



REPORT OF PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

For City Council – April 22, 2024

From: Office of the City Clerk
Date: Thursday, April 11, 2024
Title: Fredericton Fire Standard of Cover

The Public Safety Committee, at its meeting held on Thursday, April 11, 2024, considered a PowerPoint Presentation from the Fire Chief and Division Chief titled “Standard of Cover”, seeking approval to develop multiple deployment options, and to address the growth experienced in the City of Fredericton with impacts on risk, finances, and staffing.

The Standard of Cover looks through three lenses:

1. Response Times – Timely interventions by the fire department saves lives, property, and the environment.
2. Return on Investment – A healthy service delivery model strengthens the local economy.
3. Insurance – Proper fire station arrangements save businesses and residents money.

Discovery & Reporting, Dispatch, Travel Time and Setup & Engage are regularly referred to as response times. The Fredericton Fire Department’s Current Standard of Cover response times are as follows:

- **Current Standard of Cover:**
 - *6 minutes, 90% of the time.*
- **Achieving:**
 - *6 minutes, 84% of the time*
- **National Fire Protection Association Standard:**
 - *4 minutes, 90% of the time*

A healthy service delivery model strengthens the local economy by: Maintaining business continuity through reduced property loss, allowing businesses to remain open, or reopen sooner, protecting adjacent properties from fire losses, and administering a robust fire prevention program to reduce the number and severity of incidents in the community. More fire stations that are closer together allows simultaneous incidents to receive a proper response. The last major adaptation occurred over 45 years ago.

An increase in stations (properly located) would:

- Have an overall improvement in response times across the city.

- Ensure southwest growth node service level is commensurate with its density and service demands.
- Supports deployment of sufficient firefighters to assemble at medium-hazard fires in numbers aligned with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1710.

Accordingly, the Committee directed that the following resolution be forwarded to City Council for consideration:

BE IT RESOLVED that acknowledging the Fire Service Review received August 2023, and as an initial step towards developing a Fire Master Plan, mayor and council direct the Fire Chief to work in collaboration with the CAO and Treasurer to develop multiple deployment options, for presentation to this committee, to address the growth experienced in the City of Fredericton, with impacts on risk, finances and staffing.