



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** July 19, 2015
From: John McGowan **File:** 09-5000-01/2015-Vol
Fire Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue 01
Re: **Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report - June 2015**

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled "Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report - June 2015," dated July 19, 2015 from the Fire Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue, be received for information.

John McGowan
Fire Chief
(604-303-2734)

Att. 2

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

Staff Report

Origin

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

Community messaging for June included a focus on Seniors Week, *Doors Open Richmond*, *Ship to Shore* and *Salmon Festival*. Safety messaging for June focused on water and boat safety and staying hydrated. Facebook posts and fire hall sign messages were used to remind the public of key safety points.

RFR participates in events and activities to advance public education and community bridge building. During June 2015 the following took place:

- Safety presentations were provided to *Pythagoras Academy*, *Blundell Elementary School*, *Fine Arts Montessori Centre*, *James Whiteside Elementary School Career Day Presentation*. There were a total of 148 participants in attendance.
- Richmond Fire Hall #2 participated in *Open Doors Richmond* with over 600 people visiting the hall.
- Community events attended during June included the *Tim Horton's Camp Day*, *City of Richmond Ship to Shore Event*, *River Rock Casino Family Day*, *South Arm Community Centre Association Neighbourhood Block Party*, *Hamilton Community Association Carnival/Outdoor Movie*, *Canadian Association of Retired Persons Health & Wellness Expo* and the *Sea Island Community Association Annual Community Event*. Over 3,680 children and adults attended these events where crews engaged with the community groups and provided fire safety and public relations information.

Emergency Response

Our goal is to respond to all calls quickly and minimize loss of life and property.

There were 117 fires in June 2015. Fire losses during the month are estimated at \$25,110. This total includes \$25,080 for building loss and \$30 for content loss. The total building and content value at risk was estimated to be \$5,475,000, and the total value preserved was \$5,449,890. These numbers translate to 99.5% of value protected (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Fire Calls By Type and Loss Estimates – June						
Incident Type Breakdown	Call Volume	Estimated Building Value (\$)	Estimated Building Loss (\$)	Estimated Content Value (\$)	Estimated Content Loss (\$)	Estimated Total Value Preserved (\$)
Residential:						
Single family	6	2,750,000	50	550,000	20	3,299,930
Multi family	2	600,000	30	150,000	-	749,970
Commercial / Industrial	7	1,000,000	-	300,000	10	1,299,900
Fire – Outdoor	98	100,000	-	-	-	100,000
Vehicle	4	25,000	25,000	-	-	-
Totals*	117	4,475,000	25,080	1,000,000	30	5,449,890

*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 the fire to the place of origin in notable June incidents:

RFR crews responded to a fire on Addison Street, of a new home under construction, the fire totally engulfed the third floor and Crews quickly attacked the fire which was contained to the structure and did not spread.

RFR crews responded to a smoldering pile of rubbish on Williams Road. The on-site staff had attempted to put out the fire using a 2,000 gallon tanker with potable pumps for an hour before the call to RFR was made. Upon arrival, RFR staff took over the scene and quickly mitigated the fire.

Crews responded to a car fire on Nelson Road. Using approximately 900 gallons of water and Coldfire Foam until the fire was extinguished.

RFR crews attended an increased number of small grass, bark mulch and beach fires in June. All fires were confined to the area of origin using water, sand and shovels to extinguish. During June, Richmond experienced an increase in the number of outdoor fires incidents from 30 in 2014 to 98 in 2015.

RFR crews responded to multiple medical and rescue incident calls, including:

Crews attended a male who had suffered a cardiac arrest on Montana Road. An Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and CPR were used. The male was unable to be revived.

Crews provided assistance to a child who had been locked in a car located on No 5 Road. RFR crews arrived on scene and the child was observed to be in some distress. The child was sweating considerably and his cheeks were quite flushed red. Crews breached the vehicle by breaking the small window on the rear door on the driver's side. The child was then removed from the vehicle and taken inside a nearby restaurant for shade. The employees were asked for and provided a cool wet towel to cool the child down. RCMP arrived on scene and conducted an interview with the mother and BCAS arrived and provided additional patient care to the child.

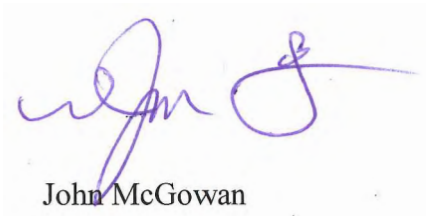
A summary of 9-1-1 emergency response statistics is found in Attachment 1, Tables 1, 2, 3 and 4. The location of fire, medical and motor vehicle incident calls in June are depicted in Attachment 2, Figures 1, 2 and 3.

Financial Impact

None

Conclusion

Our service delivery model is prevention focused and based on the belief that prevention, education and emergency response activities must be well established and integrated to have a positive impact on community safety. We believe "safety is everyone's responsibility and it is always better to prevent a situation from occurring".



John McGowan
Fire Chief
(604-303-2734)

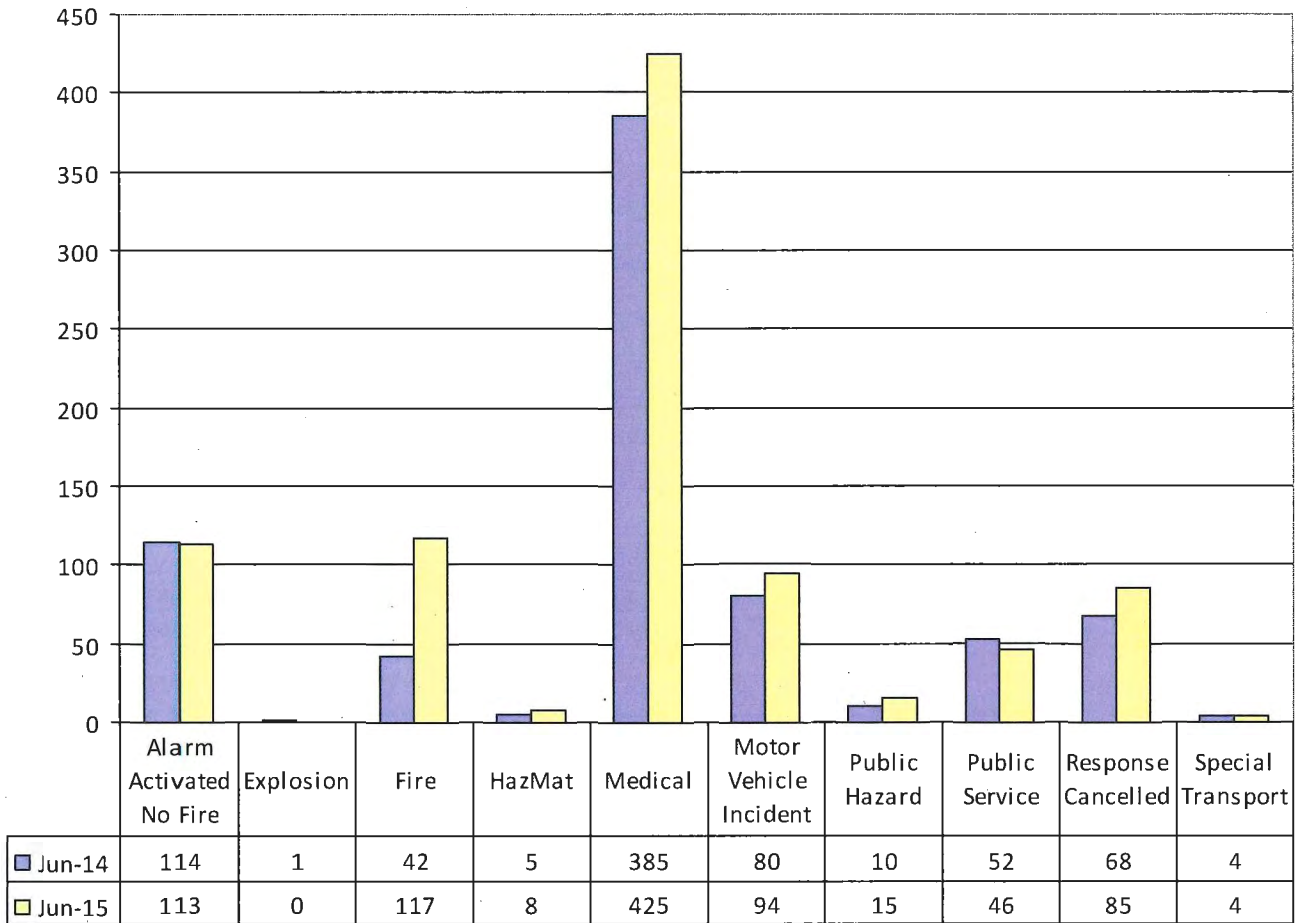
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Att. 1: Suppression Activity
Att. 2: Location of June's Fire, Medical and MVI calls

Suppression Activity

The following chart provides a month to month comparison regarding incidents occurring in June 2014 and 2015. In June 2015, there were a total of 907 incidents, compared to 761 in June 2014. This represents an increase of 19%. The increase in call volumes was primarily in the categories of outdoor fires, motor vehicle incidents and medial related incident types. Increases in outdoor activities and very dry weather conditions attributed to the incident number rise.

Table 1: June 2014 & 2015 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 46% of the total emergency responses for RFR during the month of June. A detailed breakdown of the medical incidents for June 2014 and 2015 is set out in the following table by sub-type. There were a total of 425 medical incidents in June 2015 compared to 385 in June 2014 an increase of 10.4%.

Table 2a: June 2014 & 2015 Medical Calls by Type

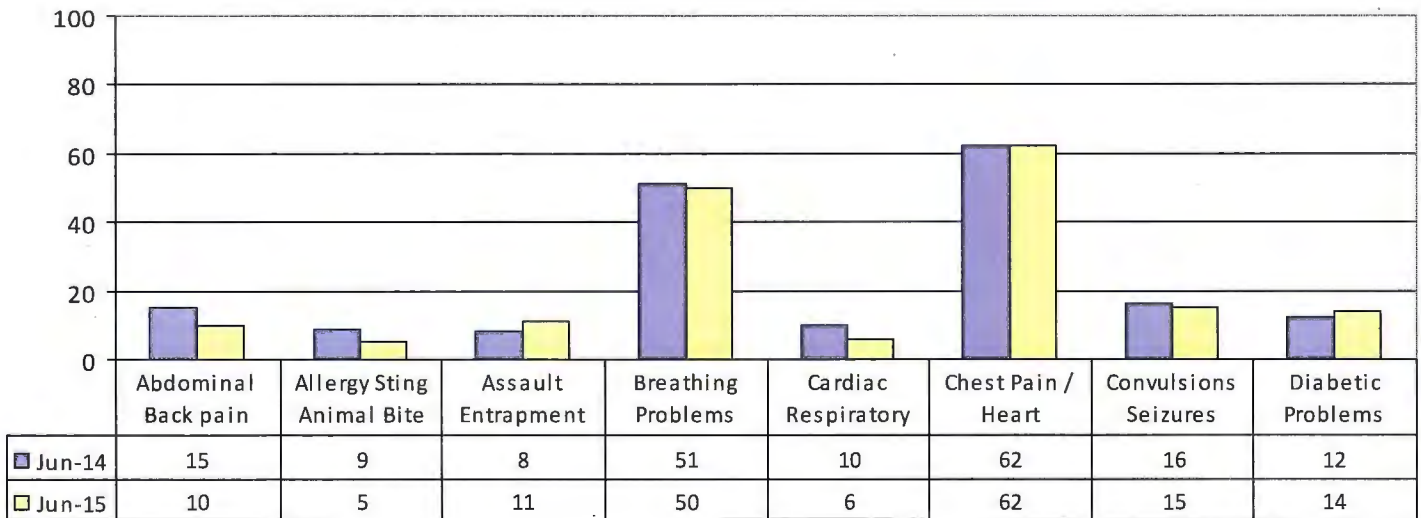
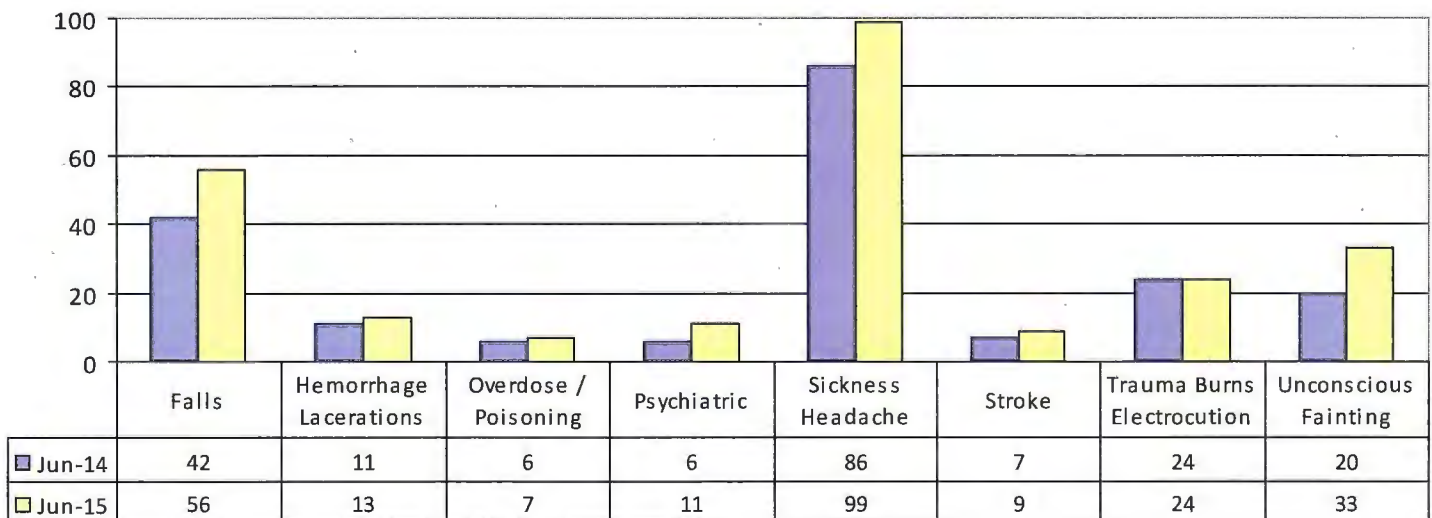


Table 2b: June 2014 & 2015 Medical Calls by Type



Fire Investigations

The fire investigation statistics for June 2015 are listed below:

Table 3: Total Fire Investigation Statistics – June			
	Suspicious	Accidental	Undetermined
Residential - Single-family	1	3	2
Residential - Multi-family	1	1	0
Commercial/Industrial	1	3	3
Fire – Outdoor	9	43	46
Vehicle	1	0	3
Totals	13	50	54

All suspicious fires are reported to the RCMP, and Richmond Fire-Rescue Investigators work in conjunction with staff at the RCMP to address any risks to the community.

HazMat

Table 4: HazMat Calls By Type – June	
	Details
Natural Gas / Propane Leaks (small)	7
Unclassified	1
Totals	8

Figure 1: Location of fires in June (total 117)

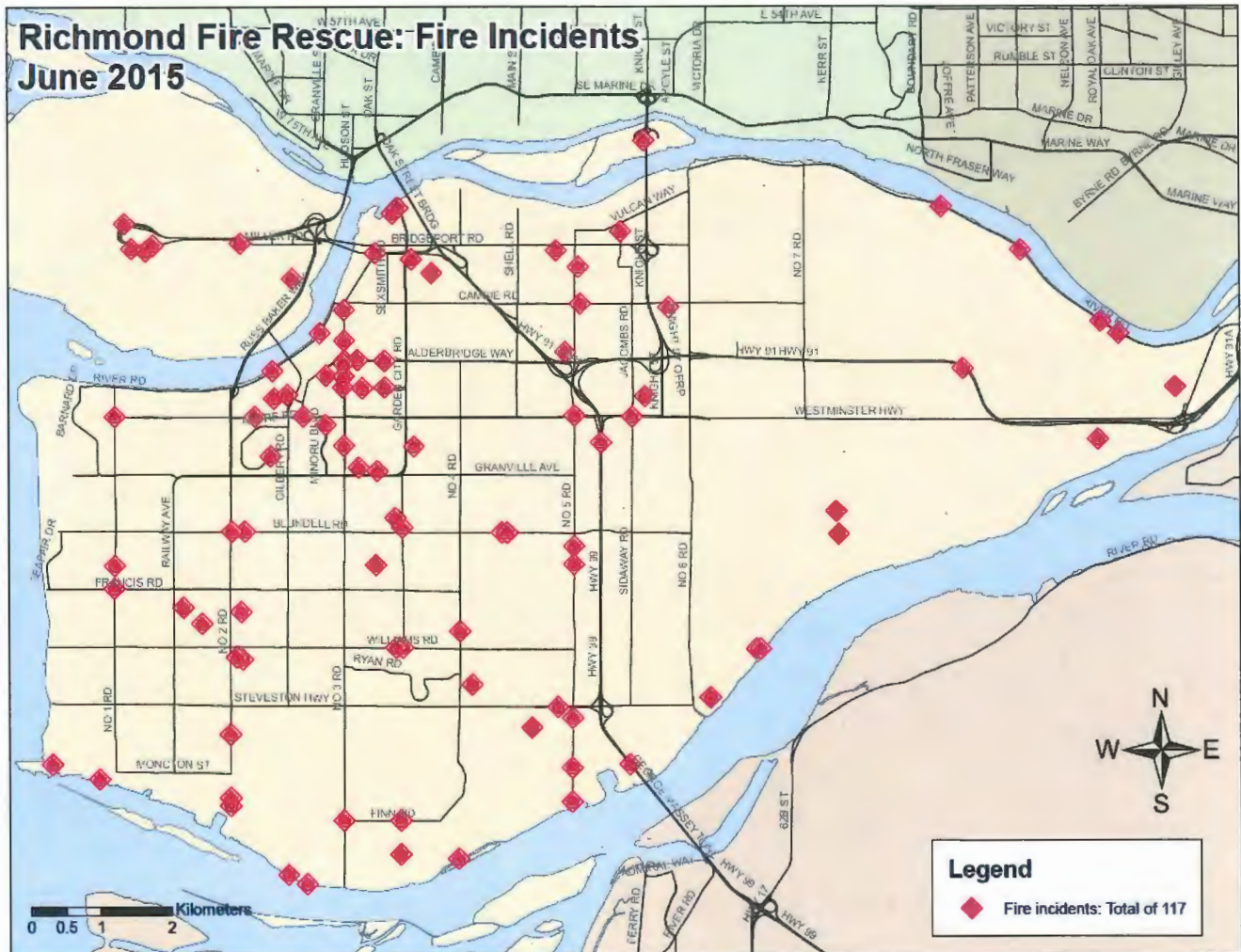


Figure 2: Location of medical calls in June (total 425)

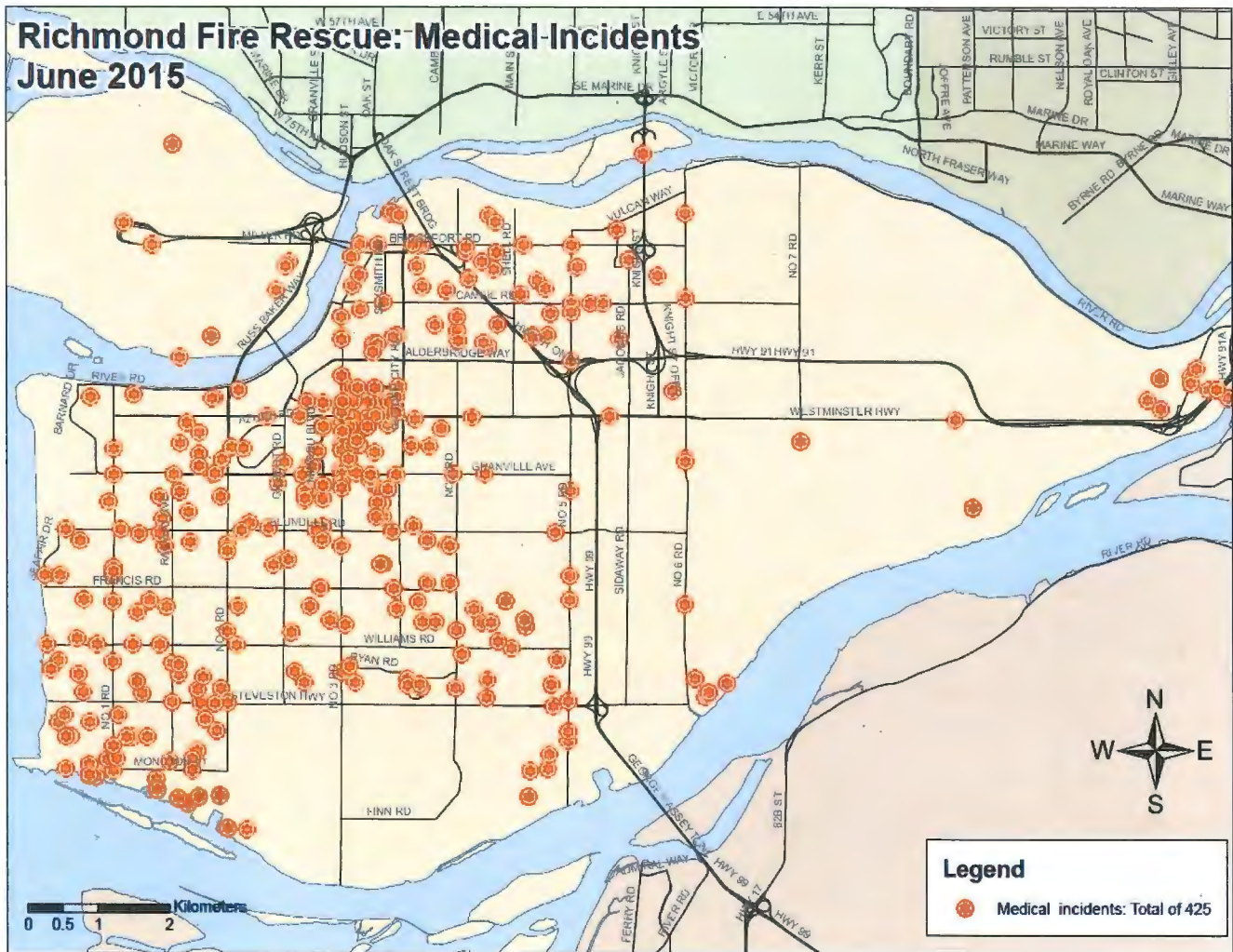


Figure 3: Location of MVI calls in June (total 94)

