



To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** September 23, 2011
From: Rendall Nasset **File:** 09-5000-01/2010-Vol
Officer In Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment 01
(11.53)
Re: **RCMP's Monthly Report – July and August 2011 Activities**

Staff Recommendation

That the OIC's report entitled "RCMP's Monthly Report – July and August 2011 Activities" dated September 23, 2011, be received for information.

(Rendall Nasset) Superintendent
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

At the request of the Community Safety Committee, the OIC will keep Council 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 – July and August 2011 Activities.

Noteworthy Files:

Help Prevent Theft From Autos

The Detachment sent out a news release on July 21st encouraging the community to protect themselves from becoming victims of crime with respect to theft from autos. There are a number of things that can be done to ensure that a vehicle will not be broken into. Theft from autos continues to be a common occurrence in Richmond and the RCMP is committed to bringing the number of these occurrences down.

The Detachment holds monthly Crime Reduction meetings as a collaborative effort to reduce crime within the community. Everything from identifying "hot spots" for criminal activity to ensuring that officers are aware of the prolific offenders and the crimes they commit is discussed. As much as the RCMP is focused on bringing criminals to justice and making the community safer, the police need the public's assistance in order to achieve success.

Theft from auto is a crime of opportunity and is preventable. By following a few basic guidelines will eliminate the likelihood of being a victim. The key is to get into the habit of consistently following these guidelines until it becomes second nature.

- Remove valuables from the vehicle. Never leave any items in plain view as doing so provides an easy target and attracts attention. Valuables may include loose change, cigarettes, lighters, CD's, sunglasses and clothing. If they can see it, they can steal it.
- Park in well lit open areas. When at home, park the vehicle in the garage ensuring both the garage and vehicle are locked.
- Remove portable accessories such as stereo faceplates and GPS units because the home address is programmed into the GPS. Choose to have a garage door opener that fits on the key ring instead of a model that clips on to the visor. The combination of having a GPS unit and garage door opener stolen from your vehicles allows thieves easy access to the home.
- Install an alarm in the vehicle, as these will deter theft not only from the vehicle but theft of the vehicle.
- Install a locking device on the steering wheel. Not only does this prevent your vehicle from being stolen, it also tells thieves that a responsible person owns the vehicle and the likelihood of any valuables left inside is low.

Richmond's Community Policing section and the numerous volunteers that work out of the Community Police Stations frequently perform inspections on vehicles parked at different locations within Richmond as part of Lock-Out Auto Crime.

Lock-Out Auto Crime volunteers take note of anything that attracts them to a vehicle, such as items of value left out in the open. These vehicles are given a Crime Prevention Notice which is a piece of paper left on the vehicle to serve as notification that the vehicle was checked by volunteers and found not to be in compliance of anti-theft strategies.

From January to the end of June volunteers checked approximately 14,000 vehicles as part of Lock-Out Auto Crime. Out of those vehicles almost 5,200 were issued Crime Prevention Notices.

Shots Fired

On August 2 at approximately 1:00 pm the Detachment received a report of shots fired in the 10,000 block of Whistler Court. Upon police attendance it was discovered that one person had been shot. Emergency Health Services attended and transported the injured person to hospital for treatment. A 53-year-old male has been charged after allegedly discharging a firearm, sending a six-year-old boy to hospital. The male appeared in court on August 3 and has been charged with Pointing a Firearm, Reckless Discharge of a Firearm, Using a Firearm in a Careless Manner and Criminal Negligence Causing Bodily Harm. This male is not known to police. The six-year-old boy, who was visiting from China, had surgery and is expected to make a full recovery.

Cell Phones Targeted by Thieves

Smart phones seem to be one of the latest craze, however some people are resorting to physical violence in order to steal them from their rightful owners. Since January there have been 35 robberies that have occurred in Richmond where either cell phones or personal electronic devices were stolen. In some instances, suspects have grabbed the phone from the hands of the victim as they walk by, while in other cases suspects have distracted the victims at which point the phone is stolen.

A distraction technique that has been used is when the suspect asks the victim for the time. When the victim takes out their cell phone to check the time, the suspect grabs the phone and runs. The majority of these offences have not included physical violence; however there have been instances where physical violence has been used. Incidents of cell phone theft and theft of personal electronic devices is not isolated to Richmond as this type of crime is being seen throughout the Lower Mainland. The following are some precautions to take to help protect oneself from becoming a victim:

- Be aware of surroundings and pay attention to who is nearby. Walk with confidence, holding head up and not looking down at the ground. Don't become consumed or distracted by your cell phone or personal electronic device that you lose touch of what is going on around you.

- Trust your instincts. If you feel like you are being followed and feel threatened, make eye contact to show you are suspicious and cross the street or enter a business that is close by. This shows that you will not be taken by surprise and puts you in a more populated area that will likely deter a criminal as the chance of being detected is higher.
- Walk with someone whenever possible, in well-traveled and well-lit areas. Avoid short cuts through alleys, construction sites and parking lots. Don't stop to talk to strangers and have a plan in mind in the event that you are confronted; where will you go and what will you do if a dangerous situation presents itself?
- If possible, don't advertise that you are carrying a cell phone or personal electronic device. Carry them as discretely as possible and replace them in your hiding spot immediately after using them.

In the event that someone confronts you, don't resist. Hand over the cell phone or belongings demanded as quickly as possible and try to disengage from the confrontation as soon as possible. Possessions can be replaced.

Cell phone owners should be aware that location-tracking software is available for both Blackberry and Apple. For Blackberry, owners can download "Blackberry Protect" at www.us.blackberry.com while iPhone owners can download "Find My iPhone" at www.apple.com. Both of these security software are free and are able to locate lost or stolen phones on a map, remotely lock the phone to protect the contents and send a message that would show up on the screen of the phone. There is no official application made for Android but there are third party software makers that provide the same protection, for example "Lookout" at www.mylookout.com.

Another safety tip is to use a pass code to protect information that is stored in your smart phone. Information on a smart phone can be used for identity theft or property crimes. Addresses and phone numbers stored on smart phones can be used to determine if homes are vacant for break and enters to occur while access to applications such as Email and Face book can access personal information. Never store pin numbers or alarm codes in the Notes application of the smart phone, as this is easily accessible as well.

Please Respect Local Growers

Fruit thievery may seem like a small problem to most but with food costs spiralling and operating costs on the rise, fruit theft is a big problem for blueberry farmers. Over the past few years the Detachment has received complaints from local blueberry farmers that their crops are being pilfered when no one is looking. Fruit theft is difficult to quantify, as partial crop losses are hard to estimate however farmers have noticed a decrease in their earnings, which they attribute to theft.

Blueberry theft is no different from any other type of theft as theft boils down to people choosing to disrespect other people and their property. These thefts are upsetting for farmers as they have put so much time and effort into growing their crop, only to find that people that help themselves to their bounty have diminished their yield.

People should be aware that berries and other crops are often sprayed with chemicals or pesticides after which they must sit for a few days before they can be harvested and consumed. As a result, there may be potential health concerns to those that unknowingly consume berries directly from farmers' fields that have been recently sprayed.

Farmers can protect themselves from theft by using preventative measures such as building fences and planting thorny bushes around their crops at vulnerable access points. The bushes should not be allowed to get to a height where they provide cover for thieves. Another option is to have gravel driveways so that the thieves are unable to make a silent approach. Farmers are asked to monitor their crops daily and report any incidents of theft immediately.

Hazardous Situation

On August 8th at approximately noon, the Detachment was dispatched to a report of a hazardous situation in the parking lot of Liquidation World located in the 3000 block of Sexsmith Road. The report was that a driver was trying to load a full-sized refrigerator into the trunk of a car. Upon arrival the constable located the vehicle and observed that the fridge was one-third in the trunk while the remainder teetered over the edge of the car's bumper. The fridge was secured to the vehicle using rope and the seatbelts from the back seat. The driver thought that what he was doing was ok and the constable informed the driver that the load was unsafe for transport and explained just how dangerous his actions were. Proper transportation was arranged and the driver apologized. The Detachment has sent out a news release informing the public about taking the time to properly transport items. Insecure loads are to blame for collisions and injuries far too often, and these situations can be prevented.

Auxiliary Constables

From January to August 2011, Richmond Detachment Auxiliary Constables recorded 4,664 volunteer hours as indicated in the following table:

Time Period	Community Policing Duties	Training and Administrative Duties	Patrol Ride-Along Duties	Total Hours
Jan - Aug	2,081	1,401	1,182	4,664

Summary of Auxiliary Constable Duties for July and August 2011:

Over the summer, Auxiliary Constables have concentrated on community policing programs, such as:

- Foot and Kubota patrols
- Coastal Watch Program
- Boat Safety Inspections
- Home Security Checks

Auxiliary Constables also attended several community events to support a police presence, including:

- Canada Day/Salmon Festival
- Dolphin Classic Basketball Tournament
- Jami'a Mosque Family Fun Day
- Outdoor Movie Nights
- Kids Safe Festival
- Maritime Festival

In addition, Auxiliary Constables assisted regular members with:

- General Duty shifts
- Liquor/Bylaw Enforcement Teams
- Road Safety Unit (Traffic) shifts
- Night Market shifts
- Marine Vessel Patrols

With the Auxiliary Constable that recently completed the weeklong RCMP Bike course, a total of 5 Auxiliary Constables are currently bike trained. It is anticipated that this number will increase to 12 over the next year to provide uniformed bike presence at events, as well as assisting the Regular Member Bike Team.

Community Policing Unit

Summary of Community Policing Unit Duties for August 2011:

Residential Break and Enters - 60 Break and Enter alerts, via email, were sent to Richmond residents informing them of a neighbourhood break and enter. This includes date, time, point of entry and information on how to increase home security.

Business Break and Enters - 24 Business Break and Enter alerts, via email, were sent to Richmond businesses notifying them of a neighbourhood break in and directed the community to the Business Watch web pages.

Onside Program – On August 5th and August 13th, 6 Richmond youths were taken to a football game at Empire Field as part of the Onside Program.

Red Serge Event – A constable from the Community Policing Unit accompanied His Worship Malcolm Brodie to the Olympic Oval in red serge for the opening of the 2011 World Senior Badminton Championships. This was a very well received event by local citizens and participants.

Youth Section

Youth Section members investigated two robbery files that appeared to be connected. After initial investigation by General Duty members the files were then passed on to the Youth

Section for further follow-up. The members conducted interviews of witnesses and victims and obtained the masks that were used during the robberies. Several youth were identified as suspects. All the youth admitted to the robberies and were sent to the City's Youth Intervention Program.

Road Safety Unit

Richmond Detachment Traffic Statistics

Name	Act	Example	June	July	Aug
Violation Tickets	Provincial Act Offences	Speeding	1291	1310	1521
Notice & Orders	Equipment Violations	Broken Tail-light	483	674	587
Driving Suspension	Motor Vehicle Act	24 hour driving prohibition for alcohol or drugs	12	29	20
Parking Offences	Municipal Bylaw	On or off the street Municipal parking offences	11	6	4
MTI's	Municipal Ticket Information	Any other Municipal Bylaw offence	10	7	7

For the August Violation Tickets statistics, the total of 1521 includes, although not limited to the following:

- 25 Excessive speed violations
- 95 Electronic device violations
- 23 Impaired related violations
- 275 Speed offences
- 111 Intersection offences
- 133 Seat belt offences

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)*¹	Vehicles Issued A Crime Prevention Notice²	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
April	3,356	2,529	828	54
May	3,681	2,391	1,290	82
June	2,197	1,342	855	58
July	1,825	1,289	536	48
August	1,898	989	909	51
Total	23,381	16,195	6,638	529

¹ A complete description of all categories has been previously circulated in the June Monthly Activity Report.

² Ibid

Richmond Detachment Speed Watch Statistics for 2011

Month	# Of Speed Watch Deployments	Total Vehicles Checked	Over 10 Km/h	Admin Hours For Office Duties	Number of Warning Letters Issued
January	6	2,728	375	54	204
February	13	6,281	950	76	390
March	13	6,207	1,098	80	311
April	12	6,321	1,060	92	347
May	21	12,956	2,358	134	778
June	20	7,633	1,076	132	572
July	15	8,532	2,371	114	551
August	7	3,679	1,024	54	157
TOTALS	107	54,337	10,312	736	3,310

Richmond Detachment Distracted Drivers Statistics for 2011³

Month	Number of Letters Sent
January	Started Feb. 1st
February	50
March	73
April	64
May	57
June	52
July	78
August	70
TOTAL	444

Victim Services

In August of 2011, Victim Witness Services provided support to 48 new clients in addition to an active caseload of over 128 ongoing files. Victim Services assisted 16 crime and trauma scenes over this time period. Medical related sudden deaths, persons negatively affected by suicide, and family disputes dominated the calls for service.

Crime Statistics

Crime Stats – see Appendix “A”.

Crime Maps – see Appendix “B”

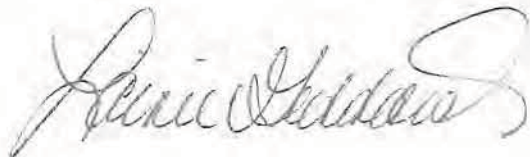
³ A complete description of all categories has been previously circulated in the June Monthly Activity Report.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact associated with this report.

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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lainie Goddard".

Lainie Goddard
Manager, RCMP Administration
(L.4767)



JULY 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 marked in **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		
	Jul-11	July	2010 YTD	2011 YTD	% Change
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	130	138-154	1025	910	-11.2%
<i>Robbery</i>	7	7-10	59	82	39.0%
<i>Assault</i>	50	45-66	367	326	-11.2%
<i>Assault w/ Weapon</i>	15	8-14	88	89	1.1%
<i>Sexual Offences</i>	9	3-8	43	45	4.7%
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	542	734-839	5033	4567	-9.3%
<i>Business B&E</i>	28	33-67	321	217	-32.4%
<i>Residential B&E</i>	44	35-58	313	396	26.5%
<i>MV Theft</i>	18	35-75	290	201	-30.7%
<i>Theft From MV</i>	169	153-215	1435	1217	-15.2%
<i>Theft</i>	122	105-159	764	757	-0.9%
<i>Shoplifting</i>	52	40-56	428	429	0.2%
<i>Metal Theft</i>	1	5-25	37	25	-32.4%
<i>Fraud</i>	35	47-71	367	338	-7.9%
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	225	205-255	1485	1290	-13.1%
<i>Arson - Property</i>	6	7-22	58	36	-37.9%
SUBTOTAL (UCR 1000- to 3000-Series)	997	1098-1227	7543	6767	-10.3%
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	134	73-143	663	621	-6.3%

* Metal Theft only has 4 years of available data.

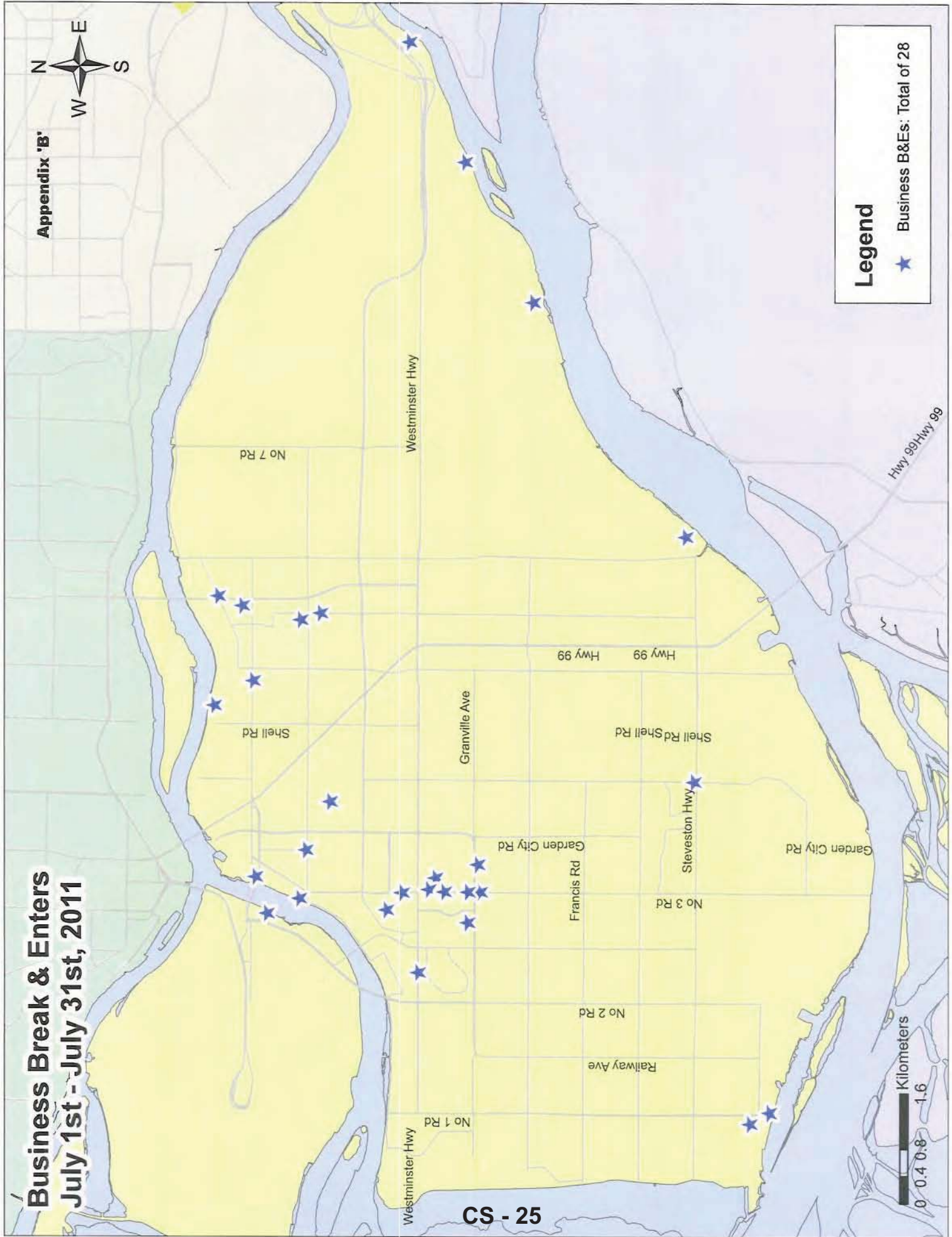
Prepared by Richmond RCMP.

Data collected from PRIME on 2011-08-25. Published 2011-08-28.

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Business Break & Enters July 1st - July 31st, 2011

Appendix 'B'



Legend

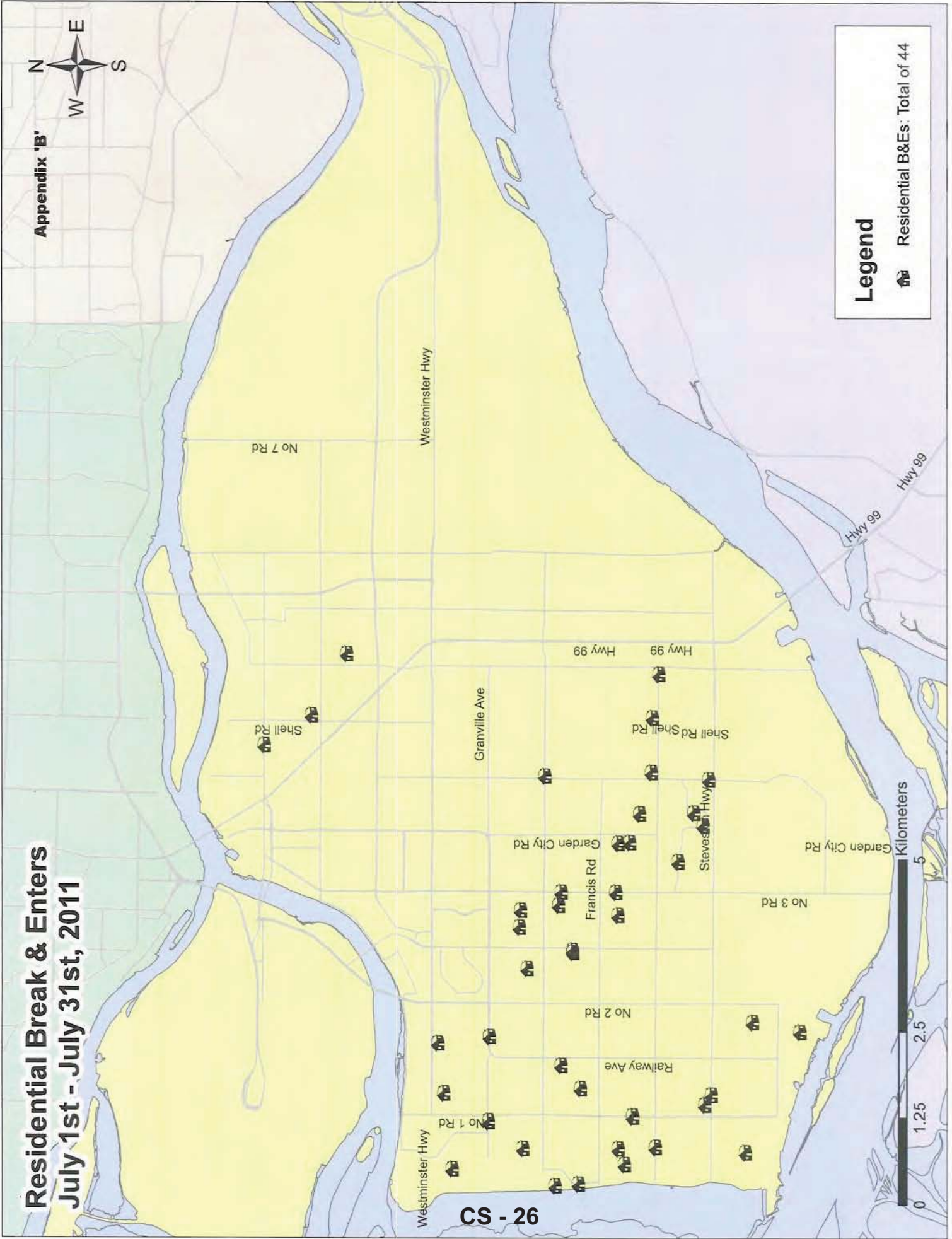
- ★ Business B&Es: Total of 28



CS - 25

Residential Break & Enters July 1st - July 31st, 2011

Appendix 'B'



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Legend



Residential B&Es: Total of 44

Kilometers




Auto Theft July 1st - July 31st, 2011

Appendix 'B'



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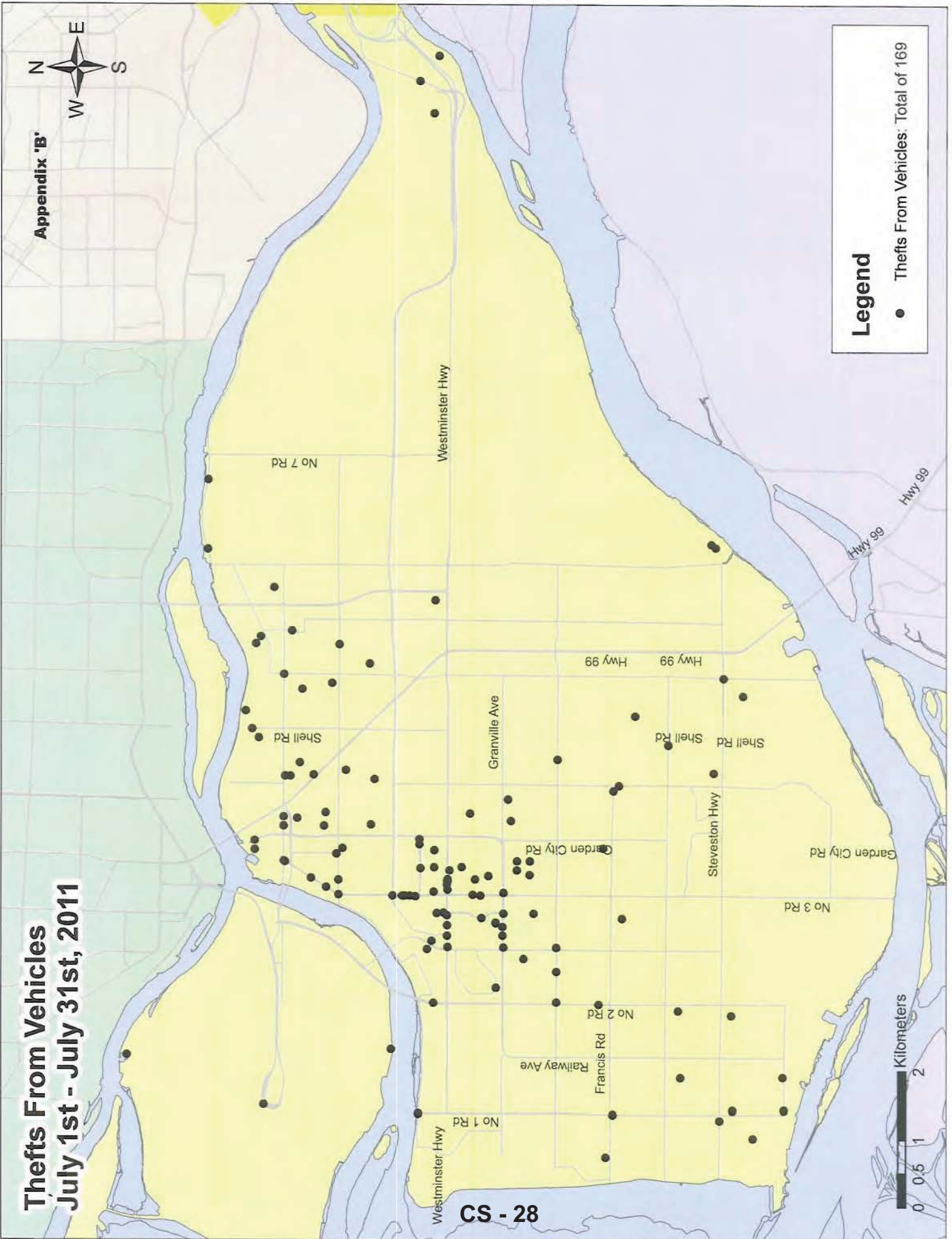
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 Auto Thefts: Total of 18



Thefts From Vehicles July 1st - July 31st, 2011

Appendix 'B'



CS - 28



AUGUST 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.

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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		
	Aug-11	August	2010 YTD	2011 YTD	% Change
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	128	145-158	1181	1038	-12.1%
<i>Robbery</i>	7	6-13	68	89	30.9%
<i>Assault</i>	40	47-68	429	366	-14.7%
<i>Assault w/ Weapon</i>	11	13-17	102	100	-2.0%
<i>Sexual Offences</i>	8	4-9	51	53	3.9%
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	704	729-826	5730	5271	-8.0%
<i>Business B&E</i>	31	31-52	363	248	-31.7%
<i>Residential B&E</i>	64	34-54	365	460	26.0%
<i>MV Theft</i>	18	41-72	330	219	-33.6%
<i>Theft From MV</i>	165	176-232	1653	1382	-16.4%
<i>Theft</i>	156	90-158	853	913	7.0%
<i>Shoplifting</i>	73	36-69	478	502	5.0%
<i>Metal Theft</i>	3	0-25	41	28	-31.7%
<i>Fraud</i>	54	40-63	420	392	-6.7%
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	226	208-250	1748	1516	-13.3%
<i>Arson - Property</i>	7	4-34	66	43	-34.8%
SUBTOTAL (UCR 1000- to 3000-Series)	1058	1131-1185	8659	7825	-9.6%
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	120	60-153	737	741	0.5%

* Metal Theft only has 4 years of available data.

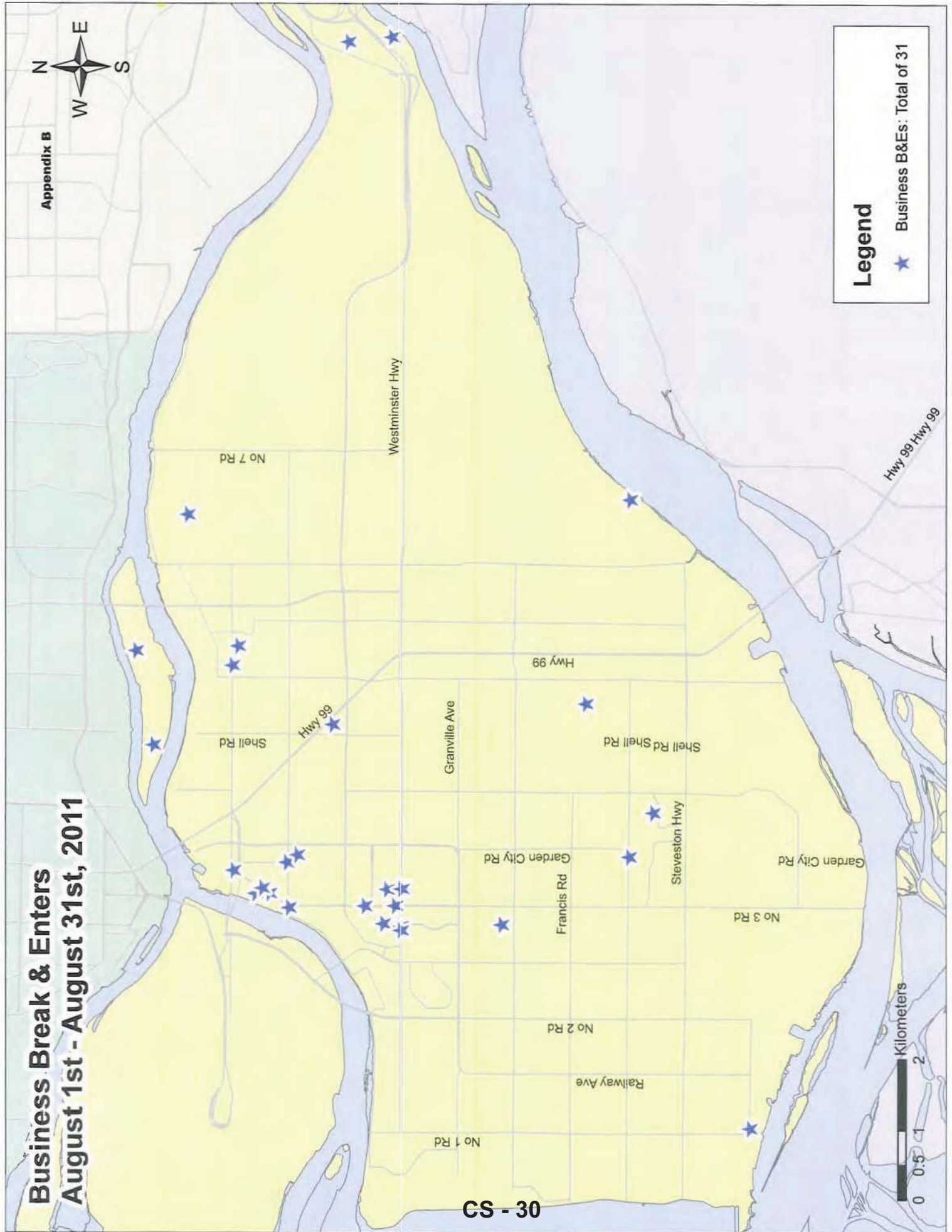
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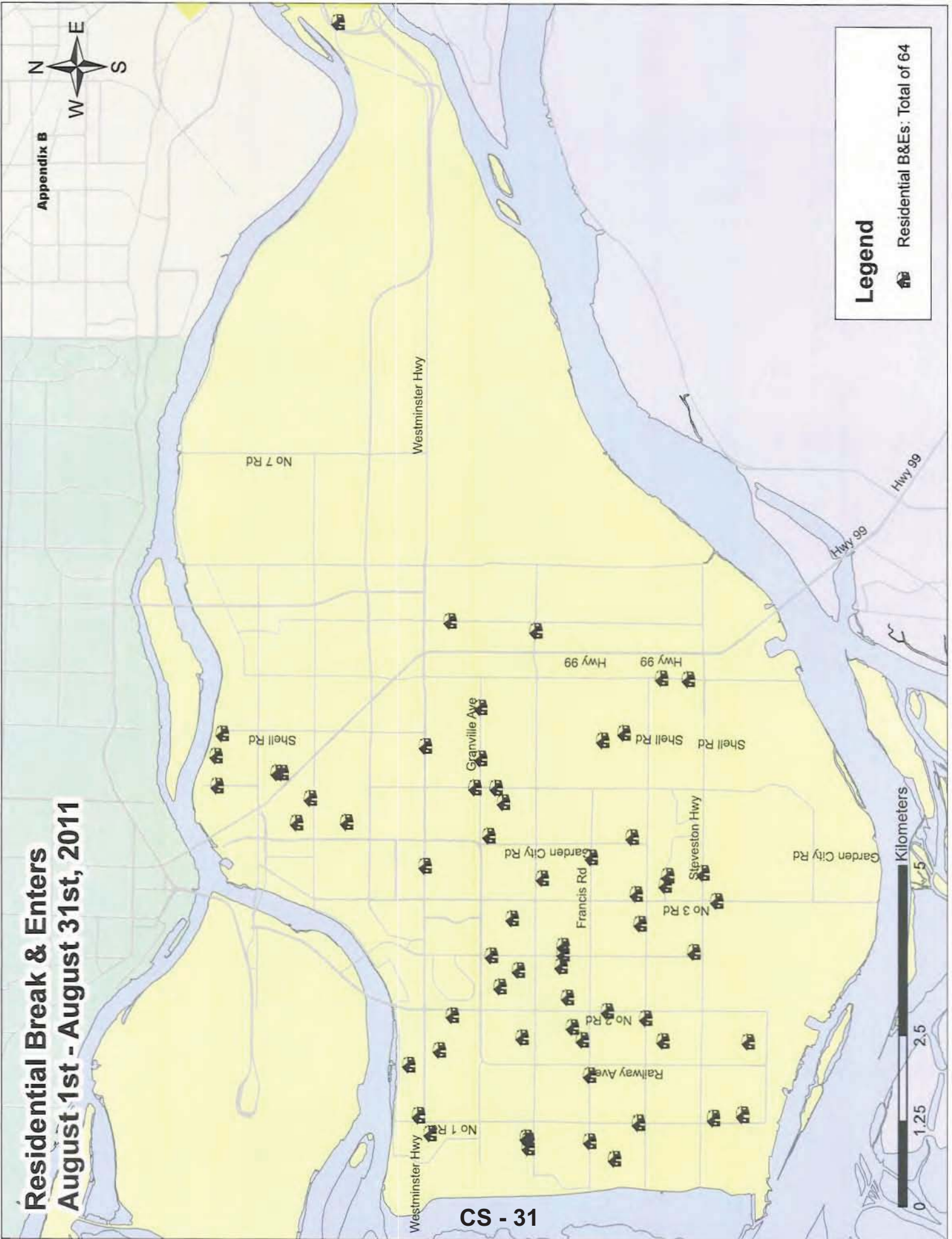
Business Break & Enters August 1st - August 31st, 2011

Appendix B




Residential Break & Enters August 1st - August 31st, 2011

Appendix B



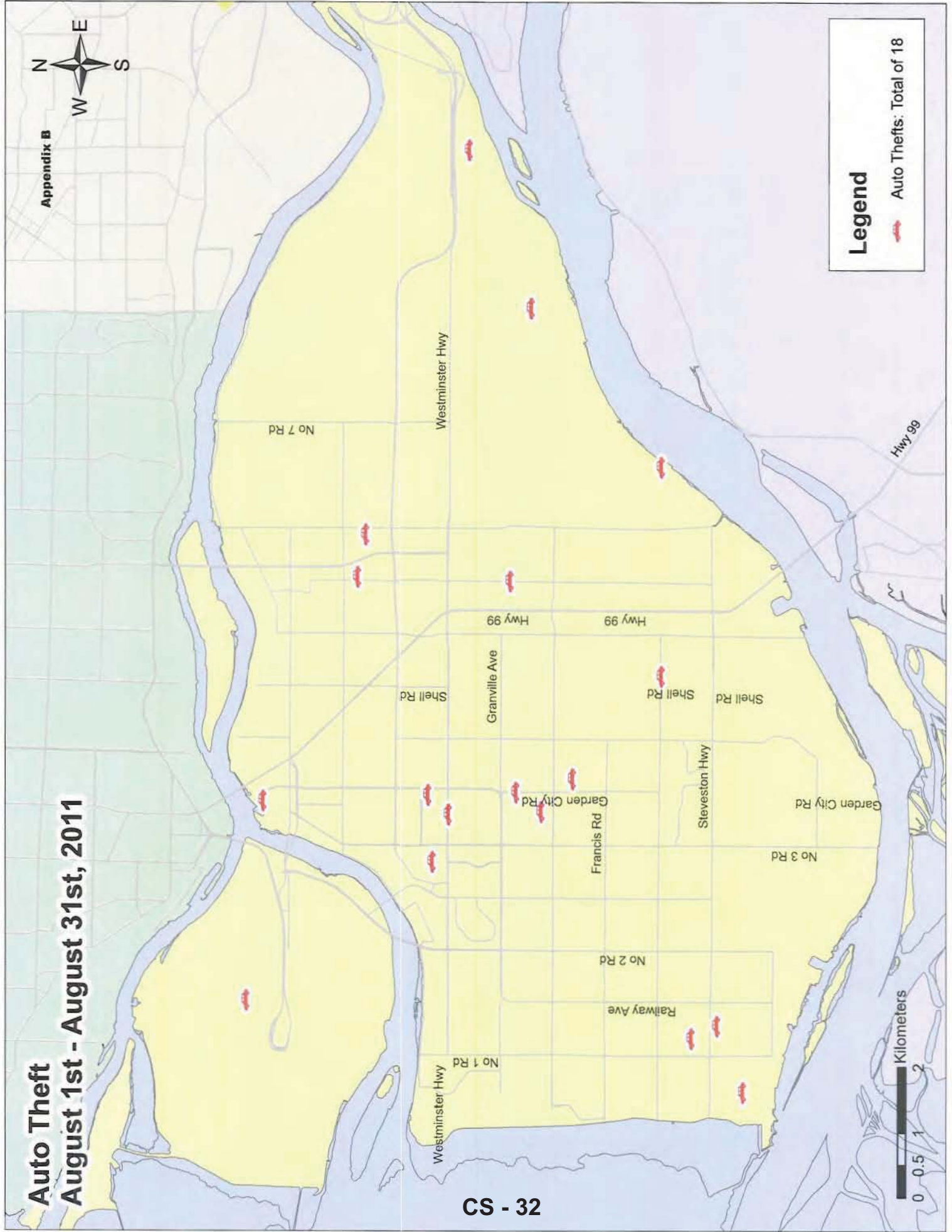
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 Residential B&Es: Total of 64

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Auto Theft August 1st - August 31st, 2011

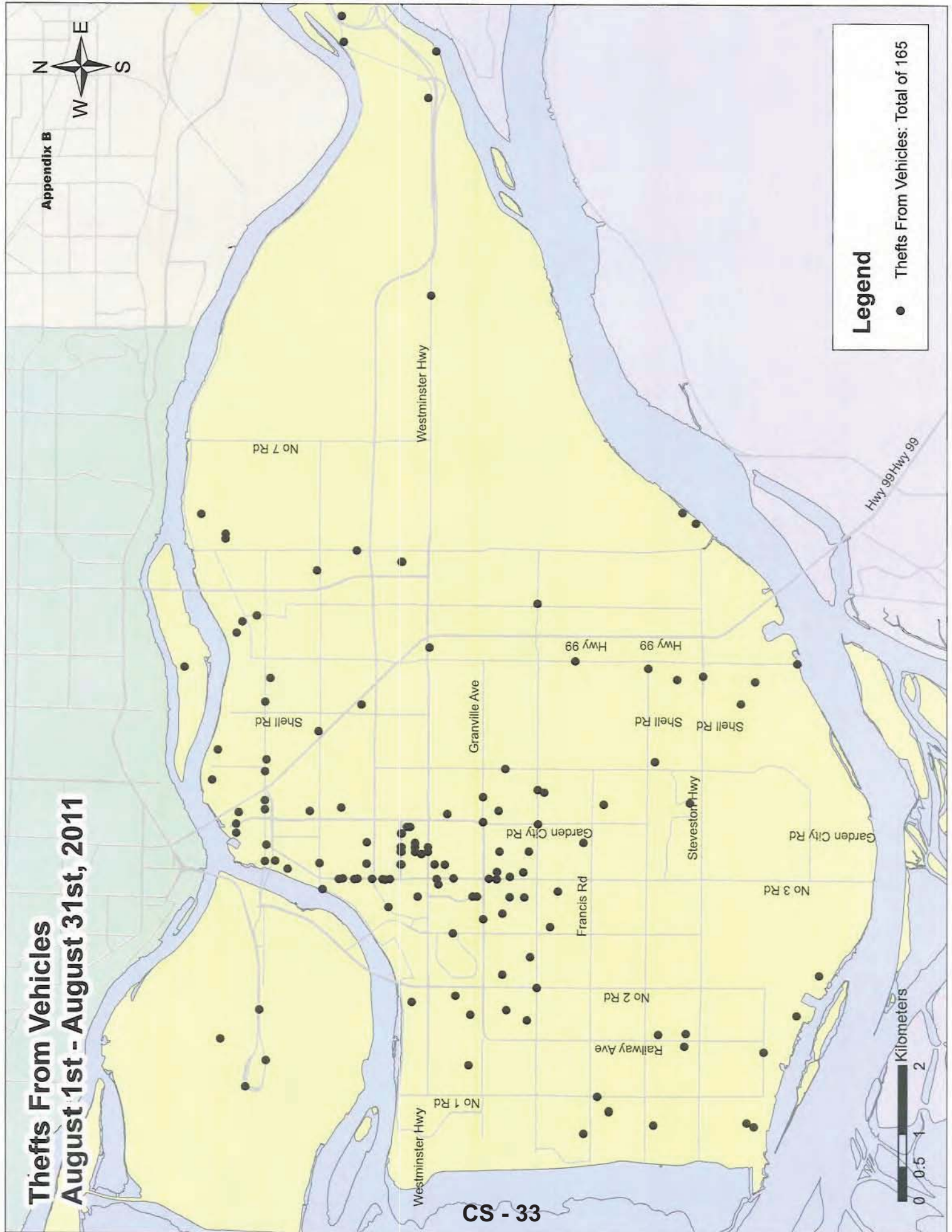
Appendix B



CS - 32

Thefts From Vehicles August 1st - August 31st, 2011

Appendix B



CS - 33

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- Thefts From Vehicles: Total of 165

