



Next Ord:2099-25
Next Res:1161-25

CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION AGENDA

May 7, 2025

6:00 PM

**Sedro-Woolley Municipal Building
Council Chambers
325 Metcalf Street**

- a. Call to Order**
- b. Pledge of Allegiance**
- c. Roll Call**
- d. Introduction of Special Guests and Presentation**
- e. Unfinished Business**
- f. New Business**
 - 1. Exploration of Developing a Regional Fire Authority

- g. Public Comments**

Please keep comments to three minutes or less. Because State law prohibits the use of city facilities for the purpose of supporting or opposing a campaign or ballot proposition, we respectfully request that public comment not make reference to such matters.

Written comments will be accepted by letter or via email at finance@sedro-woolley.gov Attn: 'Public Comment' until 4:30pm the day before the meeting.

- h. Executive Session**

- 1. Discussion with Legal Counsel the Legal Risks of Current or Proposed Action (RCW 42.30.110(1)(i))

- i. Adjournment**

Next Meeting(s) - City Council and Planning and Business Development - May 14, 2025

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Join Zoom Meeting:

City of Sedro-Woolley

City Council - May 7, 2025

<https://zoom.us/j/91786850179?pwd=Vys0Y29XalZmQTRmemJBM2txVDIUQT09>

or dial by location at:

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Meeting ID: 917 8685 0179

Passcode: 091845



City Council Agenda Item

Agenda Item No.: f.1.

Date: May 7, 2025

From: Charlie Bush, City Administrator

Subject: Exploration of Developing a Regional Fire Authority

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Staff is checking in with the City Council regarding interest in learning more about how a regional fire authority could work between the City and District 8. Forming a Regional Fire Authority can and often does result in cost savings and more seamless service to the public. Staff recommends proceeding with drafting an interlocal agreement to explore this topic if there is sufficient interest from the Council to review a proposed contract.

ISSUE:

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY INFORMATION:

During recent negotiations with Fire District 8 to renew the City's service contract to the District, City representatives and District 8 representatives briefly discussed the possibility of forming a Regional Fire Authority, a separate local government agency that would encompass the fire departments of both entities. The parties agreed to meet again after negotiations to further discuss this topic. District 8 Commissioner Jim Kennedy and City Administrator Charlie Bush met on April 30, 2025 and each agreed to speak with their elected officials about the possibility of developing an interlocal agreement between the agencies that would jointly fund a study to explore the feasibility of forming a Regional Fire Authority (RFA). Should such a study result in continued City and District 8 interest in forming a Regional Fire Authority, ultimately a positive vote of the public would be necessary to form the RFA.

More information about Regional Fire Authorities is available from the Municipal Research Services Center (MRSC) here:

<https://mrsc.org/explore-topics/public-safety/fire-ems/regional-fire-authorities>

FISCAL IMPACT, IF APPROPRIATE:

To be determined. If the Council would like to consider an interlocal agreement, City and District 8 representatives will develop the agreement and an initial budget based upon the cost of feasibility studies done by other jurisdictions. Discussions to date involved splitting the cost of the study through a 50 percent to 50 percent split.

ATTACHMENTS:

None