



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** December 17, 2013
From: John McGowan **File:** 09-5000-01/2012-Vol
Fire Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue 01
Re: **Richmond Fire-Rescue – November 2013 Activity Report**

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled Richmond Fire-Rescue – November 2013 Activity Report, dated December 17, 2013, from the Fire Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue, be received for information.

John McGowan
Fire Chief
(604-303-2734)

REPORT CONCURRENCE
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
APPROVED BY CAO

Staff Report

Origin

The purpose of this report is to keep Council informed on matters pertaining to public safety services in the community of Richmond.

This report supports Council Term Goal #1: *to ensure Richmond remains a safe and desirable community to live, work and play in, through the delivery of effective public safety services that are targeted to the City's specific needs and priorities.*

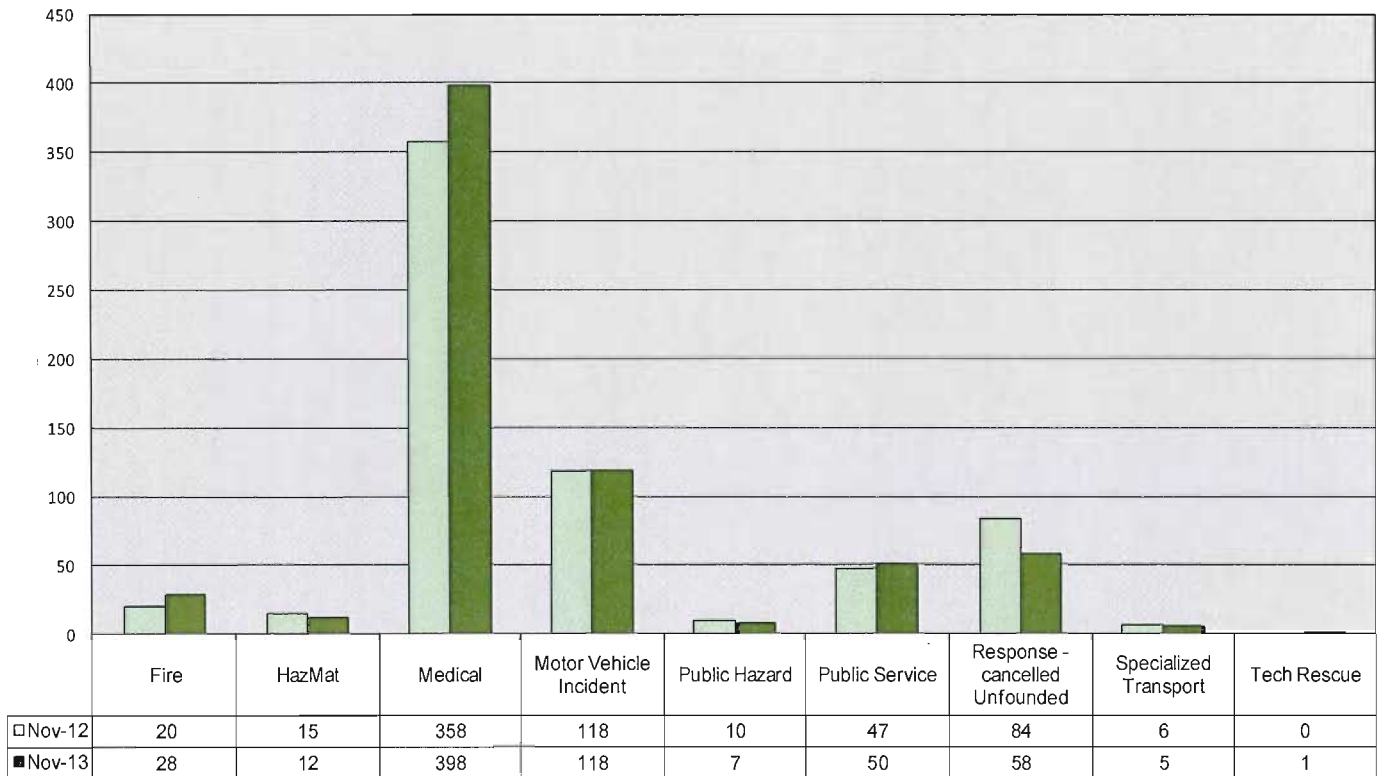
Analysis

Richmond Fire-Rescue's report for November 2013 is set out below.

Suppression Activity

The following chart provides a month to month comparison regarding incidents occurring in November 2012 and 2013. In November 2013 there were a total of 804 incidents, compared to 794 in November 2012. This represents an increase of 1.3%. Analysis of events shows an increase in medical incidents relating to chest pains, diabetic problems and overdose/poisonings.

November 2012 & 2013 Calls for Service Volumes



Call Type Legend:

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

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

Motor Vehicle Incident

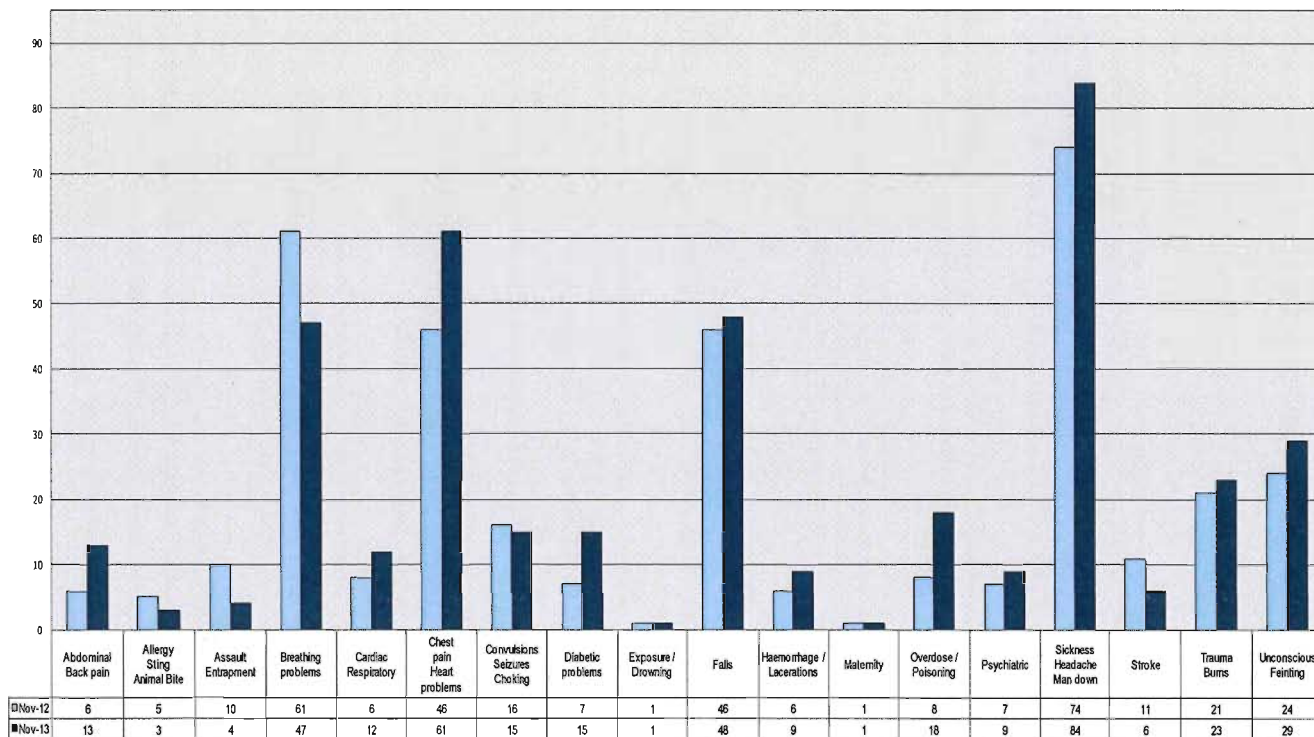
Public Hazard includes: aircraft emergency, bomb removal standby, object removal, or power lines down

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

First Responder Totals

Medical First Responder incidents comprised 49.5% of the total emergency responses for RFR during the month of November. A detailed breakdown of the medical incidents for November 2012 and 2013 is set out in the following table by sub-type. There were a total of 398 medical incidents in November 2013 compared to 358 November 2012 an increase of 11.2%.

November 2012 & 2013 Medical Calls by Type



Incidents

Notable emergency incidents which involved RFR for November 2013 were:

Medical

RFR attended to a pedestrian that had been struck by a car on Steveston Highway. On arrival BCAS were already on scene. RFR positioned their pumper truck to block the east bound traffic on Steveston Highway and assisted with patient care. The patient had significant injuries and RFR members attended, with the ambulance crew, to Vancouver General Hospital.

Response was provided to a pedestrian who had been struck on Williams and Stilmund Road. The patient was a conscious male with numerous injuries. RFR crews carried out a C-spine and assisted BCAS with patient care.

RFR crews responded to a possible contaminated atmosphere call. On inspection, RFR and RCMP found a helium cylinder and a deceased young male.

Crews responded to twelve separate cardiac related incidents, including:

- Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Automated External Defibrillator protocols performed on a patient in full arrest located at No 4 Road.
- An incident at 7th Avenue where crews performed CPR on a collapsed male.
- An incident on Ferndale Road for a call to a sick person. BCAS were unable to access the High Rise as there was no entry code or name available. After a ten minute delay Dispatch advised that the call was upgraded to a full arrest. RFR crews assisted BCAS with chest compressions and patient care. BCAS made the decision to halt chest compressions.
- An incident of a pedestrian struck on Francis and St Albans Road. On arrival RFR crews found the female pedestrian in cardiac arrest. Crews initiated CPR protocols and assisted BCAS with rapid patient care for transport. Two firefighters accompanied the patient to hospital to assist BCAS with CPR.

Motor Vehicle Incidents (MVI)

Response was provided to a vehicle accident, with reports of multiple injuries, located on No 3 Road. A car had struck the side of a convenience store and was embedded into the middle of the north facing wall up to its wind shield. RFR crews assisted BCAS with the treatment of the injured patients.

RFR crews attended to a motor vehicle incident involving two cars on No 4 Road. On arrival, one of the drivers was sitting on the road side. RFR crews, along with a BCAS crew, were informed that the other vehicle driver was trapped inside of their car with no pulse. The jaws of life were used to open the driver's door and the patient was placed onto a back-board and then a cot and CPR was started. BCAS took control of both patients and transferred them to hospital.

Fires – Residential / Commercial / Outdoor

RFR crews attended a fully involved house fire located at Leslie Road. During the event, RFR crews found that excessive storage issues within the home hampered their efforts to mitigate the fire. The occupant was out of the building.

RFR responded to a 50' wooden commercial boat fire that was being worked on in a dry dock at Graybar Road. RFR extinguished the fire in the forward sleeping area.

On Ackroyd Road, RFR crews responded to a structure fire. On arrival, crews found a smouldering fire around a heating, ventilation and air conditioning unit on top of a roof. The fire was quickly mitigated.

Crews were called to the scene of a fully involved fire involving a truck loader on Mitchell Road. The driver had witnessed smoke and had evacuated the loader. RFR crews worked to take command of the fire using both water and foam suppression systems.

RFR crews were called to a report of a suspicious fire on Blundell Road. On arrival crews found a dumpster on fire. RFR crews attacked the fire using both water and foam to extinguish it. Once extinguished, crews checked the surrounding area and found loose ammunition along with a container with a strong smell of gas. RFR crews requested RCMP and Fire Prevention Officer's attendance on scene. RCMP officers then took over control of the scene for further investigation.

On Schaefer Avenue arriving RFR crews found a fire in the bedroom on the second floor of a two level home. The three occupants of the home were treated by BCAS for smoke inhalation and later taken to Richmond General Hospital for further treatment.

Fire Summary

Fire losses during November 2013 are estimated at \$1,033,800. This total includes \$930,760 for building loss and \$103,040 for content loss. The total building and content value at risk was \$36,478,320, and the total value preserved was \$35,444,520. These numbers translate to 97% of value protected.

Fire Calls By Type and Loss Estimates – November						
Incident Type Breakdown	Call Volume	Estimated Building Value \$	Estimated Building Loss \$	Estimated Content Value \$	Estimated Content Loss \$	Estimated Total Value Preserved \$
Residential:						
- Single-family	5	2,250,000	315,750	475,000	65,000	2,344,250
- Multi-family	6	14,932,000	15,000	135,000	8,040	15,043,960
Commercial/Industrial	4	14,978,250	100,000	1,078,070	30,000	15,926,320
Fire – Outdoor	10	2,000,000	10	-	-	1,999,990
Vehicle	3	630,000	500,000	-	-	130,000
Totals*	28	34,790,250	930,760	1,688,070	103,040	35,444,520

*The dollar losses shown in this table are preliminary estimates. They are derived from RFR'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).

The fire investigation statistics for November 2013 are listed below:

Total Fire Investigation Statistics – November			
	Suspicious	Accidental	Undetermined
Residential - Single-family	1	4	0
Residential - Multi-family	0	3	3
Commercial/Industrial	0	3	1
Fire – Outdoor	7	1	2
Vehicle	1	2	0
Totals	9	13	6

HazMat

All HazMat incidents occurring during November were relatively minor, quickly mitigated, and did not require any long-term HazMat team deployment.

HazMat Calls By Type – November	
HazMat Calls	Details
Natural Gas/Propane Leaks (small)	12
Flammable/Combustible Liquids	-
Misc. (empty containers to unknown powder)	-
Total	12

Community Relations / Public Education

Richmond Fire-Rescue participated in events and activities for public education during November 2013. The events were as follows:

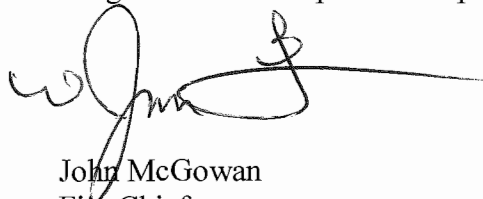
- 29 car seat inspections at Fire Hall No.1
- Pumper visits for: *West Richmond Preschool* (2 visits) and *L'ecole des Navigateur K Class*.
- Special Events: *Movember Shave-Off* event at City Hall, *Triton Environmental Safety Presentation*, *Remembrance Day Service* at City Hall, *Get Ready Richmond* with Thompson Community Centre, *City Hall – Winter Wonderland* set up, *Thomas Kidd PAC Christmas Fair*, *McNair Life Skills Class*, *3rd Annual Richmond Christmas Fund Drive-Thru Event*, *Maples Residence Fire Safety Presentation* and the *IAFF Bright Nights at Stanley Park*.
- Hall Tours: City of Richmond's *Take Your Kids to Work Day* and *Diversity Services Hall Tour*.

Financial Impact

None

Conclusion

Richmond Fire-Rescue continues to deliver services and programs through an approach balancing 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.



John McGowan
Fire Chief
(604-303-2734)

JM:js