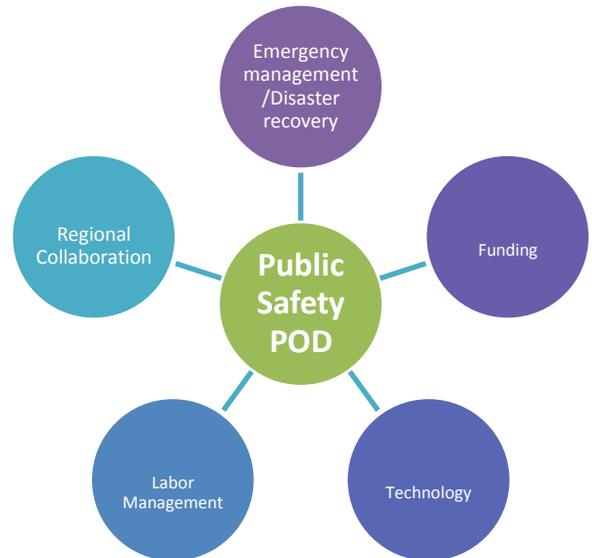


**PUBLIC SAFETY POD Work Plan 2014**  
**Police, Fire, Finance, Attorney, Information**  
**Systems, Human Resources**  
**“What Will Be”**

The City of Mount Vernon “Public Safety Pod” has been tasked with committing to a work plan fulfilling goals common to the public safety departments.



**Emergency Management Focused on Disaster Recovery:**

Chief Roy Hari & Chief Jerry Dodd

The City of Mount Vernon Emergency Management Plan was updated in 2013. The City will continue to drill quarterly in a variety of exercises.

- Initiate discussion with Skagit County and the Cities of Anacortes, Burlington, and Sedro-Woolley to clarify role of Department of Emergency Management and services provided to the municipalities.
  - The City of Mount Vernon has expressed a desire to evaluate and rewrite the 1981 agreement to reflect what was discussed as a more equitable way to pay and distribute DEM services.
  - Work continues on revising the DEM agreement – with resolution expected by June 2015.
  - Discussions of planning for debris removal needs during disaster (trees, mud, building debris, utility lines, etc.).
- Quarterly Drills: rotate between Police and Fire Chiefs to cross train natural disasters and criminal activity scenario based drills. Specifically train on involvement of internal City Director roles.
  - Mapping all property within 1000 feet of the railroad tracks within Mount Vernon city limits.
  - Information sent to residents and property owners within 1000 feet regarding rail safety.
  - Fire personnel have attended BNSF training in Pueblo, CO.
  - Second Public Information Officer has been designated and trained.
- Coordinate with Department of Emergency Management for a central countywide drill.
  - Chief Hari coordinated with Skagit County Emergency Management to host a rail safety drill on April 9, 2014. Thirty-six agencies attended including Federal, State, and local partners. A list of research items was developed.
  - Comprehensive Rail Safety drill occurred on September 27, 2014, in partnership with BNSF, DEM, and dozens of other County agencies.
- 911 Outage
  - Worked as public safety team to de-brief April 2014 state link 911 outage. Problem solved communication challenges as group and with Skagit 911 staff. Developed ideas for communications if an outage should occur again.

**Regional Collaboration:** Chief Hari, Chief Dodd, Kevin Rogerson

The City of Mount Vernon has historically provided leadership in working collaboratively with regional public safety agencies. In 2014, the Public Safety Pod identified the following opportunities:

- Computer forensics – Countywide team – research the concept of sharing trained detectives, share equipment, training, and outsource specialized need with neighboring agencies
  - No interest from other agencies
- Countywide SMART team – (Skagit Multiple Agency Response Team) investigations team implemented in 2013. Evaluate SMART team throughout 2014
  - Team has worked its first critical incident with excellent feedback
- EMS – Engage Skagit County in community para-medicine discussion in collaboration with Skagit Regional Health. Actively involved in innovation in integrated health care delivery in Mount Vernon
  - Successful collaboration between City and Skagit Regional Health to cover costs of national EMS training for MVFD
  - Ongoing dialogue about what a structure could look like for proactive EMS response to discharged patients and frequent users of the 911/EMS system
  - Scheduled presentation by Kent Fire District/FD Cares program on July 11 – attendees include Skagit Regional Health, Skagit County Public Health, City, Skagit County EMS Department Director, Municipal Fire Chiefs
- EMS – Engage Skagit County Commissioners in planning for possible future fire based paramedic services for Skagit County
  - EMS Commission will transition into Skagit County oversight. Commissioners are not engaging in fire based model at this time
  - City is actively participating in Countywide dialogue of EMS system reform
  - City asked to be the Skagit County designated ebola patient transport agency
- Fire Marshal Investigations – Engage regional Fire Marshals in a discussion about a regional fire investigation team, similar to SMART team for law enforcement
  - City completed an interlocal “fire marshal all call” agreement to assist in regional needs
- Skagit County Interlocal Drug Taskforce
  - Chief Dodd has worked to improve communication and collaboration. Leadership of SCIDEU has responded positively. The City maintains support for one (1) FTE in this work group.
- Complete fire hydrant project with Public Utility District #1 (PUD)
  - Draft Agreement has been with PUD Administration since April 2014.

**Technology:** Kim Kleppe & various identified leaders below

Public Safety services rely heavily on technology.

- Document Management – Kim Kleppe
  - Continue working with Municipal Court Judge David Svaren to research integration of document management systems for paperless Court.
    - As of May 2014, we have word that this project will not be approved by Skagit County.
- Security camera placement – Chief Dodd, Chief Hari, Kim Kleppe, Kevin Rogerson
  - Identified areas for camera system and upgrades and funding at City Hall for 2015
- New software efficiencies – all members to identify opportunities
  - Volunteer management software
    - Utilized reverse 911 technology to alert residents to Big Rock Fire
- Complete communications tower project on Little Mountain - Chief Hari

- POD continues to have conversations about a position that will effectively manage telecommunications towers contracts and details: contracts, siting, ROW, installation, permits, maintenance.
- Cyber Security – active commitment to utilize best practices and latest technology to secure the City networks
  - WCIA now offering additional insurance coverage for cyber security breach, City researching the benefits of this coverage

**Funding & Labor:** Alicia Huschka, Chief Dodd, Chief Hari, Kandy Bartlett

- Monitor budget impacts of 3/10<sup>th</sup> of 1% sales tax – no jail bill
  - Alicia Huschka continues to actively participates in new Jail Finance Committee
- Pursue all appropriate grant opportunities – COPS grant, SAFER grant
  - City has been awarded a \$340,000 FEMA grant to purchase air packs for all Fire personnel. This large capital item will now be added to the equipment rental fund to begin saving for the future need
  - City Fire Department applied as a lead agency for a \$850,000 FEMA grant to replace extrication tools for 9 participating agencies with Skagit County
  - City Fire Department applied as a lead agency for a \$700,000 FEMA grant to replace radio equipment for nine (9) participating agencies with Skagit County
  - City Fire Department applied as a lead agency for a \$100,000 FEMA grant to replace protective turnout gear for nine (9) participating agencies with Skagit County
- Integration into City “team” philosophy – continue relationship building with labor groups
  - Discussion of more robust orientation process
- Hiring and promotions
  - Continue streamlined hiring process
  - Develop mentors & leadership program for succession planning
  - Ensure timely performance evaluations
    - Completed and ongoing