

**KING COUNTY WASHINGTON  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN  
EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION (ESF) 11  
FOOD AND WATER**

**PRIMARY AGENCY:** King County Department of Natural Resources & Parks

**SUPPORT AGENCIES:** King County Finance and Business Operations Division  
King County Office of Emergency Management  
King County Water Districts  
King County Department of Transportation  
King County Facilities Management Division  
Seattle-King County Department of Public Health  
Seattle-King Chapter of the American Red Cross  
Salvation Army  
Washington State Departments and Agencies, as needed  
Federal Government Departments and Agencies, as needed  
Selected Private Sector Food and Water Distribution  
Organizations

**I. INTRODUCTION**

- A. **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this Emergency Support Function (ESF) is to coordinate King County resources in the provision of food and water for mass feeding of residents in unincorporated King County following a proclamation of emergency by the King County Executive.
- B. **SCOPE:** This ESF is applicable to disaster events within or impacting on unincorporated King County when it will be necessary to provide support to relief organizations such as the American Red Cross and Salvation Army and King County water districts for the procurement, staging, and distribution of food and potable water.

**II. POLICIES**

- A. It is the policy of the government of King County to provide the emergency management organization and resources to minimize the loss of life, protect public property and the environment in unincorporated King County. Additionally, King County will provide support to other jurisdictions within King County to the maximum extent possible depending on the disaster conditions and resources available.

- B. All King County departments will operate under existing authorities and regulations unless superceded by the emergency powers granted to the County Executive.
- C. King County government does not have the infrastructure or resources in place to provide food service and potable water. King County government relies on a partnership with volunteer service organizations such as the American Red Cross, Salvation Army, State agencies, faith based organizations, the private sector, and public and private water purveyors and districts, to provide food and water to citizens in unincorporated King County, following a disaster.
- D. Incorporated jurisdictions have the legal responsibility to perform emergency management functions to include food and water procurement and distribution within their jurisdictional boundaries, as mandated by RCW 38.52.070. In a large-scale disaster, impacting on multiple jurisdictions within King County, all requests for food and water support from cities and special purpose districts will be processed through the King County EOC.
- E. King County Department of Natural Resources Parks and Recreation Division will provide land and resources in order to distribute food and water in accordance with ESF-6 (Mass Care), of this plan.
- F. King County Finance and Business Operations Division will provide procurement staff and resources to purchase food and water from the public and private sectors, as needed, to support those partnership organizations involved in acquiring, preparing and distributing food and water.
- G. The American Red Cross will support operations with staff, supplies, and shelters as disaster conditions dictate and resources allow, in accordance with ESF-6 of this plan.
- H. The Salvation Army will support operations with staff, supplies and food service as disaster conditions dictate and resources allow, in accordance with ESF-6 of this plan.
- I. It is the policy of King County Government to educate its staff, unincorporated citizens, businesses, incorporated cities and special purpose districts, regarding their responsibility to provide for their own food and water for a minimum of three days following a natural or technological disaster.

### **III. SITUATION**

#### **A. Emergency/Disaster Hazards and Conditions:**

King County is vulnerable to all of the natural and technological disasters that are detailed in the King County Hazard Identification and Vulnerability Analysis (HIVA). A

large-scale disaster impacting the large population of the county will overextend the resources of King County government to adequately respond. A proclamation of disaster will be signed by the King County executive in order to acquire state and federal support.

**B. Planning Assumptions:**

1. The local and regional utilities, communications, lifelines, medical and transportation systems and networks will sustain damage. Disaster response and recovery activities will be difficult to coordinate.
2. Public, private and volunteer organizations and the general public will have to utilize their own resources and be self-sufficient for a minimum of three days.
3. No single agency or organization will be able to satisfy all emergency food and water resource requests during a major emergency or disaster.
4. A partnership approach will be needed between public, private, and volunteer agencies in order to provide food and water for large-scale disaster events in King County.
5. Cities in King County will provide their own food and water using city staff, resources, and facilities.
6. Shortages of emergency response personnel will exist creating a need for auxiliary fire, police, search and rescue, emergency medical, transit, public works, utilities, and shelter manager personnel. Private sector support will be needed to augment disaster response and recovery efforts.
7. King County will have to coordinate the procurement and distribution of emergency food and water with volunteer agencies, cities, special purpose districts, food retailers, and other local, state and federal government agencies.

**IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS**

**A. General**

The Department of Natural Resources Parks and Recreation Division is the primary agency for shelters and food and water distribution for King County government. The Parks and Recreation Division will provide personnel to work in the King County EOC to coordinate food and water planning, procurement, and distribution with Red Cross, Salvation Army, other faith based organizations, private food distribution firms, water special purpose districts, other King County departments, and state and federal agencies. A Food and Water Planning Group will be formed in the EOC. It will be headed by a King County Parks and Recreation representative and staff from King County Finance, Health, Transportation, and Facilities, as well as reps from the American Red Cross, Salvation Army, selected private and faith based organizations, and water district

representatives. The group will be able to organize into two teams to address food and water planning, procurement, and distribution (see Appendix 1).

King County Finance and Business Operations Division will provide purchasing personnel to work in the King County EOC to purchase food and water from the private sector as needed.

King County Department of Transportation will provide food and water distribution transportation and staff resources.

King County Parks and Recreation Division will provide facilities, equipment and staff to assist in transportation and distribution of resources.

Seattle-King County Department of Public Health will ensure that all health and food/water safety aspects of storing and distribution are complied with.

King County Facilities Management Division will provide property, facilities, and resources as needed.

All County departments will support food and water procurement and distribution as needed.

Seattle-King chapter of the American Red Cross and Salvation Army will provide planning staff to facilitate food and water resources to shelters.

The Washington Association of Sewer and Water Districts will coordinate with its Section 4 (King County), to provide water representatives to the EOC.

## **B. Organization**

The King County EOC will be the coordination point for County government, for food and water planning, purchasing, and distribution. As in mass care (ESF-6), food and water support will be a cooperative effort between the county, cities, special purpose districts, state and federal agencies, volunteer organizations, and the private sector.

## **C. Procedures**

All King County departments, cities, special purpose districts, volunteer organizations, and state and federal agencies, will utilize their own procedures and SOPs.

## **D. Mitigation Activities**

All King County departments will reduce the effects of disasters by providing safe work environments for their staff members, to include seismic tie-downs, emergency supplies, and selected operational training as mandated by each department.

## **E. Preparedness/Response Activities**

All King County departments will ensure that appropriate staff are identified, trained, and given appropriate support to prepare each department to respond to emergencies and disasters. The prime documents are the King County Emergency Management Plan, department internal plans and procedures.

## **F. Recovery Activities**

All King County departments will identify, train, and provide appropriate support to selected staff members to return each element to normal operations; this will include training in documentation of costs and activities.

## V. RESPONSIBILITIES

### A. Primary Agency:

#### **The King County Department of Natural Resources & Parks, Parks and Recreation Division will:**

- Develop and manage the EOC's Food and Water Planning Group, to include providing personnel and resources to lead the planning, coordination, and distribution of food and water resources through the same system that provides shelters. Partnerships will be utilized between King County, incorporated cities, special purpose districts, social service agencies and the private sector when appropriate.
- Provide representatives in the King County EOC as needed.
- Provide property, facilities, and resources to assist with the efficient distribution of food and water resources.

### B. Support Agencies:

#### **The King County Finance and Business Operations Division will provide:**

- Personnel and resources to plan for, coordinate, purchase and distribute food and water resources in coordination with the Parks and Recreation Division.
- Representatives in the King County EOC as needed.

#### **The King County Facilities Management Division will provide:**

- Property, facilities, and resources to assist with the efficient distribution of food and water resources.
- Representatives in the King County EOC as needed.

#### **King County Department of Transportation will provide:**

- Food and water distribution transportation resources.

#### **Seattle-King County Department of Public Health will provide:**

- Personnel to ensure that all health aspects of storing and distribution of food and water resources are complied with.
- Representatives in the King County EOC as needed.

#### **King County Sheriff's Office will provide:**

- Security escorts for food and water supply distribution, if needed.

#### **Seattle-King Chapter of the American Red Cross will provide:**

- Staff, supplies, and food service as disaster conditions dictate and resources allow.

#### **Salvation Army will provide:**

Staff, supplies, and food service as disaster conditions dictate and resources allow.

#### **Other Private and Faith Based Organizations will provide:**

Staff, supplies, and food service as disaster conditions dictate and resources allow.

**Washington State and Federal Agencies will provide:**

- Food, water, transportation, staging areas, personnel, and any other resources deemed necessary to provide food and water for King County.

**VI. Resource Requirements**

- Food and water will initially be procured with supplies on hand within King County.
- Direct purchasing and contract development with private sector food businesses and volunteer organizations will be utilized until bulk distribution of food and water supplies can be coordinated with state and federal agencies.
- All King County departments will utilize their organic resources as much as possible. Additional resources for the food and water mission will be procured through department actions or through the EOC.
- School Districts, local, state, federal government facilities, volunteer and private agencies within King County will need to be used for food and water storage, preparation and distribution
- The King County EOC will funnel all requests for State and Federal food and water support through the Washington State EOC.

**VII. References**

- King County Emergency Management Plan
- Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan
- (King County *Parks and Recreation Emergency Response Plan* (Draft)).

**AGENCY APPROVAL:**

**DATE:**

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King County Department of Natural Resources  
and Parks

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APPENDIX 1  
EOC FOOD AND WATER PLANNING TEAMS**

NOTE: Size of the Food and Water Planning Group will be contingent on the magnitude of the disaster; thus, the same staff may be used for both teams in a smaller event.

