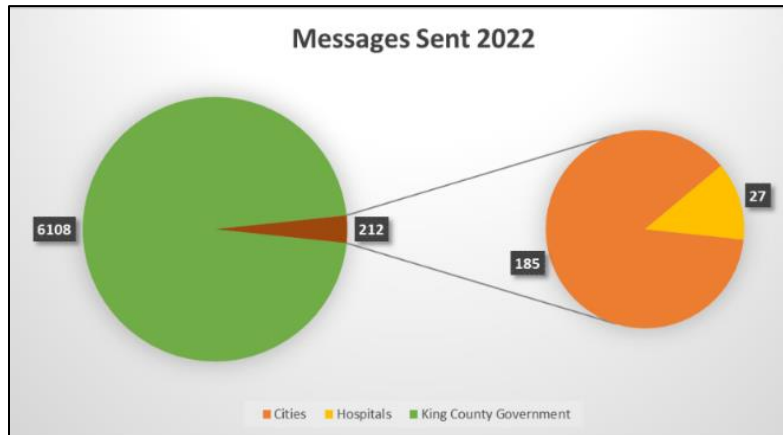
Trusted Partner Network and ALERT King County

The [Trusted Partner Network](#) (TPN) is an innovative network of trusted community volunteers who act as a bridge to share emergency notifications with underserved and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) groups across the region. A component of the Inclusive Emergency Communications Plan (IECP), the TPN was operationalized in 2021, with recruitment, training, and sustainment efforts continuing in 2022. Recruitment of new volunteers faced challenges in 2022, as only nine new volunteers were onboarded, bringing the total number of volunteers to 57. Orientations were reduced from a monthly to a bi-monthly schedule.

Despite these challenges, the regular drill and check-in schedule with volunteers was maintained and TPN activations officially began in 2022. In every drill and activation, TPN volunteers report the estimated number of community members reached and languages utilized. Figure 22 indicates 18 languages were used during drills and activations, although there are 35 total languages reportedly spoken by volunteers. Figure 23 shows the estimated community members reached and the number of languages used in each drill or activation in 2022; this information is self-reported by participating volunteers during each event.

Figure 23 - Languages Used During 2022 TPN Drills and Activations

Tigrinya	Amharic	Swahili	ASL	Ga	Russian
Spanish	English	Tigua	Punjabi	Arabic	Japanese
Vietnamese	Portuguese	Belarusian	Turkumani	Twi	Kiswahili

Figure 24 - Estimated Community Members Reached and Number of Languages Used by TPN
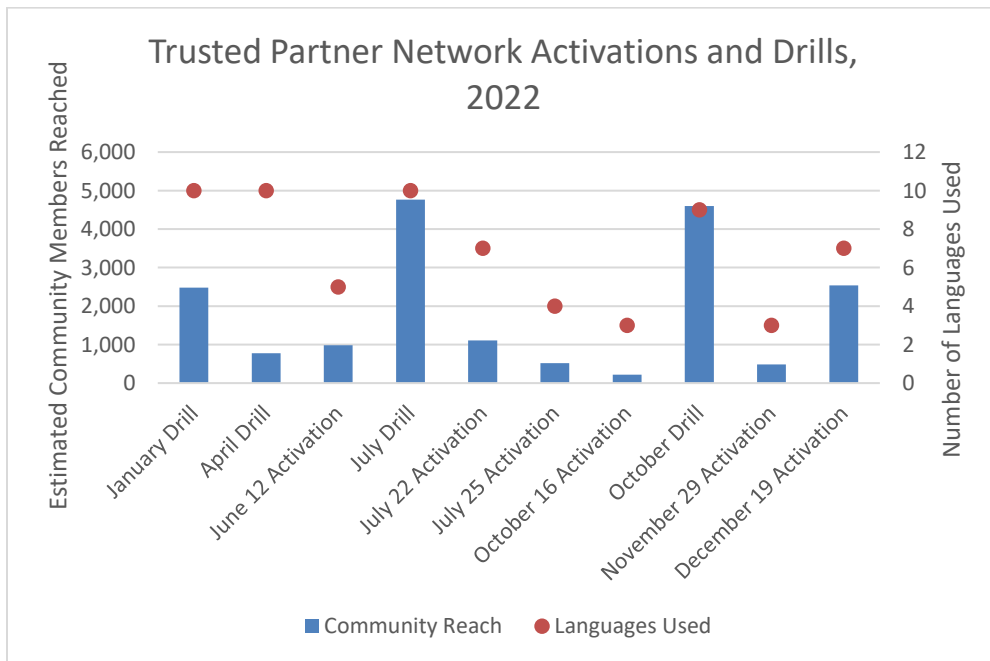
Emergency News Blog

During an incident or emergency, KCOEM directs people to the [Emergency News blog](#) to access timely,

accurate information. The Emergency News blog serves as a central hub for public information and situation updates. It draws a following of media, regional 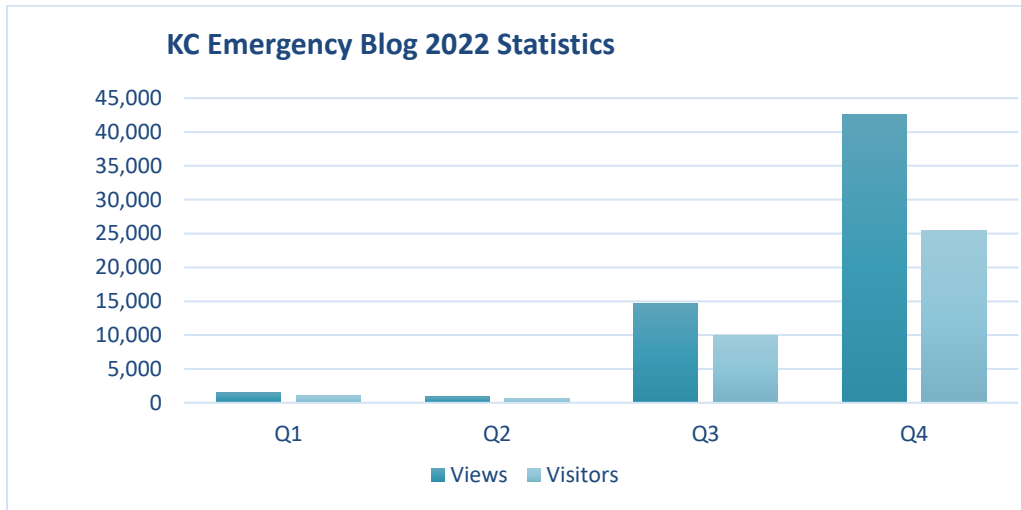stakeholders, and residents. During the July extreme heat event, as well as the December ice storm, duty officers sent Alert King County alerts with a link to the emergency blog for more information. This increase the number of site visitors and views as shown in Figure 25.

Figure 25 - KC Emergency Blog 2022 Statistics

Views = accessed the blog
Visitors = clicked through to investigate more

Public Awareness and Education: Public Training and Education

In 2022, KCOEM continued the hybrid model of education and outreach which has become the new normal since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. KCOEM delivered Disaster Preparedness Trainings to community members in both virtual and in-person settings. In addition to providing Disaster Skills Trainings by request to community groups, KCOEM also began offering publicly available Disaster Skills Training webinars. These webinars were initially available on a bi-monthly basis but increased to monthly offerings to meet community demand and interest. KCOEM responded to the growing opportunities for in person public engagement by participating in several community events and preparedness fairs across King County. At all in-person events, including trainings, community meetings, and community fairs, KCOEM provided community members with emergency preparedness materials and information, as well as items to support the development of emergency preparedness kits.

Figure 25 shows KCOEM staff members promoting ALERT King County and sharing preparedness information and supplies with the community. Ella Liddicoat and Emilia Jones distribute information, hand sanitizers, and COVID-19 test kits at a December holiday event in Auburn (left); Susanna Trimarco distributes preparedness information, hand sanitizers, and emergency blankets at a summer event in Maple Valley (center); Shaunise Ryan and Ella Liddicoat distribute preparedness information, hand sanitizer, and children's activity books at the Mother Africa Health and Wellness Fair in Kent (right).

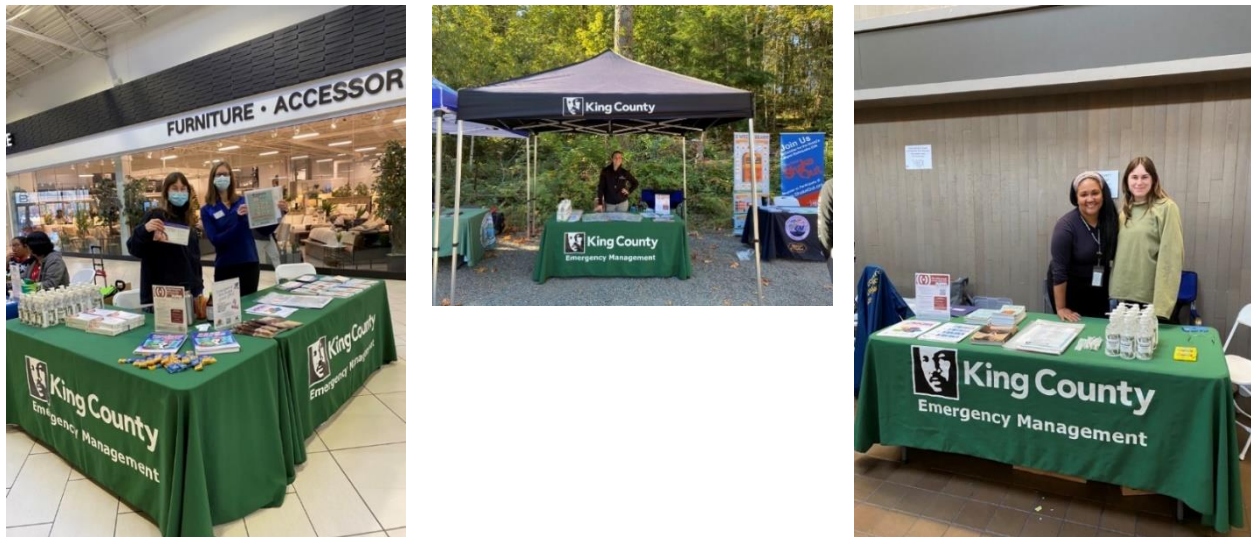*Figure 26 - KCOEM Staff Promoting Preparedness at Area Events*

Figure 27 - Types of Engagements Held in 2022

Quarter	Engagement Type	Number of Events	Total Attendees	Venue Type	Role of KCOEM	Notes
1	Disaster Skills Training	2	95	In-person	Lead	School and Daycare Center
1	DLS Town Halls	11	550	Virtual	Support	Preparedness information
1	CERT Train-the-Trainer	1	14	In-person	Support	Logistics support to State program
2	Disaster Skills Training	3	103	Both	Lead	Open to public; residents of complex
2	FEMA YPC Presentation	1	125	In-person	Support	Ella Baker Elementary School, Redmond
2	Summer Hazards	1	26	Virtual	Lead	Case managers at Lifelong
2	DLS Summer Hazards	1	20	In-person	Lead	Tabling/Heat and Fire Safety Event
2	Community Event	1	150	In-person	Lead	Tabling/Skykomish Tunnel Days
3	Disaster Skills Training	6	363	Both	Lead	Various venues and open to public
3	Family Preparedness	1	25	In-person	Lead	DLS-Road Services event
3	CERT Basic Training	1	20	In-person	Support	Co-instructing training course
3	Facebook Live	1	Unknown	Virtual	Lead	Earthquake preparedness/ShakeOut
3	Community Event	8	700	In-person	Lead	Tabling/preparedness and safety fairs
3	Family Preparedness	1	150	In-person	Lead	DLS-Road Services event
3	Meta Roadshow	1	200	In-person	Lead	Tabling/safety and preparedness event
4	Preparedness Fair	3	1,100	In-person	Lead	Tabling/Port of Seattle, Mother Africa
4	Community Meeting	2	85	In-person	Lead	Bolt Creek Fire Burn Scar
4	Holiday Event	1	300	In-person	Lead	Tabling/Arts of Love Extravaganza
4	Disaster Skills Training	3	76	Virtual	Lead	Open to public/condo community

Public Awareness and Education: Social Media

KCOEM employs a strategy of engagement on social media to quickly disseminate *#KingCountyReady*-branded preparedness and safety messaging through King County's flagship social channels (@KingCountyWA on Facebook and Twitter), as well as Instagram (@kingcountyoem). Figure 28 details the number of KCOEM-related social media posts by platform, as well as level of impressions and engagements by the public. Engagements are the total number of times users interacted with a social media post.

Figure 28 - 2022 #KingCountyReady Social Media Statistics
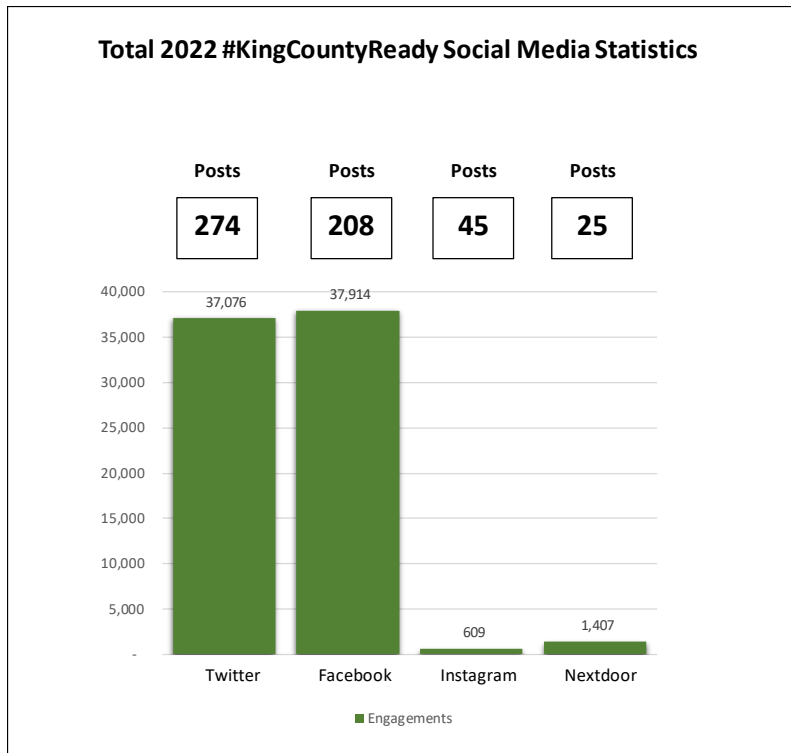
During Preparedness Month, KCOEM hosted a Facebook live event that focused on earthquake preparation and the October Great ShakeOut exercise. Throughout the year, social media played an important role in Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) distribution events. Businesses were connected to distribution dates and times, and the social media connection helped pass along information through their social media networks.

Priority: Disaster Risk Reduction

Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) administers the Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) program, which funds mitigation projects that reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from future disasters. Two of these HMA programs are Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) and the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). BRIC is an annual, nationally competitive grant that allocated $2.3 billion in federal funds during fiscal year (FFY) 2022. BRIC prioritizes large infrastructure projects that prepare for and reduce the impacts of climate change, as well as projects that serve historically underserved communities. HMGP funding is available after federal disaster declaration, and impacted jurisdictions are given priority for mitigation grant submissions. The COVID-19 pandemic brought $96 million in HMGP funding for Washington State. A FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan is required for HMA funding.

Two years into the FEMA-approved Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan (RHMP), there has been success in attracting HMA grants; the RHMP allows any jurisdiction within King County to sign onto the plan with a jurisdiction annex, making the planning process substantially easier and giving the jurisdiction access to HMA grant funding. Figure 28 shows the eight natural and six human-caused hazards covered by the RHMP Risk Assessment.

Figure 29 - Natural and Human-Caused Hazards Covered by the RHMP Risk Assessment

Avalanche	Civil Disturbance	Cyber Incident	Dam Failure	Earthquake	Flood	Health Incident
Hazardous Materials	Landslide	Severe Weather	Terrorism	Tsunami	Volcano	Wildfire

KCOEM provides leadership and support to the entire geographic region of King County, including through development of plans such as the RHMP. This plan assesses natural and human-caused hazards that can impact the region and develops strategies to reduce risk and build resilience. Nearly 60 planning partners, including school districts, water districts, and cities, participated in the process to develop the RHMP. Many of these partners have already completed annexes to the RHMP or are in the process of doing so. Figure 30 shows the number and type of jurisdictions that have signed on to the RHMP and adapted it for their own use. Figure 31 shows city participation in the RHMP annex creation.

Figure 30 - Number and Types of Jurisdictions Signed on to the RHMP and Adapted for Their Own Use

Status	City	Fire District	School District	Water/Sewer	Total
Approved	25	3	1	21	50
Working on Annex	4	0	5	3	12
Not Participating	10	22	13	15	59

Figure 31 - King County RHMP Annexes
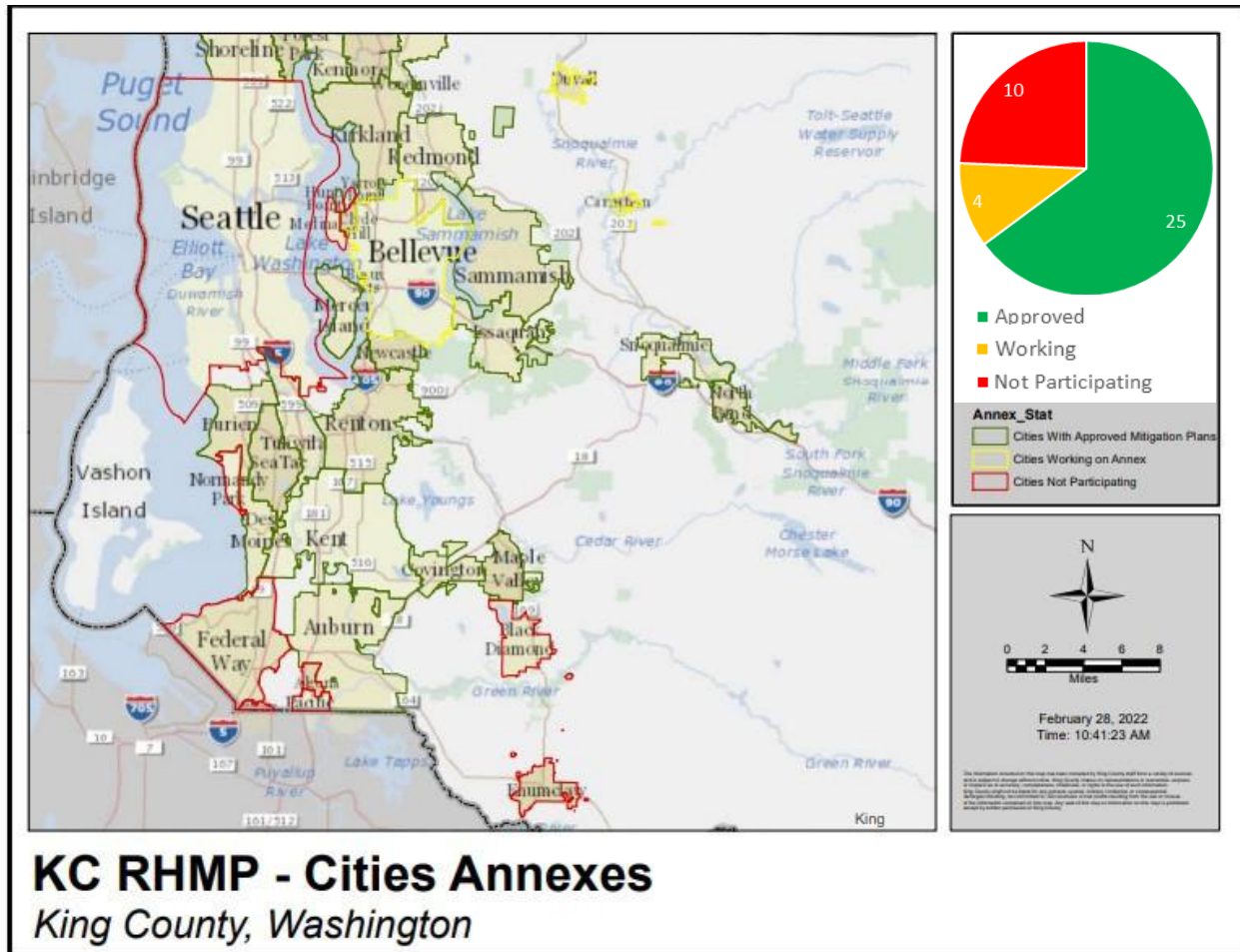
King County was awarded one BRIC grant for federal fiscal year 2020, which funded the Climate Action Team's work to develop a strategy to mitigate the urban "heat island" effect. In fiscal year 2021, three large infrastructure projects were selected for further review, the final stage before award:

Entity	Project
City of Shoreline	Stabilize a landslide hazard on North 175th Street
City of Auburn	Seismically harden a control valve on Reservoir Two
King County Water District No. 90	Relocate the District's Wellfield and Water Treatment Plan out of known hazard areas

Results for the FFY22 BRIC grant round and HMGP4481 round are still pending. Included with the pending BRIC FFY22 grant round is the King County Wastewater Treatment Division's $23,407,213 South Point Treatment Plant Influent Pump Station Building Seismic Upgrade Project, currently at the federal level for decision. These projects demonstrate the County's commitment to equity and climate change informed investments in resilient communities.

Figure 32 shows a summary of regional BRIC submissions for fiscal years 2020-2022. Figure 33 provides the Summary of Regional FFY21 HMGP (Associated with DR-4481-WA) Submissions.

Figure 32 - Summary of Regional Submissions for the FFY20, FFY21, and FFY22 BRIC Rounds

FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) HMA Grants						
	BRIC FFY20		BRIC FFY21		BRIC FFY22	
Status	Count	Cost Totals	Count	Cost Totals	Count	Cost Totals
Pre-applications	34	$161,868,744	49	$414,177,846	22	$92,088,488
State Invite for full applications	24	$128,353,000	24	$100,962,378	22	$92,088,488
Submitted to FEMA	8	$20,363,000	4	$27,740,000	7	$46,519,413
Federal selection for further review	3	$428,052	3	$20,600,000	TBD	TBD
Applicant Withdrawn	2	($337,500)	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Award	1	$90,552	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

Figure 33 - Summary of Regional FFY21 HMGP (Associated with DR-4481-WA) Submissions

FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program DR-4481-WA		
Status	Count	Cost Totals
Pre-applications	34	$414,495,736
State Invite for full applications	24	$101,280,267
Submitted to FEMA	13	$53,090,133
Federal selection for further review	TBD	TBD

Disaster Risk Reduction: Local Emergency Planning Committee

As required by the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA), in 2022 the King County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) held regular quarterly meetings, reviewed the King County Hazardous Material Response Plan, participated in exercises, and collected on-site storage chemical reports from local businesses. LEPC meetings include representatives from local business and industry, and partners from local, state, and federal agencies. Figure 34 shows the status of annual King County LEPC required activities in 2022.

Figure 34 - Status of Annual EPCRA Requirements for LEPCs in 2022

EPCRA Requirement	Status	Notes
Hold one LEPC meeting each year	✔	Meetings were held quarterly
Membership is reflective of community	85%	Few vacancies exist; active recruitment ongoing
Plan contains all required elements	✔	Plan meets required content
Plan reviewed on annual basis	✔	Annual plan review completed
Collect/maintain chemical inventory forms	✔	Ongoing (by KCOEM)
Provide chemical information to the public upon request	N/A	No requests were made

Disaster Risk Reduction: Dam Safety

There are 148 dams in the greater region that would impact King County if they were to fail, including several dams in adjacent counties that have inundation areas that could reach into King County. The 127 dams in the County include nine high hazard dams, 87 medium hazard dams, and 31 low hazard dams that would have little to no impact if they failed. Collectively, these dams serve many beneficial purposes. Most dams protect communities from regular flooding, others serve as a source of clean drinking water, and several produce electricity for cities. Most of these dams are owned by local governments or private parties; few are owned by the state or federal governments. In coordination

with the King County Flood Control District, KCOEM manages a Dam Safety Program to create response plans for high hazard dams, educate at-risk populations about the threat of dam failure, and help acquire resources to repair or remove poor-condition dams. The outreach effort includes educating school children on the benefits and hazards of dams, working with dam operators to develop Emergency Action Plans (EAP), and creating new tools for hazard education. The status of those efforts is shown in Figure 35.

Figure 35 - Status of Deliverables for the Dam Safety Program

Dam Safety Program			
Categories	**Projects**	**Deliverables**	**Status**
Education and Outreach	Dam Safety Day	Identify partners for scholarship donations	In progress
		Identify a venue to host artwork	In progress
		Identify judges and Critera	In progress
		Develop a submission process for artwork	In progress
		Coordinate with Legal on copyright release	Pending
		Develop a media and outreach plan	Pending
		Create flyers	Pending
		Notfiy schools of opportunity	Pending
	General Public Outreach	Create a draft presentation and other dam safety educational materials	In progress
		Attend jursidicitonal meetings with school boards and teachers to garner input	In progress
		Revise draft Presentation	Pending
		Have educational materials approved by PIO and Outreach Coordinator	Pending
		Finalize school-year educational plan	Pending
		Coordinate with teachers to place dam safety education into their curriculum	Pending
Dam Owner Outreach	South Fork Tolt River Dam Planning and Outreach	Develop evacuation routes	Complete
		Publicize inundation map	Complete
		Develop evacuation zones and evacuation route descriptions	Complete
		Publicize evacuation zones and route descriptions on website	Complete
		Present evacuation zones and route at Carnation Dam Safety event	Complete
		Purchase/deliver radios for Carnation Dam Safety event raffle	Complete
	Cedar Falls Dam Planning	Engage with SMEs to establish planning assumptions	Complete
		Develop evacuation routes/zones with KCSO	In progress
		Publicize inundation map	In progress
		Publicize evacuation routes/zones	In progress

Disaster Risk Reduction: Emergency Management Coordinating Committee

The Emergency Management Coordinating Committee (EMCC) is comprised of representatives from each department in King County government and supplemented by subject matter experts critical to responding to events and emergencies. This group meets monthly to coordinate policies and guidelines, as well as collaborate on lessons learned from incidents affecting governmental operations.

In 2022, the EMCC:
- Contributed to the 2022 COOP Plan updates for EMAP accreditation
- Updated the CEMP process and interactions with ESF representatives
- Participated in RCPGP-funded exercises on topics including critical transportation and regional partnerships during widescale events
- Ensured familiarization with the revised/updated COG Plan and provided input from their agencies on the document
- Provided input to and capability gaps for the FEMA-required 2022 regional Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) and Stakeholder Preparedness Report (SPR)
- Discussed new and historical responses to extreme weather events following summer heatwaves,
- Participated in the Great Washington ShakeOut

- Supported KCOEM's Integrated Emergency Management Course (IEMC) application on behalf of the region
- Reviewed the SHSP project timeline and providing input on 2023 projects
- Developed 2023 priorities, including development of a new calendar system to show an overview of plan development, grant development, and other partner meetings to include county agency input throughout the year ahead of time in one place

Figure 36 - EMCC Attendance by Department for 2020, 2021, and 2022

Agency	2022	2021	2020
King County Council	100%	90%	100%
Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention	80%	20%	80%
Department of Community and Human Services	70%	80%	70%
Department of Executive Services	100%	100%	100%
King County District Court	60%	80%	60%
Department of Judicial Administration	60%	60%	60%
Department of Natural Resources and Parks	100%	100%	100%
Metro Transit Department	80%	90%	80%
Department of Local Services	90%	70%	90%
King County Assessor	20%	30%	20%
Public Health Seattle King County	100%	100%	100%
King County Elections	90%	90%	90%
Executive Office	40%	70%	40%
Department of Human Resources	90%	100%	90%
King County Department of Information Technology	60%	70%	60%
King County Sheriff's Office	100%	70%	100%
King County Office of Emergency Management	100%	100%	100%
King County Prosecuting Attorney	90%	100%	90%
King County Superior Court	20%	0%	20%
Department of Public Defense	30%	40%	30%
Total (target=75%)	**77%**	**74%**	**77%**

Figure 37 - King County Agency COOP Plan Status as of 2022

Agency	COOP Plan Status	Agency	COOP Plan Status
King County Council	Pending	PHSKC	2021
DAJD	2021	King County Elections	2020
DCHS	2022	Executive Office	2018
DES	2022	DHR	2020
King County District Court	2020	KCIT	2022
DJA	2021	KCSO	2022
DNRP	2021	PAO	Pending
Metro	2022	King County Superior Court	2020
DLS	2021	DPD	2014
King County Assessor	2017	KCOEM	2022

Disaster Risk Reduction: Continuity of Government (COG) Plan

The King County Continuity of Government (COG) plan identifies how the responsibilities of King County government, as defined by the Washington State Constitution and the King County Charter, will be preserved, maintained, or reconstructed in the event of a disaster or other emergency event. The plan was rewritten in 2022 to address these factors, which were not in previous iterations of the plan. The COG plan focuses on critical areas pertaining to government continuity, including leadership succession, emergency authority, and command and control.

. Much of the content of the COG plan is derived from the King County Charter or King County Code. The COG plan is separate from the Continuity of Operations (COOP) plan.

Disaster Risk Reduction: Federal Assistance

FEMA Public Assistance Program

KCOEM is the coordinating agency for the County when applying for FEMA Public Assistance following a disaster. A large part of this effort is a damage assessment, which includes a canvass of local entities to ascertain damage to public facilities and infrastructure within jurisdictional borders. In 2022, KCOEM conducted a damage assessment for the 2020 January Severe Storm, an effort that included coordination with more than 300 regional partners to identify approximately $3.7 million in damage costs. Figure 37 shows the updated and continuing costs of declared disasters in 2020, including the January winter storms and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Figure 38 - Updated and Continuing Costs of 2020 Federally Declared Disasters
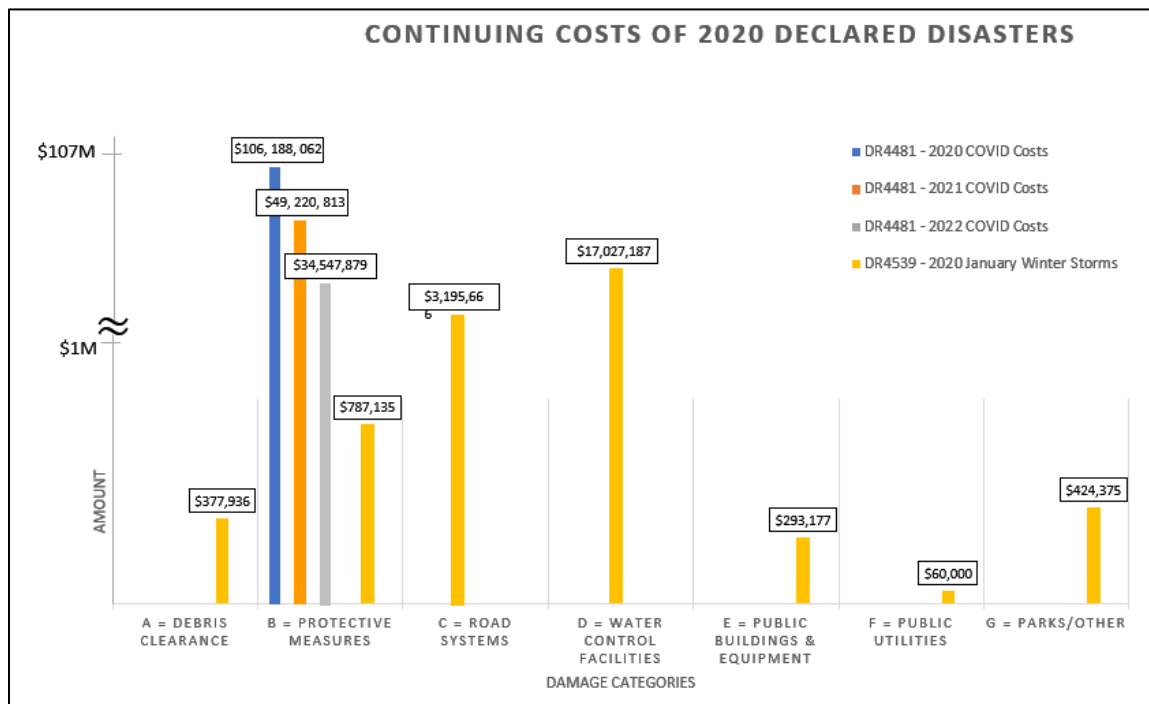
Technical Assistance

In 2022, KCOEM provided technical assistance to King County department and division staff members to help formulate and refine almost 50 different projects for FEMA Public Assistance Program reimbursement funding. To help facilitate the reimbursement process, KCOEM conducted weekly

assistance sessions with affected County agencies (Figure 39).

Figure 39 - FEMA Public Assistance Information for 2021 and 2022

	Agencies Participating in Public Assistance		KCOEM Meetings Held with Agencies		Current Projects for FEMA Public Assistance		Estimated Expenses	
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022
Jan-Feb 2020 Winter Storms	5	6	15	130	42	38	$30,527,827	$22,165,475
COVID-19	15	15	30	52	5	9	$145,766,714	$189,965,754

U.S. Small Business Administration Disaster Loan Program
After most major incidents, KCOEM facilitates the collection of information to support a U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Disaster Declaration. Not all assessments result in a declaration, but those that do enable severely impacted businesses and individuals to apply for low interest loans. In 2022, KCOEM provided technical assistance for three multi-unit fires, one strip mall fire, and two residential building fires. None of these assessments resulted in declarations by the SBA.

State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) and Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI)
King County receives federal funds from the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) and the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP), which consists of the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) and the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI). Investments of these grant dollars are administered by KCOEM to meet regional capability gaps identified through annual assessments with input from partners. These grants also fund 40 percent of KCOEM's staff members, who provide coordination, planning, mass care, emergency operations, alert and warning services, and resource management services, and contribute to all other services for which KCOEM has responsibility. Over the past few years, there has been a five to 10 percent decrease in award amounts to account for new nationally competitive portions of these grant programs. KCOEM has been monitoring the funding trend and, in 2022, made strategic staffing changes to maintain capabilities in anticipation of future reductions in federal grant awards. Figure 40 shows a summary of expenditures for 2013-2022. OEM operations versus pass through by grant source.

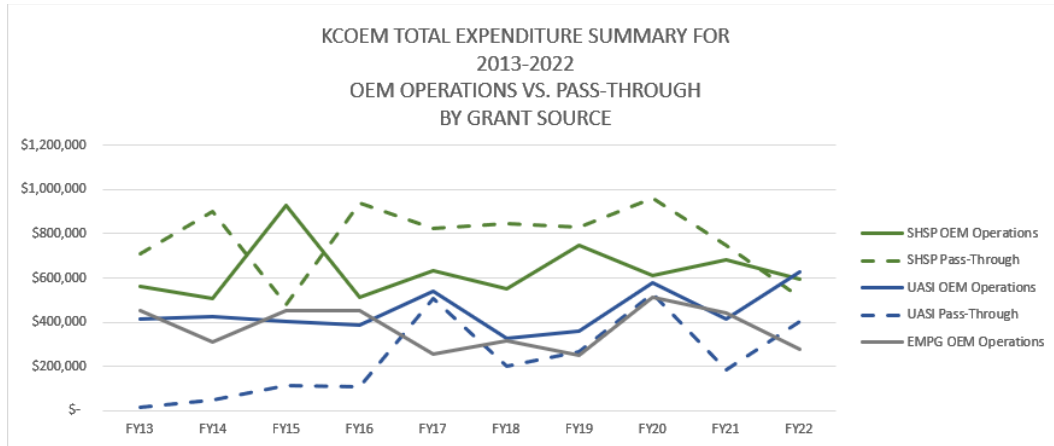*Figure 40 - Summary of Expenditures for 2013-2022 by Grant Source*

Figure 41 shows the disciplines and types of regional projects receiving "pass-through" funding by the SHSP and UASI programs; direct support to OEM is at the bottom of the table.

Figure 41 - Funding from SHSP and UASI Programs

Discipline	Project Title	2021		2022	
		SHSP	UASI	SHSP	UASI
Fire/EMS	Structural Collapse Training and Equipment	$305,000		$332,000	
	HazMat Suits	$40,000			
Law Enforcement	Special Teams Equipment	$270,000	$100,000		
	Fusion Center (staffing support)	$85,000		$85,000	
	Situational Awareness System (ATAK)	$50,000			
	X-Ray System				$220,000
	Aviation		$82,000		$85,000
	Small Unmanned Aerial Systems				$100,000
	Regional Bomb Team Equipment			$94,500	
Mass Care	Access & Functional Needs Shelter Supplies	$5,000			
Cyber Security	Cyber Security Workshop	$80,000			
Regional Coordination	Zone Liaisons	$240,000			
	Subtotal	**$1,075,000**	**$182,000**	**$511,500**	**$405,000**

KC OEM Funding	Public Education/Community Preparedness	$50,000	$123,000	$89,000	$175,000
	Regional Planning (staffing support)	$305,000	$289,000	$264,000	$311,500
	Regional Training and Exercises				$138,500
	Regional Coordination/Zone Liaisons			$240,000	
	Subtotal	**$355,000**	**$412,000**	**$593,000**	**$625,000**

	Total	**$1,430,000**	**$594,000**	**$1,104,500**	**$1,030,000**

Disaster Risk Reduction: State Assistance
State-Funded, County-Managed Individual Assistance Program
KCOEM is the coordinating agency for the County when applying for FEMA or State Individual Assistance following a disaster. A large part of this effort is a damage assessment, which includes a canvass of local entities to ascertain damage to homes and businesses within geographic borders. In 2022, KCOEM conducted Individual Assistance damage assessments for two events: the September Bolt Creek Fire and the December King Tide/South Park Flooding.

The estimated impact and cost for damages did not meet thresholds for a FEMA-funded Individual Assistance award. However, KCOEM was able to petition the state to take part in a special state-funded Individual Assistance pilot program under the Washington Emergency Management Division (WA EMD). KCOEM conducted community outreach, developed an administrative process, drafted forms that are compliant with state guidance, and provided the materials as an example to other counties. These actions began the process of obtaining recovery funds for community members in need.

Through this program, KCOEM provided state-funded, County-managed Individual Assistance grants to King County residents in the Skykomish, Baring, and Grotto areas who were impacted by the Bolt Creek Fire. KCOEM, with support from local elected officials and the Department of Local Services, held public meetings in Baring and Skykomish to share information about this program, provided information and paper copies of the application form, and shared a website to provide application information to community leaders.

Through the new pilot program, residents who were financially impacted by the fire were invited to apply using a simplified process to be reimbursed for expenses deemed eligible. Costs reimbursed by the program include hotel fees during the evacuation period, loss of food, running a generator due to power outages, and added fuel costs for longer commutes due to the highway closure. To be eligible, applicants were required to provide documentation proving King County residency and demonstrating that their household either had an income equal to or less than 80 percent of the area median family income, included someone who is disabled, or qualified for certain property tax exemptions. Applicants also provided an attestation to the qualifying expenses they had due to the fire, as well as documentation for certain specific expenses, such as hotel stays. By the end of 2022, KCOEM received 24 applications for assistance. That number is expected to grow in early 2023.

Key Update: COVID-19

Since February 29, 2020, and throughout 2022, KCOEM coordinated County and regional response operations to the COVID-19 pandemic. The EOC was officially returned to Steady State operations related to the COVID-19 pandemic on July 1, 2022.

Mass Vaccination Strategic Innovation

In 2022, KCOEM continued the Mass Vaccination Reimbursement Project work started in January 2021, partnering with the Washington State Department of Health (WA DOH) to manage and provide oversight for the COVID-19 vaccine delivery contract structure and reimbursement process. Acting as the Incident Management Agency for WA DOH, KCOEM advised King County agencies and partnering jurisdictions on contracting, the invoicing process, and eligible costs. KCOEM reviewed and approved all contract documents, invoices, and back-up documentation for submittal and reimbursement to WA DOH. Since January 2021, King County has submitted more than $95 million in invoices to WA DOH through this program. In 2022 alone, KCOEM processed more than $62 million in related vaccination costs for 10 partner agencies and four King County departments.

Figure 42 - COVID-19 Vaccination Program Reimbursements in 2022
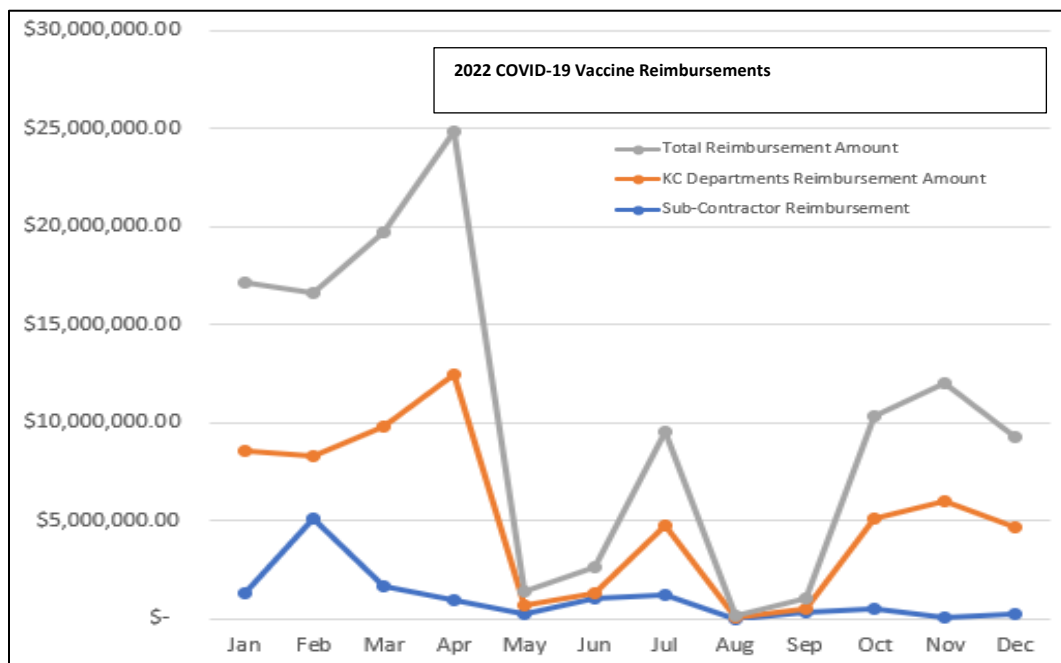
When the COVID-19 vaccine became available in early 2021, FEMA indicated that it would be reimbursing eligible agencies at 100 percent for all vaccination work based on existing eligibility criteria for emergency work. Under the FEMA disaster funding program, regular time for personnel engaged in emergency work is not eligible for reimbursement. KCOEM provided strategic guidance to WA DOH and the Washington State Emergency Management Division (WA EMD) on the structure of the mass vaccination program, which resulted in the allowance for reimbursement of regular time for agencies statewide. This was achieved through a contract structure where the County became a contractor to the state for the delivery of the COVID-19 vaccine. Partner agencies then became sub-contractors to the County. This structure, while beneficial in that it enabled the recoupment of regular time for staff

performing vaccination work, required the County to pay all sub-contractors and then seek reimbursement for those costs from WA DOH, which would then be reimbursed by FEMA. This contract structure, eligibility guidance, and payment process had to be developed from the ground up. The goal was to create a program that would not only pass an audit, but also comply with FEMA eligibility review to ensure that the County was able to recoup the funds paid out to its sub-contractors. WA DOH and WA EMD replicated this structure across the state with every county. To date, Washington State is the only state in the nation to have successfully received reimbursement for regular time for staff engaged in vaccination efforts. The direct impact of this unique structure to King County was the reimbursement of more than $21 million in regular time for King County staff members. If not for this program, the County's general fund would have had to absorb this cost.

Given the unique nature of this contract structure and the complexities of the reimbursement process, WA DOH asked that KCOEM act as their Incident Management Team for King, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties. As this was a new endeavor and would add a significant workload, KCOEM agreed to manage only the King County effort. In this role, KCOEM acted as an agent for WA DOH, reviewing vaccine-related contracts, payment documentation, and invoices from Public Health-Seattle & King County (PHSKC) prior to submitting them to WA DOH for payment. KCOEM ensured that all the documentation was complete, complied with the contract language, and provided for only eligible expenses. This review was the final level of review prior to payment by WA DOH; there was no additional review at the state level. KCOEM's role also included advising on sub-contracts with other entities, such as the City of Seattle, and approving all expenses and other related items for these sub-contracts. Additionally, this work included providing critical analysis and key advice to PHSKC and the Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) in setting up mass vaccination sites for King County, including negotiating staffing contracts. To date, all partnering agencies have been paid, and the County has been reimbursed more than $91 million by WA DOH with no reductions or recoupments. The final remaining invoices will be paid by the end of the state fiscal year in June 2023.

Community Vaccination Event Logistics

In 2022, the KCOEM COVID-19 Logistics Team supported resource and supply needs for PHSKC community vaccination events in collaboration with communities and workplaces throughout King County, including Renton, Des Moines, Federal Way, Auburn, and several Seattle neighborhoods. These events served students, faith-based community organizations, and immigrant communities, among others. Partnering organizations included the Renton School District, Federal Way Farmer's Market, Lambert House, Seadrunar, and All Saints Lutheran Church. From June through December, the Logistics Team supported over 13,000 vaccinations at 475 events.

Figure 43 - COVID-19 Community Vaccination Events in 2022
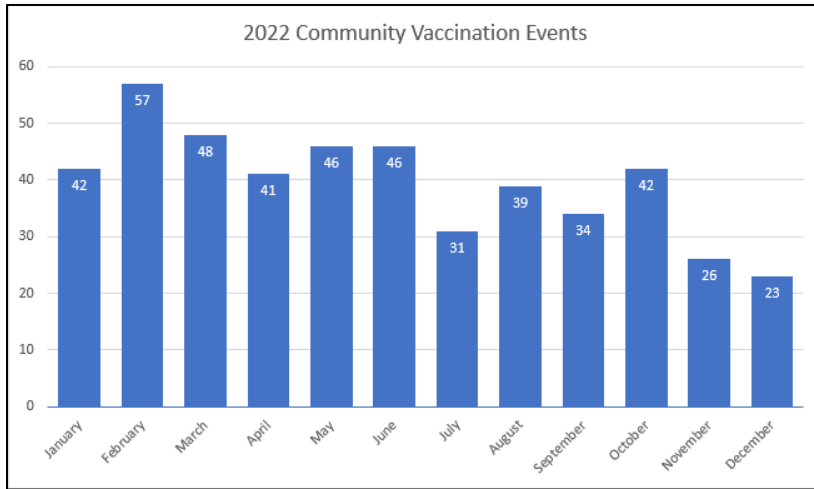
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Distribution

The KCOEM COVID-19 Logistics Team held five pop-up mask distribution events in 2022 for restaurant and food service workers and community partners in Kent, Renton, and Seattle. KCOEM distributed sanitizing wipes and hand sanitizer solution in addition to masks. More than 40 businesses and community partners participated in these events, and over 22,000 cases of masks were distributed.

Figure 44 - Total PPE Requests in 2022
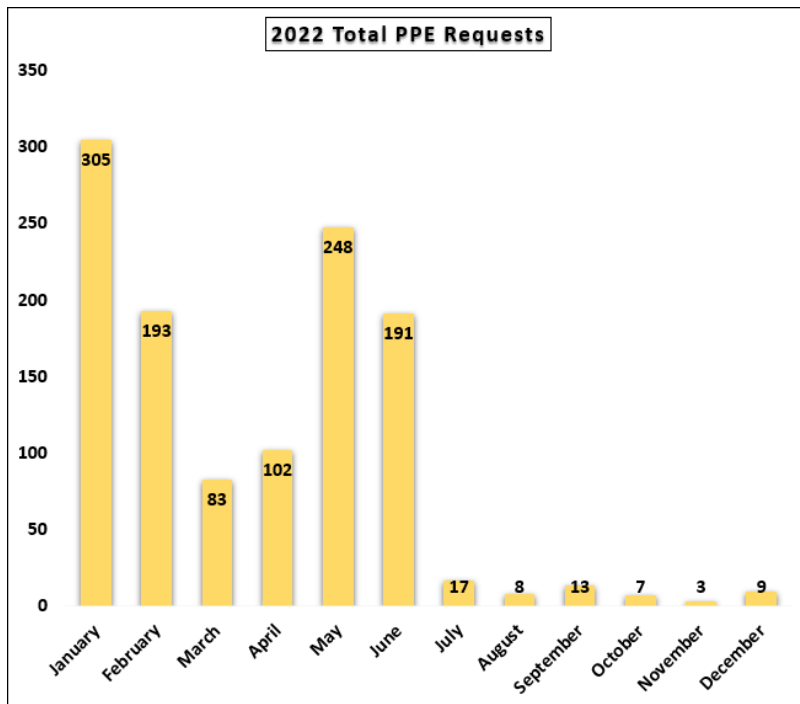
In addition, the KCOEM COVID-19 Logistics Team distributed supplies at larger events, such as home football games at the University of Washington's Husky Stadium (UW vs. the University of Colorado) and Lumen Field for the Seattle Seahawks vs. the Carolina Panthers. During these large events, the team

distributed 2,000 cases of sanitizing wipes, 7,000 cases of hand sanitizer, and more than 7,000 over-the-counter COVID-19 testing kits.

Coinciding with the end of the 100 percent federal share FEMA Public Assistance (PA) Program "Category B" Emergency Protective Measures expense reimbursement in June 2022, KCOEM, in consultation with PHSKC, ended general PPE distribution. For the remainder of 2022, PPE was distributed to long term care facilities, including adult family homes, that were experiencing COVID-19 outbreaks and unable to source PPE in a timely manner.

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