



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** December 13, 2022

From: Dave Chauhan **File:** 09-5000-01/2022-Vol
Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge 01

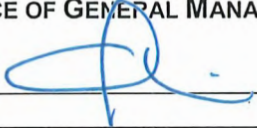

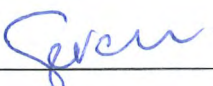
Re: RCMP Monthly Activity Report – November 2022

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled "RCMP Monthly Activity Report – November 2022", dated December 13, 2022, from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment, 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. Community Police Station Programs
6. Crime Prevention Unit
7. Road Safety Unit
8. Victim Services
9. 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

Halloween Candy

On November 1, 2022, the Richmond RCMP issued a media release advising parents to carefully inspect Halloween candy following a report that a child had inadvertently consumed candy containing THC¹. The child became sick and had to receive treatment at the hospital. Police believe this to be an isolated incident and are investigating.

Double Stabbing

On November 16, 2022, Richmond RCMP officers attended a business in the 11000 block of No. 5 Road for a report of a double stabbing. Both victims were transported to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. With the assistance of multiple police jurisdictions, the suspect was located and arrested in Abbotsford. The man was charged with two counts of aggravated assault.

Pedestrian Collision

On November 14, 2022, Richmond RCMP officers responded to the intersection of Bridgeport and Sexsmith Road for reports of a collision involving a pedestrian. A 57-year-old woman sustained life-threatening injuries after being struck by a vehicle. The driver remained at the scene and was cooperative with police. The investigation is ongoing.

¹ Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) is the active ingredient in cannabis.

Toy Drive

On November 19, 2022, the Richmond RCMP hosted its 8th annual Christmas Toy Drive in partnership with Richmond Cares, Richmond Gives and Richmond Fire-Rescue. The fundraising event was held outside of Lansdowne Centre and featured refreshments for supporters who made a donation. Over \$26,000 in cash and 1.6 tons in toys were collected in support of the Richmond Christmas Fund.

Fraud Awareness

On November 23, 2022, the Richmond RCMP issued a media release to provide fraud awareness and security tips to the public. Information on trends and prevention resources were featured, in addition to highlighting the Crime Prevention Unit's outreach program for local seniors and community groups.

Analysis of Police Statistics*Arson*

In November 2022, there were seven reported arsons, which is down three incidents from the previous month and down two incidents from November 2021. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of arsons this month is within the expected range.

Assault Serious (Assault with a Weapon)

There were 16 assault serious events in November 2022, which is down 20 per cent from the previous month and represents no change from November 2021. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of serious assaults this month is within the expected range.

To date, suspects have been identified in 56 per cent of the assaults. One of the incidents reported this month was an unprovoked stranger assault.

Auto Theft

In November 2022, there were 19 incidents of auto theft, which is a 42 per cent decrease from the previous month and represents no change from November 2021. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of auto thefts this month is within the expected range.

Drugs

In November 2022, there were 52 drug files, which is up 86 cent from the previous month and is more than double the number reported in November 2021. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of drug incidents this month is within the expected range.

Approximately 56 per cent of drug incidents this month occurred at the Vancouver International Airport.

Mental Health

There were 229 mental health-related incidents in November 2022, which is a 10 per cent increase from the previous month and is an eight per cent decrease from November 2021. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of mental health-related incidents this month is within the expected range.

There were 72 police apprehensions this month and the average hospital wait time was 100 minutes; both of these statistics are within the expected ranges.

Residential Break and Enter

There were 16 break and enters to residences in November 2022, which represents no change from the previous month and is a 45 per cent decrease from November 2021. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of residential break and enters this month is below the expected range.

Commercial Break and Enter

In November 2022, there were 25 break and enters to businesses, which represents a seven per cent decrease from the previous month and is a 67 per cent increase from November 2021.² No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of commercial break and enters this month is within the expected range.

Robbery

There were three robberies in November 2022, which is up three incidents from the previous month and down one incident from November 2021. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of robberies this month is within the expected range.

To date, a suspect has been arrested in connection with one of the incidents. Two of the robberies reported this month involved the use of a weapon.

Sexual Offences

In November 2022, there were 16 sexual offence files, which is a 30 per cent decrease from the previous month and is a 36 per cent decrease from November 2021.³ No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of sexual offences this month is within the expected range.

Suspects have been identified in 81 per cent of the incidents reported this month.

² A statistically low number of commercial break and enters were reported in November 2021.

³ The Sexual Offences category comprises a range of offences including: sexual assault, sexual interference, making and distributing child pornography, possessing and accessing child pornography and indecent acts/exposing.

Shoplifting

There were 64 reported shoplifting thefts in November 2022, which is a 21 per cent decrease from the previous month and is a three per cent decrease from November 2021. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of shoplifting thefts this month is within the expected range.

Theft from Automobile

There were 112 theft from automobile incidents in November 2022, which is down three per cent from the previous month and down seven per cent from November 2021. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of thefts from automobiles this month is within the expected range.

Hate Crimes and Incidents

Table 1 presents the number of hate crimes and hate incidents reported between January 1, 2018 and November 30, 2022.⁴ A “hate crime” refers to any criminal offence targeting an identifiable group. The criteria for an offence to be considered a hate crime as per the *Criminal Code* carries a higher threshold and usually involves one or more criminal offences. A “hate incident” may be motivated by the same factors as a hate crime, but does not reach the threshold of being a criminal offence. The three incidents reported this month were related to the use of derogatory comments and racial slurs.

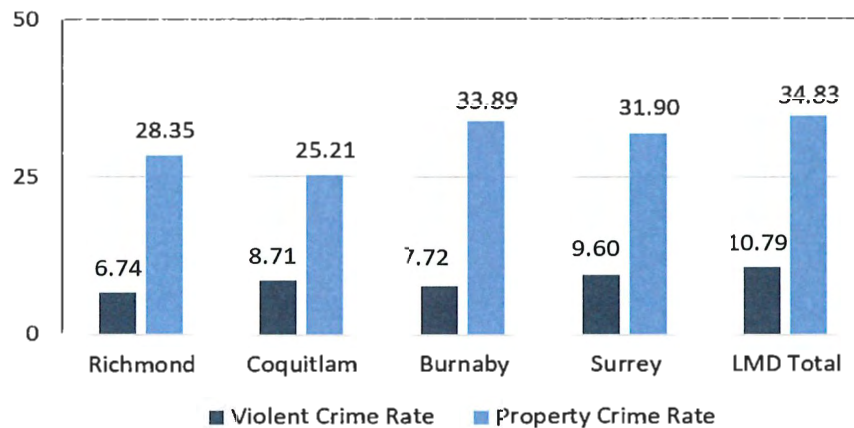
Table 1 – Hate Crimes and Hate Incidents			
Year	Hate Crime Files	Hate Incident Files	Total
2018	19	4	23
2019	11	9	20
2020	21	13	34
2021	19	29	48
2022 (YTD)	9	19	28

⁴ The BC Hate Crimes Unit uses the terms hate-motivated crime and hate-motivated incident.

Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions

Data on crime rates is presented in Figure 1.⁵ In November 2022, out of the four largest municipalities policed by the RCMP in the Lower Mainland District (LMD), Richmond had the lowest violent crime rate and the second-lowest property crime rate.

Figure 1: November 2022 (YTD) Crime Rates



Block Watch

At the end of November 2022, the Block Watch program had 303 groups totaling 7,029 participants. Currently, the program includes 443 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.

During the month of November, volunteer highlights included:

- The deployment of 10 volunteer foot/van patrols totalling 29 hours.
- A total of five Fail to Stop deployments took place, which resulted in 157 information letters.
- There were 23 Lock Out Auto Crime deployments, during which 322 information letters were distributed.

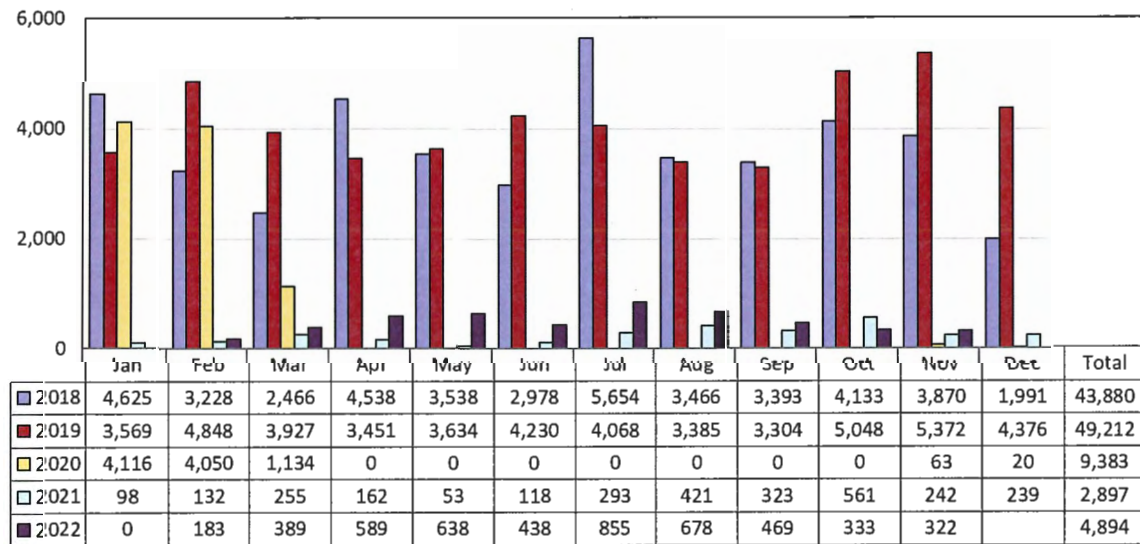
⁵ Crime rate is year to date (YTD) and calculated per 1,000 people.

- November 5 – In partnership with ICBC, volunteers participated in an event for “Walk Richmond” at Woodward’s Landing.⁶ A total of 60 pedestrian safety reflectors were distributed.
- November 11 – A total of 16 volunteers participated in a Remembrance Day event at Richmond City Hall. Volunteers conducted foot patrols and handed out meals to parade participants.
- November 19 – A total of 22 volunteers assisted RCMP officers with annual Toy Drive in support of the Richmond Christmas fund.
- November 23 – Volunteers conducted a Lock Out Auto Crime deployment in central Richmond, where they scanned 176 vehicles through the Stolen Auto Recovery System and issued 41 information letters.
- November 24 – Volunteers conducted a Fail to Stop deployment in central Richmond, where they scanned 125 vehicles through the Stolen Auto Recovery System and issued 91 information letters.

Lock Out Auto Crime

Figure 2 provides a comparison by year of the number of vehicle notices issued.⁷

Figure 2: Lock Out Auto Crime Vehicles Issued a Notice



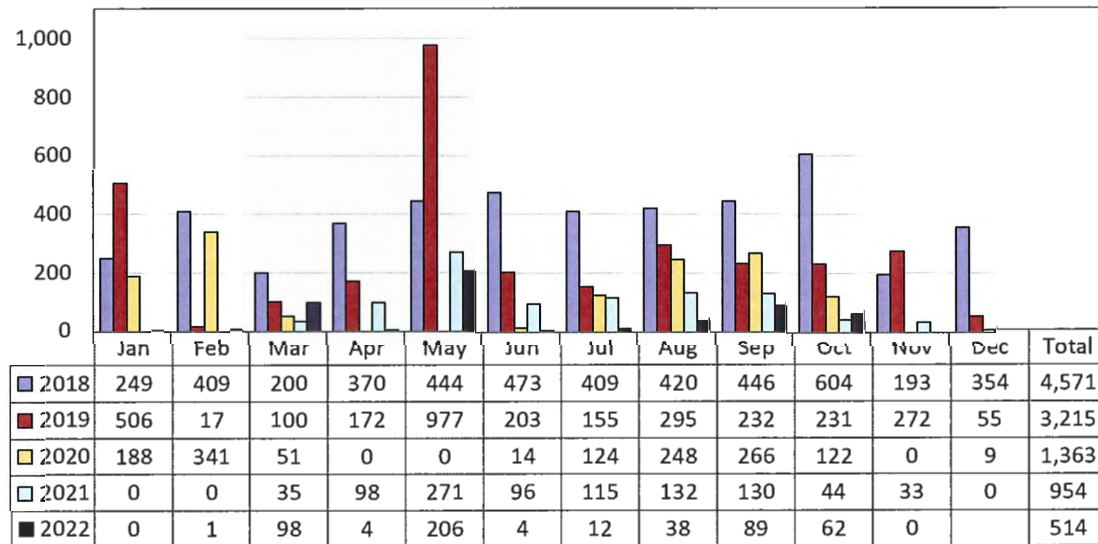
⁶ The Walk Richmond program helps make walking goals more attainable by offering free walks and related resources throughout the year.

⁷ Beginning in November 2020, Lock Out Auto Crime letters were issued in place of notices. Letters are only issued to vehicles displaying security vulnerabilities; whereas previously, notices were issued to all vehicles. This has resulted in a significant reduction in the number of letters issued.

Speed Watch

Figure 3 provides a yearly comparison of the number of letters sent to registered vehicle owners.

Figure 3: 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 November, the Crime Prevention Unit participated in the following events/activities:

- Business Outreach
- Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives
- Place of Worship Patrols
- Remembrance Day
- School Visits
- Toy Drive

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. Table 2 compares statistics for November 2022 to both September 2022 and October 2022. Violation tickets were issued for the following infractions:

Table 2: Violation Tickets Issued

Infraction	September 2022	October 2022	November 2022
Distracted Driving	45	66	92
Driver License	200	190	189
Impaired	39	52	31
Intersection Offences	36	38	39
Moving Infractions ⁸	90	65	60
Speeding	123	145	58
Seatbelts	23	22	15
Vehicle Related ⁹	139	138	190
Other ¹⁰	8	5	6
Total	703	721	680

Victim Services

In November 2022, Richmond RCMP Victim Services met with 74 new clients and attended five crime/trauma scenes after hours. The unit currently maintains an active caseload of 88 files. In November, Victim Services responded to a number of cases involving medical-related sudden deaths, mental health issues and cyber fraud.

Youth Section

The Richmond RCMP 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 November, Youth Section highlights included:

- RCMP officers in the Youth Section conducted 29 proactive school visits at secondary schools and 47 visits at elementary schools. Police officers engaged with the students at recess and lunch, as well as during morning and afternoon supervision.
- The first term of DARE continued for the 2022-2023 school year. A total of 560 students in six schools participated in DARE this month.

Financial Impact

None.

⁸ Moving infractions refers to unsafe lane change and unsafe passing.

⁹ Vehicle related refers to vehicle defects, for example no lights and no insurance.

¹⁰ Other refers to miscellaneous charges including failing to remain at the scene of an accident and failing to stop for police.

Conclusion

In November 2022, the Richmond RCMP conducted a number of noteworthy investigations, including a double stabbing and a serious pedestrian collision. Police statistics for this month indicate that most crime types were within the expected ranges, with the exception of residential break and enters, which were below the expected range.

In November, the Richmond RCMP hosted its 8th annual Toy Drive in support of the Richmond Christmas Fund. The Community Engagement Team 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
Manager, Police Services
(604-207-4767)

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

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.

NOVEMBER 2022 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.

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**.

Mental Health file query has been updated to capture all types of mental health study flags versus one type. Mental health study flag file numbers have been updated for the last five years. This change does not impact mental health apprehension numbers or hospital wait times.

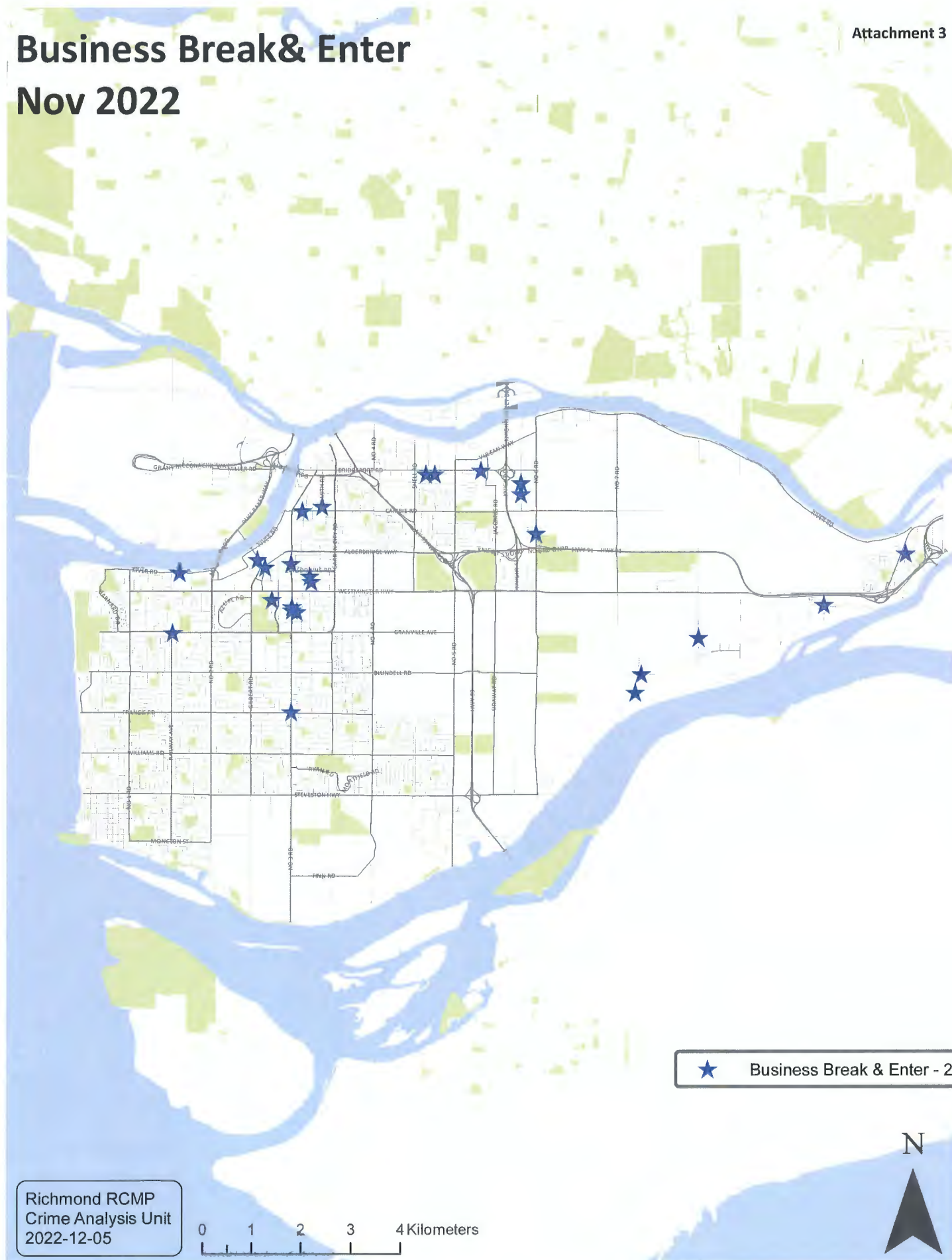
	Month	5-Yr Avg	5-Yr Range	Year to Date Totals			
	Nov - 22	October		2021	2022	% Change	# Change
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	146	131.0	116-146	1581	1529	-3%	-52
Robbery <small>UCR 1910 (1-3)</small>	3	4.4	2-7	50	55	10%	5
Assault Common <small>UCR 1430</small>	55	47.4	41-54	518	546	5%	28
Assault Serious <small>UCR 1410, 1420</small>	16	13.0	10-16	167	192	15%	25
Sexual Offences <small>UCR 1443, 1450, 1453, 1454, 1455, 1456</small>	16	17.2	13-22	222	191	-14%	-31
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	499	587.0	541-633	5780	6225	8%	445
Business B&E <small>UCR 2120-1</small>	25	26.0	17-35	296	326	10%	30
Residential B&E <small>UCR 2120-2</small>	16	57.6	37-78	303	267	-12%	-36
Auto Theft <small>UCR 2135 (1-10), 2178</small>	19	24.4	21-28	234	235	0%	1
Theft from Auto <small>UCR 2132, 2142</small>	112	156.0	127-185	1474	1279	-13%	-195
Theft <small>UCR 2130, 2140</small>	98	71.8	64-80	647	979	51%	332
Shoplifting <small>UCR 2133, 2143</small>	64	58.0	50-66	644	756	17%	112
Fraud <small>UCR 2150 (100), 2155, 2156</small>	52	74.4	68-80	796	731	-8%	-65
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	261	176.2	144-208	2662	2769	4%	107
Arson <small>UCR 1029, 2103</small>	7	4.6	2-7	67	85	27%	18
SUBTOTAL CC OFFENCES (UCR 1000 to 3000 Series)	906	51.0	843-945	10026	10529	5%	503
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	52	48.4	18-79	376	480	28%	104
MHA RELATED CALLS (MHA files or Mental Health flag)	229	234.2	201-267	2748	2546	-7%	-202

Prepared by Richmond RCMP Crime Analysts. Data collected from PRIME on 2022-12-05. Published 2022-12-06. **The statistical data in this chart should be considered independently of any analysis provided in the Richmond RCMP Monthly Activity Report.** 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).

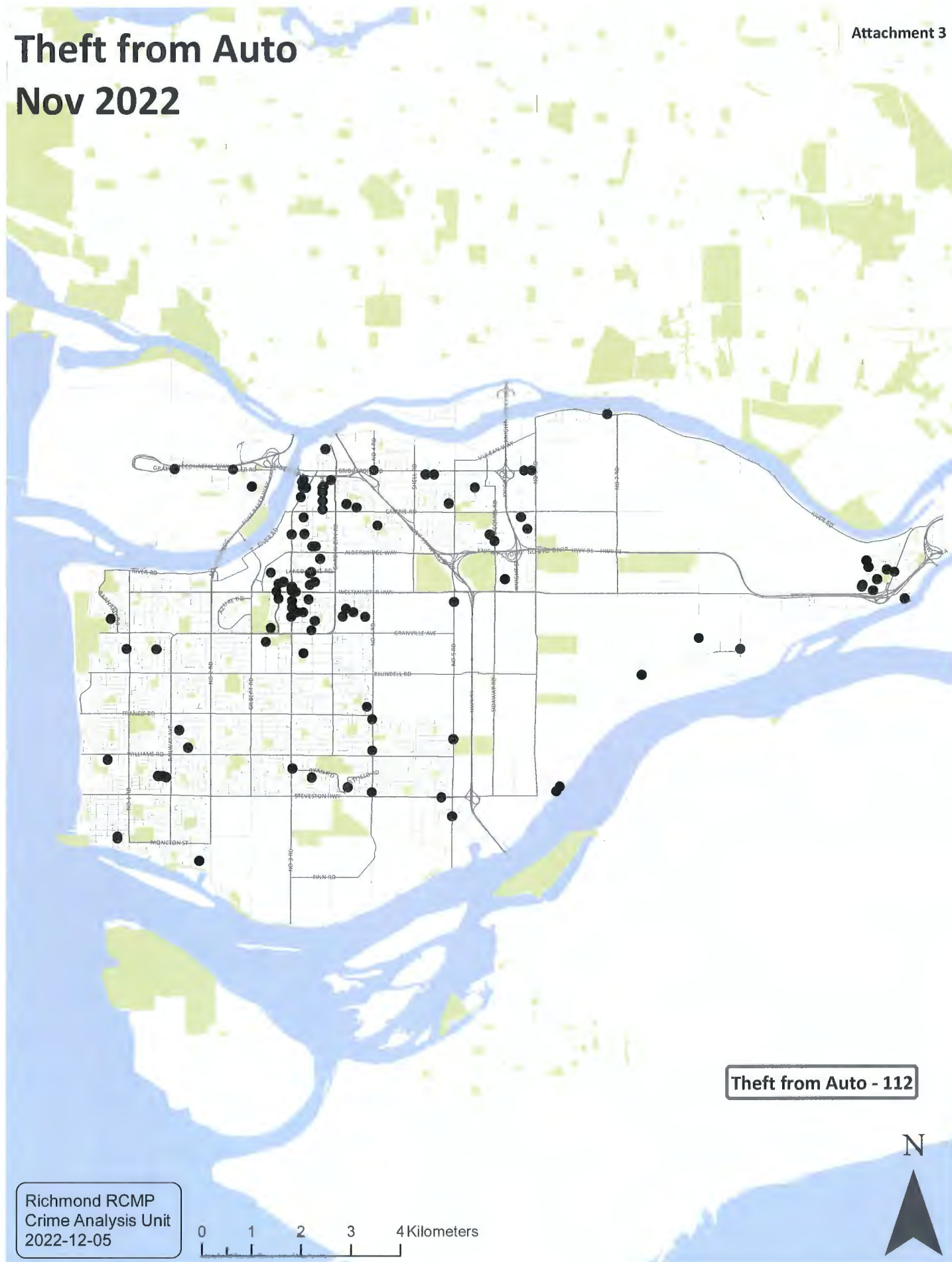
Residential Break & Enter Nov 2022



Business Break & Enter Nov 2022



Theft from Auto Nov 2022



Auto Theft Nov 2022

