



# City of Richmond

## Report to Committee

**To:** Community Safety Committee

**Date:** April 7, 2011

**From:** Rendall Nessel  
Officer In Charge,  
Richmond RCMP Detachment

**File:** 09-5000-01/2010-Vol  
01  
(11.36)

**Re:** RCMP's Monthly Report – March 2011 Activities

### Staff Recommendation

That the OIC's report entitled "RCMP's Monthly Report – March 2011 Activities" dated March 11, 2011, be received for information.

Rendall Nessel  
Officer In Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment  
(604-278-1212)

FOR ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT USE ONLY		
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER		
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
REVIEWED BY CAO	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>

## **Origin**

The Officer In Charge of the Richmond RCMP Detachment acknowledges and supports that the City of Richmond should be kept informed on matters pertaining to policing in the community and has developed a framework to provide regular reporting cycles.

## **Analysis**

Below is the RCMP's Monthly Report -- March 2011 Activities.

### **Noteworthy Files:**

#### **Suspects For Identification – Theft of Video Games**

On February 23 the Detachment received a report of a theft that occurred the previous night at Rogers Video in the 8100 block of No. 2 Road. Video Surveillance revealed that three Caucasian males in their late teens to early 20's removed video games from the store without paying for them. The Detachment has sent out a media release requesting the public's assistance in identifying three suspects believed to be responsible for stealing the video games from Rogers Video.

#### **ICBC Recognizes Richmond Volunteers for Helping Make B.C. Roads Safer**

In recognition of National Volunteer Week (April 10 to 16), ICBC thanked Richmond volunteers for their continued support in making our communities safer. In Richmond, approximately 45 volunteers work out of three community policing offices and police detachments to help deliver road safety programs including Speed Watch, Lock Out Auto Crime and the Stolen Auto Recovery Program.

"The extraordinary dedication to road safety shown by these volunteers and community policing offices is remarkable and truly appreciated," said Jon Schubert, ICBC's president and CEO. "On behalf of all our customers and ICBC employees, thank you!"

In 2010, Speed Watch volunteers in Richmond contributed approximately 320 hours to help reduce speed-related crashes in their community. With the support of volunteers, speed-related crashes have steadily decreased in B.C. over the last five years. Volunteers use radar and speed-reader boards supplied by ICBC to show drivers how fast they're actually traveling. Research shows that it works – over 70 per cent of drivers traveling 10 km/h over the speed limit slow down when they see a speed-reader board.

In 2010, Lock Out Auto Crime volunteers in Richmond handed out approximately 9,200 notices to drivers to draw attention to the risk of auto theft. Volunteers place notices resembling parking tickets on the windshields of vehicles, many with garage door openers or valuables in sight, offering the owners common sense tips for preventing auto theft.

These volunteers also operate the Stolen Auto Recovery Program in Richmond, and in 2010, they scanned nearly 32, 700 licence plates to help identify stolen vehicles. Each year, volunteers help to recover hundreds of stolen vehicles in B.C.

"These volunteers work tirelessly," said Karen Klein, local ICBC road safety coordinator. "Many give up their Friday evenings to go out on a cold rainy night to try to locate stolen vehicles or spend their afternoon scanning busy parking lots for unsecured vehicles to help protect owners from becoming a victim of auto crime. With their support, we've seen an astounding 65 per cent decrease in auto crime in B.C. since 2003."

### **Auxiliary Constables**

As of the end of March, Richmond had a strength of 40 Auxiliary Constables and recorded 1,518 volunteer hours as indicated in the attached table.

<b>Month</b>	<b>Community Policing</b>	<b>Training/Admin</b>	<b>Ride-Along</b>	<b>Total</b>
January 2011	76	290	204	570
February 2011	267	259	90	616
March 2011	32	159	111	302
<b>Total</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>708</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>1518</b>

### **Summary of Auxiliary Constable Duties for March 2011:**

In March the Auxiliary Constables concentrated on community policing programs, such as Home Security Checks, and SAFE School, in addition to assisting regular members with General Duty, Traffic, and Liquor and City Bylaw Enforcement duties. The coming spring and summer months will see an increase in community events that the Auxiliary Constables have already committed to.

### **Economic Crime Unit (ECU)**

Credit/debit card frauds are still a growing trend in Richmond. For the period of January 1, 2011 to April 15, 2011, there has been 96 credit and debit card files reported to the Richmond RCMP. Many of these types of files do not get reported to the police. In larger municipalities such as Surrey and Vancouver, there are police identity theft units that are dedicated to work these types of investigations and they have had great success.

The Richmond Economic Crimes Unit has recently conducted a multi-jurisdictional investigation on a prolific credit card/identity theft suspect. The accused, a Richmond resident, has been charged for approximately 50 different instances of credit card fraud related offences between December 2010 and April 2011.



### Credit/Debit Card Frauds

Credit/Debit Card Frauds is defined as the unauthorized copying of electronic data from a credit or debit card, which is then copied onto a counterfeit card and used to withdraw funds or make purchases without the knowledge of the cardholder. There are 3 stages:

#### 1) Data Capture

The most common way to obtain credit card and debit card data is from handheld "skimmers." They are easily accessible and can be purchased from the Internet. Many of the hand held skimmer investigations in Richmond relate to gas station attendants and restaurant employees, but may also apply to any employee of a retail business.

Debit card data may be captured at any automated bank machines. Suspects place a hard to detect overlay on the machine with a card reader where data is captured and a pinhole camera is hidden to record Personal Identification Numbers (PIN) information. Debit card data can also be captured from tampered PIN pads point of sale terminals at retail business. Suspects will steal the PIN pads without the knowledge of the owner and then tamper with the internal components or switch the entire PIN pad with an identical version to capture data.

Credit card data can be obtained through business break and enters or robberies for credit card transaction records and receipts. Some suspects "dumpster dive" and rummage through trash to look for bills and papers containing personal information. Credit cards can be stolen from the mail and activated by suspects, or fraudulently ordered and delivered to a mail drop.

#### 2) Card Production

The transfer of credit or debit card data is easily done with a computer program and card writer. The card information can be transferred onto any card with a magnetic stripe. Often suspects will iron out inactive credit cards then re-emboss new numbers and names to match the stolen data. These counterfeit credit cards are usually accompanied by counterfeit identification.

#### 3) Exploitation

Multiple suspects usually conduct fraudulent debit card withdrawals in a short period before banks are alerted. Debit card frauds are a growing trend; in 2003 there was \$44 million in losses in Canada and in 2009 there was \$142 million losses.

Counterfeit credit cards can be used anywhere they accept the credit card. Some suspects will try out the counterfeit credit card at places like a self-serve gas station to determine if they are still active. They will then attempt to use the cards at a retail business with their fraudulent identification.

Preventative Tips

- Accompany your credit card to the sales terminal.
- Shield your PIN to prevent others from seeing your PIN number.
- At ATM's check for overlays and pinhole cameras as they are usually placed on the machines with double-sided tape.

Merchants

- Look out for distraction techniques, as fraudsters will distract employees by buying bulky items or by preoccupying staff while an accomplice is accessing the PIN pad.
- Examine ID; see if it has been altered in any way.
- Compare signatures of the credit card and credit card slip.
- Check security features of the credit card.
- Check the credit card's embossing. "Ghost images" of other numbers behind the embossing are a tip-off that the card has been re-embossed.

Road Safety Unit**Richmond Detachment Traffic Statistics**

Name	Act	Example	Jan	Feb	Mar
Violation Tickets	Provincial Act Offences	Speeding	1137	1208	914
Notice & Orders	Equipment Violations	Broken Tail-light	630	585	578
Driving Suspension	Motor Vehicle Act	24 hour driving prohibition for alcohol or drugs	38	18	41
Parking Offences	Municipal Bylaw	On or off the street Municipal parking offences	28	30	9
MTIs	Municipal Ticket Information	Any other Municipal Bylaw offence	2	3	8

South Arm Community Police Station**Richmond Detachment Stolen Auto Recovery and Lock out Auto Crime Statistics for 2011**

Month	Vehicles Viewed For Signs Of Auto Crime Only	Vehicles Scanned Through Stolen Auto Recovery (SAR)	Vehicles Issued A Crime Prevention Notice	Patrol And Admin Hours
January	4,898	4,368	530	96
February	2,265	1,657	608	60
March	3,261	1,630	1,082	80
<b>TOTALS</b>	10,424	7,655	2,220	236



Stolen Auto Recovery (SAR)

Volunteers are given a palm pilot, which has been downloaded with a complete list of all stolen vehicles in British Columbia. During patrols by volunteers vehicle plates are compared to the list on the palm pilot and when there is a match the volunteer calls the Detachment to report the recovery. At no time do the volunteers become involved with either the vehicle or its passengers. Regular members are called to investigate.

Crime Prevention Notices

Notices are issued by a community volunteer and left on every car in the parking lot. They are supplied by ICBC and look like a ticket. The notice will have the issuer's name, crime prevention tips, location and date written on it as well as a list of questions that have been checked yes or no for example:

- Does the vehicle have an anti-theft device (such as an alarm, immobilizer or steering wheel lock)?
- Are there any Personal belongings in plain view?
- Is the vehicle locked?
- Have all suitable steps been taken to prevent auto crime?

**Richmond Detachment Speed Watch Statistics for 2011**

<b>Month</b>	<b># Of Speed Watch Deployments</b>	<b>Total Vehicles Checked</b>	<b>Over 10 Km/h</b>	<b>Visibility And Admin Hours</b>	<b>Number of Warning Letters Issued</b>
<b>January</b>	6	2,728	375	54	204
<b>February</b>	13	6,281	950	76	390
<b>March</b>	13	6,207	1,098	80	311
<b>TOTALS</b>	32	15,216	2,423	210	905

**Richmond Detachment Distracted Drivers Statistics for 2011**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Number of Letters Sent</b>
<b>January</b>	50
<b>February</b>	73
<b>TOTAL</b>	123

Distracted Drivers

Volunteers of the South Arm Crime Prevention Unit position at various locations in Richmond and observe drivers that are driving while distracted. This may include talking, using electronic devices, reading a newspaper, putting on makeup and dogs sitting on laps. The volunteer then

writes the date, time, locations and what the driver is doing. A letter is then sent to the owner of the vehicle bearing the license plate that was recorded by the volunteer. The letter, which serves as a warning/information, indicates the date, time and location of the distraction with a list of possible fines had there been a violation ticket issued by a police officer.

### **Victim Services**

In March of 2011, Victim Witness Services provided support to 43 new clients in addition to an active caseload of over 151 ongoing files. Victim Services aided 19 crime and trauma scenes over this time period. Sudden deaths and family problems dominated calls for service. Of significant note, Victim Services responded to 12 sudden death files this month. A number of the deceased persons were still quite young and their deaths due to unforeseen medical issues resulted in the families and friends being quite shocked and very emotional.

### **Crime Statistics**

Crime Stats – see Appendix “A”.

Crime Maps – see Appendix “B”.

### **Financial Impact**

None.

### **Conclusion**

The Officer in Charge, Richmond Detachment has developed a framework and will continue to provide a monthly reporting cycle to the Community Safety Committee.



Lainie Goddard  
Manager, RCMP Administration  
(L.4767)





## MARCH 2011 STATISTICS

This chart identifies the monthly totals for all founded Criminal Code offences, excluding Traffic Criminal Code. 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 offences are highlighted in this chart. In addition, monthly totals for Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA) offences are included.

The Average Range data is based on activity in a single month over the past 5 years. The only exception is Metal Theft, which only has 4 years of available data. If the current monthly total for an offence is above average, it will be noted in **red**, while below-average numbers will be noted in **blue**.

Year-to-Date percentage increases of more than 10% are marked in **red**, while decreases of more than 10% are **blue**. Please note that percentage changes are inflated in categories with small numbers (e.g.: Sexual Offences).

	CURRENT MONTH	5-YR AVERAGE RANGE	YEAR-TO-DATE TOTALS		
	Mar-11	March	2010 YTD	2011 YTD	% Change
<b>VIOLENT CRIME</b> (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	<b>126</b>	<b>123-144</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>-11.8%</b>
<i>Robbery</i>	<b>16</b>	5-11	22	32	<b>45.5%</b>
<i>Assault</i>	42	27-53	141	123	<b>-12.8%</b>
<i>Assault w/ Weapon</i>	18	10-19	40	44	10.0%
<i>Sexual Offences</i>	<b>3</b>	5-9	23	17	<b>-26.1%</b>
<b>PROPERTY CRIME</b> (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	<b>711</b>	<b>646-822</b>	<b>2208</b>	<b>1978</b>	<b>-10.4%</b>
<i>Business B&amp;E</i>	43	30-85	136	103	<b>-24.3%</b>
<i>Residential B&amp;E</i>	<b>75</b>	30-65	160	228	<b>42.5%</b>
<i>MV Theft</i>	42	30-62	140	108	<b>-22.9%</b>
<i>Theft From MV</i>	<b>157</b>	162-213	644	448	<b>-30.4%</b>
<i>Theft</i>	<b>99</b>	100-128	337	323	-4.2%
<i>Shoplifting</i>	<b>86</b>	44-81	205	200	-2.4%
<i>Metal Theft</i>	5	0-31*	18	9	<b>-50.0%</b>
<i>Fraud</i>	<b>70</b>	41-65	163	165	1.2%
<b>OTHER CRIMINAL CODE</b> (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	<b>161</b>	<b>156-191</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>-26.2%</b>
<i>Arson - Property</i>	4	3-12	24	17	<b>-29.2%</b>
<b>SUBTOTAL</b> (UCR 1000- to 3000-Series)	<b>998</b>	<b>964-1118</b>	<b>3208</b>	<b>2776</b>	<b>-13.5%</b>
<b>DRUGS</b> (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	<b>73</b>	<b>84-104</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>-22.3%</b>

\* Metal Theft only has 4 years of available data.

Prepared by Richmond RCMP.

Data collected from PRIME on 2011-04-14. Published 2011-04-17.

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# Business Break & Enters March 1st - March 31st, 2011

APPENDIX 'B'



CS - 197

## Legend

- ★ Business B&Es: Total of 43

Kilometers

0

1

2

4

No 1 Rd

No 2 Rd

No 3 Rd

Francis Rd

Garden City Rd

Steveston Hwy

Shell Rd Shell Rd

Hwy 99

Hwy 99 Hwy 99

Granville Ave

Westminster Hwy

No 7 Rd

Shell Rd


Hwy 99

# Residential Break & Enters March 1st - March 31st, 2011

APPENDIX 'B'

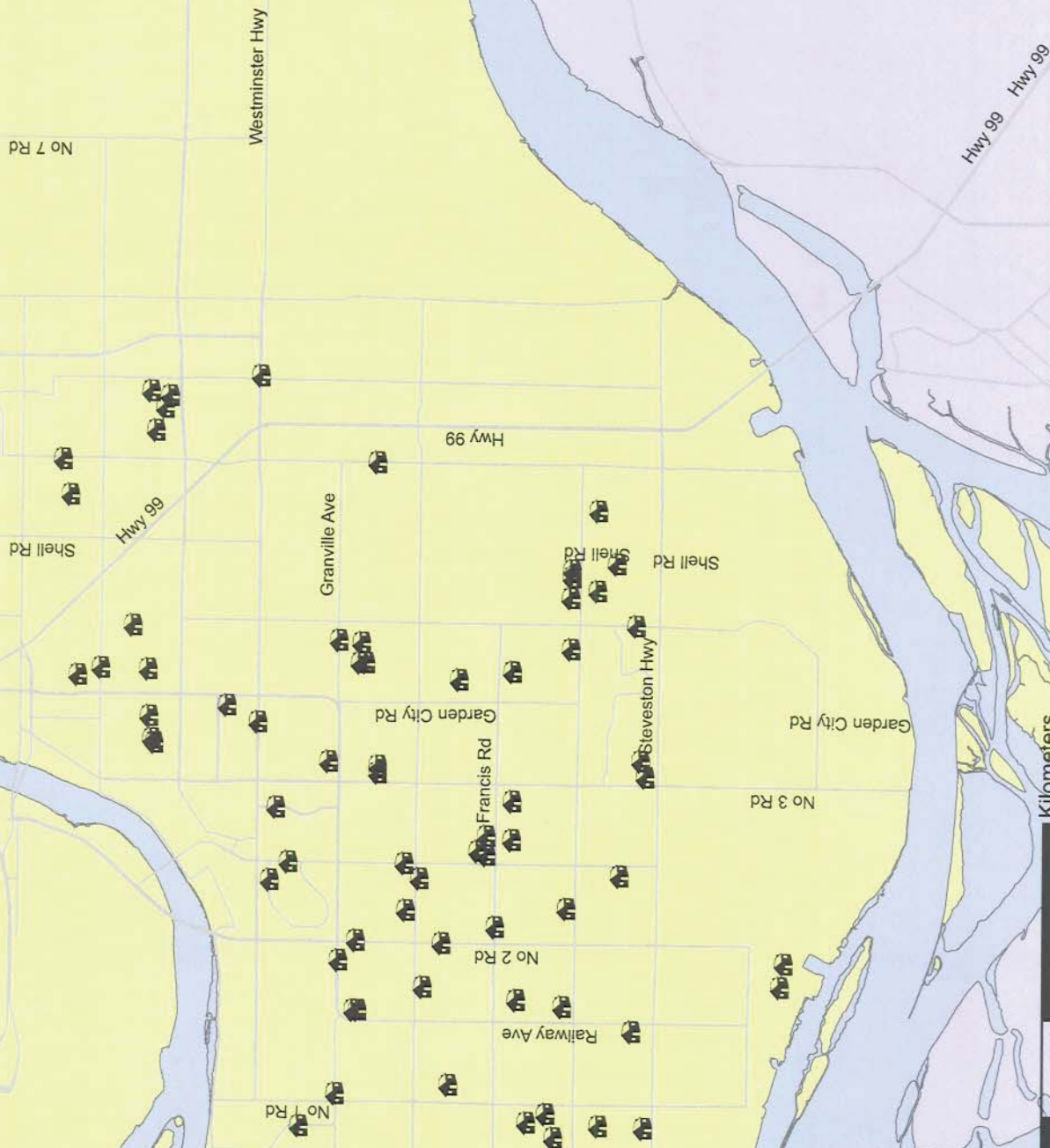


## Legend

 Residential B&Es: Total of 75

0 1 2 4 Kilometers

CS - 198






# Auto Theft March 1st - March 31st, 2011

APPENDIX 'B'

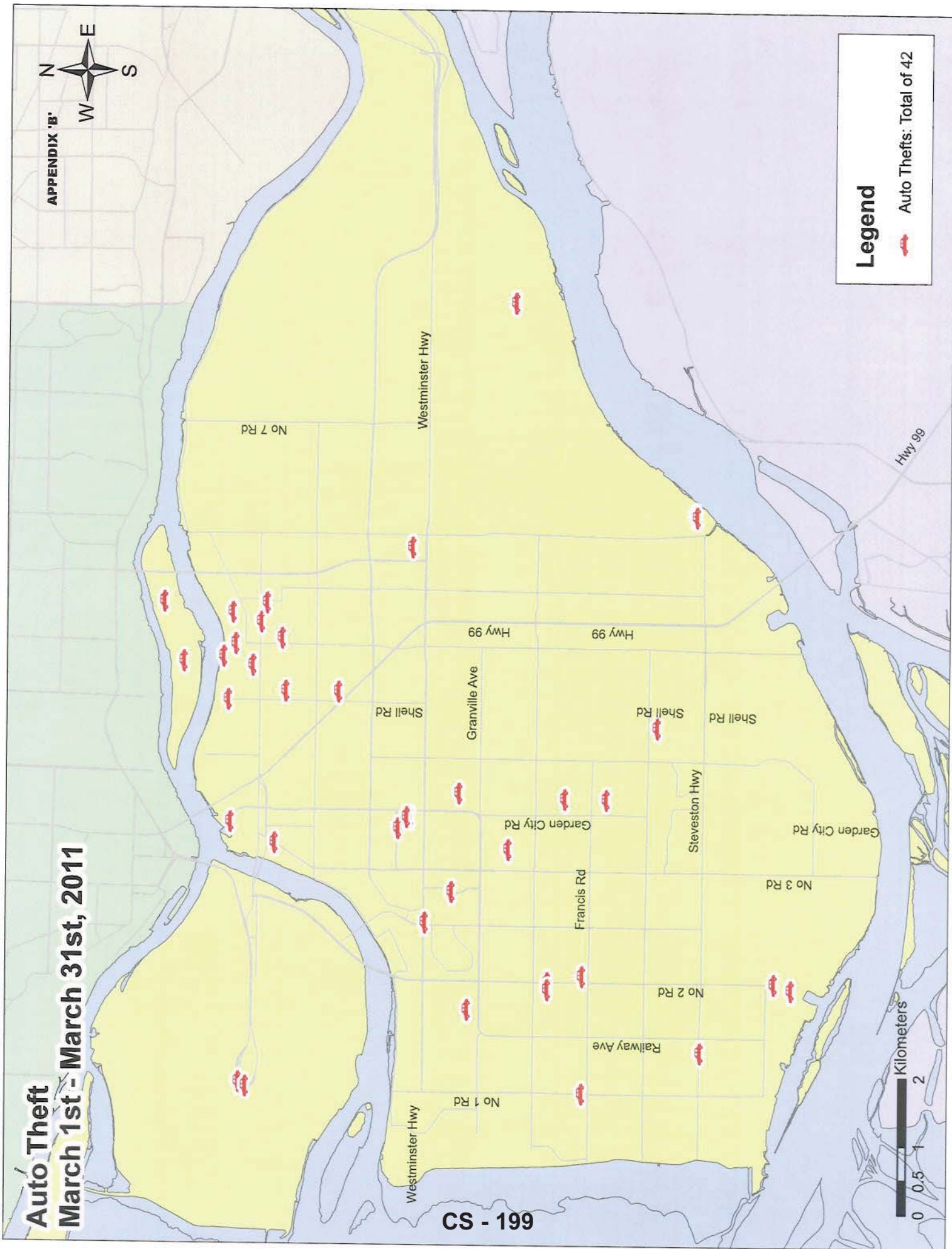


CS - 199

## Legend

 Auto Thefts: Total of 42

 Kilometers  
0 0.5 1 2



# **Thefts From Vehicles** **March 1st - March 31st, 2011**

APPENDIX 'B'



Vancouver

Burnaby

Delta

CS - 200

## **Legend**

- Thefts From Vehicles: Total of 157

Kilometers  
 0 1 2 4

