



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** October 3, 2016

From: Tim Wilkinson **File:** 09-5000-01/2016-Vol 01
Acting Fire Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue

Re: **Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report - August 2016**

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled "Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report - August 2016", dated October 3, 2016 from the Fire Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue, be received for information.

Tim Wilkinson
Acting Fire Chief
(604-303-2701)

Att. 2

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER (Acting)	
REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT / AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: DW
APPROVED BY CAO	

Staff Report

Origin

This report provides Council with an update on Richmond Fire-Rescue (RFR) activities. RFR continues to work towards the City's vision of being the most appealing, livable, and well-managed community in Canada, through the delivery of its programs and services. RFR is reporting on its activities in support of its mission:

To protect and enhance the City's livability through service excellence in prevention, education and emergency response.

This report supports Council's 2014-2018 Term Goal #1 A Safe Community:

Maintain emphasis on community safety to ensure Richmond continues to be a safe community.

Analysis

Community Involvement

RFR advances public awareness, education and community bridge building by participating in training events and community activities. During August 2016 the following events took place:

- Public Education and Fire Safety Trailer visits to: Richmond Cares, Richmond Gives Seniors' Summer WHAM Health Fair and the Vedic Cultural Centre and Temple Fire Safety Presentation.
- Fire Hall tours were provided for: Potts Education Studio Summer Camp and the Public Works Yard - Works on Wheels.

Staff engaged with over 403 children and adults in the community providing fire safety and harm reduction information. Safety messaging during August 2016 focussed on fire prevention. The public was made aware of key safety points in RFR's monthly safety messaging on Facebook posts and fire hall sign messaging.

Emergency Response

RFR's goal is to respond to events in a manner where loss of life, reduction of property damage and protection of the environment is mitigated. In August 2016 there were a total 936 incidents, representing a 0.2% increase in calls (Attachment 1). The average time on scene for RFR crews was 26.75 minutes, a decrease of 5% from 2015.

In August 2016 there were 93 dispatched fire calls. Of those 74 were actual reportable fires, 180 apparatus' were used and 540 fire personnel attended.

Fire damage and property losses during the month are estimated at \$69,660. This total includes \$8,650 for building/asset loss and \$61,010 for content loss. The total building/asset and content value at risk was estimated to be \$9,944,600 and the total value preserved from damage was \$9,874,940. These numbers translate to 99% of value was protected (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Fire Calls By Type and Loss Estimates – August 2016

Incident Type Breakdown	Call Volume	Estimated Building / Asset Value (\$)	Estimated Building / Asset Loss (\$)	Estimated Content Value (\$)	Estimated Content Loss (\$)	Estimated Total Value Preserved (\$)
Residential: Single family	9	1,500,000	6,000	10,000	1,000	1,503,000
Multi family	5	7,055,100	1,150	27,500	10	7,081,440
Commercial / Industrial	10	1,200,000	-	150,000	60,000	1,290,000
Outdoor	47	-	-	-	-	-
Vehicle	3	2,000	1,500	-	-	500
Totals*	74	9,757,100	8,650	187,500	61,010	9,874,940

*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).

Fire crews minimized loss and limited fires to their place of origin in notable August 2016 incidents:

- Town house located at 9100 block of No. 5 Road. On arrival crews found a fire located in the second floor bedroom of a townhouse. Crews set up ventilation and attacked the fire. The fire was extinguished but the house sustained smoke damage. The fire is under investigation.
- Landfill fire on Williams Road. This was a fire in a disposal pile; access was limited for fire crews to reach. Crews quickly mitigated the fire and the owners continued to manage with situation with their on-site resources.
- Wild land fire on Triangle Road. Approximately one acre of grassland was found burning upon fire crew arrival. Crews requested assistance, and with a water tanker truck from Eco-Waste the fire was extinguished.
- Equipment fire at sawmill on Twigg Place. Crews found a fire in a hopper at a sawmill which was extinguished using water and cold fire.
- There were also two incidents of beach fires located on Dyke Road. Both fires were quickly extinguished by crews.

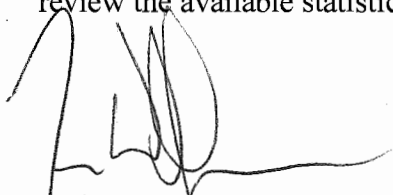
Financial Impact

None

Conclusion

During August 2016, calls for emergency response increased by 0.2% from August 2015. RFR will continue to monitor these activities to identify trends and ensure potential solutions.

The continued increase in RFR's emergency response has a direct impact on unit availability, response times, availability for non-emergency operations and in-service training. RFR continue to review the available statistics and amend resource allocation as necessary.



Tim Wilkinson
Acting Fire Chief
(604-303-2701)

TW:js

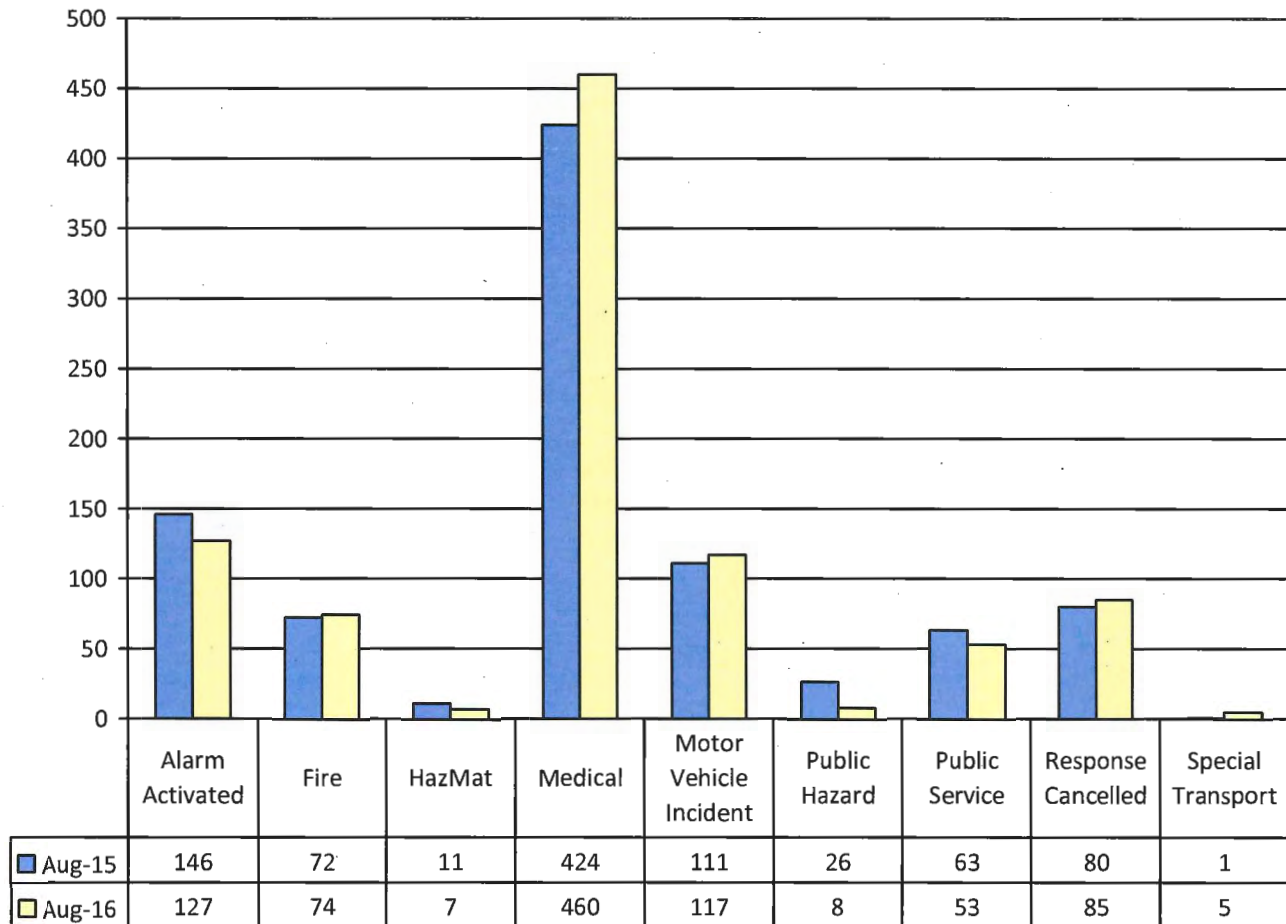
Att. 1: Suppression Activity

Att. 2: Location of August's Fire, Medical and MVIs

Suppression Activity

The following chart provides a month to month comparison regarding incidents occurring in August 2015 and 2016. In August 2016, there were a total of 936 incidents, compared to 934 in August 2015. This represents an increase of 0.2%.

Table 1: August 2015 & 2016 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
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% of the total emergency responses for RFR during the month of August 2016. A detailed breakdown of the medical incidents for August 2015 and 2016 is set out in the following table by sub-type. There were a total of 460 medical incidents in August 2016 compared to 424 in August 2015, an increase of 8%.

Table 2a: August 2015 & 2016 Medical Calls by Type

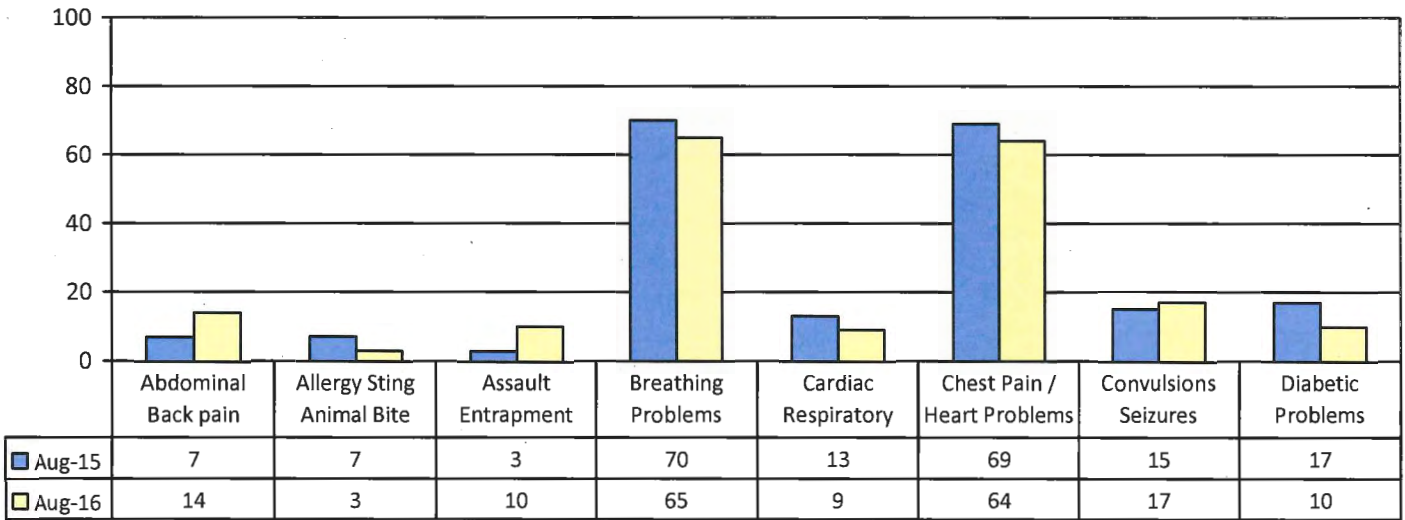
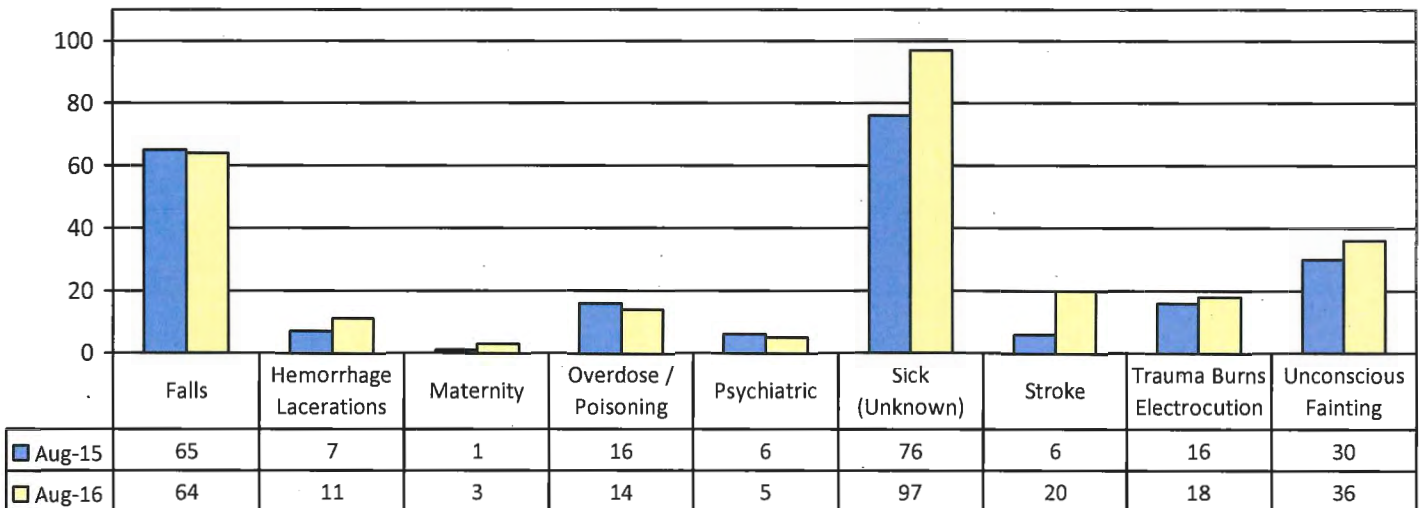


Table 2b: August 2015 & 2016 Medical Calls by Type



Fire Investigations

The fire investigation statistics for August 2016 are listed below:

Table 3: Total Fire Investigation Statistics – August			
	Suspicious	Accidental	Undetermined
Residential - Single-family	0	7	2
Residential - Multi-family	0	4	1
Commercial/Industrial	1	6	3
Outdoor	6	24	17
Vehicle	0	1	2
Totals	7	42	25

RFR investigators report all suspicious fires to the RCMP, while working alongside RCMP staff to address potential risks to the community.

Hazardous Materials

Table 4: HazMat Calls By Type – August	
	Details
Natural Gas / Propane Leaks (small)	5
Unclassified	2
Totals	7

Figure 2: Location of medical calls in August (total 460)

