



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee
From: Dave Chauhan
Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge
Date: March 11, 2026
File: 09-5030-01/2025-Vol
01
Re: RCMP Monthly Activity Report – February 2026

Staff Recommendation

That the report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – February 2026”, dated March 11, 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 _____
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

Boost and Bust

On February 15, 2026, Richmond RCMP officers conducted a Boost and Bust operation targeting property crime in Richmond's downtown core, resulting in the arrest of 14 suspects.¹ Police have recommended charges against 10 offenders, and have referred two youths to the restorative justice program.

Distraction Thefts

On February 17, 2026, the Richmond RCMP issued a public warning concerning increasing distraction thefts targeting seniors. There were 13 incidents reported in Richmond between December 2025 and early February 2026. While some reported incidents did not result in theft, the behaviours closely match known distraction-theft patterns observed across the region.

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

Youth Academy Announcement

On February 20, 2026, the Richmond RCMP began recruiting for the 2026 Youth Academy, seeking motivated students in Grades 10 to 12. The six-day immersive program, designed for students interested in a career in law enforcement or a related field, will be held from August 10 to 15, 2026.

Drug Sentence

On February 24, 2026, the Richmond RCMP issued a media release advising that police recently concluded a multi-year investigation into a crime group responsible for several synthetic drug production labs in the city. The primary target received a 10-year jail sentence, a lifetime firearms prohibition, and a forfeiture order for the seized items.



Figure 1: Drug lab seizure

Analysis of Police Statistics²

Arson

There was one reported arson in February 2026, representing a decrease of six incidents from the previous month. Year to date, arsons are up by two incidents compared to the same period in 2025. The number of arsons this month is within the average range.

Assault Serious (Assault with a Weapon)

There were nine serious assaults in February 2026, representing a 50 per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, serious assaults are down 16 per cent compared to the same period in 2025. The number of serious assaults this month is below the average range.

One-third of serious assaults reported in February 2026 were domestic incidents.

Auto Theft

There were seven auto thefts in February 2026, representing a 50 per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, auto thefts are down 38 per cent compared to the same period in 2025. The number of auto thefts this month is below the average range.

Mental Health

There were 176 mental health-related incidents in February 2026, representing a six per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, the number of mental health-related incidents is

² Unless otherwise noted, no patterns or trends have been identified in this month's statistics. In January 2026, statistics were re-collected for all crime categories, dating back to 2019. This was done to account for any changes to scoring or delayed reports and to ensure data is up-to-date and accurate. For this reason, there will be variations from previously reported statistics.

down 20 per cent compared to the same period in 2025. The number of mental health-related incidents this month is below the average range.

There were 44 police apprehensions, which is below average. The average hospital wait time, at 115 minutes, was within the expected range. Nine individuals were responsible for two or more calls in February, with one caller generating three incidents.

Residential Break and Enter

There were 18 break and enters to residences in February 2026, which is a six per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, residential break and enters are down 20 per cent compared to the same period in 2025. The number of residential break and enters this month is within the average range.

Commercial Break and Enter

In February 2026, there were 23 break and enters to businesses, representing a 12 per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, commercial break and enters are down two per cent compared to the same period in 2025. The number of commercial break and enters this month is within the average range.

Robbery

There were five robberies reported in February 2026, representing an increase of one incident from the previous month. Year to date, robberies are up by two incidents compared to the same period in 2025. The number of robberies this month is within the average range.

Three of the robberies reported this month involved a weapon.

Sexual Offences

There were 17 sexual offence files in February 2026, representing an 11 per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, sexual offences are up 29 per cent compared to the same period in 2025. The number of sexual offences this month is within the average range.

Thirty-five per cent of the offences reported in February 2026 were sexual assaults, 35 per cent were possession of child sex abuse materials, and 21 per cent were indecent acts/exposing.

Shoplifting

There were 207 reported shoplifting thefts in February 2026, representing a 16 per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, shoplifting thefts are up 70 per cent compared to the same period in 2025. The number of shoplifting thefts this month is above the average range.

Theft from Automobile

There were 63 thefts from automobiles in February 2026, representing a 29 per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, the thefts from automobiles are down 10 per cent

compared to the same period in 2025. The number of thefts from automobiles this month is within the average range.

Drugs

In February 2026, there were 33 drug offences, representing a 27 per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, drug offences are up four per cent compared to the same period in 2025. The number of drug incidents this month is within 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

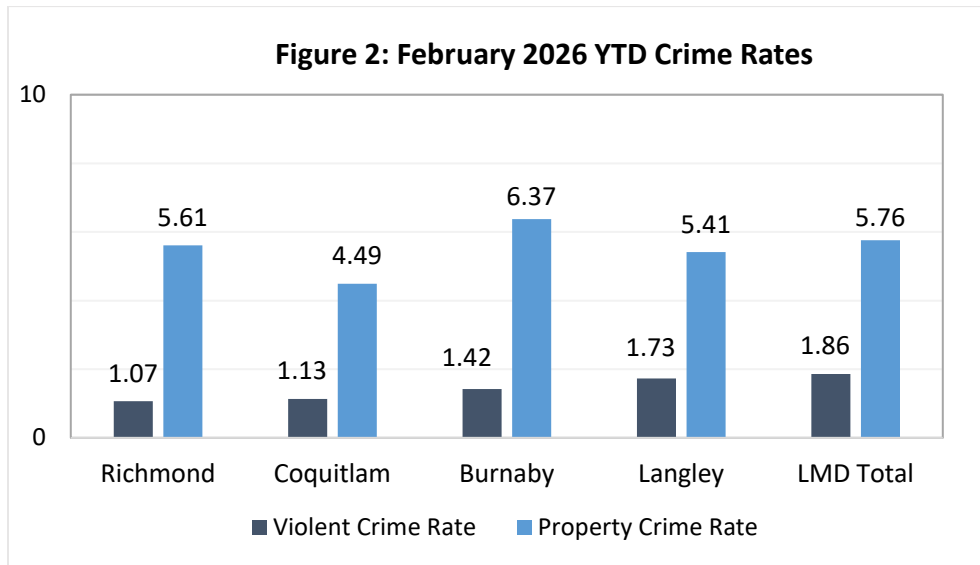
Table 1: Drug-Related Calls for Service

Month	Total Number of Calls – 2025	Total Number of Calls – 2026	Suspected	Confirmed
January	71	39	22	17
February	38	24	11	13
March	49			
April	58			
May	57			
June	70			
July	40			
August	59			
September	57			
October	39			
November	52			
December	42			
Total	632	63	33	30

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 February 2026 crime rates for the four largest municipalities in the Lower Mainland District (LMD), which are policed by the RCMP.³ The property and violent crime rates in Richmond were below the LMD average.



Block Watch

At the end of February 2026, the Block Watch program had 299 groups, totalling 6,665 participants. Currently, the program includes 419 captains and co-captains. On February 26, 2026, Block Watch Staff and RCMP officers delivered training to a new Block Watch group on identifying suspicious activity, target hardening, and program expectations.

Communications Unit

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

- Eight media releases were issued, including one promoting the 2026 Youth Academy.
- 42 social media posts were made on X, including information on E-Comm’s multilingual 9-1-1 awareness campaign, crime trends, and road safety.



Figure 3: 2026 Youth Academy

³ Based on PRIME query by Richmond Crime Analysis Unit on March 2, 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 February, volunteer highlights included:

- The deployment of one bike patrol, totalling 12 hours.
- A total of 26 Fail to Stop deployments took place, resulting in 1,685 information letters issued.
- There were three Speed Watch deployments, during which 66 information letters were issued.
- February 21 – Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a Lunar New Year event at Lansdowne Centre, engaging with attendees and distributing crime prevention resources.
- February 21 – Volunteers participated in a Crime Watch shift, conducting patrols for suspicious activities, stolen vehicles and impaired drivers, leading to referrals to police.
- February 26 – 20 Volunteers participated in the Volunteer Symposium at the Richmond Nature Park. RCMP officers, City staff, and ICBC representatives recognized the valuable community safety contributions of volunteers.
- February 28 – Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a car seat safety clinic at Firehall No. 1, checking 25 car seats. Volunteers also distributed crime prevention resources.



Figure 4: Car Seat Safety Clinic

Crime Prevention Unit

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

- A total of 273 Place of Worship patrols were conducted.
- RCMP officers conducted fraud awareness presentations at the Hamilton and South Arm Community Centres, Pathways Clubhouse and Maple Residences.
- RCMP officers participated in the Pink Shirt Day campaign, promoting kindness and anti-bullying awareness.



Figure 5: Pink Shirt Day

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 901 violation tickets were issued in February. Figure 6 provides statistics for the top five infractions for which violation tickets were issued in February:

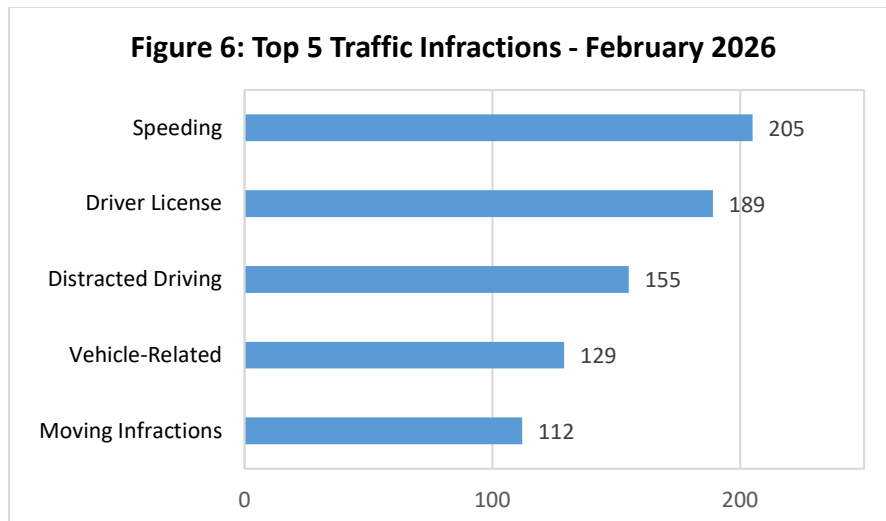


Table 2 presents the number of motor vehicle collisions involving injuries and fatalities reported between January 1, 2022, and February 28, 2026.

Table 2 – Motor Vehicle Collisions		
Year	Collisions with Non-Fatal Injuries	Fatalities
2022	406	1
2023	436	3
2024	455	2
2025	395	2
2026 (YTD) ⁴	97	1

Victim Services

In February 2026, Richmond RCMP Victim Services met with 43 new clients and attended four crime/trauma scenes after hours. The unit currently maintains an active caseload of 56 files. In February, Victim Services responded to several cases involving medical-related sudden deaths, sexual offences, and vehicle collisions.

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 February, Youth Section highlights included:

- RCMP officers in the Youth Section conducted 111 proactive school visits at secondary schools and 199 visits at elementary schools. Police officers engaged with students during recess, lunch and morning and afternoon supervision.
- DARE classes continued for the second term of the 2025-2026 school year. A total of 491 students in 16 classes are participating in the program.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

In February 2026, the Richmond RCMP conducted several notable investigations, including a series of distraction thefts and a large-scale Boost and Bust operation. Police statistics for this month indicate that most crime types were within the average ranges, except for serious assaults, auto thefts and mental health-related incidents, which were below average. Shoplifting thefts were elevated this month.

⁴ A fatal collision was recorded on January 12, 2026.

March 11, 2026

- 10 -

In February, the Richmond RCMP and volunteers continued to promote crime prevention and road safety initiatives. 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: mf

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.

FEBRUARY 2026 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.

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 due to crime trends, patterns, or spikes, it will be noted in **red** if higher and **blue** if below.

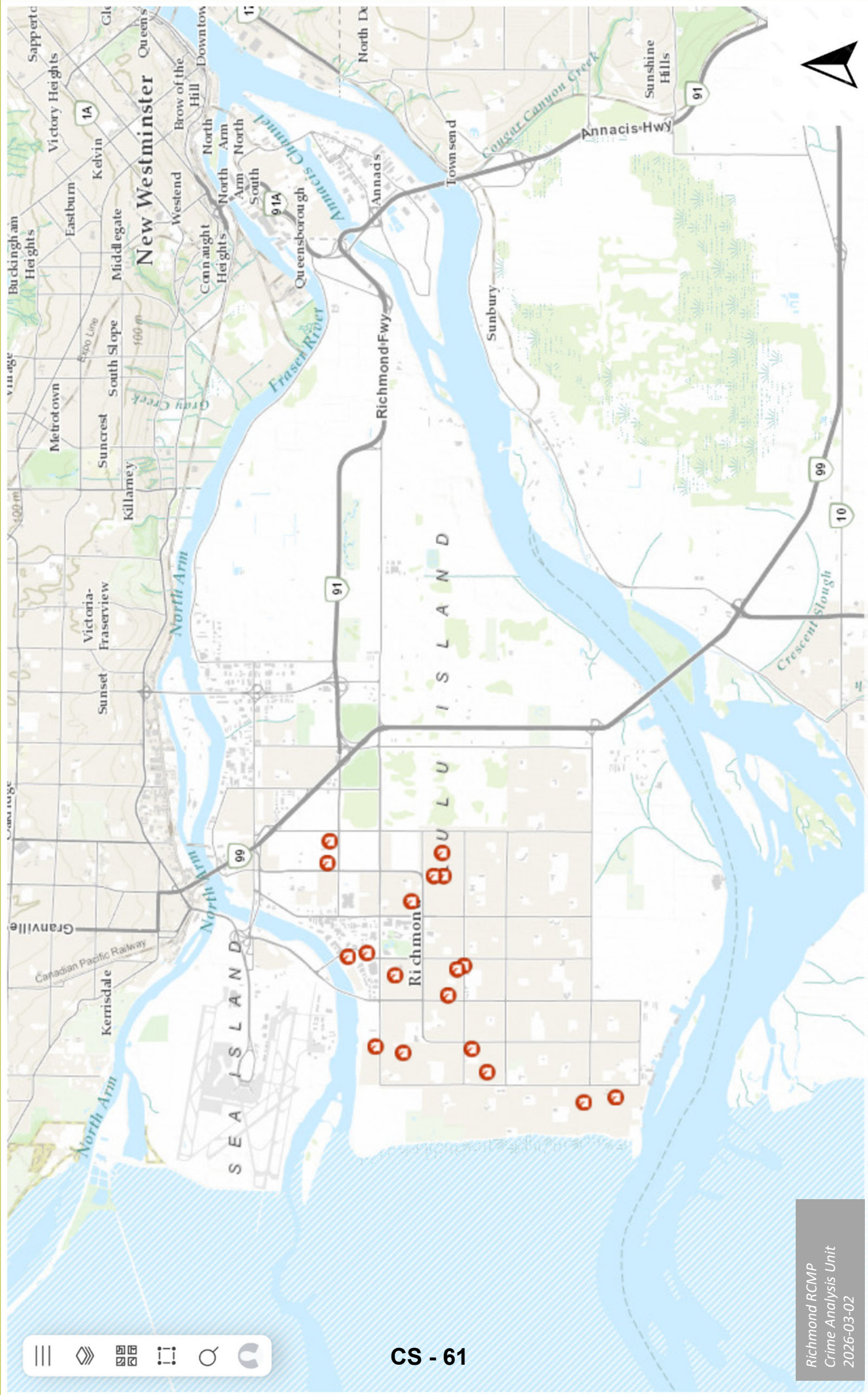
February 2026 Statistics - Richmond RCMP								
Criminal Code Offences	Current Period	5 Year Avg	5 Year Min	5 Year Max	2025 YTD	2026 YTD	25/26 % Chg	25/26 Count Diff
OTHER CC OFFENCES	286	300.2	225	317	581	612	5%	31
PERSONS VIOLENT CRIME	117	154.1	128	170	350	244	-30%	-106
PROPERTY CRIME	660	626.6	528	641	1227	1350	10%	123
Total	1047	1,045.8	843	1079	2087	2157	3%	70
Violent Crime Groups	Current Period	5 Year Avg	5 Year Min	5 Year Max	2025 YTD	2026 YTD	25/26 % Chg	25/26 Count Diff
ASSAULT COMMON	34	53.4	44	75	142	75	-47%	-67
SEX OFFENCES	17	18.2	8	18	28	36	29%	8
ASSAULT SERIOUS	9	20.2	12	23	32	27	-16%	-5
ROBBERY	5	4.9	3	8	7	9	29%	2
Property Crime Groups	Current Period	5 Year Avg	5 Year Min	5 Year Max	2025 YTD	2026 YTD	25/26 % Chg	25/26 Count Diff
AUTO THEFT	7	21.1	15	24	34	21	-38%	-13
BREAK & ENTER BUSINESS	23	26.1	20	42	44	43	-2%	-1
BREAK & ENTER RESIDENCE	18	22.2	15	27	44	35	-20%	-9
FRAUD	80	86.0	76	112	229	184	-20%	-45
SHOPLIFTING	207	111.3	82	156	227	386	70%	159
THEFT FROM AUTO	63	104.0	47	131	124	112	-10%	-12
THEFT-OTHER	139	107.0	73	110	261	301	15%	40
Other Criminal Code	Current Period	5 Year Avg	5 Year Min	5 Year Max	2025 YTD	2026 YTD	25/26 % Chg	25/26 Count Diff
ARSON	1	6.6	1	12	6	8	33%	2
CAUSE DISTURBANCE	196	206.5	142	231	423	409	-3%	-14
COLLISION	162	163.2	110	167	343	342	-0%	-1
All Series 4000 Offences	Current Period	5 Year Avg	5 Year Min	5 Year Max	2025 YTD	2026 YTD	25/26 % Chg	25/26 Count Diff
CDSA OFFENCES	33	38.2	18	47	57	59	4%	2
MHA	Current Period	5 Year Avg	5 Year Min	5 Year Max	2025 YTD	2026 YTD	25/26 % Chg	25/26 Count Diff
MHA	176	216.5	187	224	430	342	-20%	-88

Prepared by Richmond RCMP Crime Analysts. Data collected from PRIME on 2026-03-02. Published 2026-03-02. Data is 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).



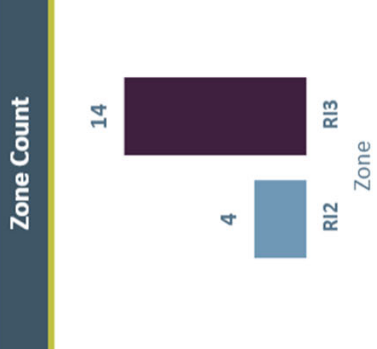
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Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2026-03-02



February 2026

- Crime Type**
- AUTO THEFT
 - BREAK & ENTER BUSINESS
 - BREAK & ENTER RESIDENCE
 - THEFT FROM AUTO

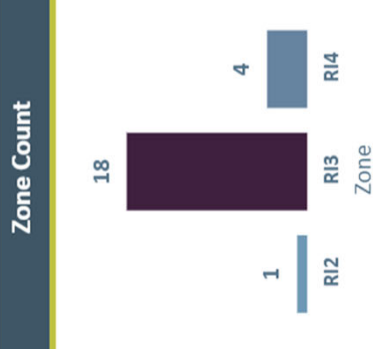


- THEFT FROM AUTO
- BREAK & ENTER BUSINESS
- BREAK & ENTER RESIDENCE
- AUTO THEFT

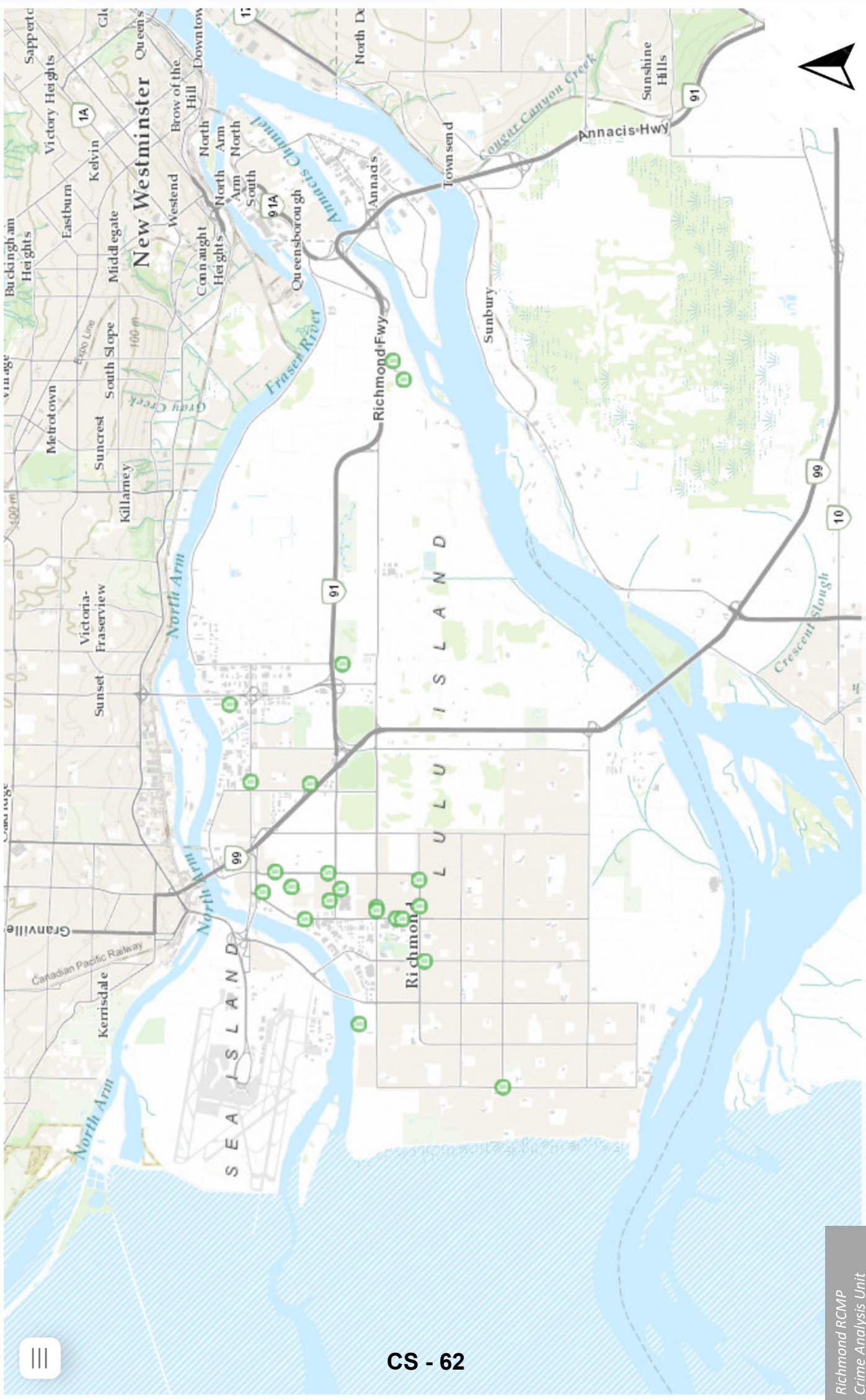
Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, GEBCO, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, mapwithyou, NOSTRA, © O...

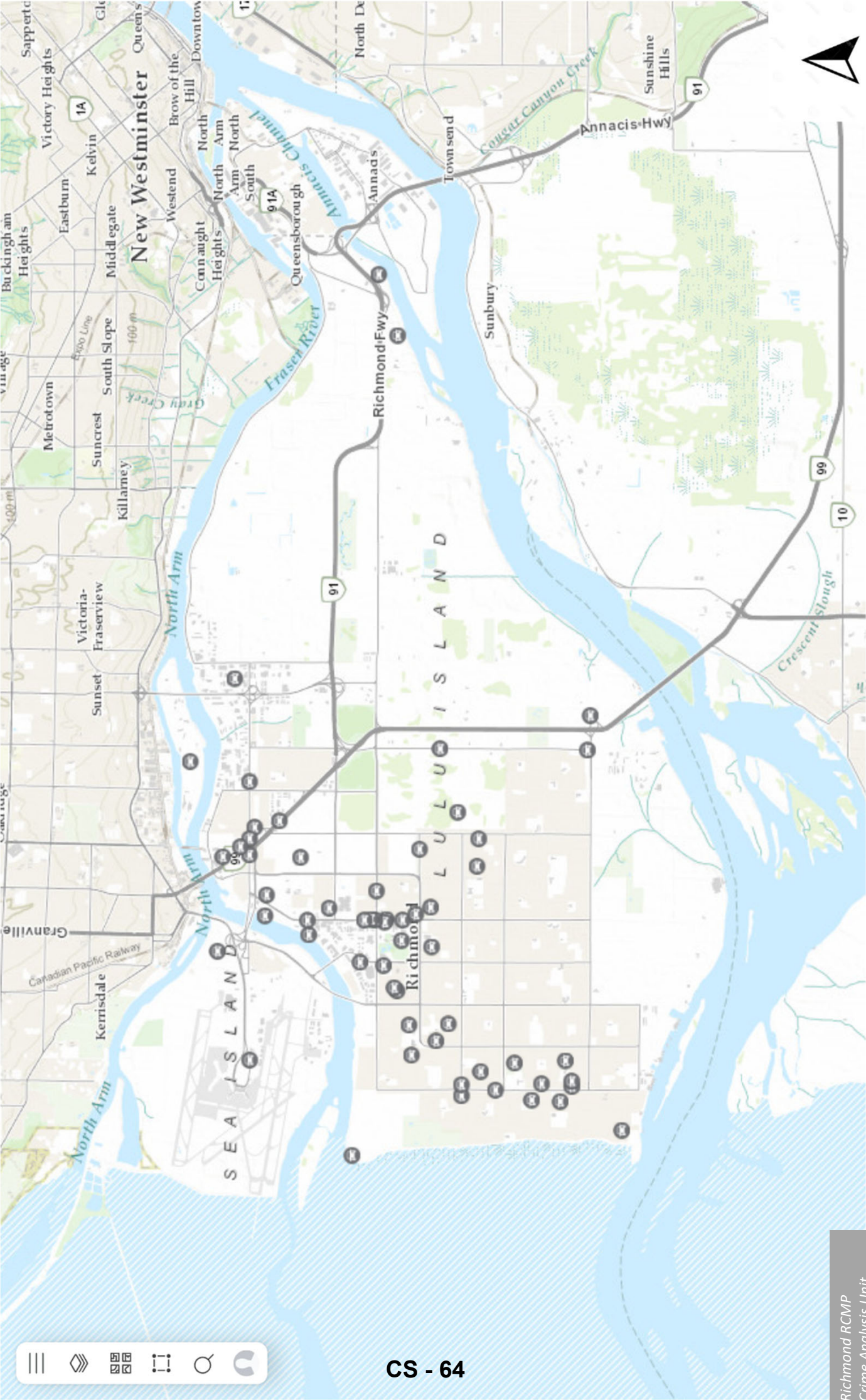
February 2026

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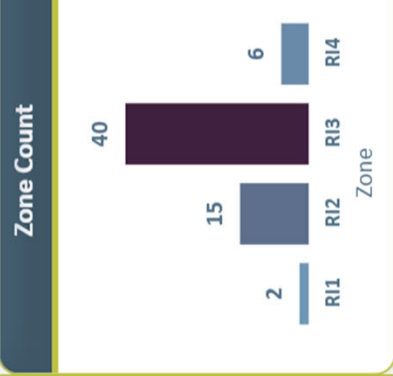




February ▼ 2026

Crime Type

- AUTO THEFT
- BREAK & ENTER BUSINESS
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