



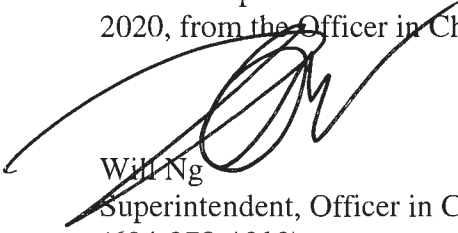
City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee
From: Will Ng
Superintendent, Officer in Charge
Date: February 10, 2020
File: 09-5000-01/2020-Vol
01
Re: RCMP Monthly Activity Report – January 2020


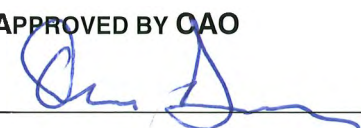
Staff Recommendation

That the report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – January 2020”, dated February 10, 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: CT
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

Arrest

On January 3, 2020, Richmond RCMP officers in the Property Crime Unit and Economic Crime Unit arrested a suspect who had been wanted for fraud-related offences since July 2019. The suspect was located and arrested in Oliver, BC and has been charged with over 26 offences spanning multiple jurisdictions across the province; 15 of those charges originated in Richmond.

Pedestrian Fatality

On January 14, 2020, Richmond RCMP officers responded to the area of Cooney Road and Ackroyd Road for a report of a pedestrian struck by a vehicle. The pedestrian, a 72-year-old Richmond man, was transported to hospital but later succumbed to his injuries. The driver remained at the scene of the collision and has been cooperative with police. The Richmond RCMP Criminal Collision Investigation Team is investigating.

Fraud Awareness

On January 16, 2020, the Richmond RCMP issued a media release alerting the public of a "fake boss" fraud which targets individuals who are searching for work. The scam involves the recruitment of an employee, without a face-to-face interview, who unknowingly engages in fraudulent currency transactions on behalf of the employer.

On January 24, 2020, the Richmond RCMP issued a media release reminding the public to be aware of telephone frauds where individuals pose as government officials, including police officers. The Richmond RCMP stated that no government agency will call and demand payment in the form of gift cards or Bitcoin.

Stabbing

On January 23, 2020, Richmond RCMP officers responded to a residence in the 3500 block of Francis Road for a report of a stabbing. Upon arrival, police located a 34-year-old male suffering from stab wounds. He was transported to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. Police believe the injuries resulted from an altercation between two individuals who are known to each other. The incident is under investigation.

Analysis of Police Statistics

Arson

In January 2020, there were two reported incidents of arson, which is up one incident from the previous month and down one incident from January 2019. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of arsons this month is within the five-year average range.

Assault Serious (Assault with a Weapon)

There were 11 assault serious events in January 2020, which represents a 57 per cent increase from December 2019 and a 21 per cent decrease from January 2019. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of serious assaults this month is within the five-year average range.

Auto Theft

There were 35 auto theft incidents this month, which represents a 25 per cent decrease from the previous month and a six per cent increase from January 2019. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of auto thefts this month is slightly above the five-year average range.

Drugs

In January 2020, there were 189 drug files, which represents a 59 per cent increase from the previous month. The number of drug incidents this month is approximately four times the number recorded in January 2019 and is significantly above the five-year average range. No patterns or trends have been identified.

In the last four months, drug incidents have been significantly outside of the expected range as a result of the processing of a backlog of drug exhibits, originating as Canada Customs seizures at the Vancouver International Airport (YVR). Approximately 90 per cent of the files this month can be attributed to processing this backlog.

Mental Health

There were 165 mental health incidents in January 2020, which is down 14 per cent from December 2019 and down 13 per cent from January 2019. No patterns or trends have been identified. Mental health-related incidents remain slightly above the five-year average range.

There were 75 police apprehensions this month and hospital wait times averaged 85 minutes, indicating that both numbers have remained steady for the last six months.

Residential Break and Enter

There were 47 break and enters to residences in January 2020, which represents a seven per cent increase from the previous month and a 55 per cent decrease from January 2019. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of residential break and enters this month is significantly below the five-year average range.

Commercial Break and Enter

In January 2020, there were 31 break and enters to businesses, which represents a nine per cent decrease from December 2019 and a 30 per cent decrease from January 2019. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of commercial break and enters this month is below the five-year average range.

Robbery

There were three robbery incidents in January 2020, which represents a 50 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 70 per cent decrease from January 2019. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of robberies this month is below the five-year average range.

Sexual Offences

There were 17 sexual offence files in January 2020, which represents a 42 per cent increase from the previous month and a 35 per cent decrease from January 2019. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of sex offences this month is within the five-year average range.

Shoplifting

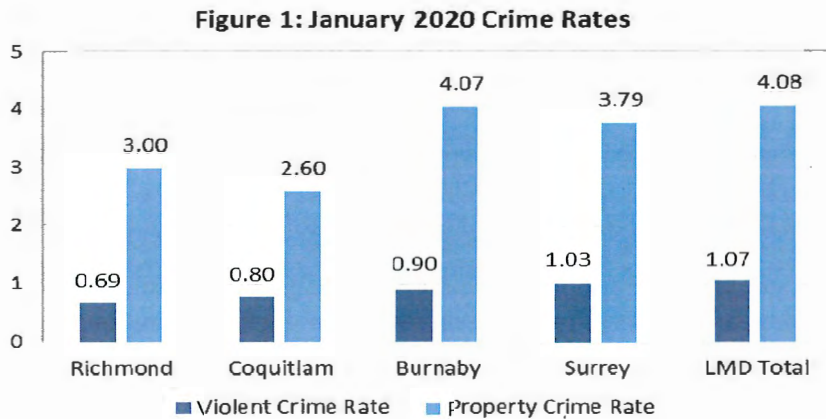
There were 63 shoplifting thefts in January 2020, which represents a 32 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 19 per cent decrease from January 2019. No patterns or trends have been identified. Reported shoplifting thefts in January 2020 were within the five-year average range.

Theft from Automobile

There were 190 theft from automobile incidents in January 2020, which represents a five per cent decrease from the previous month and a four per cent increase from January 2019. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of thefts from automobiles this month is within the five-year average range.

Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions

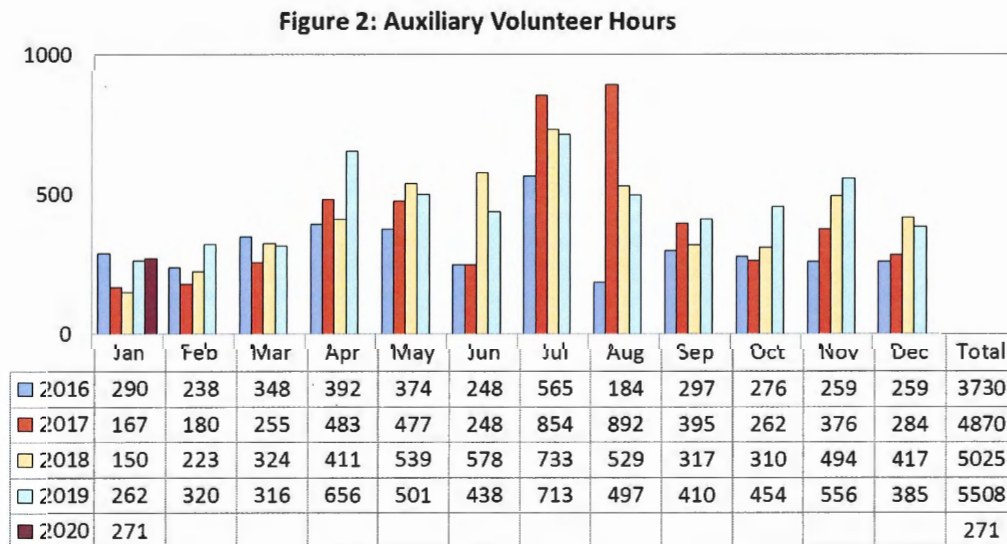
Data on crime rates is presented below (Figure 1).¹ Out of the four largest municipalities policed by the RCMP in the Lower Mainland District (LMD), Richmond had the lowest violent crime rate as well as the second lowest property crime rate in January 2020. Richmond’s January 2020 violent crime rate decreased eight per cent from January 2019, while the property crime rate decreased 14 per cent.



Auxiliary Program

In January 2020, the Richmond RCMP Detachment (the Detachment) had a complement of 30 Auxiliaries.² Auxiliaries provided a total of 271 volunteer hours during the month of January.

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



¹ Crime rate is calculated per 1,000 people (using 2019 population projections).

² 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 January, Auxiliaries participated in:

- Bait Car
- Block Watch
- Crime Watch
- Home Security Checks
- Program Assessments
- School Sports Events

Block Watch

At the end of January 2020, the Block Watch program had 341 groups totaling 7,330 participants. Currently, the program includes 456 captains and co-captains.

Community Police Station Programs

Community police stations continue to enhance the Detachment's policing services by providing an array of crime prevention resources and community safety initiatives. City staff and volunteers pursue safety initiatives to enhance crime prevention program awareness, community engagement and police accessibility. These initiatives help to reduce anxiety and fear related to crime. The program activities vary from month to month reflective of weather conditions, seasonal initiatives and the availability of volunteers. Due to inclement weather, including significant snowfall, a number of volunteer deployments were cancelled.

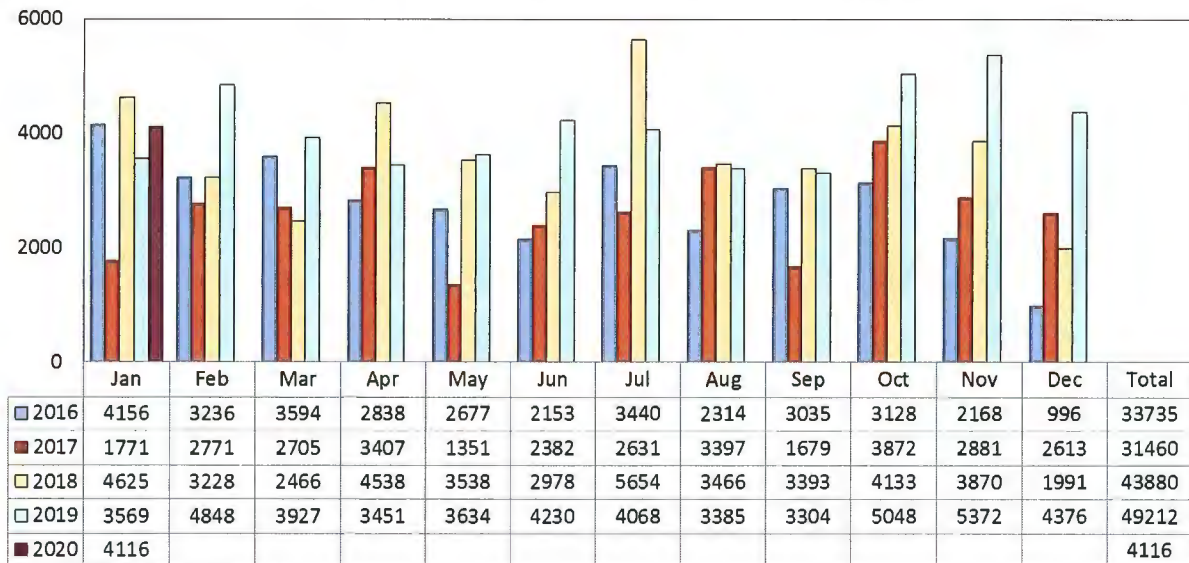
During the month of January volunteer highlights included:

- The deployment of 37 volunteer foot/van patrols totalling 268 hours and one bike patrol, totalling 12 hours.
- 40 Fail to Stop deployments took place, which resulted in 1,050 warning letters.
- Speed Watch was conducted on 1,076 vehicles at various locations.
- January 23 – Volunteers and RCMP members participated in a School Sports event at McNeely Elementary School.
- January 28 and 29 – New volunteers received introductory training.

Lock Out Auto Crime

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

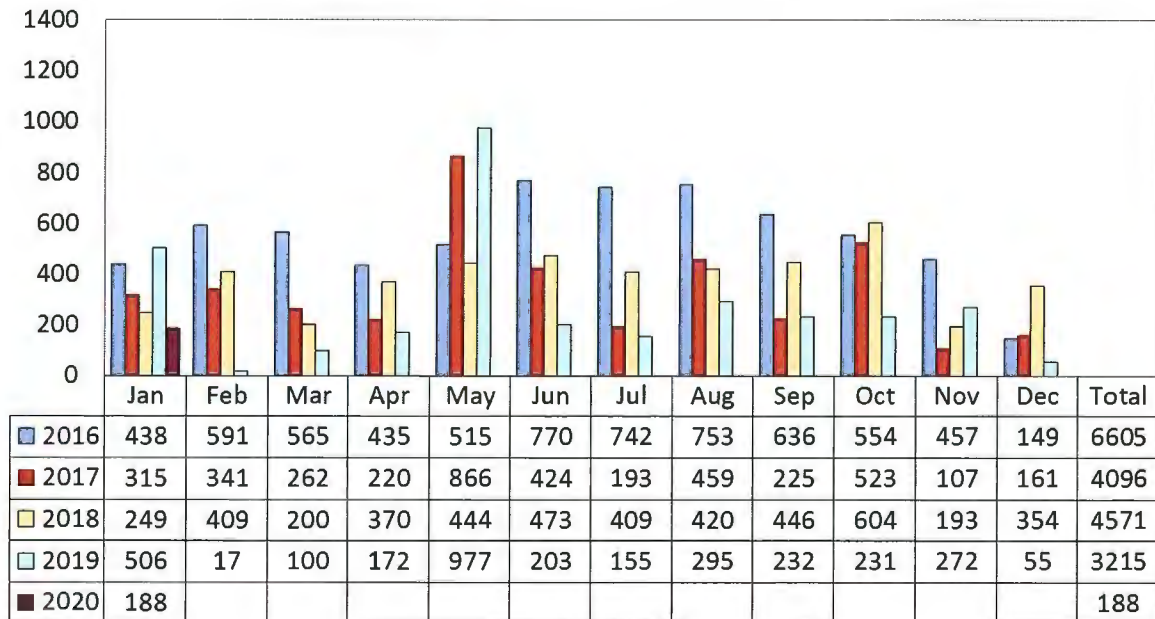
Figure 3: Lock Out Auto Crime Vehicles Issued a Notice



Speed Watch

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

Figure 4: Speed Watch Letters Sent



Crime Prevention Unit

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

- Break and Enter Outreach
- Lock Out Auto Crime
- Mosque Patrols
- Pedestrian Safety Talk
- School Sports Events
- Vulnerable Institution Patrols

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. The following statistics compare January 2020 data to both November 2019 and December 2019.

Violation Tickets were issued for the following infractions:

Table 1: Violation Tickets Issued

Infraction	November 2019	December 2019	January 2020
Distracted Driving	104	41	22
Driver License	280	235	263
Impaired	45	43	35
Intersection Offences	88	109	79
Moving Violations ³	196	149	118
Speeding	387	357	225
Seatbelts	5	10	1
Vehicle Related ⁴	61	76	77
Other ⁵	4	13	4
Total	1,170	1,033	824

Victim Services

In January 2020, Richmond RCMP Victim Services met with 64 new clients and attended eight crime/trauma scenes after hours. The unit currently maintains an active caseload of 182 ongoing files. Victim Services responded to a number of cases involving medical-related sudden deaths, family conflict and property crime.

³ Moving violations refers to unsafe lane change and unsafe passing.

⁴ Vehicle related refers to vehicle defects, for example no lights and no insurance.

⁵ Other refers to miscellaneous charges including fail to remain at the scene of an accident and failing to stop for police.

Youth Section

The 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 January, Youth Section highlights include:

- A lockdown drill was conducted at General Currie Elementary School.⁶ During the drill Youth Section members conducted a walk-through of the school and provided feedback to school staff.
- An RCMP member in the Youth Section participated in a career event at McMath Secondary School and provided information to youth on careers in policing.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

This month, the Richmond RCMP conducted a number of noteworthy investigations including the arrest of a suspect who had been the target of multiple fraud investigations since July 2019. In addition, the Richmond RCMP Criminal Collision Investigation Team continues to investigate Richmond's first pedestrian fatality of 2020.

In January 2020, both residential and commercial break and enters were below the five-year average range. This month also included community policing initiatives such as school sports events; however a number of volunteer deployments were cancelled due to significant snowfall. 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

⁶ A lockdown drill relates to safety practices in schools in the event of an active threat.

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.

JANUARY 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.

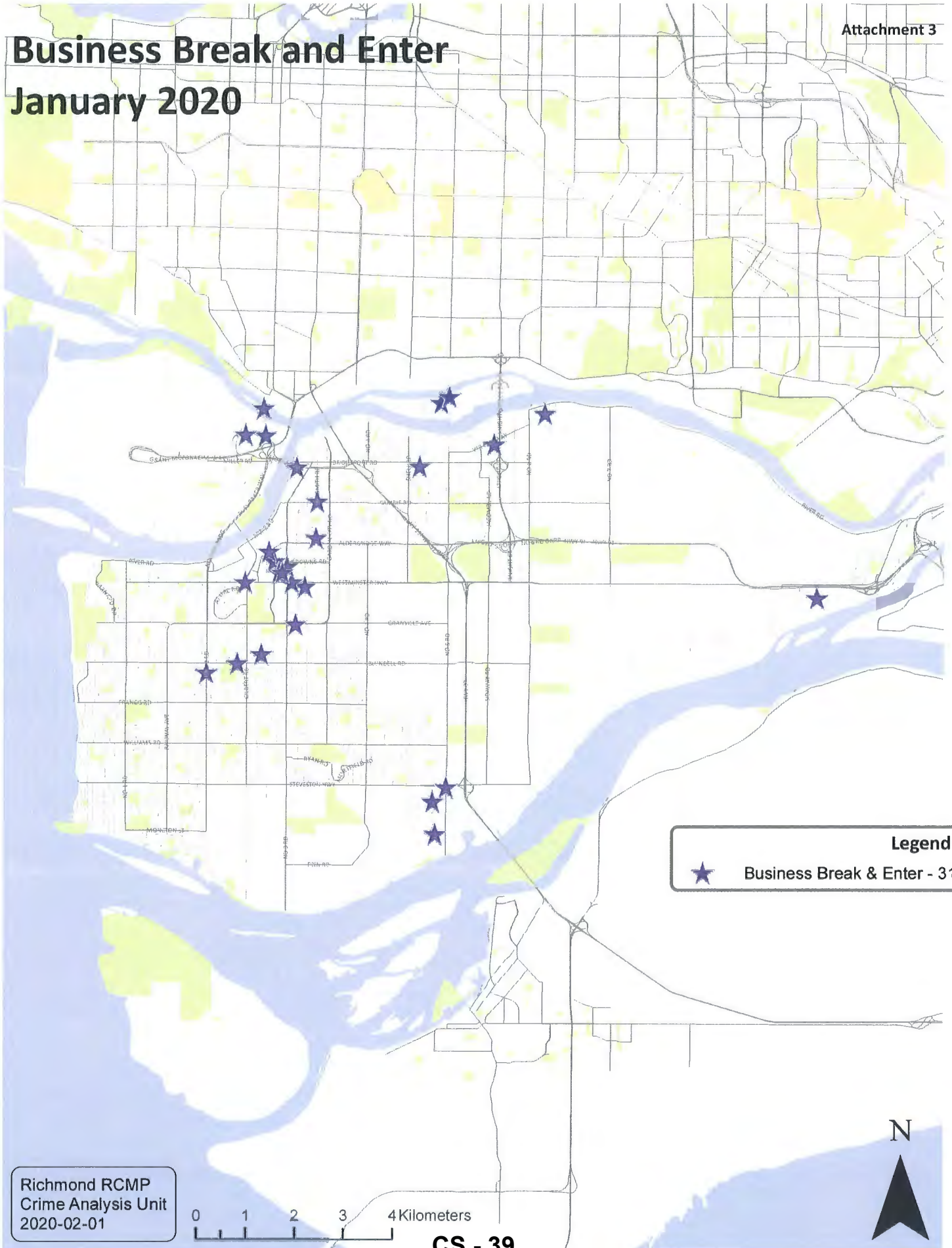
The 5 year average range data is based on activity within a single month over the past 5 years. If the current monthly total for an offence is above the expected average range (using one standard deviation) due to crime trends, patterns, or spikes, it will be noted in **red**. If the current monthly 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			
	Jan-20	January		2019	2020	% Change	# Change
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	133	113.2	88-139	160	133	-17%	-27
Robbery <small>UCR 1010 (1-3)</small>	3	7.8	5-11	10	3	-70%	-7
Assault Common <small>UCR 1430</small>	56	43.2	38-48	50	56	12%	6
Assault Serious <small>UCR 1410, 1420</small>	11	11.0	9-13	14	11	-21%	-3
Sexual Offences <small>UCR 1345, 1330, 1356, 1310, 3450/5556</small>	17	13.2	3-23	26	17	-35%	-9
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	611	715.0	678-752	757	611	-19%	-146
Business B&E <small>UCR 2120-1</small>	31	45.4	32-59	44	31	-30%	-13
Residential B&E <small>UCR 2120-2</small>	47	86.4	69-103	104	47	-55%	-57
Auto Theft <small>UCR 2135 (1-10), 2178</small>	35	25.8	19-33	33	35	6%	2
Theft from Auto <small>UCR 2132, 2142</small>	190	207.6	170-245	183	190	4%	7
Theft <small>UCR 2130, 2140</small>	70	114.0	91-137	115	70	-39%	-45
Shoplifting <small>UCR 2133, 2143</small>	63	62.6	52-73	78	63	-19%	-15
Fraud <small>UCR 2160 (all), 2165, 2166</small>	72	71.2	58-85	76	72	-5%	-4
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	160	169.6	163-176	160	160	0%	0
Arson <small>UCR 3029, 3100</small>	2	2.8	2-4	3	2	-33%	-1
SUBTOTAL CC OFFENCES (UCR 1000 to 3000 Series)	996	982.8	889-1076	11248	11873	6%	625
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	189	44.8	38-52	45	189	320%	144
MHA RELATED CALLS (MHA files or Mental Health flag)	165	126.4	93-160	190	165	-13%	-25

Prepared by Richmond RCMP Crime Analysts. Data collected from PRIME on 2020-02-01. Published 2020-02-01. 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 and Enter January 2020

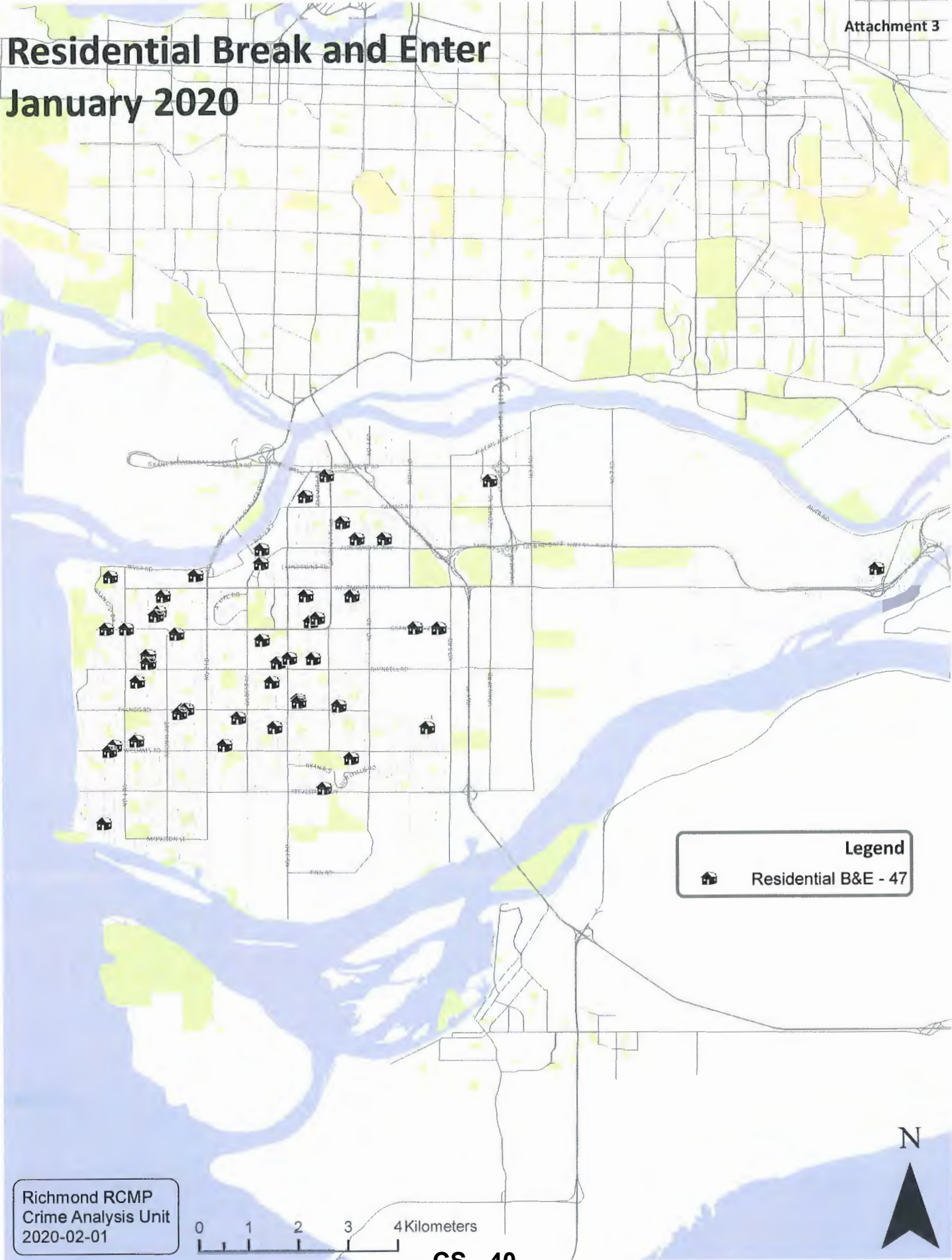


Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2020-02-01

0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers

CS - 39

Residential Break and Enter January 2020



Legend
🏠 Residential B&E - 47

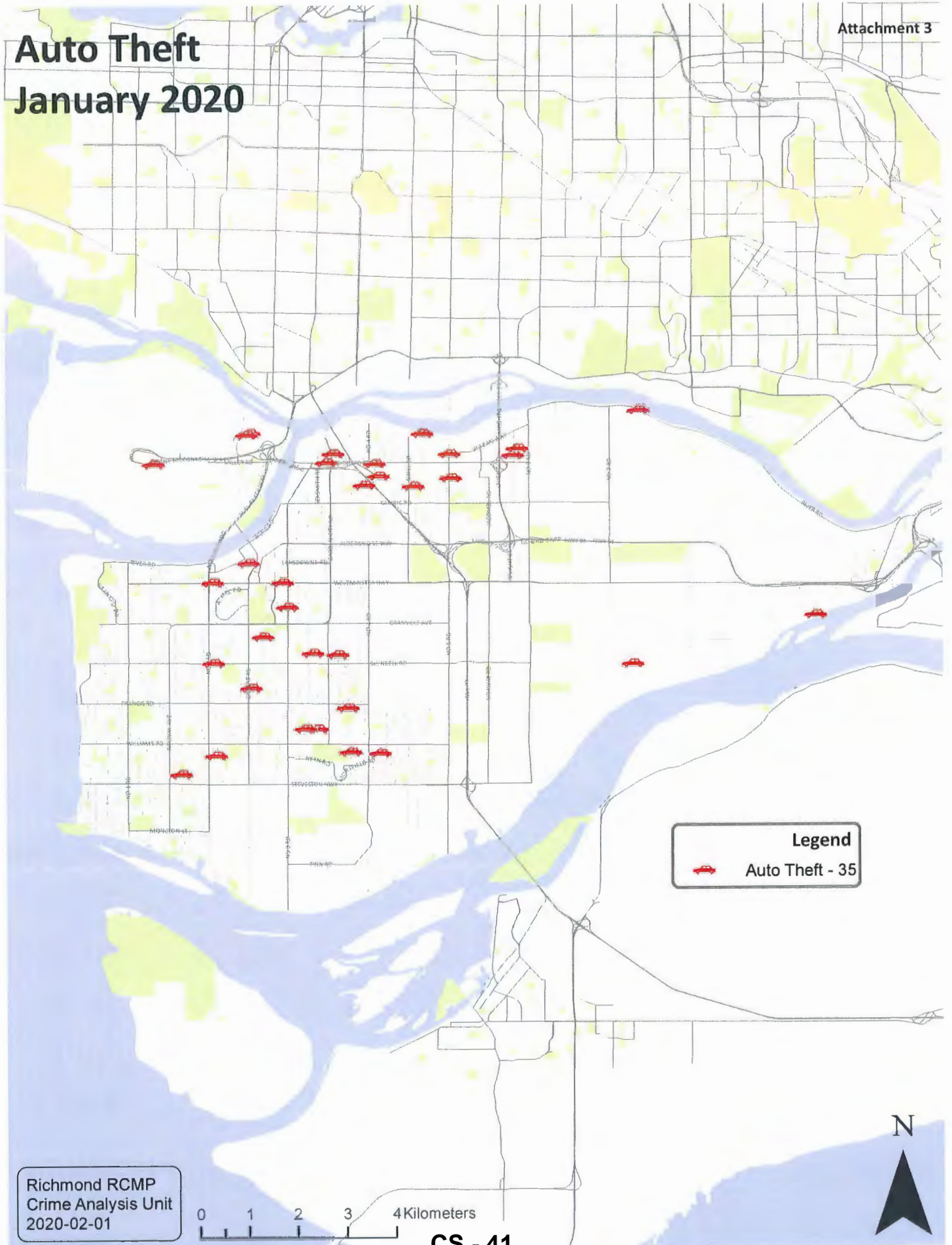
Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2020-02-01

0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers

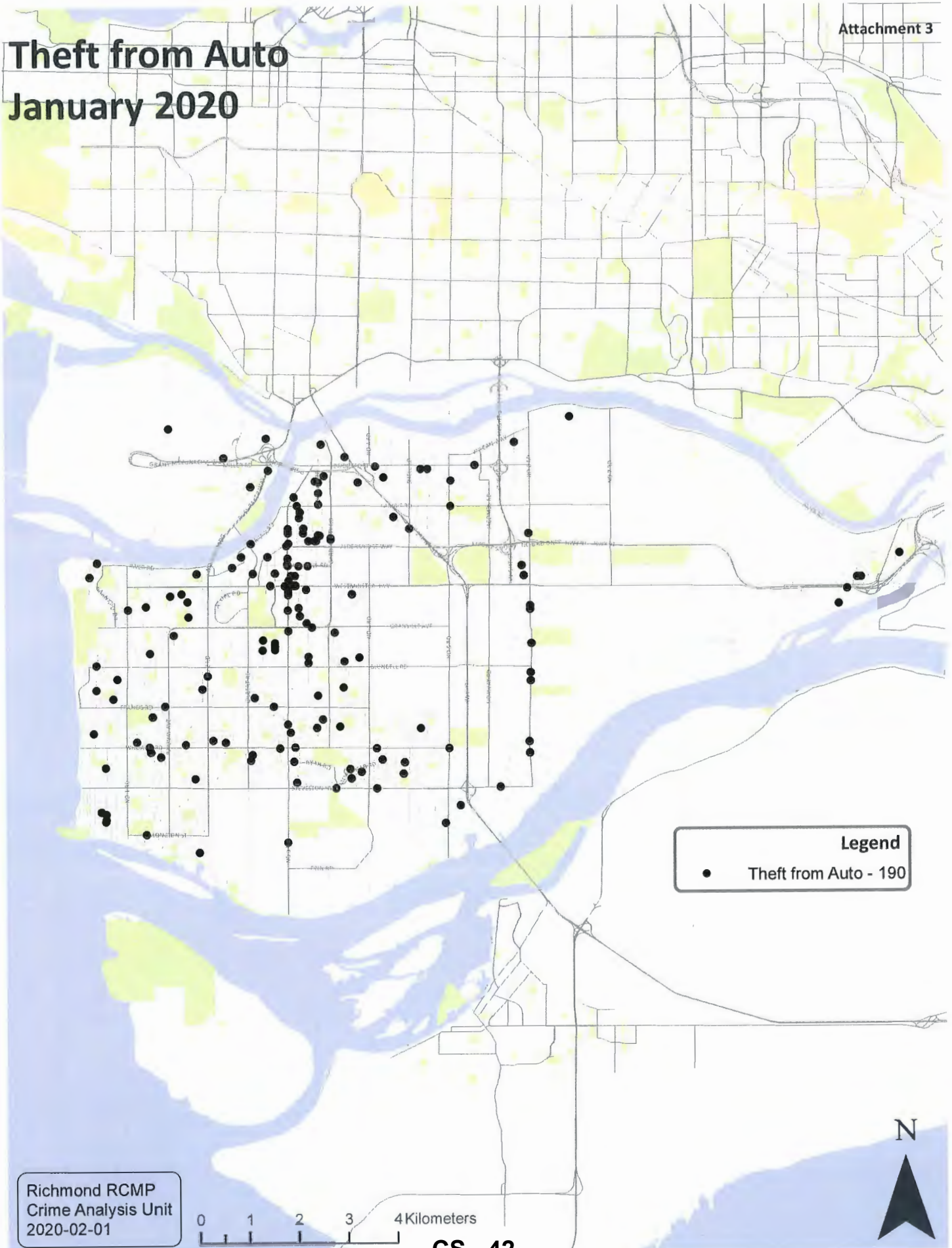
CS - 40



Auto Theft January 2020



Theft from Auto January 2020



Legend
● Theft from Auto - 190

Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2020-02-01

0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers

CS - 42

