



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** January 16, 2026
From: Dave Chauhan **File:** 09-5030-01/2025-Vol
Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge 01
Re: **RCMP Monthly Activity Report – December 2025**

Staff Recommendation

That the report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – December 2025”, dated January 16, 2026, from the Officer in Charge, be received for information.

Dave Chauhan
Chief 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. Block Watch
5. Communications Unit
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 2022-2026 Focus Area #3: A Safe and Prepared Community:

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

Analysis

Activities and Noteworthy Files

Impaired Driving Enforcement

On December 2, 2025, the Richmond RCMP issued a media release advising of increased enforcement as part of the BC Association of Chiefs of Police Winter Impaired Driving Campaign. Richmond RCMP officers joined police agencies across BC for the "Light Up the Province" event on December 6, 2025. This high-visibility initiative, led by BC Highway Patrol, aimed to deter impaired driving and enhance road safety.

Distraction Thefts

On December 5, 2025, the Richmond RCMP issued a public warning following an increase in distraction thefts between late September and November 2025. In each case, suspects used various distraction techniques in attempts to steal jewellery from victims. The incidents occurred in a range of public and residential locations across the city.

Winter Driving Safety

On December 17, 2025, the Richmond RCMP issued a reminder to drivers to exercise extra caution during winter driving conditions. This includes the driver's responsibility to clear all

snow and ice from their vehicle before driving; failure to do so can result in fines for insecure cargo and driving with an obstructed view.

Retail Theft Enforcement

On December 13, 2025, Richmond RCMP officers conducted a Boost and Bust operation targeting retail theft at local businesses.¹ A total of 16 suspects were arrested, the majority of whom reside in other jurisdictions, and approximately \$1,500 in merchandise was recovered. Two arrests led to the discovery and seizure of edged weapons.

Pedestrian Fatality

On December 31, 2025, Richmond RCMP officers responded to a motor vehicle collision involving a pedestrian near the intersection of Williams Road and Seacote Road. Emergency Health Services and Richmond Fire Rescue provided medical assistance; however, the pedestrian succumbed to their injuries. The incident remains under investigation.

Analysis of Police Statistics²

Arson

There were four reported arsons in December 2025, representing a decrease of two incidents from the previous month. In 2025, arson incidents were down 32 per cent compared to 2024.³

Assault Serious (Assault with a Weapon)

There were 17 serious assaults in December 2025, representing an 89 per cent increase from the previous month. In 2025, serious assaults were down four per cent compared to 2024. The number of serious assaults this month is within the average range.

Twenty-nine per cent of serious assaults reported in December 2025 were domestic incidents.

Auto Theft

There were 20 auto thefts in December 2025, representing a 13 per cent decrease from the previous month. In 2025, auto thefts were down 15 per cent compared to 2024. The number of auto thefts this month is within the average range.

Mental Health

There were 227 mental health-related incidents in December 2025, a four per cent decrease from the previous month. In 2025, mental health-related incidents were up five per cent compared to 2024. The number of mental health-related incidents this month is below the average range.

¹ Boost and Bust projects involve police partnering with local businesses and loss prevention officers to target retail theft.

² Unless otherwise noted, no patterns or trends have been identified in this month's statistics.

³ In January 2024, a new Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR) code was introduced for intentionally set fires that do not meet the *Criminal Code* definition of Arson. This new UCR code prevents comparison to multi-year arson counts and averages.

There were 56 police apprehensions, and the average hospital wait time was 119 minutes; both statistics are within the average ranges. Twenty-four individuals were responsible for two or more calls in December, with one caller generating seven incidents.

Residential Break and Enter

There were 30 break and enters to residences in December 2025, which is a 50 per cent increase from the previous month. In 2025, residential break and enters were down six per cent compared to 2024. The number of residential break and enters this month is within the average range.

Commercial Break and Enter

In December 2025, there were 41 break and enters to businesses, representing a 71 per cent increase from the previous month. In 2025, commercial break and enters were up 31 per cent compared to 2024. The number of commercial break and enters this month is above the average range.

In 12 of this month's incidents, no items were reported stolen. Six incidents involved attempted break and enters where no entry was made.

Robbery

There were five robberies reported in December 2025, representing no change from the previous month. In 2025, the number of robberies remained unchanged from 2024. The number of robberies this month is within the average range.

One of the robberies reported this month involved a weapon; a suspect has been identified in this incident. All the reported robberies remain under investigation.

Sexual Offences

There were 17 sexual offence files in December 2025, representing a 15 per cent decrease from the previous month. In 2025, sexual offences were up seven per cent compared to 2024. The number of sexual offences this month is within the average range.

Forty-seven per cent of the offences reported in December 2025 were sexual assaults, and 29 per cent were indecent acts/exposing.

Shoplifting

There were 169 reported shoplifting thefts in December 2025, representing a 14 per cent increase from the previous month. In 2025, shoplifting thefts were down five per cent compared to 2024. The number of shoplifting thefts this month is above the average range.

Theft from Automobile

There were 69 thefts from automobiles in December 2025, representing a 17 per cent increase from the previous month. In 2025, thefts from automobiles were down three per cent compared to 2024. The number of thefts from automobiles this month is below the average range.

Drugs

In December 2025, there were 32 drug offences, representing a 23 per cent increase from the previous month. In 2025, drug offences were up 27 per cent compared to 2024. The number of drug incidents this month is above the average range.

Drug-Related “Social Disorder” Calls

Public complaints related to drug use fall under various call categories, including nuisance, cause disturbance, mischief, unwanted person, suspicious person, and check well-being. Table 1 presents the number of police calls for service related to a public complaint of suspected drug use.

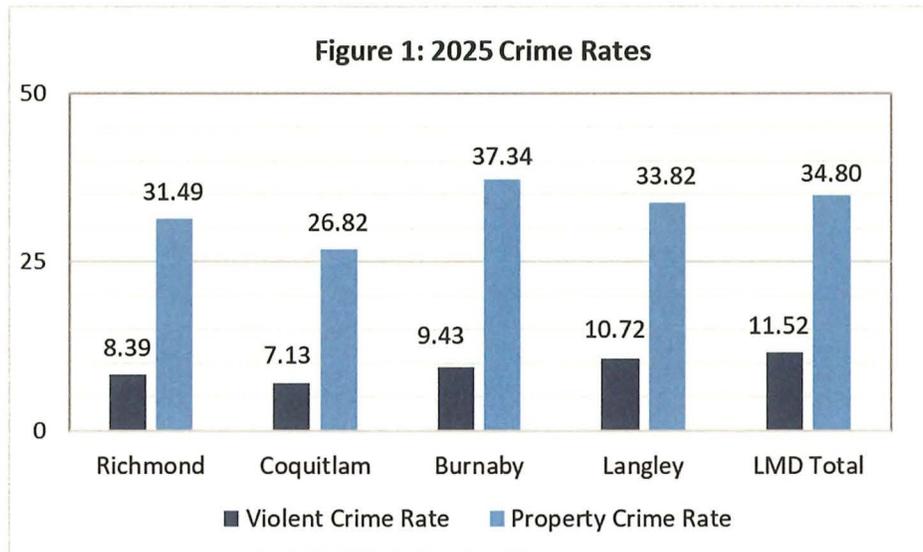
Table 1: Drug-Related Calls for Service

Month	Total Number of Drug-Related Calls	Suspected	Confirmed
January	71	42	29
February	38	23	15
March	49	31	18
April	58	41	17
May	57	36	21
June	70	44	26
July	40	20	20
August	59	44	15
September	57	35	22
October	39	26	13
November	52	40	12
December	42	23	19
Total	632	405	227

Confirmed incidents refer to files where direct observation of drug use or apparent signs of intoxication is noted. Most calls involved incidents where drug use was suspected, including reports of unwanted persons who were possibly under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions

Figure 2 presents the 2025 crime rates for the four largest municipalities in the Lower Mainland District (LMD), which are policed by the RCMP.⁴ The property and violent crime rates in Richmond were below the LMD average.



Block Watch

At the end of December 2025, the Block Watch program had 300 groups, totalling 6,722 participants. Currently, the program includes 421 captains and co-captains.

Communications Unit

The Communications Unit provides public safety and crime-prevention messaging to enhance community awareness of policing-related issues. During December, the Communications Unit conducted the following:

- A campaign aimed at reducing crashes caused by alcohol and drug impairment during the holiday season.
- Nine media releases were issued, including five related to property crimes.
- 31 social media posts were made on X, including property crime enforcement activities.



Figure 2: Impaired Driving Awareness

⁴ Based on PRIME query by Richmond Crime Analysis Unit on January 6, 2026

Community Police Office Programs

Community police offices continue to enhance the Richmond Detachment's policing services by providing a range of crime-prevention resources and community safety initiatives. City staff and volunteers implement safety initiatives to raise awareness of crime-prevention programs, promote community engagement, and enhance police accessibility. These initiatives help reduce anxiety and fear related to crime. The program activities vary from month to month, reflecting weather conditions, seasonal initiatives and the availability of volunteers.

During December, volunteer highlights included:

- The deployment of one van patrol, totalling eight hours.
- A total of 13 Fail to Stop deployments took place, resulting in 551 information letters issued.
- Over the course of approximately six weeks, volunteers participated in 18 Rescue Task Force Training sessions organized by the Vancouver Police Department, acting as role players in deadly threat scenarios/exercises. Volunteers provided 355 hours for this large-scale training event for police, fire, ambulance and E-Comm 911.
- December 6 – Volunteers participated in the “Light up the Province” campaign, in partnership with RCMP officers and Transit Police, and assisted with Counter Attack roadblocks.
- December 7 – Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with the annual “Santa’s Arrival in Steveston.” In addition to providing crowd control and restricting access to the docking area, volunteers escorted Santa from Fisherman’s Wharf to the Gulf of Georgia Cannery.
- December 13 – Volunteers helped with traffic barricades and crowd control for the Steveston Santa Parade.
- December 15 – Volunteers conducted foot patrols and assisted with wayfinding during the Public Menorah Lighting at Richmond City Hall.



Crime Prevention Unit

The Crime Prevention Unit reduces crime and enhances community engagement through public awareness and education initiatives. During December, the Crime Prevention Unit participated in various activities, including diversity and inclusion initiatives, road safety deployments and the following events:

- A total of 204 Place of Worship patrols were conducted.
- On December 7, 2025, RCMP officers participated in Red Serge for “Santa’s Arrival in Steveston.
- Following the Hanukkah Terror attack in Sydney, Australia, RCMP officers conducted additional patrols and check-ins at the Beth Tikvah Synagogue.

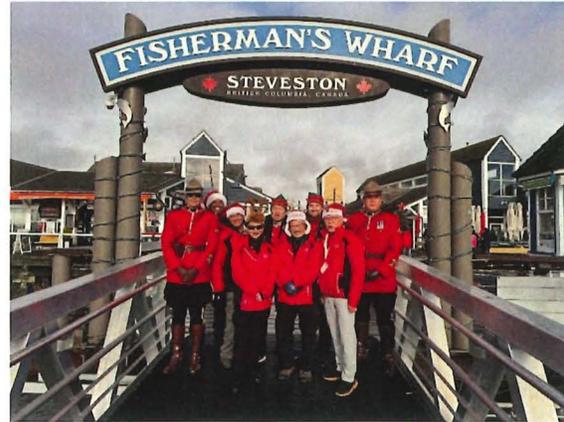


Figure 4: Santa's Arrival in Steveston

Road Safety Unit

The Road Safety Unit makes Richmond’s roads safer through evidence-based traffic enforcement, investigations into serious vehicle collisions, and public education programs. A total of 765 violation tickets were issued in December. Figure 6 provides statistics for the top five infractions for which violation tickets were issued in December:

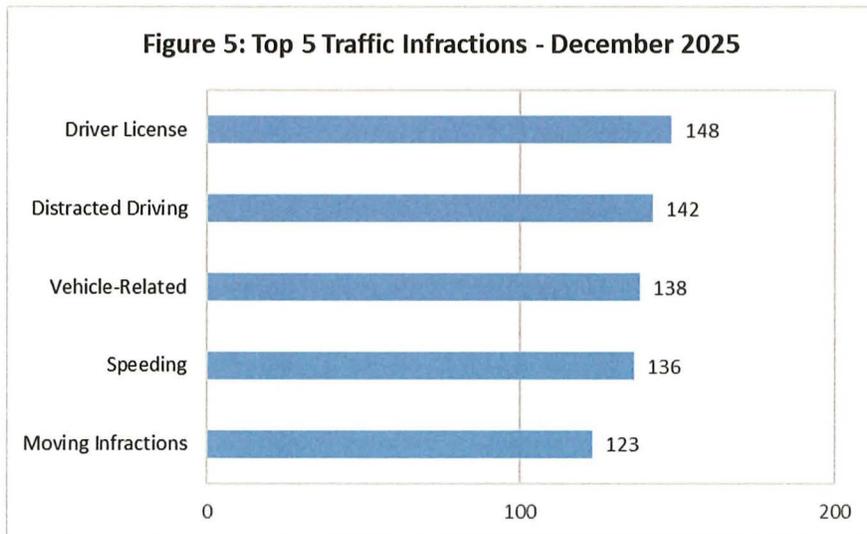


Table 2 presents the number of motor vehicle collisions involving injuries and fatalities reported between January 1, 2021, and December 31, 2025.

Table 2 – Motor Vehicle Collisions		
Year	Collisions with Non-Fatal Injuries	Fatalities
2021 ⁵	355	4
2022	406	1
2023	436	3
2024	455	2
2025 ⁶	395	2

Victim Services

In December 2025, Richmond RCMP Victim Services met with 75 new clients and attended nine crime/trauma scenes after hours. The unit currently maintains an active caseload of 72 files. In December, Victim Services responded to several cases involving medical-related sudden deaths, mental health-related issues, and property crimes.

Youth Section

The Richmond RCMP Detachment’s Youth Section focuses on strategies that promote safe and healthy behaviours essential to developing productive, civic-minded adults. During December, Youth Section highlights included:

- RCMP officers in the Youth Section conducted 64 proactive school visits at secondary schools and 116 visits at elementary schools. Police officers engaged with students during recess, lunch and morning and afternoon supervision.
- On December 9, 2025, RCMP officers in the Youth Section visited McKinney Elementary and provided presentations on Internet safety and Community Helpers.
- On December 10, 2025, RCMP officers in the Youth Section attended Steveston London Secondary Career Day and spoke to approximately 600 students, promoting the Youth Academy and careers in policing. In partnership with ICBC, Youth Section members also presented to 200 Grade 9 and 10 students
- DARE classes concluded for the first term of the 2025-2026 school year. A total of 473 students in 16 classes participated in the program.

Financial Impact

None.

⁵ Motor Vehicle collisions decreased during the pandemic due to changes in behaviour patterns and fewer vehicles on the roads.

⁶ Fatal collisions occurred on July 7, 2025, and December 31, 2025.

Conclusion

In December 2025, the Richmond RCMP conducted several notable investigations, including a series of distraction thefts and a fatal pedestrian collision. Police statistics for this month indicate that most crime types were within the average range, except for theft from automobiles and mental health-related incidents, which were below average and commercial break and enters, shoplifting and drug offences, which were elevated.

In December, the Richmond RCMP and volunteers continued to promote crime prevention and road safety initiatives, including impaired driving awareness. The Officer in Charge of the Richmond RCMP Detachment will continue to ensure that Richmond remains a safe and desirable community.



Edward Warzel
Director, Police Services
(604-207-4767)

EW:

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

Community Policing Programs Information

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.

Spot the Target

- This initiative consists of frequently stolen items being placed in the volunteer van for participants to identify in order to enhance awareness of thefts from automobiles.

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.



DECEMBER 2025 STATISTICS - RICHMOND RCMP

The following information is a limited list of select crime-type samples, which does not comprise the entirety or assortment of all crimes captured by the RCMP. The statistics in this chart should be considered independently of the analysis provided as the data is unrelated to the research provided earlier in this report.

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.

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

	Month	5-Yr Avg	5-Yr Range	Year to Date Totals			
	Dec - 25	December		2024	2025	% Change	# Change
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	156	146.6	131-162	1922	2090	9%	168
Robbery <small>UCR 1610 (1-3)</small>	5	5.8	5-7	53	53	0%	0
Assault Common <small>UCR 1430</small>	49	47.6	38-57	663	724	9%	61
Assault Serious <small>UCR 1410, 1420</small>	17	17.6	14-21	224	216	-4%	-8
Sexual Offences <small>UCR 1345, 1330, 1356, 1310, 3450/55/56</small>	17	17.8	13-23	244	261	7%	17
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	709	574.8	521-629	7548	7520	0%	-28
Business B&E <small>UCR 2120 (1, 3)</small>	41	25.4	17-33	232	305	31%	73
Residential B&E <small>UCR 2120.2</small>	30	31.8	23-41	255	239	-6%	-16
Auto Theft <small>UCR 2135 (1-10), 2178</small>	20	19.8	16-23	277	236	-15%	-41
Theft from Auto <small>UCR 2132, 2142</small>	69	98.6	70-128	879	849	-3%	-30
Theft <small>UCR 2130, 2140</small>	163	99.6	70-129	1373	1549	13%	176
Shoplifting <small>UCR 2133, 2143</small>	169	84.6	58-111	1613	1528	-5%	-85
Fraud <small>UCR 2160 (all), 2165, 2166</small>	94	80.2	61-99	1161	1155	-1%	-6
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	326	284.2	232-336	3572	3456	-3%	-116
Arson <small>UCR 1629, 2110</small>	4	8.2	4-12	78	53	-32%	-25
Cause Disturbance <small>UCR 3430</small>	210	202.0	157-247	2721	2350	-14%	-371
Collisions - all	189	182.8	152-213	2039	2070	2%	31
SUBTOTAL CC OFFENCES (UCR 1000 to 3000 Series)	1191	1006.6	905-1108	13102	13056	0%	-46
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	32	24.2	22-26	246	312	27%	66
MHA RELATED CALLS (MHA files or Mental Health flag)	227	242.4	229-256	2976	3118	5%	142

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Commercial Break & Enter
December 2025

ATTACHMENT 3

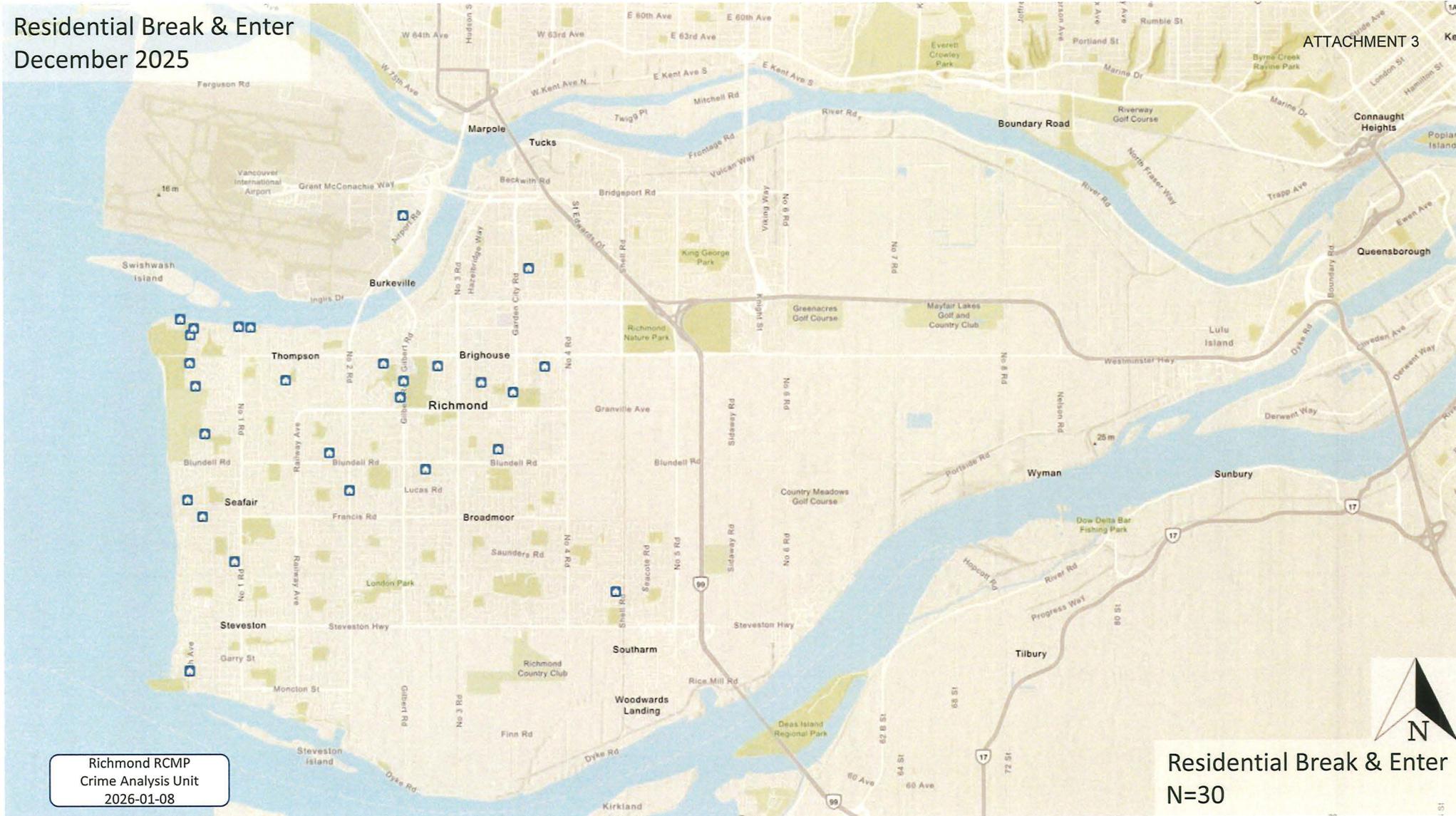


Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2026-01-05

Commercial Break & Enter
N=41

Residential Break & Enter
December 2025

ATTACHMENT 3



Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2026-01-08

Residential Break & Enter
N=30

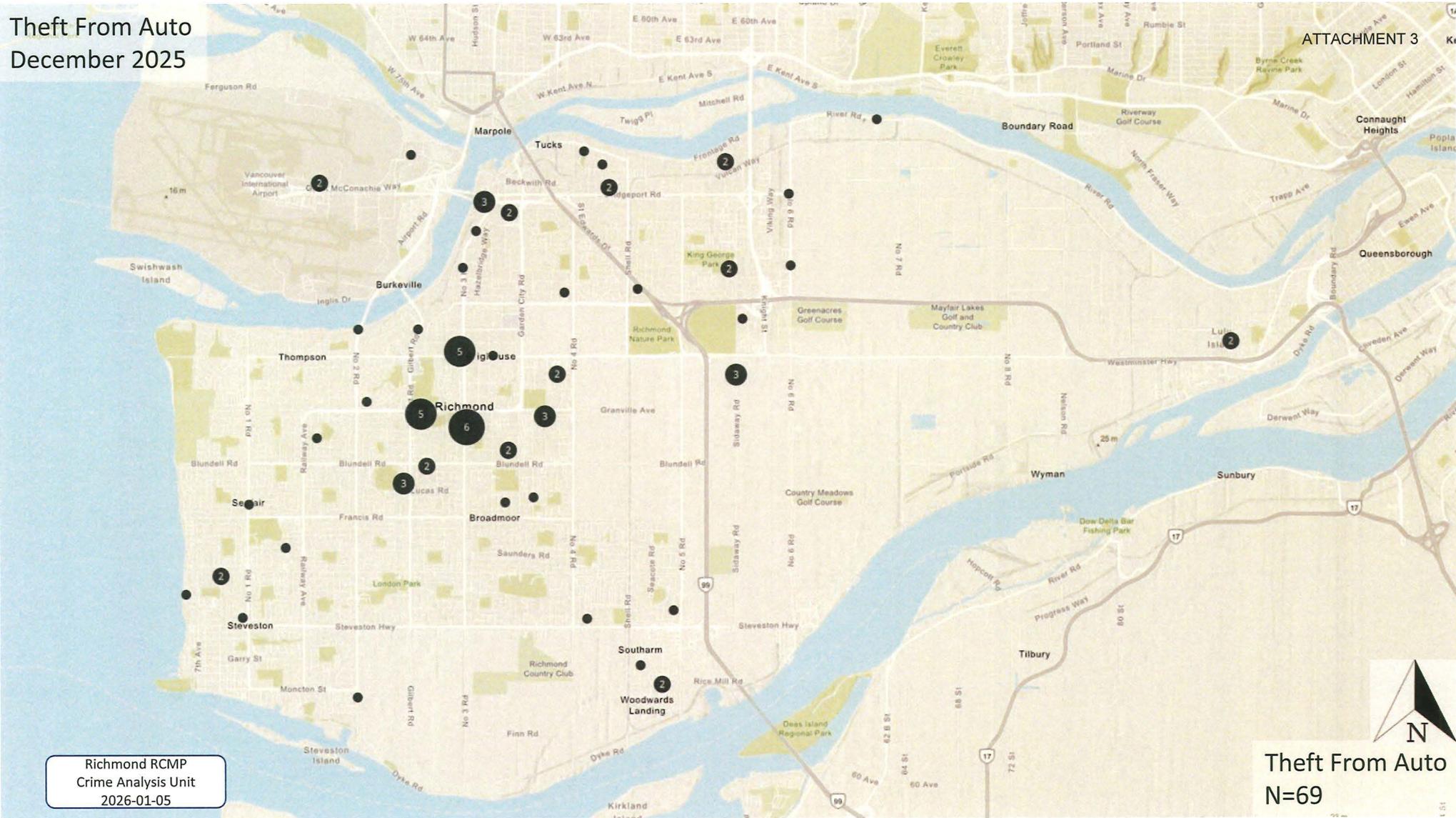
Auto Theft
December 2025

ATTACHMENT 3



Theft From Auto
December 2025

ATTACHMENT 3



Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2026-01-05

N
Theft From Auto
N=69