



City of Seattle

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Fleets and Facilities Department

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City breaks ground for new fire station in Crown Hill

SEATTLE – Fire Chief Gregory Dean and Fleets and Facilities Director Brenda Bauer today celebrated the beginning of construction for Fire Station 35 in the Crown Hill neighborhood. The 89-year-old facility is one of the oldest operating fire stations in Seattle.

The project, funded by the 2003 Fire Facilities and Emergency Response Levy, is one of eighteen active Fire Levy projects.

“Fire Station 35 was built in 1920 when horse-drawn firefighting equipment was still in use,” said Brenda Bauer, director of fleets and facilities. “Thanks to Seattle voters, the Fire Levy provides the opportunity to bring Seattle’s fire stations, fire boats and emergency response into the 21st century.”

The new, larger Fire Station 35 will meet current seismic code. Designed to withstand an earthquake, the facility will allow firefighters to respond after a seismic event.

With advances in technology increasing the complexity of firefighting, the new station will provide the space required for modern equipment and operations. Older facilities generally lack the up-to-date capability to clean biological and chemical contaminants from clothing and equipment.

As the city’s population grows, the demand on fire and emergency services increases.

“Across the city, you can see your tax dollars at work,” said Fire Chief Gregory Dean. “Modernizing our neighborhood fire stations and fire boat fleet while providing a state-of-the-art emergency operations center and training facility builds capacity and flexibility into the fire and emergency response system.”

Fire Station 35, located at 8729 15th Avenue NW, houses Engine 35. In 2008, Engine 35 went on 1,640 alarms.

The new station will expand from one story to two, while increasing in size to 11,532 square feet. The \$8.3 million project was designed by Rice, Fergus, Miller Architects.

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The project is on target to achieve a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver rating. The new building is projected to achieve energy savings of approximately 10 to 20 percent beyond code. Site development includes a rainwater harvesting cistern, resulting in a 100 percent reduction in the potable use of water for landscaping. High efficiency plumbing fixtures will result in a 20 percent reduction in water use.

As part of the 1% for Art Program, artist Kay Kirkpatrick is fabricating a sculpture designed specifically for the site.

In 2003, Seattle voters approved the Fire Facilities and Emergency Response Levy, which was designed with lessons learned from the Nisqually earthquake, the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, and the 1995 Kobe earthquake.

The \$167 million levy is helping Seattle make significant progress on getting prepared, including:

- Rebuilding or upgrading 32 neighborhood fire stations to better withstand earthquakes and ensure that the city's emergency responders are available to help when they are needed most.
- Re-opening the seismically upgraded/improved Fire Station 31 in Northgate in April 2009.
- Opening the city's new state-of-the-art Fire Station 10, Fire Alarm Center, and Emergency Operations Center, located in a 60,333 square foot complex, in 2008.
- Adding two new fireboats, the flagship Leschi, delivered in 2007, and the smaller fire and rescue boat, Engine 1, which went into service in 2006. The Chief Seattle is being renovated.
- Creating a new Joint Training Facility for firefighters that opened in 2007.
- Providing an emergency water supply for fighting fires. Hardened hydrants at city reservoirs allow firefighters to draw water directly from reservoirs in an emergency.
- Placing emergency supply caches at four locations around the city of Seattle.
- Installing emergency generators at six community centers.

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