



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee
From: John McGowan
Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue
Re: 2011 Third Quarter Report - Fire-Rescue

Date: October 24, 2011
File:

Staff Recommendation

That the report on Fire-Rescue's operations for the 3rd Quarter ending September 30, 2011 be received for information.

John McGowan
Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue
(604-303-2734)

FOR ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT USE ONLY		
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER		
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
REVIEWED BY CAO	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>

Staff Report

Origin

Richmond Fire-Rescue (RFR) is committed to keeping Council informed of its activities on a quarterly basis.

Analysis

Fire-Rescue's 3rd Quarter report for July 1 to September 30, 2011 are set out below.

Suppression Activity

Fire Suppression's 9-1-1 emergency call volumes for the 3rd Quarter of 2011 are presented in the table below.

Q3 saw a 11% decrease in 911 Medical First Responder calls over the same quarter in 2010. There has been a steady upwards trend of medical calls from 2008 to 2011. However, in Q3 the 2011 trend has decreased. The quarterly call volumes fluctuate from year to year and can be influenced by variables such as extreme weather conditions (wind storms, heat waves, cold snaps or the presence of ice, snow or heavy rain).

9-1-1 Emergency Call Volumes for Fire-Rescue				
Incident Type	Q3 of 2009	Q3 of 2010	Q3 of 2011	% +/- (compared to 2010)
Medical	1,184	1,250	1,107	- 11%
Motor Vehicle Incident	328	307	277	- 9%
Fire	196	173	140	- 19%
False Alarm	191	169	unavailable	-
Alarm No Fire	315	259	368	+ 42%
Public Service	202	226	202	- 10%
Public Hazard	50	49	27	- 44%
Hazardous Materials	32	30	21	- 30%
Response – Cancelled	unavailable	unavailable	224	-
Specialized Transport	unavailable	unavailable	11	-
Explosion	0	0	1	-
Technical Rescue	3	0	3	-
Totals	2,501	2,463	2,381	- 3%

Call Type Legend:

Medical includes: cardiac arrest, emergency response, home or industrial accidents

Alarm No Fire includes: accidental, malicious, equipment malfunctions

Public Service includes: assisting public, ambulance or police, locked in/out, special events, trapped in elevator, water removal

Public Hazard includes: aircraft emergency, bomb removal standby, object removal, or power lines down

Hazardous Materials includes fuel or vapour: spills, leaks, or containment

Explosion includes ruptured: boilers, gas pipes, or water pipes

Technical Rescue includes: aircraft, confined space, high angle, or water

A detailed breakdown of the 3rd Quarter medical calls by sub-type is set out in the following table.

Medical Calls by Type Q3– 2011

First Responder Totals				
Medical	Volume	Medical	Volume	
Abdominal Pain	17	Exposure	1	
Allergic Reaction	11	Eye Problems	1	
Animal Bite	3	Falls/Jumper	157	
Assault	25	Headache	7	
Back Pain	14	Heart Problems	17	
Breathing Problem	181	Haemorrhage	29	
Burns	2	Man Down	36	
Cardiac	32	Overdose/Poisoning	26	
Chest Pain	149	Maternity	4	
Choking	9	Psychiatric	21	
Seizures	31	General Sick	156	
Diabetic	23	Stabbing/Gun/Penetrating Injury	3	
Electrocution	1	Stroke	23	
Unconscious/Fainting	63	Trauma	61	
Entrapment	1			
			Total	1,107

Community Response

The estimated building loss for the 3rd Quarter is \$1,607,895 and estimated content loss is \$105,010, for a total estimated loss of \$1,712,905.

Fire Calls By Type and Loss Estimates Third Quarter 2011				
Incident Type Breakdown	Call Volume	Estimated Building Loss	Estimated Content Loss	Estimated Loss Totals
Fire – Structure Total:	30			
Residential				
- Single-family	8	\$252,625	\$270	\$252,895
- Multi-family	10	\$625,000	\$100,240	\$725,240
Commercial/Industrial	12	\$408,200	\$3,500	\$411,700
Fire – Outdoor	93	\$4,250	\$500	\$4,750
Vehicle	17	\$317,820	\$500	\$318,320
Totals*	140	\$1,607,895	\$105,010	\$1,712,905

*The dollar losses shown in this table are preliminary estimates. They are derived from Fire’s record management system and are subject to change due to delays in reporting and confirmation of actual losses from private insurance agencies (as available).

Hazmat

Hazmat - Calls By Type Third Quarter 2011	
HazMat Calls	Details
Hazmat Calls:	
Natural Gas/Propane Leaks (small)	9
Fuel Containment	7
Misc. (empty containers to unknown powder)	5
Total	21

Incidents

Notable emergency incidents, which involved RFR for this quarter, are:

Rescue

HazMat

- Clandestine drug laboratory raid assist with decontamination operations.
- Suitcase with white phosphorus reported.
- Responded to YVR with detection equipment. Investigations carried out and RFR stood down as no hazardous materials recorded.
- Gas Leak due to meter damaged.

Medical Events

- Responded to two cardiac arrest. Pulse restored in both incidents.
- 6 year old boy shot in chest.

Auto Extrication/Major Motor Vehicle Accident

- Motor vehicle incident involving bus under the Cambie Street overpass.
- Dislodged hydrant at No 4 Road.
- Vehicle went through back wall of an attached garage.
- Berry picking machine fire on Westminster Highway.
- Car fire on Westminster Hwy and Fraser Wood Place.

Fires – Residential

- Oven fire.
- Wild land fire at west end of Westminster Highway.
- Structure fire second alarm.
- Fire at vacant house on Montana Road
- Ceiling fan fire, possible asbestos in ceiling tiles all precautions taken.
- Structure fire with 8 RFR units with 25 members attended a duplex fire at Patterson Road.
- Kitchen fire on Minoru Blvd.

Fires – Commercial/Industrial/Institutional

- Mill fire.
- Brush fire at Rice Mill Road.
- Rubbish fire beside hydro electrical kiosk.
- Dumpster fire, mattress dumped beside dumpster and lit on fire.

Technical Rescue

- Aircraft crash, aircraft landing gear sank down in tarmac.
- Technical rescue team standing by for jumper on Knight Street Bridge.
- Requested to attend river rescue for large pleasure craft had struck a log boom.
- Sinking vessel, attended along with Coast Guard to pump out water then boat towed to dry dock.

Training

The training team at RFR deliver and facilitate training programs to all members of RFR in disciplines ranging from: personal protective equipment, firefighting and rescue practices to emergency vehicle operating and incident management. The training team also delivers leadership and interpersonal skills programs through in-house instructors, on-line training, and the use of external trainers. For the 3rd Quarter, the following highlights are noted:

- Creating a comprehensive single point of access for all RFR staff training records. RFR is supporting the City's H.R. department in developing a plan to populate Peoplesoft to update and maintain all RFR training records in PeopleSoft to assist the HR mandate through WorkSafe.
- Training has enlisted the support from Fire Prevention to develop and deliver a RMS populating refresher program in the following areas:
 - RMS Incidents
 - RMS Inspections
 - RMS Fire Reporting
 - RMS Motor Vehicle Incidents
 - RMS Medical Aid Responses
 - RMS Alarms Responses
- RFR Training staff has prepared and are currently conducting a nine-week Onboarding program for the most recent recruit firefighter intake. The preparation of this program included:
 - Reviewing all necessary standards and governance for training outcomes;
 - Planning and scheduling all training initiatives and instructors for the nine-week program;
 - Adapting the schedule to incorporate various city initiatives: H.R. City orientation, etc;
 - Seconding and training four suppression staff to facilitate the nine-week training program;

- Managing the delivery, evaluations and administration of the group during the program; and
 - Re-developing the ongoing educational needs for these recruits moving into the operational arena and completing their training requirements to the end of their first year of employment.
- The training staff facilitated the recertification and licensing of 45 operational staff in Medical first responder – this program delivered and evaluated by on-shift instructors and licensed through the EMA licensing board in Victoria.
 - Staff conducted assessments with City I.T. to fully utilise the various training rooms at the Firehall facilities in RFR. This program will be in support of the video-conferencing trail that RFR is currently working with I.T. on implementing and trialling.
 - Staff has re-deployed some of the portfolios found within the training division to better suit the individual abilities and work plan for the Assistant Training Officers and RFR.

Fire Prevention (Events & Activities)

Richmond Fire-Rescue participates in many community events and activities for public education and/or community relations purposes. Following are some of the noteworthy events attended during the 3rd Quarter:

- Steveston Salmon Festival
- Fish for the Future
- Kigoos Swim Meet
- City Centre and Outdoor Movie Nights
- Dolphin Classic Basketball Tournament
- Nations Cup Soccer Tournament
- Rick Hansen Test event
- Rally Rai Touch football Tournament
- Kidsafe Day
- Summer Concerts in the Park
- Maritime Festival in Steveston / Britannia Shipyards
- Fire extinguisher training
- Safety lecture for council and owners in high rise evacuation procedures
- Garlic Festival – Sunday
- Mark Cheng Foundation Crestwood Classic – Saturday
- Steveston Dragon Boat Festival
- Subramaniya Swamy Temple Walkathon
- RCA Fundraising BBQ
- Paws for the Cause
- Guan Yin Chanting Retreat-Pilgrimage
- Richmond Terry Fox Run
- COTS Annual Run/Walk
- School fire drills (September 26 to September 30)

October 24, 2011

- Richmond Lantern Festival

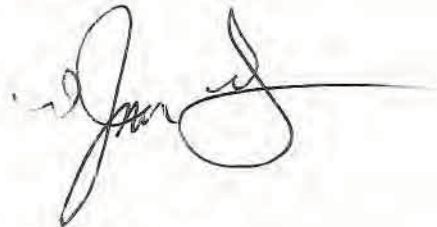
Richmond Fire Rescue co-hosted a workshop for Recruitment and Retaining Diversity in the Fire Service along with Fire 20/20, which was the subject of a separate report to Council.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

Fire-Rescue is committed to providing Council with quarterly updates on its activities. The Fire Chief welcomes the opportunity to discuss Fire's activities and priorities with Community Safety Committee.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John McGowan', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

John McGowan
Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue
(604-303-2734)