

## MISSION STATEMENT

North Kitsap Fire & Rescue (NKF&R) is proud to serve in the protection of lives and property.

## ELECTED LEADERS

The district is overseen by a five-member Board of Fire Commissioners, elected at-large for staggered six-year terms. The current board includes:

Patrick Pearson, Chairman  
(Term Expires 2025)

Will Stewart, Vice-Chairman  
(Term Expires 2021)

Stephen Neupert  
(Term Expires 2023)

John Huntington  
(Term Expires 2023)

Gillian Gregory  
(Term Expires 2021)



## LONG-RANGE PLAN

Currently, NKF&R's long-range planning efforts are focused on continued recovery from years of flat revenues during the previous economic downturn, and succession planning as a significant number of senior staff members are retiring between 2019 and 2024.

## SERVICE AREA, EMERGENCY SERVICES AND CALL VOLUME

The district serves an estimated population of 20,609\* in a 46 square mile area that includes the communities of Kingston, Indianola, Suquamish, Miller Bay and Hansville. Residences and businesses served by NKF&R and situated within 1000' of a fire hydrant enjoy a fire insurance rating of 4 with a tender credit. The Port Gamble-S'Klallam Reservation, a separate fire district of about 5 square miles and an estimated 700\* people, contracts with NKF&R for fire and emergency medical services.

In 2020, NKF&R responded to 3,061 calls for emergency services such as structure and brush fire suppression, rescue, motor vehicle collisions, hazardous materials incidents, water rescues, etc. Emergency medical services comprised approximately 64% of that total.

## EMERGENCY? CALL 911

Do not go to a fire station. Crews may be out of the station on alarms or other duties. Call 911 for fastest service.

## NON-EMERGENCY SERVICES

In addition to responding to emergencies, NKF&R provides a wide range of prevention-oriented services such as presentations to schools and community groups, station tours, CPR training, bike helmet fitting, life jackets for sale or loan, smoke alarm installation, car seat checks, some commercial building inspections and home safety surveys.

## PERSONNEL

Under the leadership of Fire Chief Dan Smith, NKF&R employs 52 career

**52 employees**

**39 responders**

**3 shifts**

**48-on/96-off**

**schedule**

members, 45 of whom are uniformed. This includes 39 responders (battalion chiefs, lieutenants, firefighter/paramedics, and firefighter/EMTs). Each is assigned to one of three shifts, working an average of 56 hours/week. There are no active members in the district's volunteer-intern program as recruiting has been paused during the pandemic. Six additional responders (four chief officers, a medical officer and a public information officer) serve on day shift but can be called to incidents at any time.

The remaining seven career members are civilians who provide support such as administrative duties, vehicle

and facilities maintenance. NKF&R's eight "respond-from-home" volunteers provide invaluable service as water tender operators. The chaplain program includes two local pastors. Additional volunteers work in community services.



## BUDGET

NKF&R receives no on-going federal, state or county funding; the majority of its revenue comes from local property taxes. In 2020, these taxes provided 82% of NKF&R's funding. Other funding comes from ambulance transport billing and contracts for service with other agencies.

The district's 2021 operating budget totals \$10.1 million, including \$1.6 million from a four-year (2019-2022) special maintenance and operations levy, approved by voters in 2018. The majority of the special levy (two-thirds, or \$1 million) is funding long-deferred capital projects such as building maintenance/renovation, firefighter safety gear and apparatus/vehicle replacement.

**Property taxes provide 82% of all fire district funding**

## STAFFING

The key to quick emergency response is staffing. Having strategically positioned people in four stations around the district,



NKF&R posted average initial response times of about 8 minutes to priority calls in 2020. "Priority" calls involve immediate threats to life and/or property.

The district provides its services with a combination of paid and volunteer personnel.

**At least  
11 on-duty  
across the  
district every  
day**

Every day, there is an average of 12 personnel on-duty across the district and never less than 11. The on-duty crew always includes

at least one paramedic who can provide advanced life support (or ALS) while all others are certified emergency medical technicians (EMT) who

can provide basic life support (or BLS). More than 2/3 of all medical calls can be handled at the BLS level.

Although personnel are assigned to each station every day, they may be away from the facility at any time while responding to emergencies, transporting patients, training, etc.



## FACILITIES

Station 81 (Paul T. Nichol Headquarters)  
26642 Miller Bay Road NE  
Kingston

Station 84  
18533 Augusta Avenue  
Suquamish

Station 85  
23260 South Kingston Road  
Kingston

Station 89  
4911 Twin Spits Road  
Hansville

Staffed stations are shown on the map with solid squares, and listed. Routine services such as blood pressure checks are available at any of our staffed facilities.



## APPARATUS

NKF&R operates the following first-line emergency apparatus:

### Medic Unit (1)

Staffed with two paramedics or a paramedic and an emergency medical technician, these units provide mobile intensive care for more seriously injured or ill patients.

### Aid Units (3)

Staffed with emergency medical technicians, these units provide basic life support hospital transport for non-critical patients.

### Fire Engines/Pumpers (4)

Although outfitted for structural firefighting, these vehicles are also equipped to provide first response for medical emergencies

### Water Tenders (2)

These rigs, carrying thousands of gallons each, provide water supply for firefighting in areas where fire hydrants are inadequate or unavailable.

### Brush Truck (1)

Powered by four-wheel drive, this truck is useful in reaching difficult-to-access areas in forest fire or inclement weather conditions.



### Fire/Rescue Boat (1)

Capable of cruising at more than 30 knots and outfitted with state-of-the-art electronics and firefighting equipment, this vessel is not only used for water incidents; it's also employed in accessing emergencies along the district's many miles of shoreline.

The district also maintains several staff cars and reserve response vehicles.