



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** October 17, 2016

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

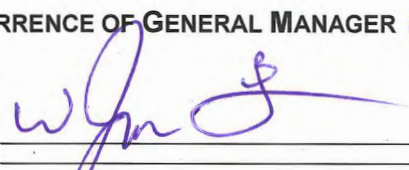

Re: Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report - September 2016

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled "Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report - September 2016", dated October 17, 2016 from the Acting 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 <i>(ACTING)</i> 	
REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT / AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: <i>DW</i>
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 September 2016 the following events took place:

- Public Education and Fire Safety Trailer visits to: The Village at Imperial Landing, UPS Canada and United Way Event, Apraxia Children's Fundraiser and Walk Umbrella Speech & Language Services, Lord Byng School Community Event, Mellis Gardens Condominiums Fire Safety Education Presentation and McKinney Elementary School Fire Safety School Visit.

Staff engaged with over 1,111 children and adults in the community providing fire safety and harm reduction information. Safety messaging during September 2016 focussed on fire prevention and pedestrian safety. 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 September 2016 there were a total 900 incidents, representing a 7% increase in calls (Attachment 1). The average time on scene for RFR crews was 27.20 minutes, an increase of 1.1% from 2015.

In September 2016 there were 68 dispatched fire calls. Of those 47 were actual reportable fires, 166 apparatus' were used and 466 fire personnel attended.

Fire damage and property losses during the month are estimated at \$57,800. This total includes \$47,800 for building/asset loss and \$10,000 for content loss. The total building/asset and content value at risk was estimated to be \$55,028,316 and the total value preserved from damage was \$54,970,516. These numbers translate to 99% of value was protected (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Fire Calls By Type and Loss Estimates – September 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	5	3,400,000	2,500	300,000	5,000	3,692,500
Multi family	7	1,200,000	-	190,000	-	1,390,000
Commercial / Industrial	6	49,806,266	10,250	72,000	5,000	49,863,016
Outdoor	24	50	50	-	-	-
Vehicle	5	60,000	35,000	-	-	25,000
Totals*	47	54,466,316	47,800	562,000	10,000	54,970,516

*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 September 2016 incidents:

- House fire located on Riverdale Road. On route to the event, crews were advised of a trapped occupant in the house. On arrival crews performed a quick attack and rescue. The fire was contained to one bedroom. The occupant did not survive and BC Ambulance Services crew pronounced the victim deceased. The fire is under investigation.
- Boat fire at the dock on Airport Road. Crews responded to a sailboat fire. A portable pump was used to extinguish the fire and fans were used to exhaust the smoke. A CO2 extinguisher was also used to minimize the water damage to the boat. The fire is under investigation.
- Roof fire of a building on St Albans Road. On arrival crews were informed by onsite roofers that a small fire was started by them. The roofers attempted to extinguish the fire prior to fire crews arrival. Crews proceeded to open up a section of the roof and located a smoldering fire which was extinguished.
- Car fire on Eburne Way. Smoke and flames were seen coming out of the windows of a parked car by arriving crews. Cold fire was used to extinguish the fire.

- Crews responded to a medial call for a suicide on Leslie Road. Crews provided resuscitation which was unsuccessful and the patient did not recover. Due to the nature of the call, the crews were provided with critical incident stress diffusion.
- A technical water rescue was performed in the Fraser River near Bayview Street. On scene crews found a woman in the river and deployed swimmers, dressed in swift water rescue gear, to perform a technical rescue. The situation was mitigated by attending RCMP and there was a successful outcome.
- An assault and hazmat incident at the Richmond Centre Mall. Crews responded to find two males in the process of stripping down and trying to get bear repellent off their bodies and out of their eyes. They were in extreme discomfort. The mall was evacuated and a ventilation system was used to clear the bear spray. RFR crews used shampoo to clean up the contaminated and distressed victims. RCMP were also in attendance.

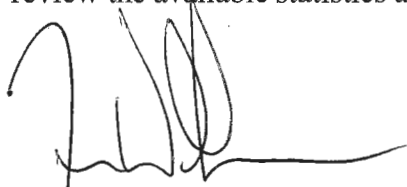
Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

During September 2016, calls for emergency response increased by 7% from September 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)

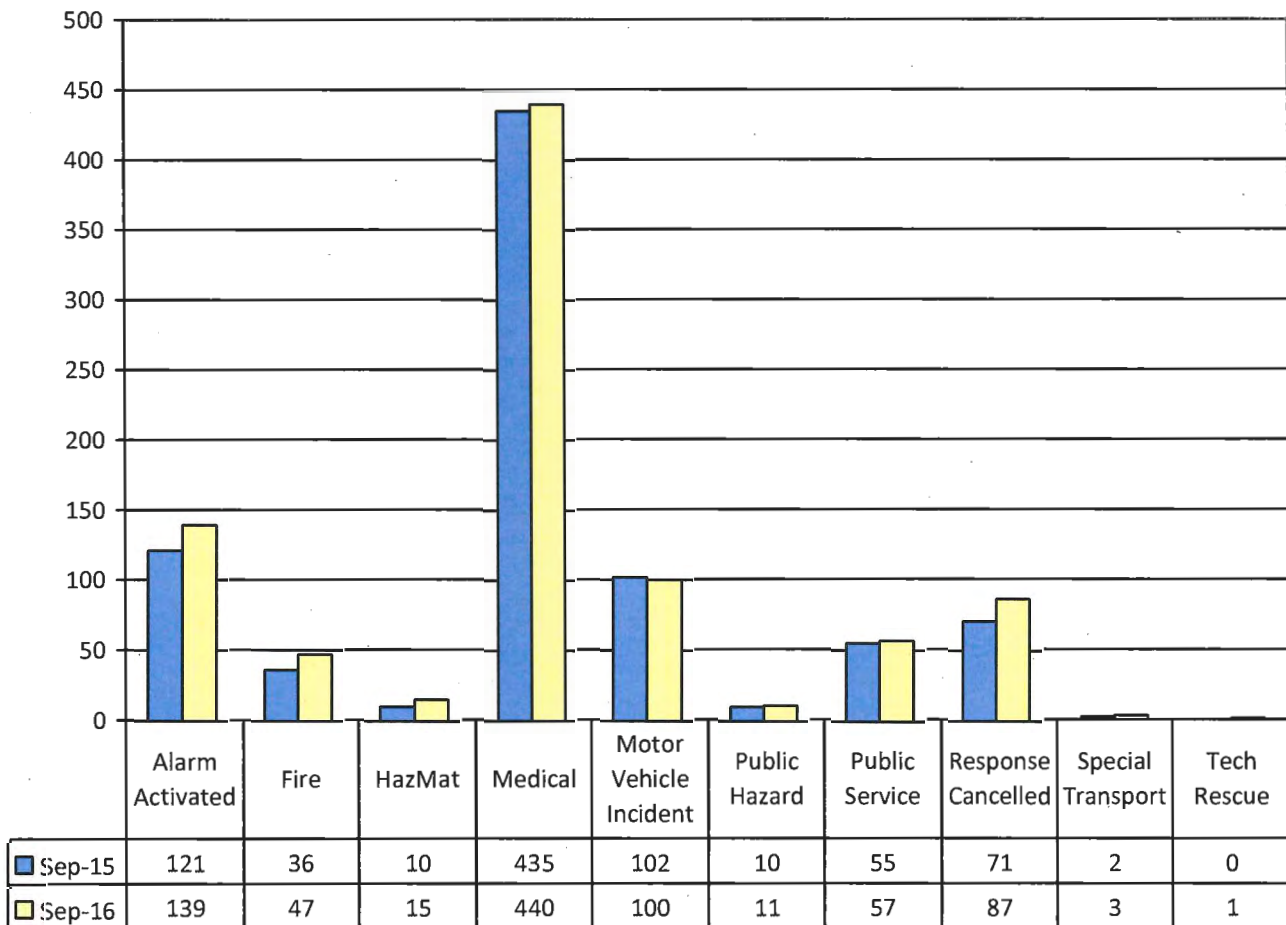
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Att. 1: Suppression Activity
Att. 2: Location of September's Fire, Medical and MVIs

Suppression Activity

The following chart provides a month to month comparison regarding incidents occurring in September 2015 and 2016. In September 2016, there were a total of 900 incidents, compared to 842 in September 2015. This represents an increase of 7%.

Table 1: September 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 48% of the total emergency responses for RFR during the month of September 2016. A detailed breakdown of the medical incidents for September 2015 and 2016 is set out in the following table by sub-type. There were a total of 440 medical incidents in September 2016 compared to 435 in September 2015, an increase of 1%.

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

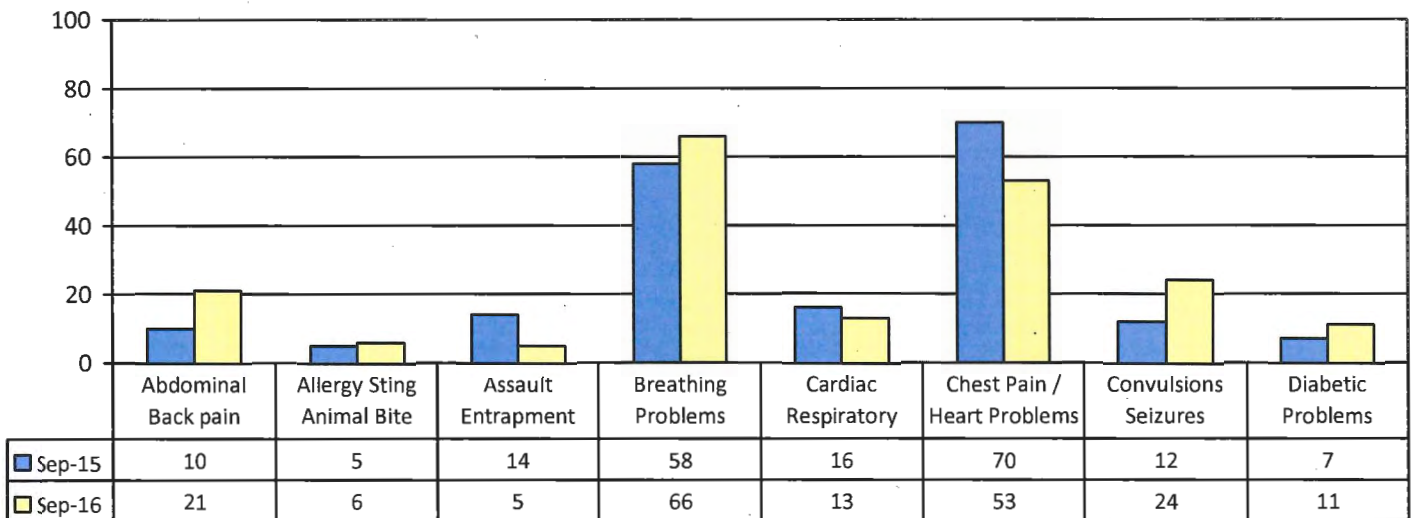
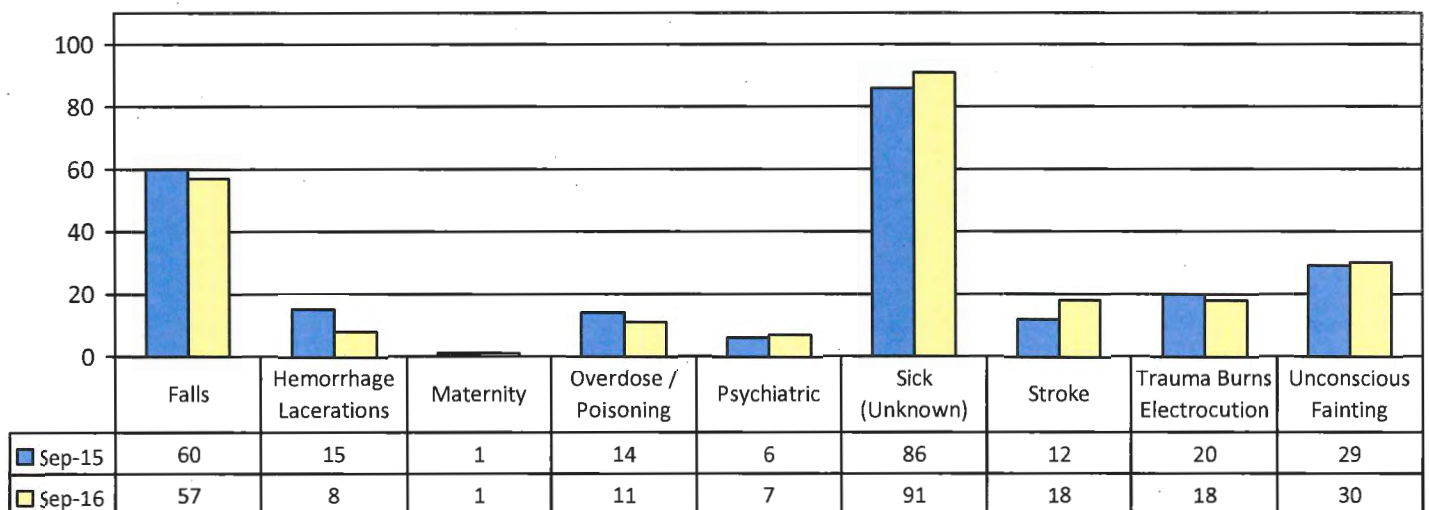


Table 2b: September 2015 & 2016 Medical Calls by Type



Fire Investigations

The fire investigation statistics for September 2016 are listed below:

Table 3: Total Fire Investigation Statistics – September			
	Suspicious	Accidental	Undetermined
Residential - Single-family	-	4	1
Residential - Multi-family	-	3	4
Commercial/Industrial	-	4	2
Outdoor	5	16	3
Vehicle	1	2	2
Totals	6	29	12

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 – September	
	Details
Natural Gas / Propane Leaks (small)	7
Flammable / Combustible Liquids	2
Unclassified	6
Totals	15

Figure 1: Location of reportable fires attended in September (total 47)

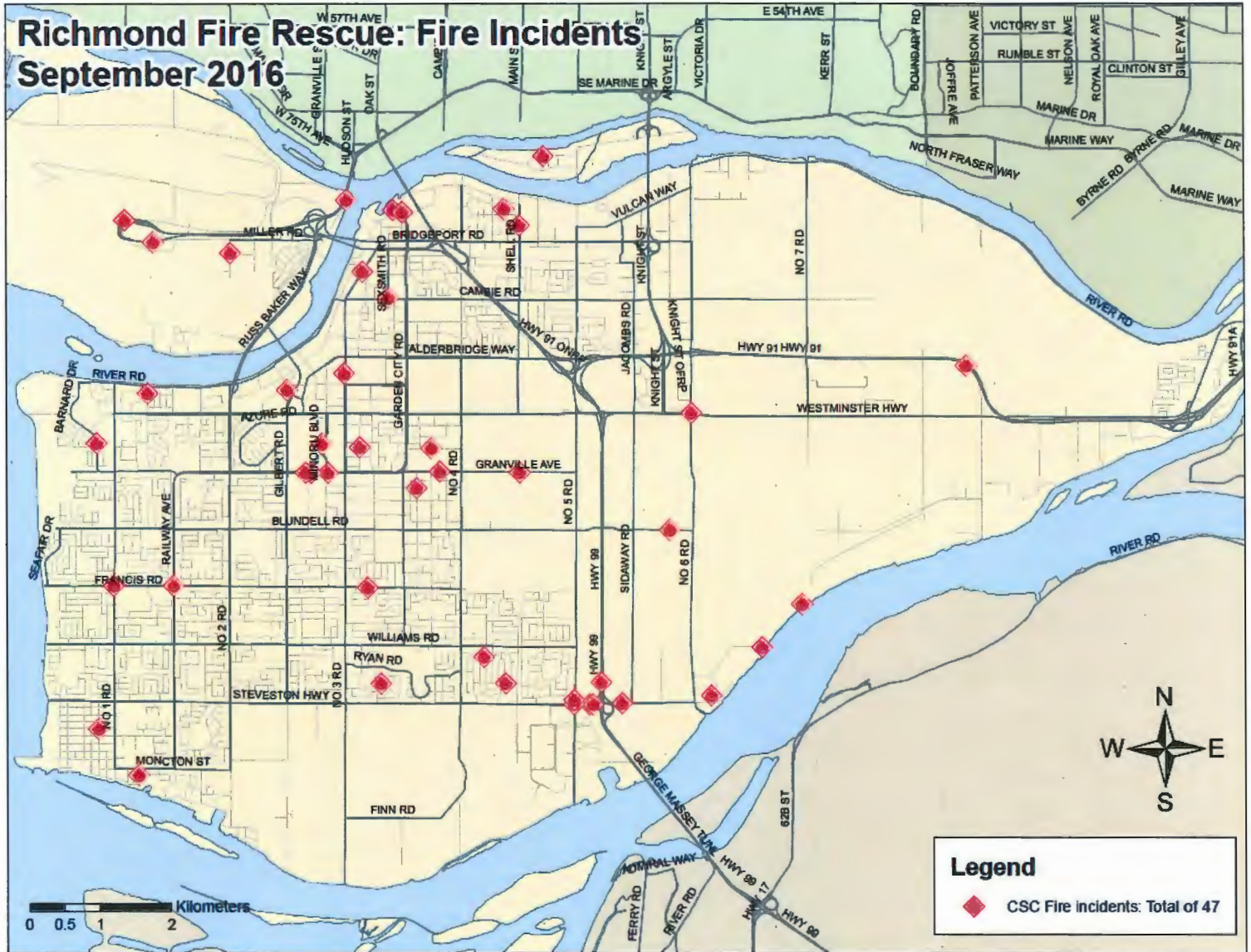


Figure 2: Location of medical calls in September (total 440)

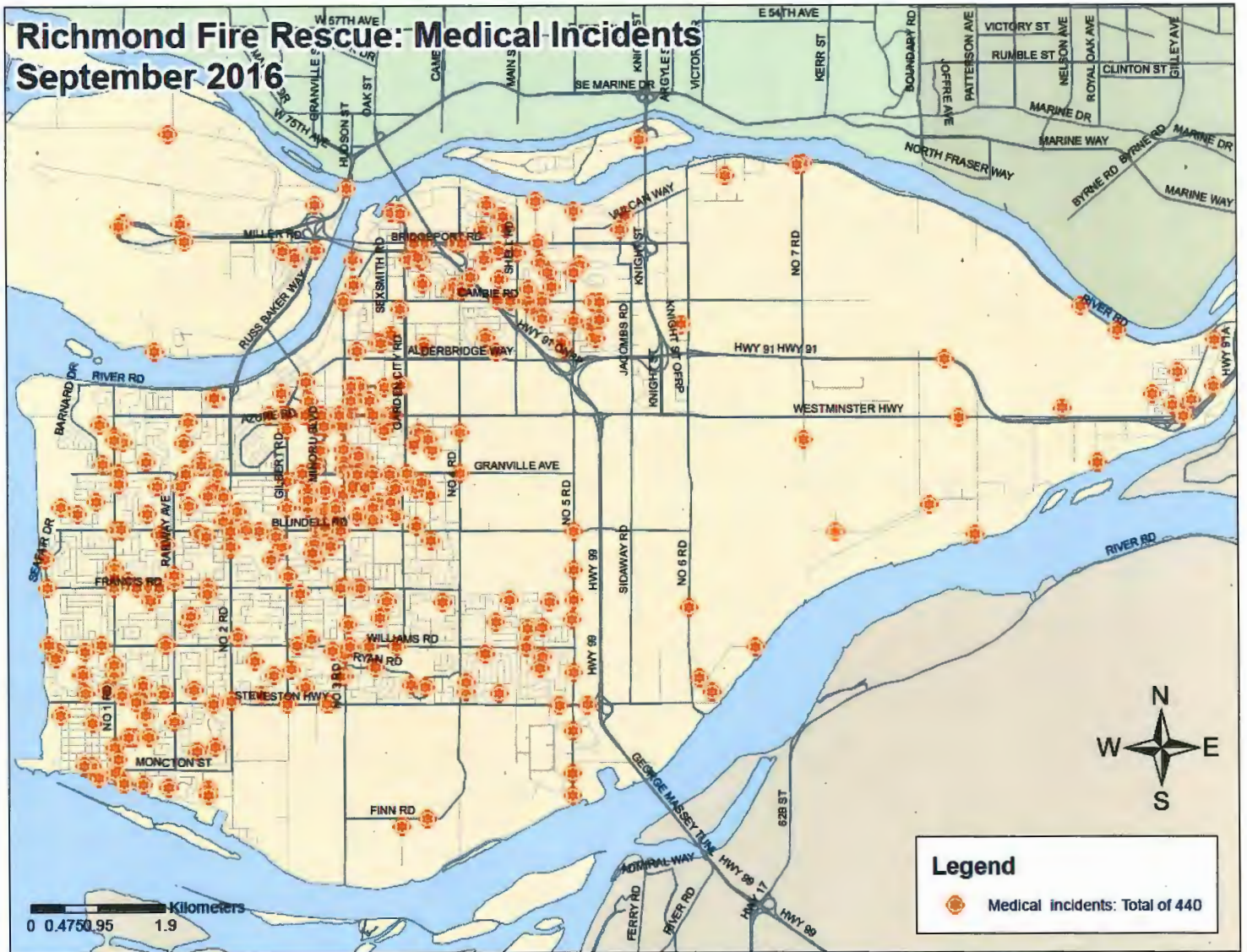


Figure 3: Location of MVI calls in September (total 100)

