



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee

Date: January 23, 2012

From: John McGowan
Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue

File:

Re: 2011 Fourth Quarter Report – Richmond Fire-Rescue

Staff Recommendation

That the report on Fire-Rescue's operations from October 1 to December 31, 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 regular basis.

RFR are in the process of making changes to their reporting document and subsequent reports will be submitted as a monthly report.

Analysis

Fire-Rescue’s report for October 1 to December 31 2011, are set out below.

Suppression Activity

Fire Suppression’s 9-1-1 emergency call volumes for October 1 to December 31 2011, are presented in the table below.

The months of October to December 2011 saw a decrease in 911 Medical First Responder calls over the same period in 2010. The 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 For October to December, 2011				
Incident Type	2009	2010	2011	% +/- (compared to 2010)
Medical	1178	1142	1053	-8%
Motor Vehicle Incident	374	299	315	+5%
Fire	97	83	85	+2%
False Alarm	183	118	-	-
Alarm No Fire	284	386	342	-11%
Public Service	213	149	115	-23%
Public Hazard	57	45	36	-20%
Hazardous Materials	21	39	33	-15%
Response – Cancelled	-	-	281	-
Specialized Transport	-	-	16	-
Explosion	0	0	0	-
Technical Rescue	3	2	2	-
Totals	2,410	2,263	2,278	

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 medical calls for October to December 2011 by sub-type is set out in the following table.

Medical Calls by Type for October to December 2011

First Responder Totals			
Medical	Volume	Medical	Volume
Abdominal Pain	13	Exposure	1
Allergic Reaction	15	Eye Problems	0
Animal Bite	1	Falls/Jumper	130
Assault	26	Headache	8
Back Pain	23	Heart Problems	15
Breathing Problem	173	Hemorrhage	31
Burns	1	Man Down	26
Cardiac	24	Overdose/Poisoning	33
Chest Pain	151	Maternity	3
Choking	10	Psychiatric	17
Seizures	31	General Sick	163
Diabetic	23	Stabbing/Gun/Penetrating Injury	2
Electrocution	0	Stroke	33
Unconscious/Fainting	56	Trauma	44
Entrapment	0		
Total			1053

Community Response

The estimated building loss for October to December 2011 is \$1,029,849 and estimated content loss is \$73,740, for a total estimated loss of \$1,103,589. The total estimated value of building protected is \$214,204,600.

Fire Calls By Type and Loss Estimates October to December 2011					
Incident Type Breakdown	Call Volume	Estimated Value of Building Protected	Estimated Building Loss	Estimated Content Loss	Estimated Loss Totals
Fire – Structure Total:	43				
Residential					
- Single-family	14	\$9,122,000	\$599,049	\$33,030	\$632,079
- Multi-family	18	\$176,854,000	\$345,200	\$40,590	\$385,790
Commercial/Industrial	11	\$28,113,000	\$33,000	0	\$33,000
Fire – Outdoor	28	\$43,600	\$3,100	\$20	\$3,120
Vehicle	14	\$72,000	\$49,500	\$100	\$49,600
Totals*	85	\$214,204,600	\$1,029,849	\$73,740	\$1,103,589

*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 October to December 2011	
HazMat Calls	Details
Hazmat Calls:	
Natural Gas/Propane Leaks (small)	24
Fuel Containment	5
Misc. (empty containers to unknown powder)	4
Total	33

Incidents

Notable emergency incidents, which involved RFR for October to December 2011, are:

Rescue

HazMat

- Gas main on Williams Road was dug up RFR and RCMP established a control zone.
- 3 hour stand by for hydro due to wires being down.
- Unknown odour on Grant McConnachie.
- Unknown odour on Reeves Road.
- Gas leak Minoru Boulevard.

Medical Events

- Industrial accident where a worker fell approximately 12 meters through an asbestos tile roof at an industrial warehouse site.
- Industrial accident, amputated finger.
- Full arrest.
- Assault on Graybar Road.
- Assault on Great Canadian Way.
- Fatal Pedestrian accident at Steveston Highway and Southdale Road.
- Pedestrian a struck by a car while in the crosswalk of Westminster Highway and Minoru Boulevard.
- Full arrest with successful recovery.
- Full arrest with successful return of heart beat using AED.
- 24 year old female cardiac arrest.
- Pedestrian struck by car, broken tibia/fib.

Auto Extrication/Major Motor Vehicle Accident

- Roll over MVI on Highway 91 involving a semi trailer truck.
- RFR truck hit by dump truck on Highway 91.
- Three vehicle MVI/hit and run.
- Car fire on No. 9 Road.
- 5 vehicle MVI.
- Car 10 feet up pole guide wire.
- High speed roll-over on Granville and Railway.
- Two vehicles hit and run head-on MVI involving a suspected drunk driver.

Fires – Residential

- Pot on Stove.
- Rubbish fire.
- Play ground fire.
- Kitchen stove fire.
- Oven fire contained to oven in apartment.
- Pot left on stove in a Mall, filling mall with smoke.
- House fire, flames showing upon arrival, fire was quickly extinguished.
- Alarm call elevated to fire call by an occupant of a retirement subsidized living complex.
- Second alarm fire call to No. 3 Road.
- Kitchen fire, person suffered burns on Bird Road.
- Bathroom fire.
- Garage fire.
- Attended Lansdowne Road for a fire call with sprinklers activated.
- Space heater fire in lobby on Buswell Street.
- Shed fire.
- Apartment fire on Moffatt Road.
- Stove fire on Ryan Road.
- Structure Fire on No 4 Road.
- Stove fire Dayton Court.
- Microwave fire on Bath Road.
- Structure fire at abandoned house fire.

Fires - Commercial/Industrial/Institutional

- Rubbish fire at High School.
- Fire call involving a sign on front of commercial outlet.
- Fire in shipping container full of personal belongings.
- Boat fire.
- Garbage fire in parkade.
- Illegal burning on No. 3 Road.

Technical Rescue

- Aircraft crash onto Russ Baker Way on approach to YVR.
- Lift assistance required for 8 personal
- Horse stuck in the mud up to stomach on Granville Avenue.
- Water rescue of male in Fraser River.
- Dog stuck in ditch rescue at Sealord Place.

Training and Education

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 October to December, 2011, the following highlights are noted:

- RFR Training staff has concluded delivering the nine-week onboarding skills training program for the recent September recruit class of nine members. The recruits are now operational and are working towards their next 6-month evaluation process.
- The training staff facilitated the recertification and licensing of 20 operational staff in Medical first responder – this program is delivered and evaluated by on-shift instructors and licensed through the EMA licensing board in Victoria. Completion of the training includes 40 hours of classroom instruction and practice, followed by a theory and practical skills assessment.
- The training staff facilitated the certification of 25 EVO/EVD drivers - this program delivered and co-evaluated by on-shift instructors and members from the mechanical repair division.
- The training staff began implementing the syllabus for RFR's In-House Fire Officer I program which currently includes 7-members. Two days out of the six-day program are now complete, with the last four days starting on January 9, 2012. The completed portion of the program included the following components:
 - Company Inspection Program
 - RMS Inspection module training: conducting a physical code-based fire inspection
 - Inputting data into the following post-incident modules:
 - Fire Reporting,
 - Motor Vehicle Incidents,
 - Medical Aid Calls, and
 - Fire Alarms
- The training team planned, facilitated and staffed a two-day live firefighting training session, held at the Langley Township fire-training centre. Over the course of the two days, eight of our current and new fire officers participated alongside our newest cadre of recruit firefighters. Some of the training that occurred included:
 - Incident Scene Management
 - Radio Communications
 - Rapid Intervention Team Activities (firefighter rescue)
 - Hose and Ladders skills
 - Fire confinement and extinguishment
 - Ventilation

- Rescue
- Search

Planning and preparation for the 2012 training initiatives and maintenance training has been completed and the draft-training syllabus for the first two quarters of 2012 is being circulated to all staff.

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 for October to December 2011:

- Grand Opening of Steveston Firehall on October 1, 2011
- Fire Prevention Week - October 9 to 15 with Fire Halls 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 halls open house.
- Fire Prevention Week - October 15 visit to stores in Richmond to spread awareness around fire safety.
- Halloween events held at City and Community Centres in Richmond.
- School fire drills at local school.
- Car seat inspections.
- Ride along program.
- Pumper visits and school fire drill.
- Company Inspections.
- 3 Halls participated in MD Boot Drive.
- Bike to work week (October 31 to November 4).
- Richmond Multicultural Society Safety Orientation.
- English as a second language for adult safety orientation.
- Fire extinguisher training for new RFR recruits class.
- Richmond Christmas Fund drive-through.
- December 10/11 Local 1286 Kids Christmas party.
- CUPE 394 Christmas party at Minoru Pavilion.
- Sea Island Community Association Santa Claus Ride.

Fire Halls

October 1st saw the grand opening of the Steveston Fire Hall. This event was very well received by the public and the special dignitaries who were in attendance on the day.

During Fire Prevention week (October 9 to 15) Fire Halls 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 halls were open houses focussing on 'protecting your family from fire'.

January 23, 2012

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

Fire-Rescue is committed to providing Council with regular 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 flourish extending to the right.

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