



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee

Date: August 12, 2016

From: John McGowan
Fire Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue

File: 09-5000-01/2016-Vol
01

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

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled "Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report - July 2016", dated August 12, 2016 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. 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 July 2016 the following events took place:

- Public Education and Fire Safety Trailer visits to: Garden City Elementary, Spul'u'Kwuks Elementary and the Richmond Pentecostal Church Childcare Facility.
- Community events attended include: City of Richmond Salmon Festival / Ships to Shore Event and the Public Works Yard Works on Wheels.

Staff engaged with over 30,293 children and adults in the community providing fire safety and harm reduction information. Safety messaging during July 2016, focussed on road safety. The public was made aware of key safety points in RFR's monthly safety messaging through the media, 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 July 2016 there were a total 927 incidents, representing a 4% reduction in calls (Attachment 1). The average time on scene for RFR crews was 28.33 minutes, an increase of 9% from 2015.

Industry standards state that the first in unit for emergency events should be on scene within 6:20 minutes of receiving the call 90% of the time. This measurement is from the times the tones go off in the hall to the time the first unit arrives on scene to the dispatched address.

For the month of July 2016, RFR first unit on scene time was 7:34 minutes 90% of the time. RFR continues to strive to meet the industry standard and will report monthly on this metric.

In July 2016 there were 95 dispatched fire calls. Of those 74 were reportable with damage, 245 apparatus were used and 664 fire personnel attended.

Fire damage and property losses during the month are estimated at \$455,300. This total includes \$440,200 for building/asset loss and \$15,100 for content loss. The total building/asset and content value at risk was estimated to be \$25,443,000 and the total value preserved from damage was \$24,987,700. These numbers translate to 98% of value was protected (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Fire Calls By Type and Loss Estimates – July 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	8	3,608,000	115,000	500,000	5,050	3,987,950
Multi family	5	4,700,000	10,000	1,410,000	50	6,099,950
Commercial / Industrial	7	10,000,000	50	3,000,000	-	12,999,950
Outdoor	50	-	150	-	-	150
Vehicle	4	2,215,000	315,000	10,000	10,000	1,900,000
Totals*	74	20,523,000	440,200	4,920,000	15,100	24,987,700

*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 July 2016 incidents:

- Mutual aid was provided to Delta Fire Hall. Crews were dispatched to Delta to staff their Fire Hall due to their resources being exhausted fighting the Burns Bog fire and a separate house fire.
- Structure fire on McNeily Road. Arriving crew found the fire on a porch which had traveled up the exterior wall, below the second story window. Crew used water to mitigate the fire. A Fire Investigator was called to scene for investigation.
- Tug boat fire near River Road. The tug was secured and tied off at the dock where crews proceeded to knock down the fire using both water and Cold Fire. The Vancouver Fire Boat and Shady Island Coast Guard also attended the scene but were not used by RFR.
- Vehicle fire on Mitchell Road of front end loader with wood chips. Crews used water and Cold Fire to extinguish the fire.

- Boat dock fire at McDonald Road. Multiple crews attended and used water and Cold Fire to extinguish the fire.
- Boat fire at Milltown Marina on Richmond Island. Multiple crews attended and used water and Cold Fire to extinguish the fire. RFR managed to contain the fire to only one boat, which suffered extensive damages to its console.
- Commercial property gas leak and structure fire on No. 5 Road. On arrival crews were advised there was no fire, but there was evidence of gas smell. Crews co-ordinated with Fortis Gas, BC Hydro, BCAS and RCMP to secure the site. Crews also provided medical care to a patient suffering from burns to her face and arms. Ventilation fans were used to vent the restaurant and WorkSafe BC was advised.
- RFR crews attended medical calls resulting from a motor vehicle incident on Russ Baker Way. On arrival crews found a vehicle that had been struck in the roof by an SUV, which had become airborne after hitting a concrete median. Crews secured the scene and provided rescue to those occupants still inside the vehicles. Medical aid was provided and some patients were transferred to BCAS care and transferred to Vancouver General Hospital. Once all of the patients were removed and the scene was secured, crews remained on scene to assist debris clean up and restore traffic flow.

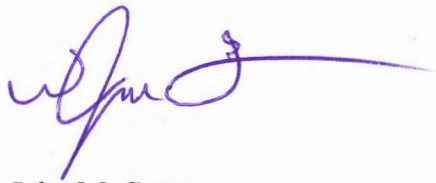
Financial Impact

None

Conclusion

During July 2016, calls for emergency response decreased by 4% from July 2015. The most significant change was a decrease actual fires. 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.



John McGowan
Fire Chief
(604-303-2734)

JM:js

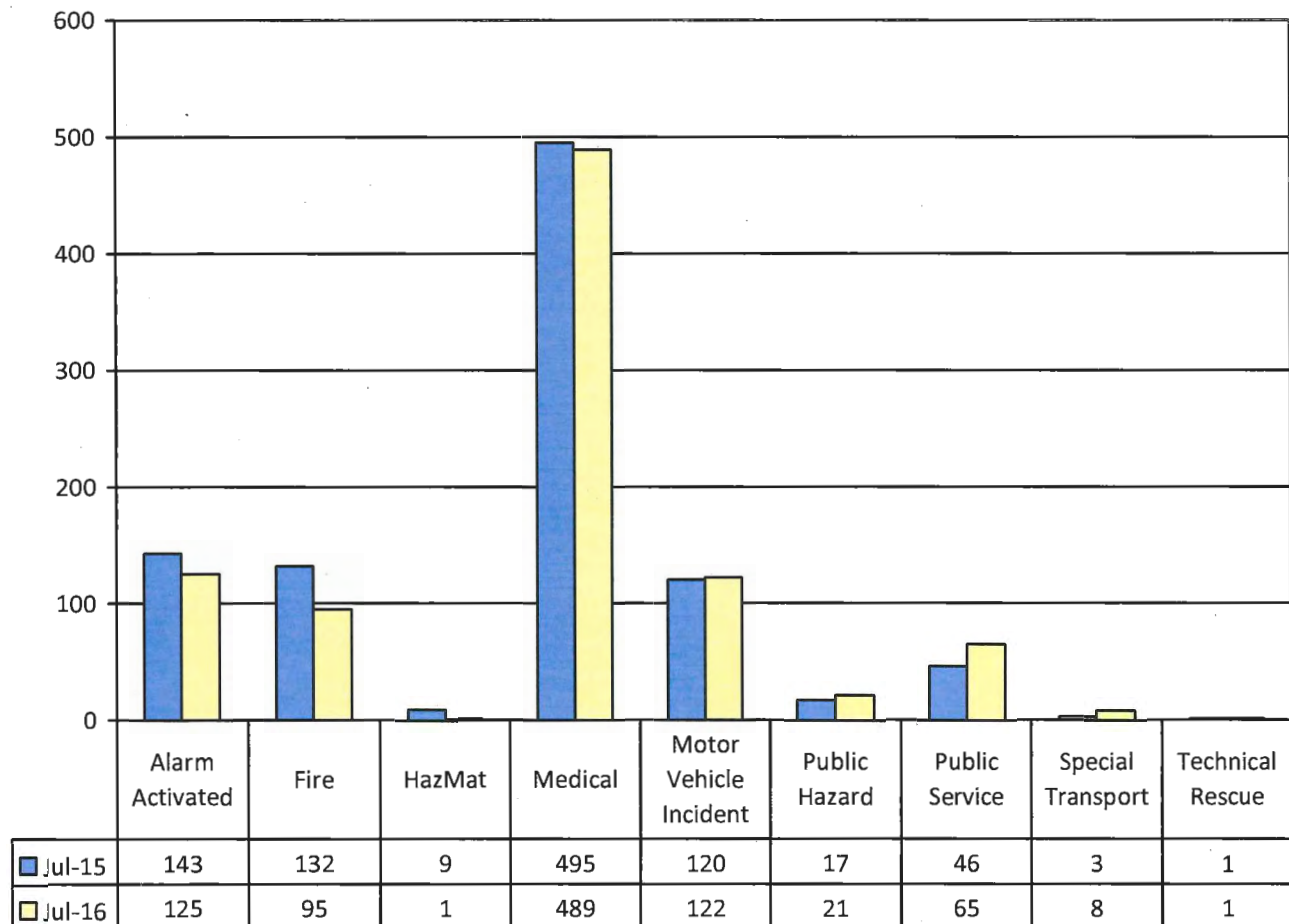
Att. 1: Suppression Activity

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

Suppression Activity

The following chart provides a month to month comparison regarding incidents occurring in July 2015 and 2016. In July 2016, there were a total of 927 incidents, compared to 966 in July 2015. This represents a decrease of 4%.

Table 1: July 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, including motor vehicle events, comprised 89% of the total emergency responses for RFR during the month of July 2016. A detailed breakdown of the medical incidents for July 2015 and 2016 is set out in the following table by sub-type. There were a total of 489 medical incidents in July 2016 compared to 495 in July 2015, a decrease of 1.2%.

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

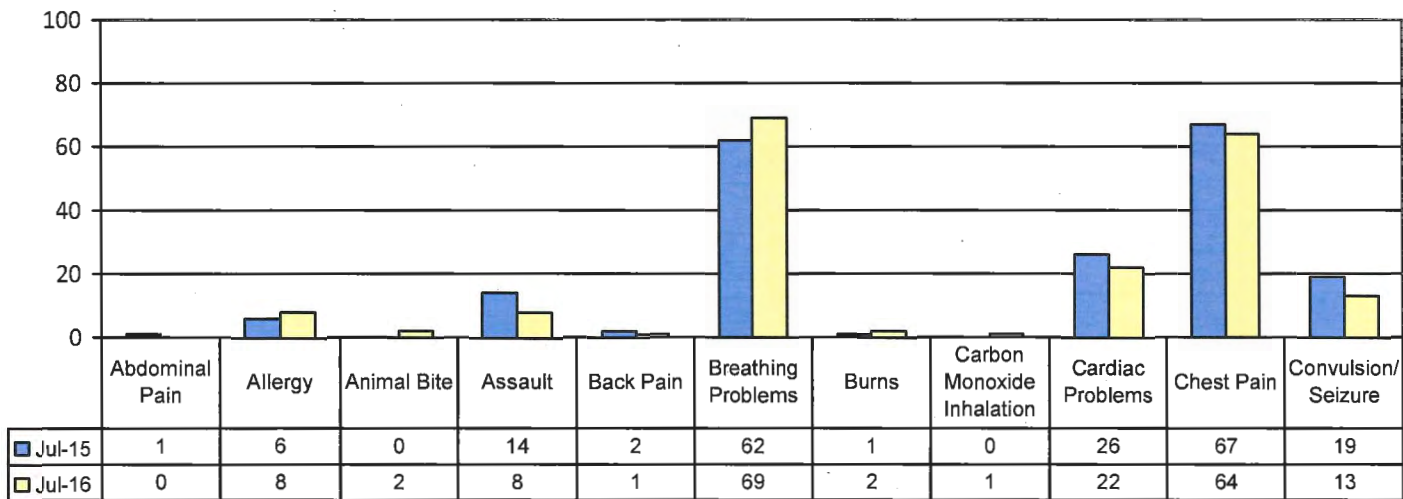
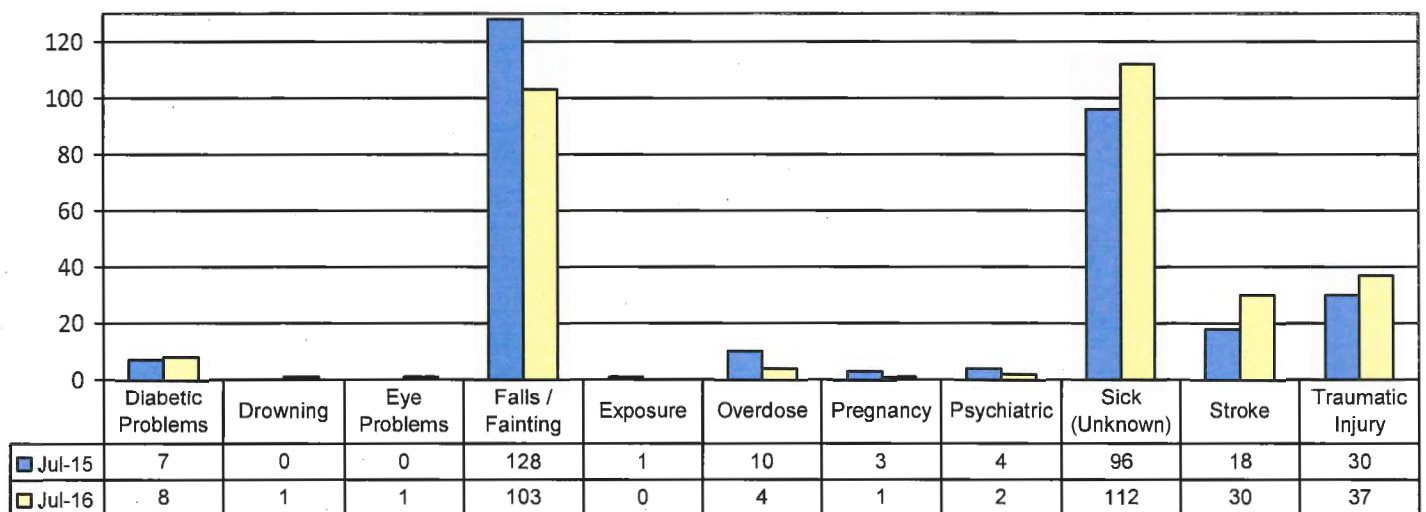


Table 2b: July 2015 & 2016 Medical Calls by Type



Fire Investigations

The fire investigation statistics for July 2016 are listed below:

Table 3: Total Fire Investigation Statistics – July			
	Suspicious	Accidental	Undetermined
Residential - Single-family	1	6	1
Residential - Multi-family	-	5	-
Commercial/Industrial	1	4	2
Outdoor	8	39	3
Vehicle	-	4	-
Totals	10	58	6

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 – July	
	Details
Natural Gas / Propane Leaks (small)	1
Totals	1

Figure 1: Location of reportable fires attended in July (total 74)

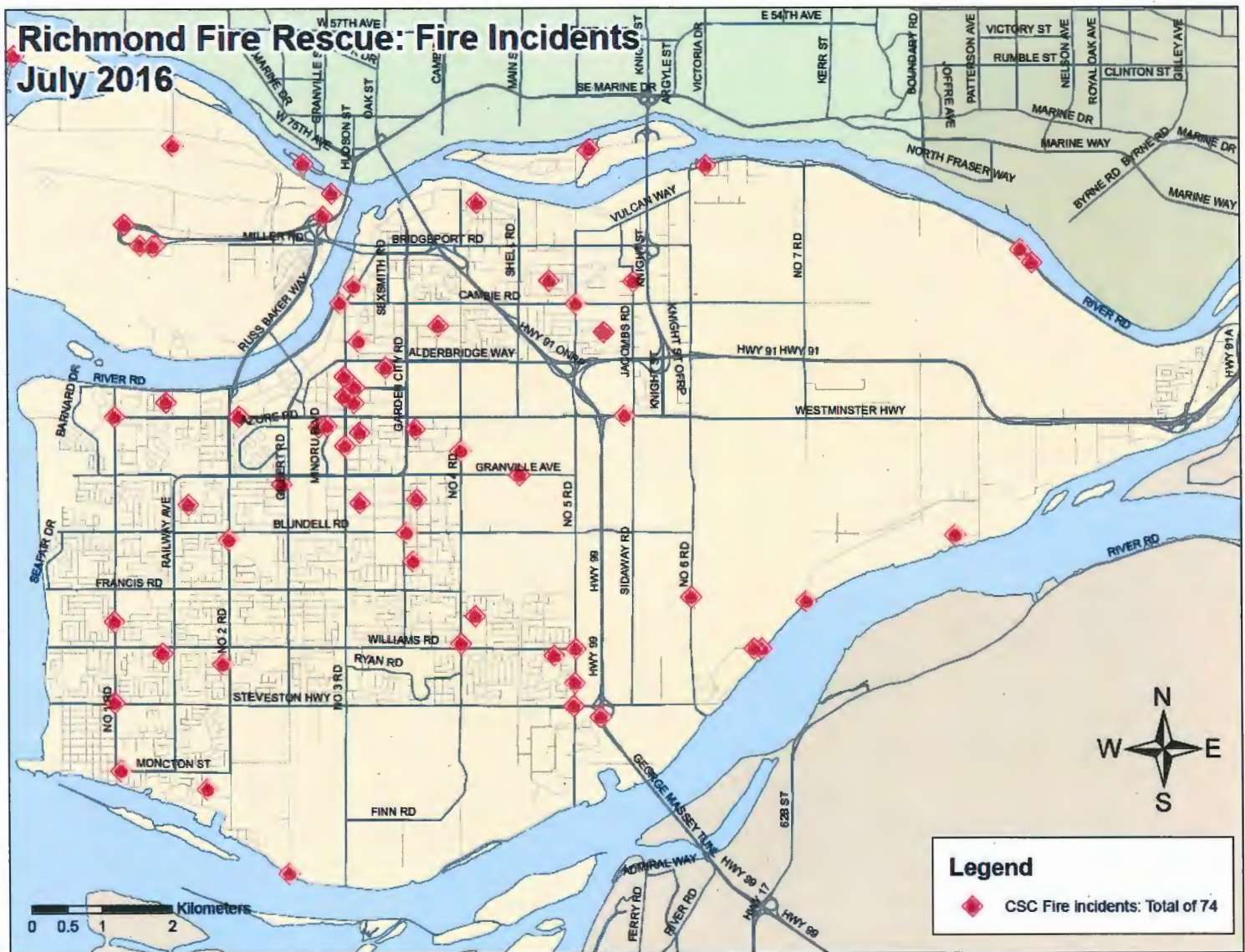


Figure 2: Location of medical calls in July (total 489)

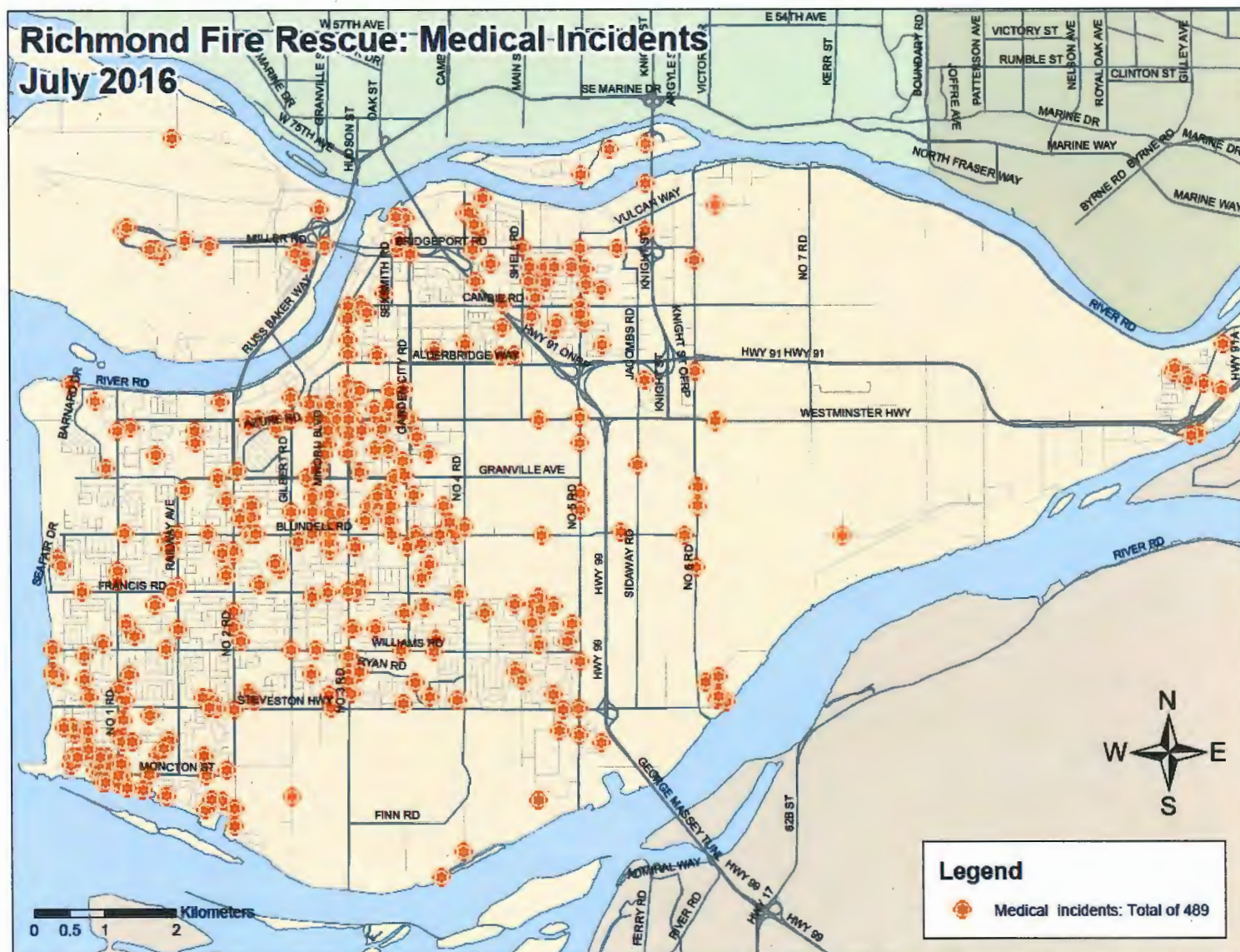


Figure 3: Location of MVI calls in July (total 122)

