



# City of Richmond

## Report to Committee

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**To:** Community Safety Committee **Date:** March 11, 2025

**From:** Dave Chauhan **File:** 09-5350-01/2025-Vol  
Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge 01

**Re:** **2025-2026 Richmond RCMP Detachment Annual Performance Plan  
Community Priorities**

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### Recommendation from the OIC

That the priorities, Property Crime, Organized Crime, Road Safety and Vulnerable Persons, listed in the report titled “2025-2026 Richmond RCMP Detachment Annual Performance Plan – Community Priorities”, dated March 11, 2025, from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP, be endorsed for inclusion in the Richmond RCMP Detachment’s fiscal year 2025-2026 (April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2026) Annual Performance Plan.

Dave Chauhan  
Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge  
(604-278-1212)

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER 	
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS: 
APPROVED BY CAO 	

## Report

### Origin

The Officer in Charge (OIC) of the Richmond RCMP Detachment (Richmond Detachment) is committed to aligning the Richmond Detachment's strategic goals with the City of Richmond's vision "to be the most appealing, livable and well-managed community in Canada" and the RCMP's vision to promote safe communities. As such, the Richmond Detachment requests Council's endorsement of the priorities included in its Annual Performance Plan (APP) for the 2025-2026 fiscal year (April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026).

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #3 A Safe and Prepared Community:

*Community safety and preparedness through effective planning, strategic partnerships and proactive programs.*

*3.2 Leverage strategic partnerships and community-based approaches for comprehensive safety services.*

### Findings of Fact

#### Background

As part of the mandate of the Strategic Policy and Planning Directorate, all RCMP units, including the Richmond Detachment, launch a new APP every fiscal year. This process facilitates the continuous improvement of management and administrative practices across the organization and enhances strategic planning activities and performance management tracking. Local APPs are informed by organizational priorities, crime trends, and stakeholder discussions to identify areas for continued improvement.

The priorities recommended for the APP take into consideration internal RCMP strategic directives and are in alignment with the strategic pillars identified in the 2021-2025 Richmond RCMP Detachment Strategic Plan:

- People
- Promoting Public Safety
- Targeted Enforcement

These strategic pillars provide the foundation for most operational and administrative initiatives undertaken by the Richmond Detachment and align with the goals and objectives of the RCMP nationwide, as outlined in various RCMP guiding documents. This includes the 2024-2027 RCMP Strategic Plan, which serves as a roadmap for the continued modernization of the RCMP.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Our next chapter: The RCMP 2024-2027 strategic plan, <https://rcmp.ca/en/corporate-information/publications-and-manuals/our-next-chapter-rcmp-2024-27-strategic-plan>

The APP allows for a comprehensive, tailored and measured approach to strategic planning and performance management at the Richmond Detachment.<sup>2</sup> It ensures that policing initiatives align with the City of Richmond and RCMP strategic priorities and allows the OIC to systematically evaluate and manage police resources, programs, and operations. The APP also provides a valuable consultation and reporting mechanism for the City, the Commanding Officer of the RCMP “E” Division, and Richmond Detachment staff.

### Planning

The OIC regularly engages with Council and City staff to identify opportunities for improved service delivery in the community. The Richmond Detachment also promotes community and stakeholder engagement in developing responses to policing priorities. This process contributes to a robust framework for strategic planning activities. It allows for the coordination of policing objectives with the City’s unique needs, as well as the RCMP’s national, provincial and district initiatives. Measurements, targets and integrated risk assessments for policing initiatives are also created annually to monitor performance and manage opportunities and risks.

### Quarterly Performance Updates

Every quarter, Council receives an update on the status of the APP, which highlights the progress of objectives and policing initiatives. The quarterly update includes a summary of actions supporting each priority and outlines any opportunities or challenges which may have emerged.

### Annual Performance Plan Features

The APP is designed to enhance planning, management and administrative practices for RCMP Units and Detachments and provides the foundation for the following five organizational initiatives:<sup>3</sup>

- Contract and Aboriginal Policing Community Plans;
- Integrated Risk Management;
- Unit Level Quality Assurance;
- Performance Management; and
- Performance Improvement.

## **Analysis**

### Community Priorities

The community priorities outlined in the APP are selected through an ongoing strategic planning process, which includes the analysis of police statistics and emerging public safety issues, the review of existing programs and initiatives, and the contributions of ongoing discussions with stakeholders. Extensive community engagement was also conducted for the 2021-2025 Richmond RCMP Detachment Strategic Plan, which continues to help inform the APP.

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<sup>2</sup> The priorities recommended for the APP are not intended to serve as an exhaustive list of the Richmond Detachment’s policing objectives.

<sup>3</sup> As per RCMP Administrative Manual Chapter 18.2 Annual Performance Plan

The selected priorities are reviewed to identify possible opportunities and risks. Initiatives supporting each priority are then developed through a collaborative planning process, where performance measures are determined for each priority to assist with evaluating the success and impacts of the initiatives. This process facilitates an effective response to the identified objectives and provides an opportunity to demonstrate accountability to stakeholders and the broader community.

After assessing the impacts of the previous year's APP and analyzing recent crime trends and stakeholder feedback, the OIC is recommending that Council align this year's priorities with those of the previous year to maintain the Richmond Detachment's commitment to these strategic priorities while also continuing to develop the responses and initiatives promoting these objectives. As such, the OIC is recommending continuing with the following four priorities for this year's APP (April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026):

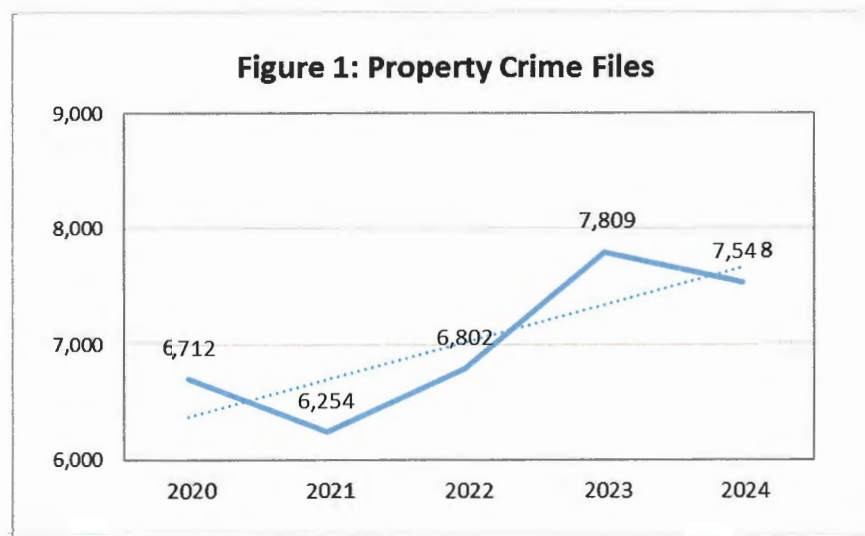
1. Property Crime;
2. Organized Crime;
3. Road Safety; and
4. Vulnerable Persons.

These four priorities are sufficiently broad in scope to cover emerging trends and concerns that are topical to the community.

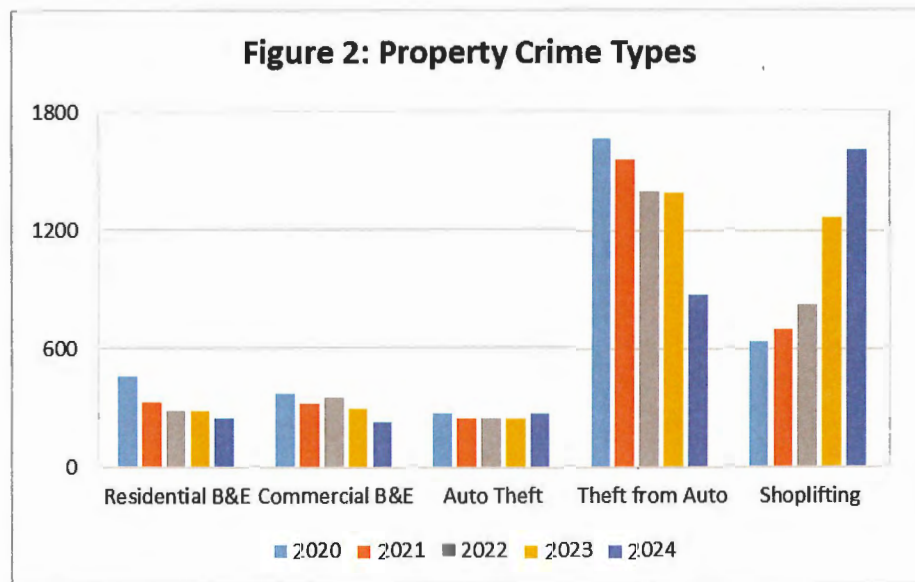
The remainder of the report justifies continuing with the established priorities.

#### *Property Crime*

Statistical analysis of property crime incidents for the last five years has identified a rising trend, with below-average numbers between 2020 and 2022, primarily attributed to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, as public behaviours returned to pre-pandemic patterns, property crimes began to increase and returned to previous levels. Due to this observed trend, property crime remains a community priority.



While overall property crimes show an increasing trend, there is variation in the crime types following this pattern. Shoplifting incidents have dramatically increased over the last five years; however, residential break and enters, commercial break and enters, and thefts from automobiles have decreased. Incidents of auto theft have remained steady.



The Richmond Detachment continues to monitor these trends and respond accordingly, including issuing public messaging regarding crime trends. In 2024, “Boost and Bust” projects were regularly deployed to combat organized retail thefts.<sup>4</sup> Police will continue to use these tools and expand existing crime prevention initiatives by enhancing public outreach and police visibility with regular foot patrols, business outreach and participation in various community events.

The Richmond Detachment’s robust crime reduction strategy is built on intelligence-led crime analysis utilizing the COMPSTAT model to target property crimes. These responsive measures include the management of prolific offenders, proactive policing initiatives, collaborations with partner agencies, targeted enforcement projects, and increased training for police officers. Police will continue to deploy these measures while also working to develop enhanced public engagement and communication strategies, including raising community awareness of crime prevention resources and programs.

These crime prevention measures and the Block Watch program help enhance public perceptions of community safety. Presentations to different community groups, including seniors and newcomers to Canada, are an additional educational tool which will continue to be promoted. Volunteer programs such as Lock Out Auto Crime, Crime Watch, and bike patrols are further measures that support crime prevention initiatives and will continue to be pursued this fiscal year.

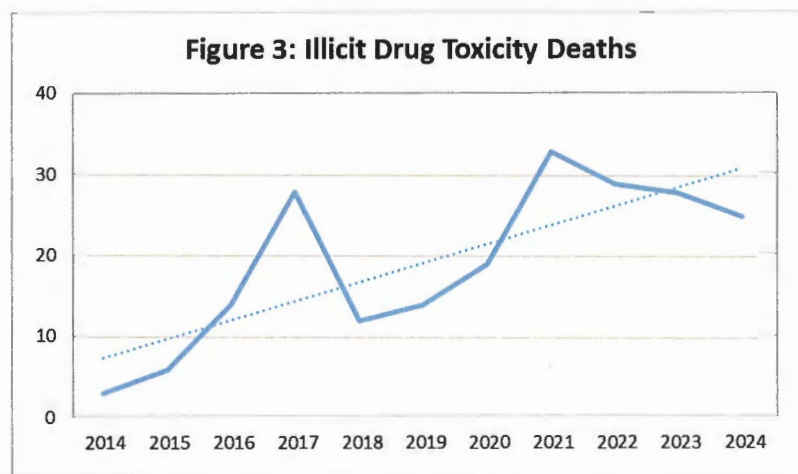
<sup>4</sup> Boost and Bust projects involve police partnering with local businesses and loss prevention officers to target retail thefts.



### Organized Crime

The Richmond Detachment has maintained organized crime as a community priority. While the overall violent crime rate remains low in Richmond, the OIC is committed to combatting organized criminal activities, which include drug trafficking, drug production, fraudulent activities and money laundering. These activities pose numerous public safety concerns, including the dangers of clandestine drug labs and gang violence.

While drug offences have been decreasing, the number of deaths related to illicit drug toxicity in Richmond has been trending upward over the last 10 years.<sup>5</sup> Police recognize the danger that these illegal drugs pose to the community, and specialized investigators have worked to target drug trafficking and drug production. In the 2024-2025 fiscal year, investigators conducted several significant organized crime-related investigations, including files that led to the seizure of various quantities of drugs, cash, and weapons, resulting in notable arrests. The Richmond Detachment continues to prioritize investigations and measures that disrupt organized crime, including gang suppression patrols, projects targeting illicit drug production and distribution, and asset forfeiture.



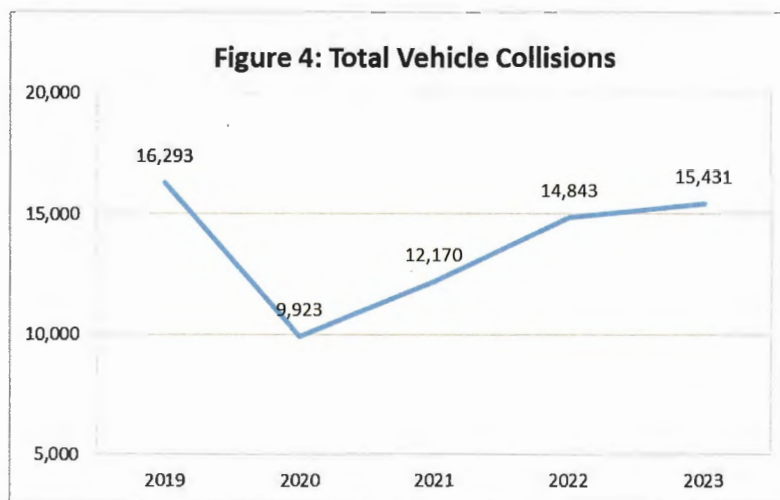
Investigators also continue to see emerging cybercrime trends, such as cryptocurrency fraud. These crimes often have a nexus to organized crime due to their sophisticated and organized nature and the potential for significant monetary gains for criminals. In 2024, over \$ 38 million was reported lost by victims of fraud in Richmond. The Economic Crime Unit (ECU) has developed various investigative and awareness initiatives, including enhanced internal training sessions and distribution of public information resources available in English, French and Traditional Chinese. The ECU has also hosted public fraud awareness outreach, including an event held on January 26, 2025, at Yaohan Centre. The ECU will continue to expand these programs while exploring additional education and enforcement measures.

<sup>5</sup> <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/birth-adoption-death-marriage-and-divorce/deaths/coroners-service/statistical/illicit-drug.pdf>

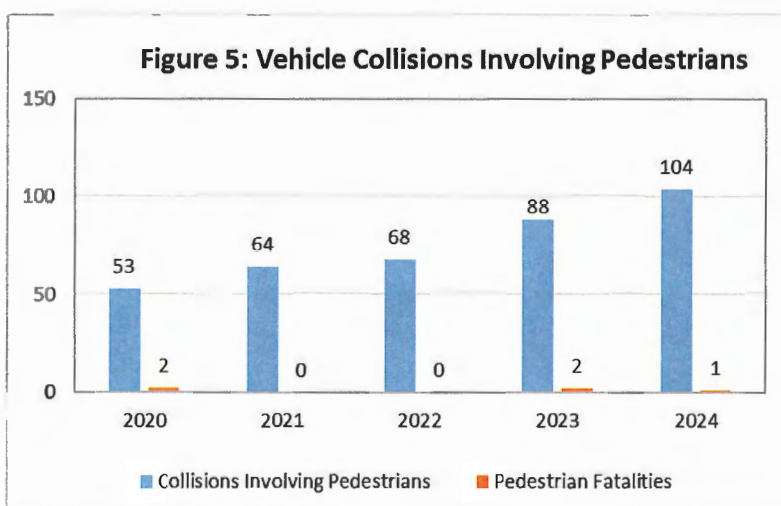
### Road Safety

The Richmond Detachment has identified road safety as an ongoing community priority and has continued implementing a comprehensive road safety strategy built on intelligence-led analysis, the engagement of community policing volunteers, public education campaigns and ongoing proactive enforcement efforts.

Figure 4 presents the total vehicle collisions in Richmond between 2019 and 2023.<sup>6</sup> There was a notable decrease in vehicle collisions during the COVID-19 pandemic, mirroring the downward trend observed for property crimes during the same period.



Similarly, vehicle collisions involving pedestrians also decreased during the pandemic; however, in 2023, there was an increase in traffic incidents, resulting in injuries and fatalities to pedestrians. The Richmond Detachment is closely monitoring this trend and continuing to prioritize road safety education and enforcement.



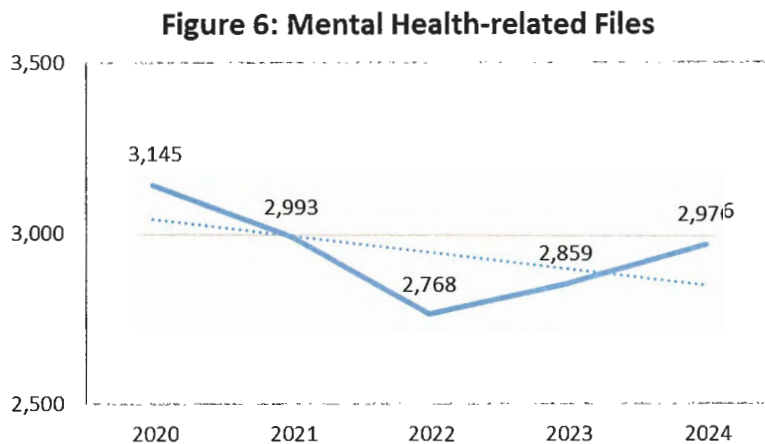
<sup>6</sup> Based on ICBC crash data <https://www.icbc.com/about-icbc/newsroom/Statistics>, 2024 data is not available

The Richmond Detachment is continuously promoting public education campaigns and leveraging social media to increase awareness of road safety topics, including distracted driving, speeding, impaired driving and pedestrian safety. This consistent messaging and ongoing targeted enforcement efforts will remain a priority this fiscal year. The Community Engagement Team and volunteers conduct road safety outreach and deployments targeting these concerns. These actions include Fail to Stop and Speed Watch deployments, car seat safety clinics and pedestrian safety outreach events where thousands of safety reflectors have been distributed throughout Richmond.

Enforcement projects continue to be based on collision data and feedback received from the community. The Richmond Detachment has also engaged partner agencies for a variety of joint operations, including policing agencies from other jurisdictions, City Bylaws and Passenger Transportation Enforcement Officers to target a variety of safety issues. The 2024-2025 fiscal year included projects targeting illegal ride-hailing, e-bike/e-scooter safety and commercial vehicle enforcement. In addition, the Youth Section continues to conduct regular enforcement projects in school zones.

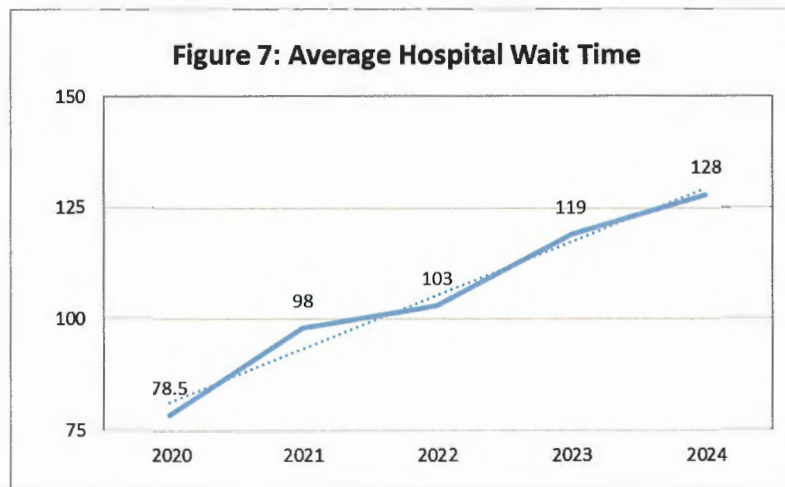
#### *Vulnerable Persons*

The Richmond Detachment has maintained vulnerable persons as a community priority. While the five-year data indicates an overall decreasing trend, mental health-related calls for service in Richmond began rising in 2023.





The average hospital wait time has consistently risen in the last 5 years, with an eight percent year-over-year increase in 2024.



These statistics highlight the increasing demands on policing resources relating to responding to mental health-related calls for service. To address these challenges, the Richmond Detachment has deployed various strategies to respond to these pressures and the complex social issues surrounding vulnerable persons, including mental health concerns, addiction and homelessness. The most prominent initiative is the Fox 80 Mental Health Car, operated in partnership with Vancouver Coastal Health. This program, which consists of a mental health nurse and police officer providing a joint response to calls where mental health is a concern, offers specialized support to clients in crisis.

The Vulnerable Persons Unit (VPU) strives to enhance partnerships and client support services by collaborating with stakeholders to find viable solutions to assist vulnerable clients. The VPU participates in various ongoing working groups and initiatives, including collaboration with the Assertive Community Treatment team and various partners within Vancouver Coastal Health.

Homelessness remains an ongoing safety concern. To address the multi-faceted needs of individuals experiencing homelessness and develop sustainable solutions to these complex social issues, the VPU collaborates with partners, including the Joint Operations Team and the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction (MSDPR). VPU officers, alongside MSDPR and City staff, conduct regular homeless outreach activities and work with community partners to provide information and facilitate connecting the unhoused with available support services. Police also provide support to City of Richmond's Bylaw officers and Homelessness Outreach Workers who attend sheltering sites of individuals experiencing homelessness.

The Yankee 30 Youth Partnership Car program had its first full operational year in 2024. This joint initiative involves police officers from Richmond RCMP's Youth Section working alongside youth probation officers and social workers to support at-risk youth and provide improved access to support services to guide them away from further criminal offences.

This fiscal year, the Richmond Detachment will continue to focus on collaborative responses to issues surrounding vulnerable persons and will also work on increasing police training and awareness of these issues.

### **Financial Impact**

None.

### **Conclusion**

Richmond Detachment requests that Council endorse the following as Community Priorities for inclusion in the 2025-2026 Annual Performance Plan (April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2026):

1. Property Crime;
2. Organized Crime;
3. Road Safety; and
4. Vulnerable Persons.

As described in the APP, the targeted activities will focus on intelligence-led policing, offender management, officer visibility, and crime reduction initiatives through community education, engagement, partnerships, and intervention and prevention programs.



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