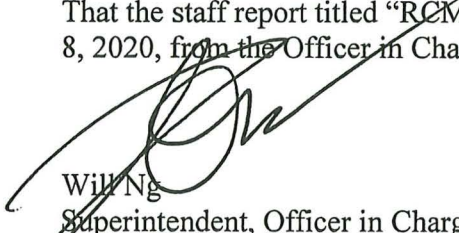




To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** December 8, 2020
From: Will Ng **File:** 09-5000-01/2020-Vol
 Superintendent, Officer in Charge 01
Re: RCMP Monthly Activity Report – November 2020


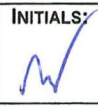

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – November 2020”, dated December 8, 2020, from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment, be received for information.



Will Ng
 Superintendent, Officer in Charge
 (604-278-1212)

Att. 3

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

Staff Report

Origin

At the request of the Community Safety Committee, the Officer in Charge will keep Council informed on matters pertaining to policing in the Richmond community. This monthly activity report for the RCMP provides information on each of the following areas:

1. Activities and Noteworthy Files
2. Analysis of Police Statistics
3. Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions
4. Auxiliary Program
5. Block Watch
6. Community Police Station Programs
7. Crime Prevention Unit
8. Road Safety Unit
9. Victim Services
10. Youth Section

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2018-2022 Strategy #1 A Safe and Resilient City:

Enhance and protect the safety and well-being of Richmond.

Analysis

Activities and Noteworthy Files

Stabbing

On November 1, 2020, Richmond RCMP officers attended the 6000 block of No. 3 Road for reports of a stabbing. The victim was stabbed during an altercation with a group of suspects, who fled prior to police arrival. The victim received treatment in hospital and was later released. Police believe this was a targeted incident and the investigation is ongoing.

Fatal Pedestrian Collision

On November 1, 2020, Richmond RCMP officers responded to a vehicle collision involving a pedestrian in the 8500 block of Cambie Road. The pedestrian was transported to hospital but later succumbed to his injuries. The driver of the vehicle remained at the scene and was cooperative with police. The collision remains under investigation and police have asked the public for witnesses and dash camera footage of the incident.

Firearm Seizure

On November 11, 2020, Richmond RCMP officers attended a residence in the 11000 block of Steveston Highway for reports of a man shooting at birds. While hunting is permitted in the area, police observed numerous hunting violations and seized a number of firearms during the subsequent search. The incident remains under investigation and charges are pending.

Arrests

On November 18, 2020, the Richmond RCMP issued a media release advising that six arrests had been made in connection with a significant drug production investigation. The investigation resulted in searches at three Richmond properties last month, which yielded substantial amounts of illicit street drugs, pill presses and firearms, including:

- 300,000 doses of suspected methamphetamine and 200 kilograms of drug precursors;
- 6,810 doses of suspected fentanyl;
- 2,000 doses of illicit cannabis marihuana;
- Three pill presses collectively capable of manufacturing up to 30,000 pills an hour; and
- Six firearms, including four carbine-style rifles, high capacity magazines and firearm suppressors.

Toy Drive

On November 21, 2020, the Richmond RCMP hosted the 6th Annual Toy Drive in support of the Richmond Christmas Fund. While COVID-19 safety measures changed the traditional format of the Toy Drive, this year's drive-through event was successful in raising 1,000 cubic feet in toys and over \$11,000 for families in need.

Analysis of Police Statistics

Arson

In November 2020, there were six reported incidents of arson, which is down five incidents from the previous month and up three incidents from November 2019. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of arsons this month is within the expected range.

Assault Serious (Assault with a Weapon)

There were 14 assault serious events in November 2020, which represents an 18 per cent decrease from the previous month and no change from November 2019. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of serious assaults this month is within the expected range.

Auto Theft

In November 2020, there were 29 incidents of auto theft, which is the same number reported the previous month. This month, auto thefts increased 32 per cent when compared to November 2019. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of auto thefts this month is within the expected range

Drugs

In November 2020, there were 35 drug files, which is up nine per cent from the previous month and down 65 per cent from November 2019. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of drug incidents this month is within the expected range.

Mental Health

There were 135 mental health-related incidents in November 2020, which is down 15 per cent from the previous month and down 20 per cent from November 2019. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of mental health related incidents is within the expected range.

Year to date, the number of mental health files has decreased 16 per cent when compared to the same period in 2019. Police apprehension numbers remained steady with 75 events this month; however, average hospital wait times increased to 97 minutes, which is the highest average wait time seen this year.¹

Residential Break and Enter

There were 45 break and enters to residences in November 2020, which represents a 35 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 21 per cent decrease from November 2019. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of residential break and enters is within the expected range.

Year to date, residential break and enters have decreased 23 per cent when compared to the same period in 2019. There were a high number of break and enters to residences reported in October 2020. Criminal analysis has linked this activity to known offenders and targeted enforcement actions have been conducted. These measures helped contribute to a reduction in this crime type this month.

Commercial Break and Enter

In November 2020, there were 25 break and enters to businesses, which is down 36 per cent from October 2020 and down 39 per cent from November 2019. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of commercial break and enters is within the expected range.

Robbery

There were two robbery incidents in November 2020, which is down three incidents from the previous month and down seven incidents from November 2019. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of robberies this month is within the expected range.

Sexual Offences

In November 2020, there were 13 sexual offence files, which represents a 13 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 24 per cent decrease from November 2019. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of sex offences this month is within the expected range.

¹ A person apprehended under the Mental Health Act may be brought to a hospital for assessment by a health practitioner who would determine if hospitalization, medical treatment or a further referral is required.

Shoplifting

There were 59 shoplifting thefts in November 2020, which down 11 per cent from the previous month and down eight per cent from November 2019. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of reported shoplifting thefts in November 2020 is within the expected range.

Theft from Automobile

There were 136 theft from automobile incidents in November 2020, which is down 11 per cent from the previous month and down 27 per cent from November 2019. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of thefts from automobiles this month is within the expected range.

COVID-19 Statistics

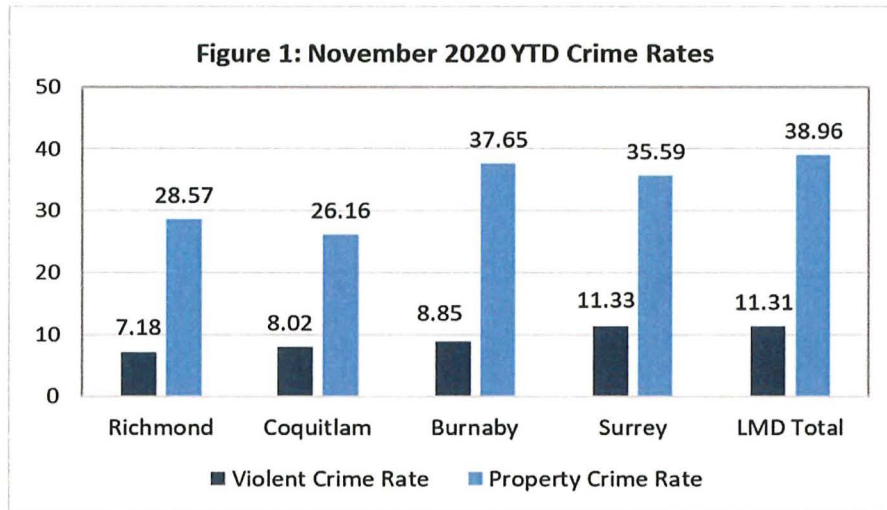
Table 1 outlines the number of police calls for service related to COVID-19. This month, there were 27 COVID-19-related files, which is a marked increase from the four files reported the previous month. Many incidents were related to individuals not adhering to public health requirements, such as mask-wearing. There were also multiple calls regarding prohibited social gatherings. Additionally, two violation tickets were issued under Section 58 of the *Quarantine Act* to individuals failing to comply with quarantine requirements.

Total COVID-19-related files	27
Quarantine Act (Federal)	4
Public Health Act (Provincial)	16
COVID-19-Related Measures Act	7

Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions

Data on crime rates is presented in Figure 1.² Out of the four largest municipalities policed by the RCMP in the Lower Mainland District (LMD), Richmond had the lowest violent crime rate and the second lowest property crime rate in November 2020. Year to date, Richmond's property crime rate has decreased 12 per cent compared to the same period in 2019.

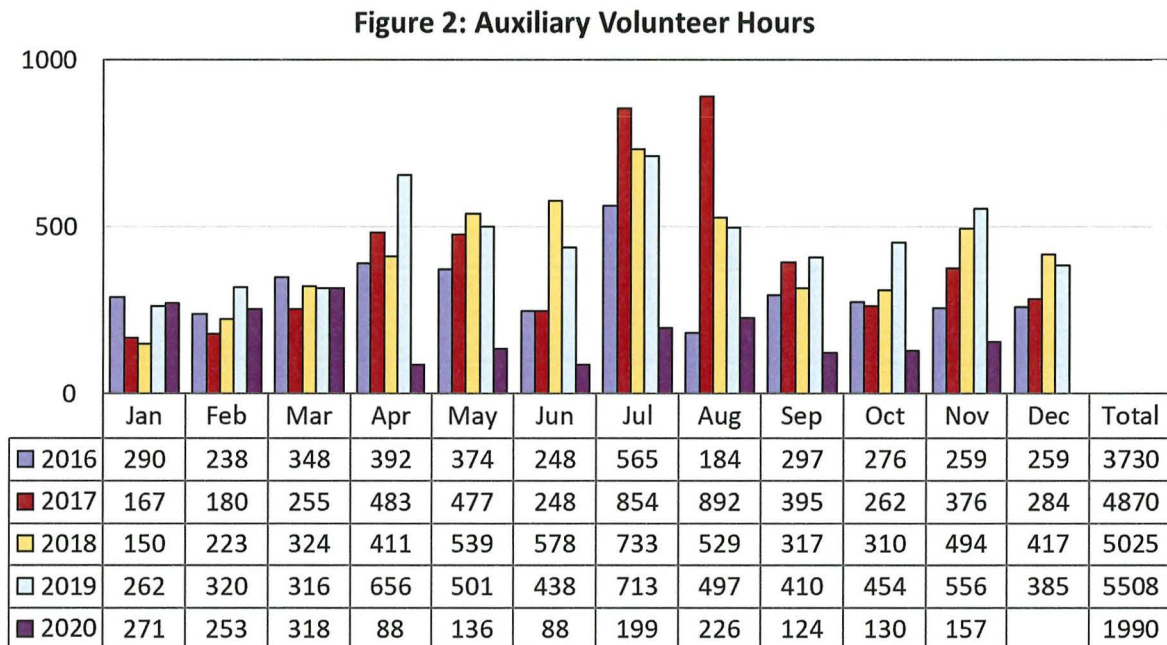
² Crime rate is calculated per 1,000 people (using 2020 population projections).



Auxiliary Program

In November 2020, the Richmond RCMP Detachment had a complement of 31 Auxiliaries.³ Due to COVID-19 safety protocols, volunteer activities have been reduced. Auxiliaries provided a total of 157 volunteer hours during the month of November.

Figure 2 compares the monthly hours of service provided from 2016 to 2020.



³ Previously referred to as Auxiliary Constables.

Auxiliary Program Activities

Auxiliaries attend events in the community to promote a positive police presence, support RCMP members and assist with community policing and crime prevention initiatives, as well as traffic and crowd control. During the month of November, Auxiliaries participated in:

- Bait Car
- Departmental Operations Centre
- Diversity & Inclusion Initiatives
- Home Security Checks (virtual)
- Toy Drive

Block Watch

At the end of November 2020, the Block Watch program had 313 groups totaling 6,736 participants. Currently, the program includes 440 captains and co-captains. Due to COVID-19, the Block Watch program has suspended the training of new captains.

Community Police Station Programs

Community police stations enhance the Richmond RCMP Detachment's policing services by providing an array of crime prevention resources and community safety initiatives. Due to COVID-19, all three community police stations have been closed to the public since March 2020. Volunteer deployments have continued, in accordance with guidelines established by RCMP "E" Division's Crime Prevention Services; however, the scope of volunteer activities has been limited. City staff and volunteers continue to pursue safety initiatives to enhance crime prevention program awareness, community engagement and police accessibility.

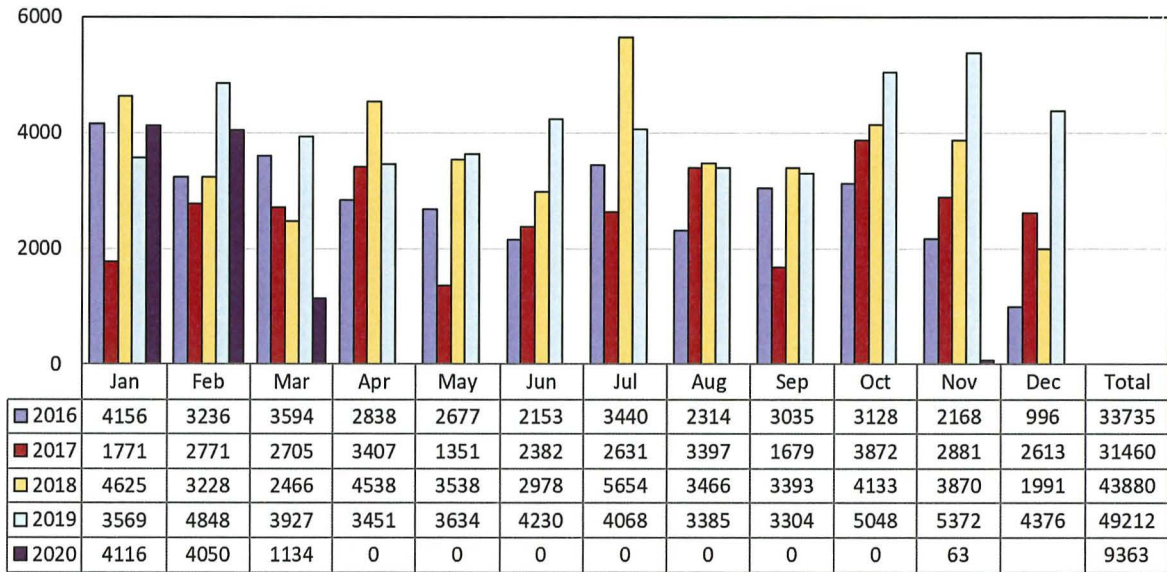
During the month of November volunteer highlights included:

- Three Lock Out Auto Crime deployments took place, which resulted in 63 information letters. Crime prevention notices have been temporarily replaced by information letters, which are mailed to registered vehicle owners.
- On November 21, 2020, 13 volunteers assisted RCMP officers with the 6th Annual Toy Drive.

Lock Out Auto Crime

Figure 3 provides a comparison by year of the number of vehicle notices issued.⁴

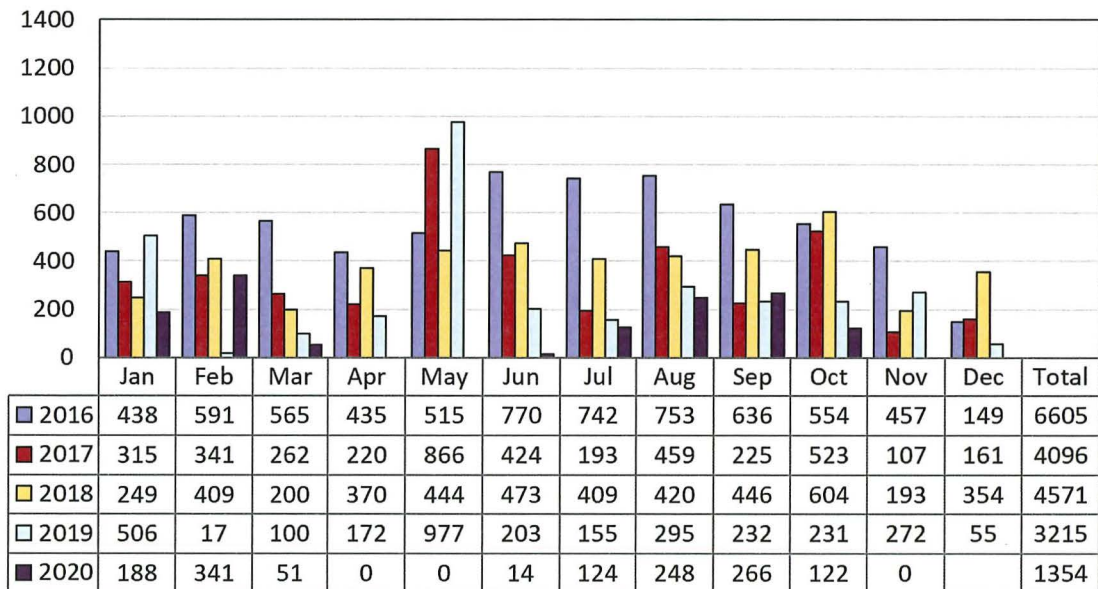
Figure 3: Lock Out Auto Crime Vehicles Issued a Notice



Speed Watch

Figure 4 provides a yearly comparison of the number of letters sent to registered vehicle owners.

Figure 4: Speed Watch Letters Sent



⁴ In November 2020, Lock Out Auto Crime letters were issued in place of notices.

Crime Prevention Unit

The Crime Prevention Unit reduces crime and enhances community engagement through public awareness and education initiatives. During the month of November, the Crime Prevention Unit participated in the following events/activities:

- Diversity & Inclusion Initiatives
- Faith Patrols
- Lock Out Auto Crime
- Project Rainbow
- Remembrance Day
- Toy Drive

Road Safety Unit

The Road Safety Unit makes Richmond's roads safer through evidence-based traffic enforcement, investigation of serious vehicle collisions and public education programs. Table 2 compares statistics for November 2020 to both September 2020 and October 2020.

Violation Tickets were issued for the following infractions:

Table 2: Violation Tickets Issued

Infraction	September 2020	October 2020	November 2020
Distracted Driving	46	130	84
Driver License	117	230	207
Impaired	29	23	27
Intersection Offences	37	55	54
Moving Violations ⁵	57	165	217
Speeding	214	288	332
Seatbelts	2	5	4
Vehicle Related ⁶	58	99	82
Other ⁷	7	7	0
Total	567	1,002	1,007

Victim Services

In November 2020, Richmond RCMP Victim Services met with 63 new clients and attended three crime/trauma scenes after hours. Victim Services reduced in-person client services in March 2020 and began offering services by phone but continue to attend some of the more serious calls in-person. The unit currently maintains an active caseload of 235 files. Victim Services responded to a number of cases involving medical-related sudden deaths, property crime and two fatal accidents.

⁵ Moving violations refers to unsafe lane change and unsafe passing.

⁶ Vehicle related refers to vehicle defects, for example no lights and no insurance.

⁷ Other refers to miscellaneous charges including fail to remain at the scene of an accident and failing to stop for police.

Youth Section

The Richmond RCMP Detachment's Youth Section focuses on strategies that contribute to safe and healthy behaviours essential to the development of productive and civic-minded adults. During the month of November, Youth Section highlights included:

- There were 36 in-person Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) classes. An additional 28 classes were delivered via Zoom as the program moved to virtual lessons due to an increase in COVID-19 exposures in schools. The majority of schools completing DARE in the first term have committed to the online program, while two are completing the program with classroom teacher instruction.
- RCMP officers in the Youth Section conducted 73 proactive school visits at Secondary Schools and 86 visits at Elementary Schools. Police officers engaged with the students at recess and lunch, as well as during morning and afternoon supervision.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

This month, the Richmond RCMP conducted a number of noteworthy investigations, including a large-scale drug production investigation, which resulted in the arrests of six suspects. In addition, police continue to investigate a fatal vehicle collision involving a pedestrian. Crime statistics for November 2020 indicate that most crime types were within the expected ranges. COVID-19-related files increased this month and included two violation tickets issued under the *Quarantine Act*.

While the number of community policing initiatives were limited this month due to COVID-19, volunteers assisted RCMP officers with the annual Toy Drive in support of the Richmond Christmas Fund. This year's event was reimagined as a drive through event and helped raise significant donations for families in need. The Officer in Charge of the Richmond RCMP Detachment will continue to ensure that Richmond remains a safe and desirable community.



Edward Warzel
Manager, RCMP Administration
(604-207-4767)

- Att. 1: Community Policing Programs
2: Crime Statistics
3: Crime Maps

Auxiliary Constables

- The primary mandate of Richmond's Auxiliary Constables is to support community policing activities related to public safety and crime prevention.
- For more information, visit www.richmond.ca/safety/police/prevention/auxiliary.htm

Block Watch

- Community-based crime prevention program aimed at helping neighbors organize themselves to prevent crime.
- Residents can receive email alerts of neighbourhood residential break and enters by registering their email addresses at: blockwatch@richmond.ca
- For more information, visit www.richmond.ca/safety/police/prevention/blockwatch.htm

Distracted Driving Program

- Trained volunteers monitor intersections and observe distracted drivers.
- A letter is sent to the registered owner of the offending vehicle with information on the safety risks associated to the observed behaviour and applicable fine amounts.
- For more information, visit www.richmond.ca/safety/police/prevention/programs.htm

Fail to Stop

- Trained volunteers monitor areas that have been referred to the program by local businesses or residents where drivers are not making a full stop at the stop sign, or running a red light.
- An information letter is sent to the registered owner of the vehicle advising them the date, time and location and applicable fine amounts if the driver received a violation ticket.

Lock Out Auto Crime

- Co-sponsored by the Insurance Corporation of BC (ICBC), volunteers patrol city streets and parking lots looking for automobile security vulnerabilities.
- Notices supplied by ICBC are issued to every vehicle inspected indicating to the owner what issues need to be addressed in order to keep the vehicle and contents secure.

- For more information, visit
- www.richmond.ca/safety/police/personal/vehicle.htm

Project 529

- This program allows riders to easily and securely register their bikes. This up-to-date database of bikes alerts its registrants if a fellow 529 bike is stolen.
- Project 529 is a unique, multi-national registry that holds a database of all registered and stolen bikes.

Speed Watch

- Co-sponsored by ICBC, promotes safe driving habits by alerting drivers of their speed.
- Trained volunteers are equipped with radar and a speed watch reader board that gives drivers instant feedback regarding their speed.
- Volunteers record the license plate number and the speed, and a letter is sent to the registered owner of the offending vehicle. The letter includes the date, time and location and applicable fine amounts if the driver received a violation ticket.

Stolen Auto Recovery

- Co-sponsored by ICBC, trained volunteers equipped with portable computers identify stolen vehicles.
- These volunteers recover hundreds of stolen vehicles each year throughout the Lower Mainland.

Volunteer Bike and Foot Patrol Program

- Trained volunteers patrol Richmond neighbourhoods reporting suspicious activities and providing a visible deterrent to crime and public order issues.

NOVEMBER 2020 STATISTICS

RICHMOND RCMP

This chart identifies the monthly totals for founded Criminal Code incidents, excluding traffic-related Criminal Code incidents. Based on Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) scoring, there are three categories: (1) Violent Crime, (2) Property Crime, and (3) Other Criminal Code. Within each category, particular offence types are highlighted in this chart. In addition, monthly totals for Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA) incidents and MHA-related calls for service are included. Individual UCR codes are indicated below the specific crime type.

In 2019, changes were implemented regarding the collection of UCR data. The new standards provide much more stringent criteria to classify a file as unfounded. As a result, there will be an increase in many crime statistics, and clearance rates will conversely decline. This creates numerous challenges when comparing previous years' data. Full details on the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey are available at Statistics Canada: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54973-eng.htm>. For more information, contact Richmond Crime Analysts.

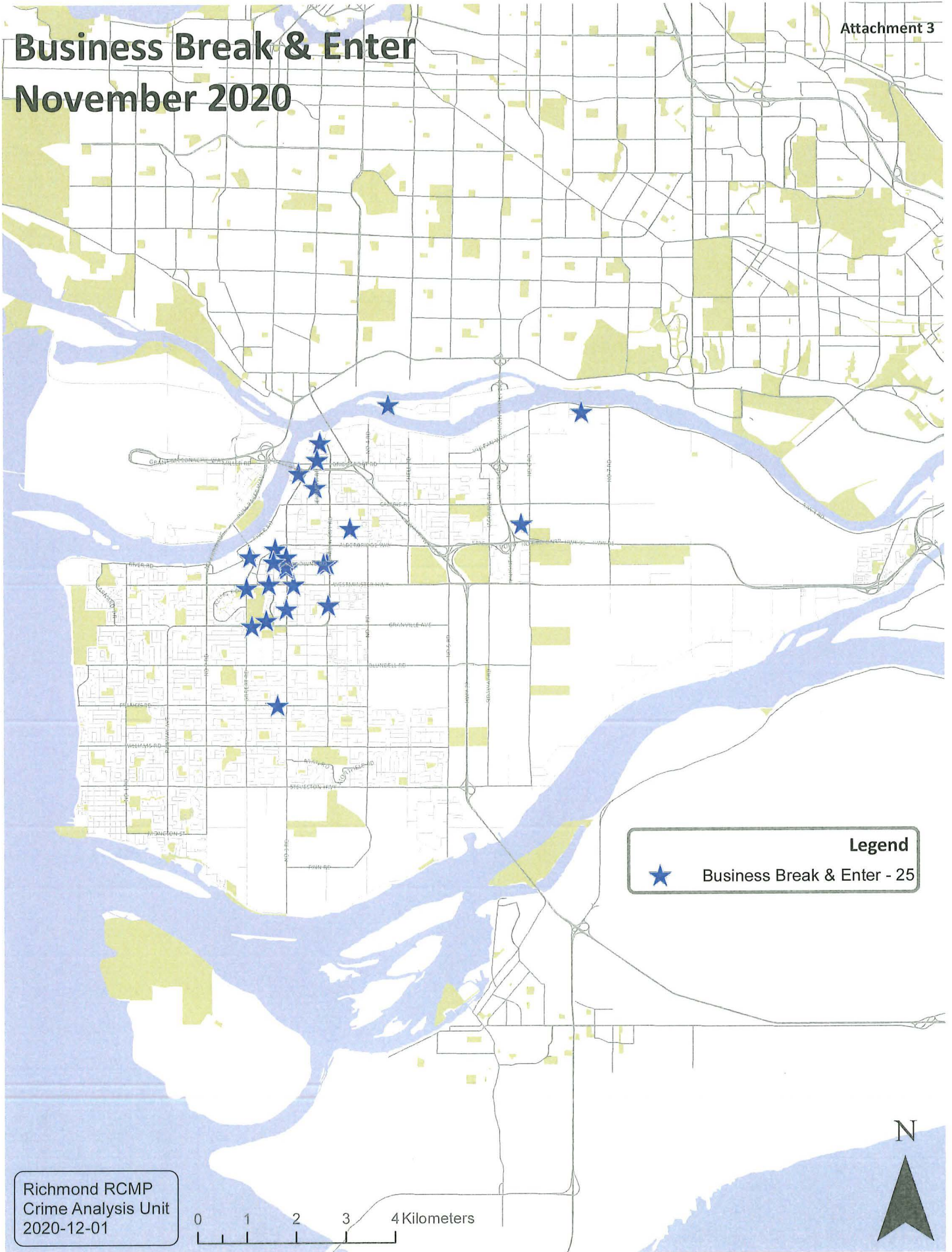
The 5 year average range data is based on activity within a single month over the past 5 years. If the current monthly total for an offence is above the expected average range (using one standard deviation) due to crime trends, patterns, or spikes, it will be noted in **red**. If the current monthly total for an offence is above the expected average range due to primarily non-operational reasons such as the new UCR standards or other scoring issues, the total will be noted in **purple**. Below expected numbers will be noted in **blue**.

Year-to-Date percentage change is used to numbers from the prior year, but the new CCJS/UCR standards reduce the utility of this metric. 2019 YTD numbers will be biased to increase from the 2018 totals, despite any positive police action.

	Month	5-Yr Avg	5-Yr Range	Year to Date Totals			
	Nov-20	November		2019	2020	% Change	# Change
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	128	118.8	101-136	1604	1560	-3%	-44
Robbery <small>UCR 1310 (1-3)</small>	2	6.8	3-10	77	50	-35%	-27
Assault Common <small>UCR 1430</small>	53	40.2	33-47	572	558	-2%	-14
Assault Serious <small>UCR 1410, 1420</small>	14	11.4	9-14	120	148	23%	28
Sexual Offences <small>UCR 1345, 1330, 1356, 1310, 3450/55/50</small>	13	13.6	9-18	209	180	-14%	-29
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	592	627.2	588-667	7158	6120	-15%	-1038
Business B&E <small>UCR 2120-1</small>	25	31.2	24-38	361	354	-2%	-7
Residential B&E <small>UCR 2120-2</small>	45	65.2	52-78	539	415	-23%	-124
Auto Theft <small>UCR 2135 (1, 10), 2176</small>	29	27.8	22-33	274	251	-8%	-23
Theft from Auto <small>UCR 2132, 2142</small>	136	179.6	154-205	1841	1530	-17%	-311
Theft <small>UCR 2130, 2140</small>	60	81.0	72-90	1056	654	-38%	-402
Shoplifting <small>UCR 2133, 2143</small>	59	59.8	51-69	944	576	-39%	-368
Fraud <small>UCR 2180 (a,b), 2155, 2155</small>	74	72.2	63-81	824	797	-3%	-27
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	192	161.6	140-183	2135	2099	-2%	-36
Arson <small>UCR 1929, 2110</small>	6	3.8	2-6	34	71	109%	37
SUBTOTAL CC OFFENCES (UCR 1000 to 3000 Series)	913	907.6	847-968	10877	9924	-9%	-953
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	35	64.6	34-95	627	571	-9%	-56
MHA RELATED CALLS (MHA files or Mental Health flag)	135	130.4	110-151	2099	1766	-16%	-333

Prepared by Richmond RCMP Crime Analysts. Data collected from PRIME on 2020-12-01. Published 2020-12-02. These data are operational and subject to change. This document is not to be copied, reproduced, used in whole or part or disseminated to any other person or agency without the consent of the originator(s).

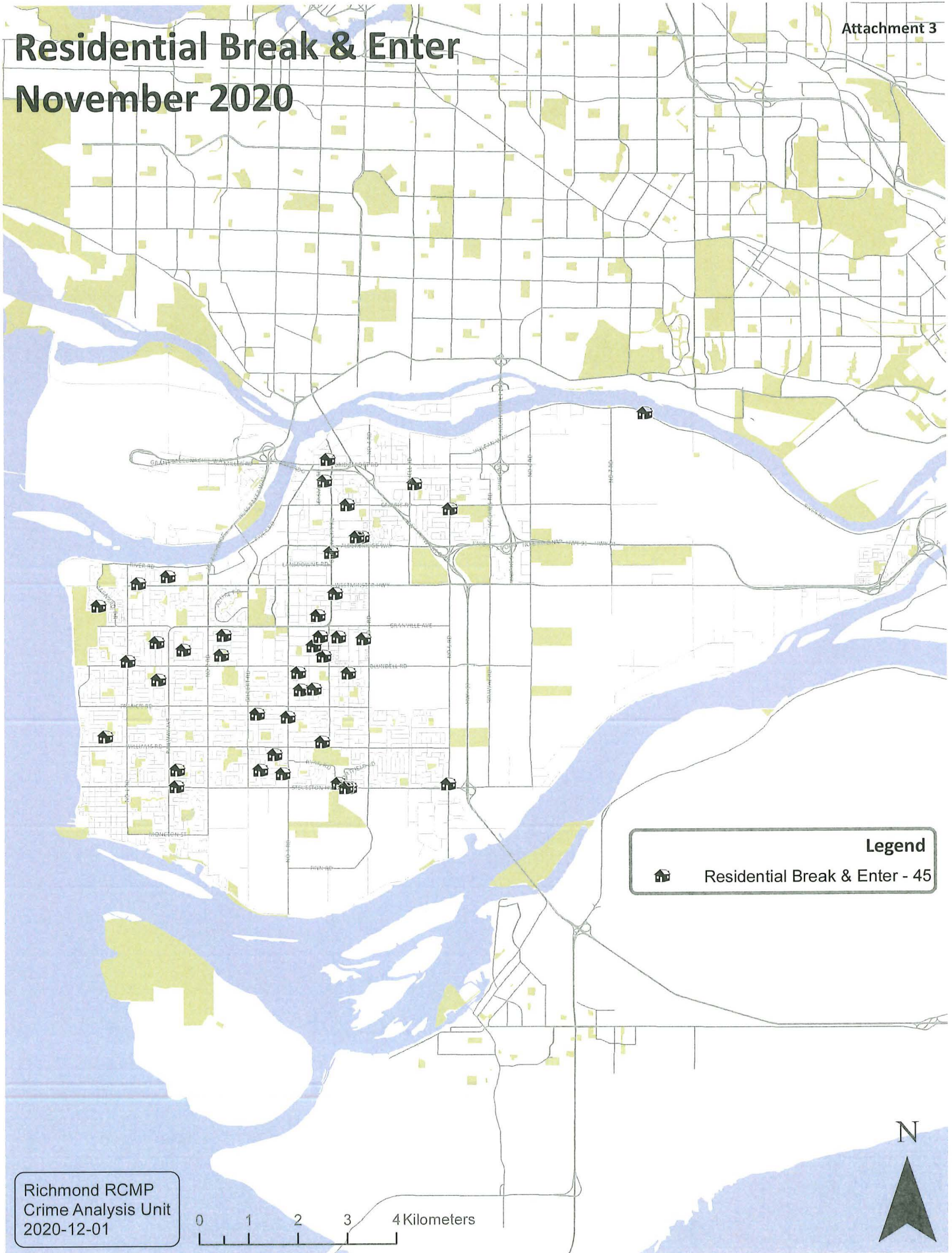
Business Break & Enter November 2020




Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2020-12-01

0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers

Residential Break & Enter November 2020



Legend

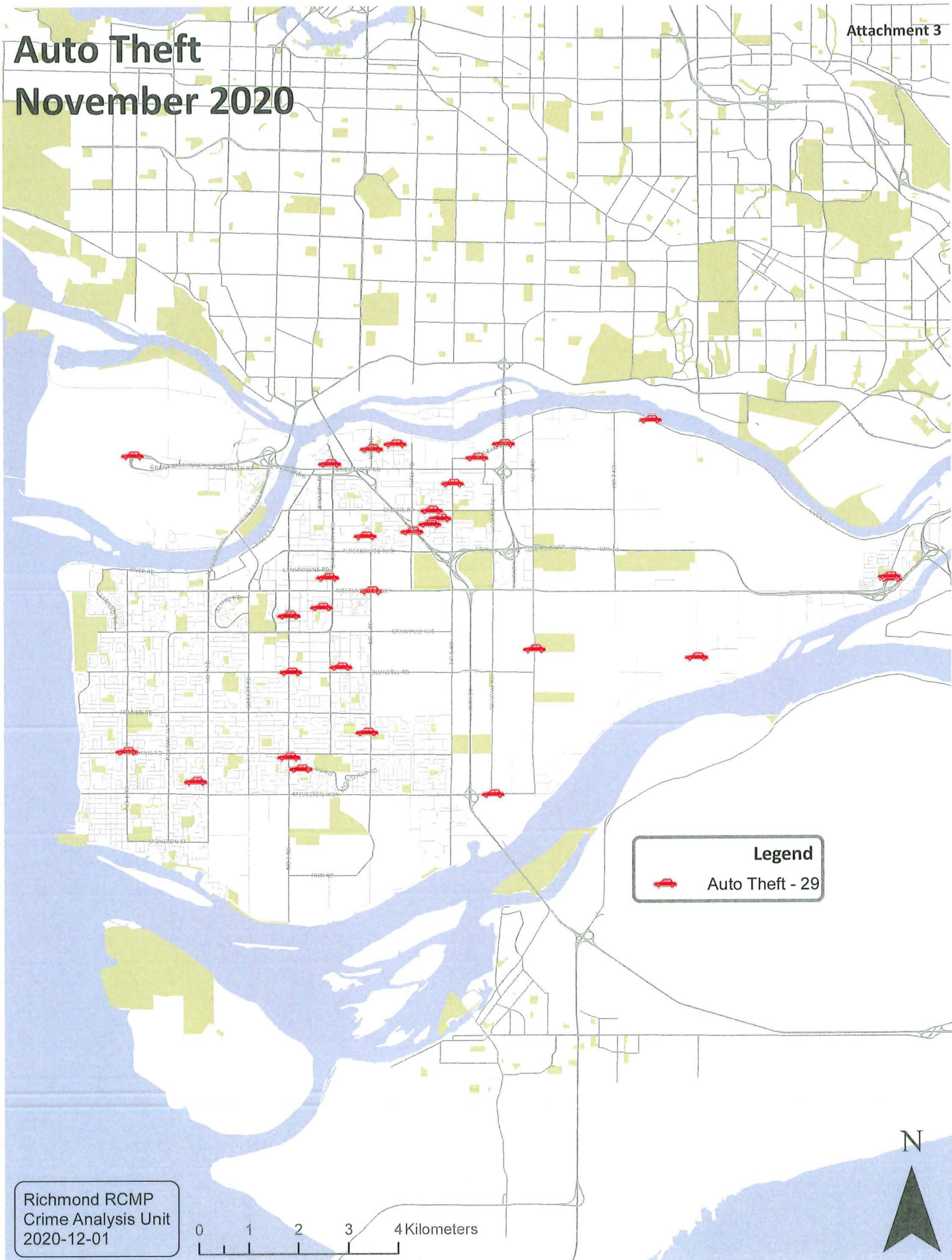
 Residential Break & Enter - 45

Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2020-12-01

0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers



Auto Theft November 2020



Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2020-12-01

0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers

CS - 41

Theft From Auto November 2020

