



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To CS - Oct 10 2012

To: Community Safety Committee

Date: September 26, 2012

From: John McGowan
Fire Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue

File: 09-5000-01/2012-Vol
01

Re: Richmond Fire-Rescue – August 2012 Activity Report

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity (dated September 26, 2012, from the Fire Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue) be received for information.

John McGowan
Fire Chief
(604-303-2734)

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER 	
REVIEWED BY SMT SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS:
REVIEWED BY CAO	INITIALS:

Staff Report

Origin

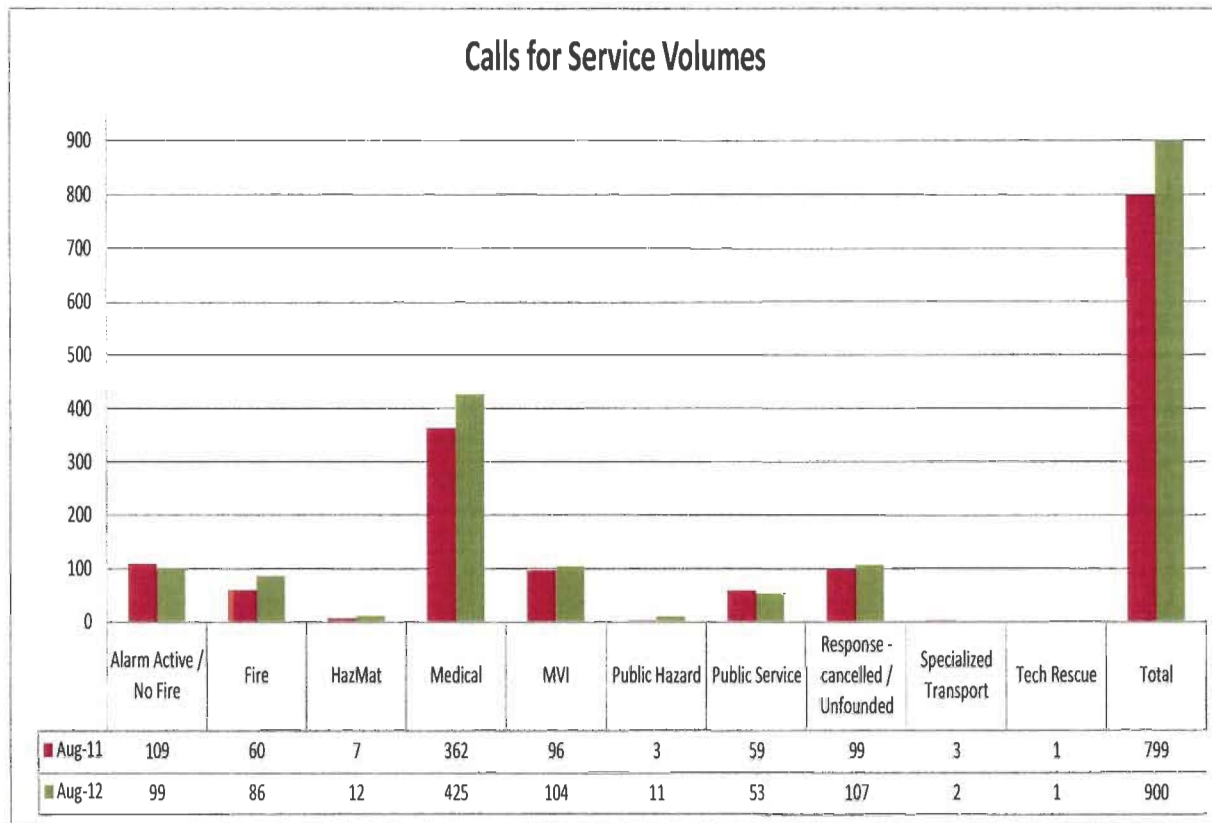
Fire-Rescue is committed to open and transparent reporting on its performance and progress. Monthly reports provide Council with current information on Richmond Fire-Rescue’s activities.

Analysis

Fire-Rescue’s report for August 2012 is set out below.

Suppression Activity

The following is a month to month comparison chart on the number of incidents that have occurred for the years 2011 and 2012. For August 2012, there were a total of 900 incidents compared to 799 in 2011.



Call Type Legend:

Alarm Active/NoFire includes: accidental, malicious, equipment malfunctions

HazMat: includes fuel or vapour; spills, leaks, or containment

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

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

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

The month of August 2012 saw an increase in emergency response of 12.6% over the same period in 2011. The total call increase in August was predominantly attributed to breathing issues.

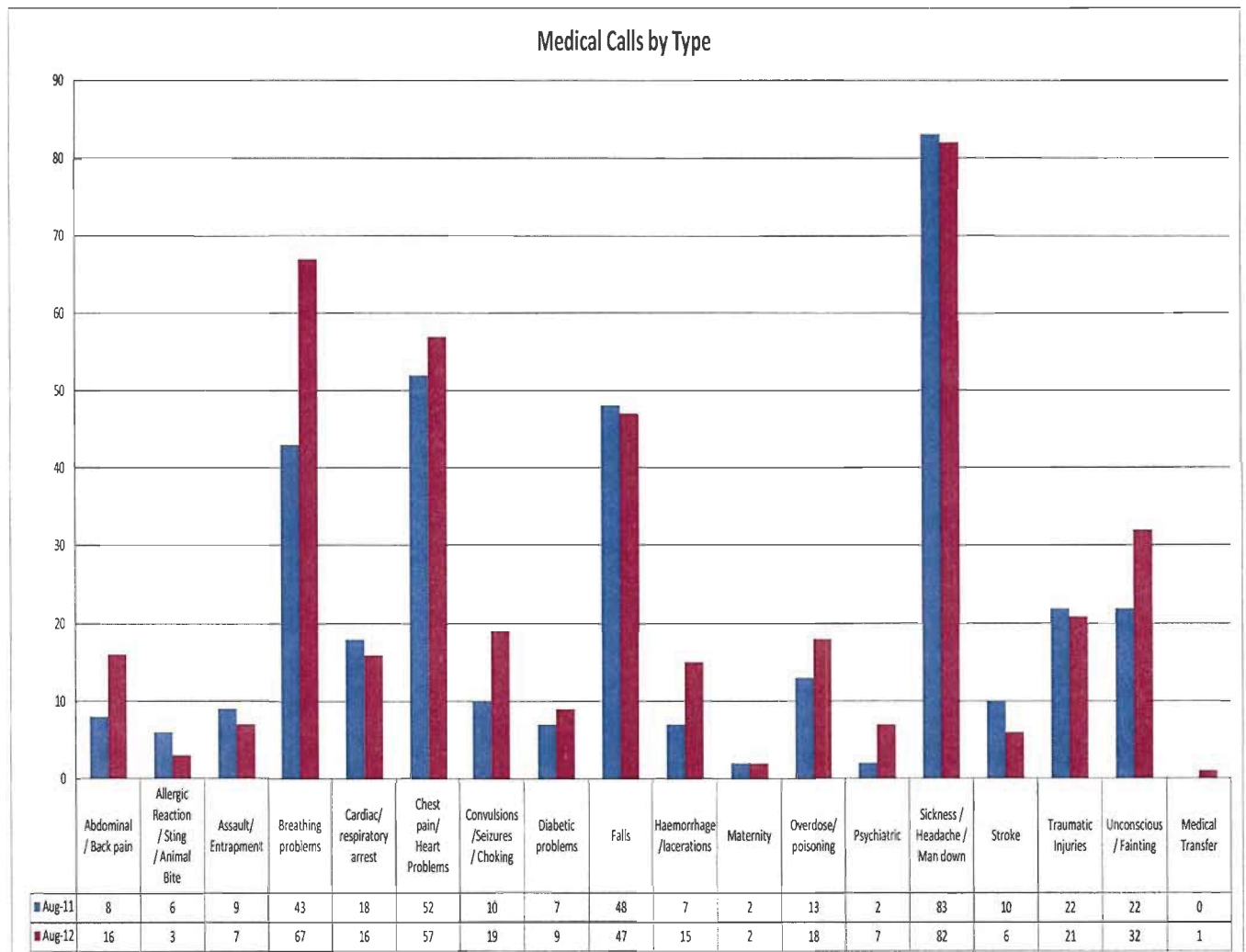
Hazmat

HazMat Calls By Type – August	
HazMat Calls	Details
Natural Gas/Propane Leaks (small)	8
Fuel Containment	2
Misc. (empty containers to unknown powder)	1
Explosives/Radioactive	1
Total	12

All of the hazmat calls were relatively minor and quickly mitigated and did not require any long-term hazmat team deployment.

First Responder Totals

A detailed breakdown of the medical calls for August 2011 and 2012 by sub-type is set out in the following chart and table. The medical calls make up 47.2% of total calls for RFR. In August 2012 there was an increase in medical calls of 17.4% over the same period in 2011.



Incidents

Notable emergency incidents, which involved RFR for August 2012, were:

Fires – Residential / Commercial / Outdoor

In August, RFR crews responded to 99 fire calls including: 3 pot on the stove calls; a kitchen fire which was contained to the room of origin; a single family split level home in which a coordinated positive pressure attack by crews quickly held the fire to the kitchen of the home. During this particular incident one firefighter sustained an injury from forcible entry activities.

Other incidents include: a commercial building on Knight Street in which the damage was confined to the exterior of building; a large fire located near to a commercial building on Simpson Road, the quick action and knock down by first arriving crews prevented damage to the building and a car fire which spread to fence panel caused by a fuel leak from jerry cans being stored in the trunk of a car.

RFR crews also responded to many wild land and bark mulch fires during August. Some of these smouldering fires were very small in nature and appeared primarily to be caused by careless discarding of cigarettes.

MVI

Crews responded to a total of 105 motor vehicle incidents in August including: a vehicle fire on No 4 and River Road and a vehicle fire in an underground parking garage.

Medical Events

In August RFR crews respond to 425 medical calls. RFR crews regularly respond to medical calls where CPR skills are required. In August crews were called to a cardiac arrest incident in which the patient's pulse was restored.

HazMat

Crews responded to a call for a bomb threat. Bomb Squad investigated and determined the item to be a fake.

Community Response

The estimated building loss for August 2012 was \$216,518 and estimated content loss was \$115,175, for a total estimated loss of \$331,693. The total estimated building and content value at risk was \$19,193,693 and the total estimated value preserved was \$18,862,000. The total estimated value protected was 98%.

Fire Calls By Type and Loss Estimates – August						
Incident Type Breakdown	Call Volume	Estimated Building Value \$	Estimated Building Loss \$	Estimated Content Value \$	Estimated Content Loss \$	Estimated Total Value Preserved \$
Residential:						
- Single-family	8	3,683,000	194,025	2,486,400	112,100	5,863,275
- Multi-family	3	700,000	0	250,000	75	949,925
Fire structure total:	11					
Commercial/Industrial	1	12,000,000	10,000	60,000	3,000	12,047,000
Fire – Outdoor	61	2,000	200	0	0	1,800
Vehicle	6	12,293	12,293	0	0	0
Totals*	79	16,397,293	216,518	2,796,400	115,175	18,862,000

*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).

Fire Prevention

The total fire investigation statistics for August 2012 are listed below:

Total Fire Investigation Statistics - August			
	Suspicious (No further investigation required)	Accidental	Undetermined
Residential - Single-family	0	8	0
Residential - Multi-family	0	2	1
Commercial/Industrial	0	1	0
Fire – Outdoor	2	36	23
Vehicle	2	4	0
Totals	4	51	24

Training and Education

Throughout the month of August 2012, RFR's training team led several new initiatives, as well as continued to support the management of regular training within RFR's current training plan.

RFR's training staff facilitated the delivery of the recruit firefighter initial skills training in preparation for the 12-month program. This preparation included one-on-one instruction and guidance through the expected skill set in the 12-month plan. RFR training staff prepared course materials and teaching aids for the recruit evaluations including site preparation at the involved fire stations, vehicles, equipment and facilitators.

RFR training staff instructed and supported 10 participants with maintenance training in Technical Water Rescue (TWR) and reviewed TWR 1 and 2 with recruits and mentors in preparation for the full lesson scheduled for September.

Approximately 60 staff were maintenance trained in Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) and Firefighter rescue principles and operations while assisting in the RIT component of the pending recruit evaluations.

RFR training staff created lesson plans which allowed 3 Coaching Emergency Vehicle Operator tests to be completed. Crews on shift were assisted with the set up of a 2 day new driving course at the new training site located at Lafarge.

RFR training crews delivered one-on-one instruction of the vehicle pre-trip reporting to two shifts along with conducting random observations of the document management process and the reinforcement of the importance of compliance and the potential outcome that may result if compliance is not met.

Delivery by RFR training staff of one-on-one instruction on the new reporting system for Electronic Drill Reporting was provided to approximately 70 officers and pool members.

Officer development training continues to be coordinated for the ongoing performance management and associated skills for the officers on all shifts.

Community Relations / Public Education

Richmond Fire-Rescue participated in numerous events and activities for public education during August 2012. Some of the events attended by RFR crew and Prevention Officers were as follows:

- 32 car seat inspections were carried out in August at No 1 Hall with the Fire and Life Safety Educator in attendance.
- Tour of #4 Fire Hall was provided to City Centre Community Centre with approximately 18 children (6-8 yrs) and 4 adults in attendance.
- Pumper and educational visits carried out with various community and schools groups, including: Kids & Company; Waky Watergames at Thompson Community Centre; Richmond Family Place; Richmond Maritime Festival (2 days); Richmond Multicultural Centre for Disability Summer Camp (2 events); Circle of Friends Pre-School; Crestwood Corporate Centre – Tenant Appreciation BBQ; Seafare Safeway Muscular Dystrophy Fundraising Event; Hockey Day in Richmond; Bridgeview Court Block Party (Community Event) and one firefighter participation in Camp Ignite
- Training Events include: Wham Wellness Health & More presentation with 100 seniors; Richmond Multicultural Services recruit day and BST Management fire drill observation with various age groups.

Financial Impact

None

Conclusion

Richmond Fire-Rescue continues to strive towards being a fire department that delivers services and programs through an approach that balances prevention, education and emergency response.

This direction is based on the belief that prevention, education and emergency response programs must be well established and integrated to have a positive impact on community safety along with the continued delivery and advancement of its core 911 emergency fire and rescue response services to Richmond.

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

John McGowan
Fire Chief
(604-303-2734)

JM:js