



Eastside Fire & Rescue Board of Directors 2022 Top Legislative Issues

PFAS:

Support the reduction of the use of certain toxic chemicals in firefighting activities and equipment. Support the PFAS Chemical Action Plan (PFAS CAP) being developed by the PFAS CAP Advisory Committee.

Wildland Policy:

- Full reimbursement for mobilization costs for state-approved mobilization events to recover the full cost of those resources with the aim of mitigating local disincentives to sending needed resources to other jurisdictions.
- Pre-positioning of mobilization to allow for the repositioning of resources in instances of known, forthcoming mobilizations with the aim of engaging suppression efforts earlier.
- Wildland fire funding increase in funding for a variety of issues surrounding wildland fire that would lead to quicker, more robust response, increased prevention efforts, and better forest health practices.

Incentivize Regionalization:

EF&R is a superior model for regionalization efforts and would look for opportunities to share information regarding the ILA model.

- Identify and Remove Barriers
- Identify statewide all-hazard response advantages
- Funding advantages

Alternative Crisis Response Models:

Alternative crisis response models offer an opportunity for public responders, behavioral health providers, and community stakeholders to work together to provide the most appropriate intervention to those in crisis. Recent legislation has approved alternative crisis response models and the Fire Service is at the forefront of those changes. The following House Bills impact the Fire Service:

- House Bill 1310 – Use of Force
- House Bill 1477 – Establishes centralized mental health crisis resources, including a behavioral health crisis 988 phone number as an alternative/secondary resource to 911.

State Route 18 Improvements:

Maintain participation with the Southeast Area Legislative Transportation Coalition (SEAL-TC) to advocate for improving the 7.5 miles of SR18 between I-90 and Maple Valley.