



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** May 4, 2015
From: Rendall Nessel, Superintendent **File:** 09-5000-01/2015-Vol
Officer In Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment 01 (15.12)
Re: **RCMP's Monthly Report - April 2015 Activities**

Staff Recommendation

That the report titled, "RCMP's Monthly Report – April 2015 Activities," dated May 4, 2015 from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP, be received for information.

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

Att. 2

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER 	
REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT / AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE	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 report supports Council's Term Goal #1 Community Safety:

To ensure Richmond remains a safe and desirable community to live, work and play in, through the delivery of effective public safety services that are targeted to the City's specific needs and priorities.

Analysis

Below is the RCMP's monthly report for April 2015 activities.

Noteworthy Files and Activities

Pickpocket Artists Picked Off

Two pickpocket artists have been nabbed by the Richmond RCMP Quick Response Team (QRT) following a 3 month investigation. The pickpockets or distraction theft artists, usually target victims located in the food court areas of local Richmond shopping malls. As victims entered and sat down in the food court, the pickpockets watched for victims who specifically hung their coats on the backs of chairs. The pickpockets would sit in close proximity to their victims and steal their wallets, cell phones, keys and other personal items from their coats.

Investigators noticed a pattern in the frequency of lost property reports in those areas. With the assistance of the Detachment's Crime Analysts, police were able to narrow their focus and two males from Vancouver were subsequently arrested and charged. A 48 year old male has been charged with 5 counts of Theft Under \$5,000 and a 43 year old male has been charged with 3 counts of Theft Under \$5,000.

Police Investigating Suspicious Fire

On April 13 at 2:00 am the Detachment attended the 10,000 block of Cornerbrook Crescent to investigate a house fire. This fire was determined to be a homicide resulting in the death of two people. The Richmond RCMP has called in the Integrated Homicide Investigation Team (IHIT) to investigate further.

Police Respond to Shots Fired

On April 28 just before 1:30 pm the Detachment responded to a report of shots fired in the area of Blundell Road and Colonial Drive. Police confirm one shot was fired and there have been no reported injuries. A dark colored vehicle was observed leaving the area at a high rate of speed. Police are still investigating.

Community Policing

Auxiliary Constables

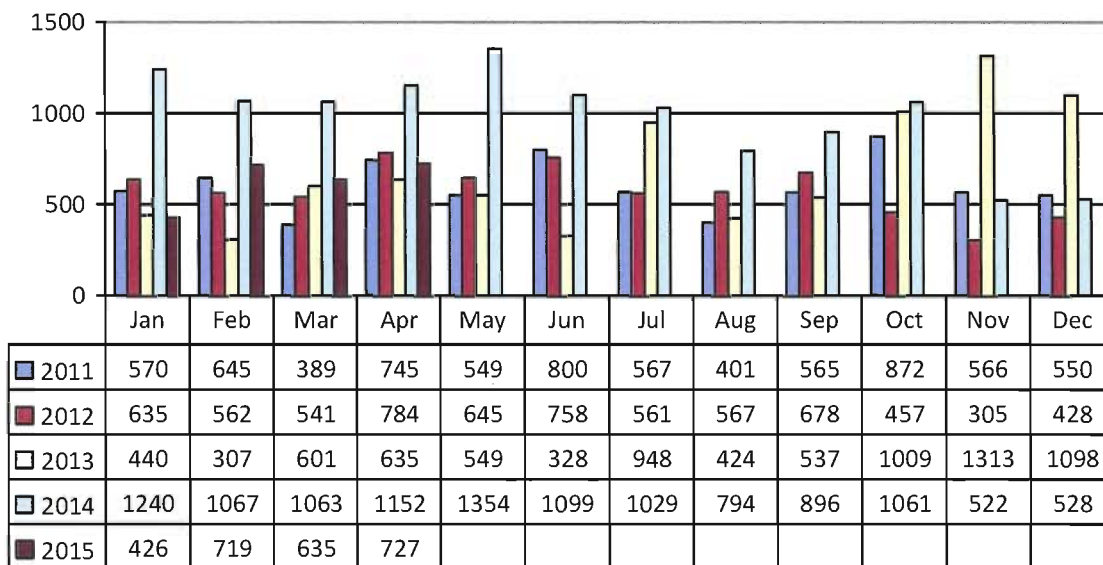
The primary mandate of Richmond’s Auxiliary Constables is to support community police activities relating to public safety and crime prevention.

Total Auxiliary Constable Volunteer Hours

Total Auxiliary Constable volunteer hours include community policing activities as well as hours spent in training, court, ride-along and call-outs. As of the end of April 2015, Richmond Detachment’s complement of Auxiliary Constables was 40. The Auxiliary Constables volunteered 727 hours during the month of April.

Figure 1 compares the monthly hours of service for the years since 2011.

Figure 1: Auxiliary Constables Volunteer Hours



Volunteer Recognition

- Volunteers are Stars Awards – Auxiliary Constable Michael Dally was nominated for a “Constellation Award” for his contributions to the community at the Volunteer Richmond event.
- 911 Awards – Auxiliary Constables Michael Dally, Randall Walrond and Yvonne Marinakis were recognized as the “Police Team, Officer or Auxiliary Member of the Year” at the Richmond Chamber of Commerce 911 Awards event.
- RCMP ‘E’ Division - Auxiliary Constables Michael Dally and Yvonne Marinakis both received awards for volunteer service in excess of 1000 hours in 2014. Auxiliary

Constables Michael Gunion and Randall Walrond received awards for volunteer service in excess of 500 hours in 2014.

Activities for April 2015 include:

- Crime Watch – provided uniformed support to Crime Watch volunteers on weekend patrols.
- Lock Out Auto Crime – provided assistance to RCMP members in checking vehicles in areas of concern.
- Mental Health Initiative – attended the Pathways Clubhouse with RCMP officers to provide support and encouragement to Pathway clients that have mental illness and to create positive client relationships with police. Auxiliary Constables accompanied RCMP officers on checks of client's well-being throughout the community.
- Youth Programs – participated with RCMP officers in the "Difference Makers" initiative to promote youth leadership and mentoring to foster social responsibility. Participated in school sports events at elementary schools.
- Youth Academy – participated in scenario based training exercises for high school students that have been selected to attend this annual training event.
- Training Support – assisted in supporting a simulated crash at YVR.
- Training – regular recertification training for the Emergency Medical Responder course as is required by policy.
- Ride-a-longs – provided support to RCMP officers with Traffic and General Duty shifts.

Block Watch/Business Link

Activities for April 2015 include:

- There were 45 residential and 18 business break and enter email alerts and 193 residential and 16 business letters sent during this period to registered Richmond residents and businesses. These emails and letters informed home and business owners that a break and enter had occurred, provide crime prevention information, and direct residents and business owners to the crime prevention web pages.
- As of the end of April, there are 9,379 Block Watch participants in 401 groups with 542 Block Watch Captains and Co-Captains. This is an increase of 10 Block Watch participants, 3 groups, 5 Block Watch Captain/Co-Captain since March.
- The Crime Prevention and Business Link 1st Quarter 2015 paper copies were distributed to the Community Police Stations, the Richmond RCMP Detachment Front Counter, and City of Richmond's Front of House and to the Emergency Social Services Volunteers. Copies are available online at the City of Richmond's web pages:
<http://www.richmond.ca/safety/police/news/bizwatch.htm> and
<http://www.richmond.ca/safety/police/news/crprevention-news.htm> .

- During April there were 1,302 visits to the online Criminal Activity Maps averaging 43 visits per day.

Community Police Stations

Richmond Detachment Stolen Auto Recovery and Lock-Out Auto Crime Statistics

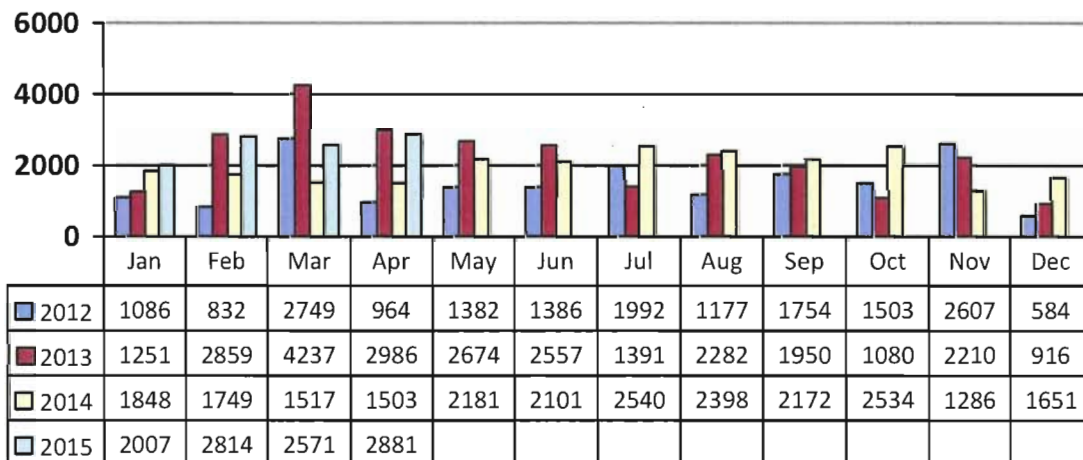
In partnership with ICBC, these programs involve volunteers patrolling city streets and parking lots for automobile security vulnerabilities and stolen vehicles. Under the Lock-Out Auto Crime Program notices supplied by ICBC are issued to every vehicle inspected indicating to the owner what issues, if any, need to be addressed in order to keep the vehicle and its contents safe.

Inspection criteria include:

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

Figure 2 provides a comparison by year for the number of vehicles issued a notice.

Figure 2: Stolen Auto Recovery / Lock-Out Auto Crime Vehicles Issued a Notice



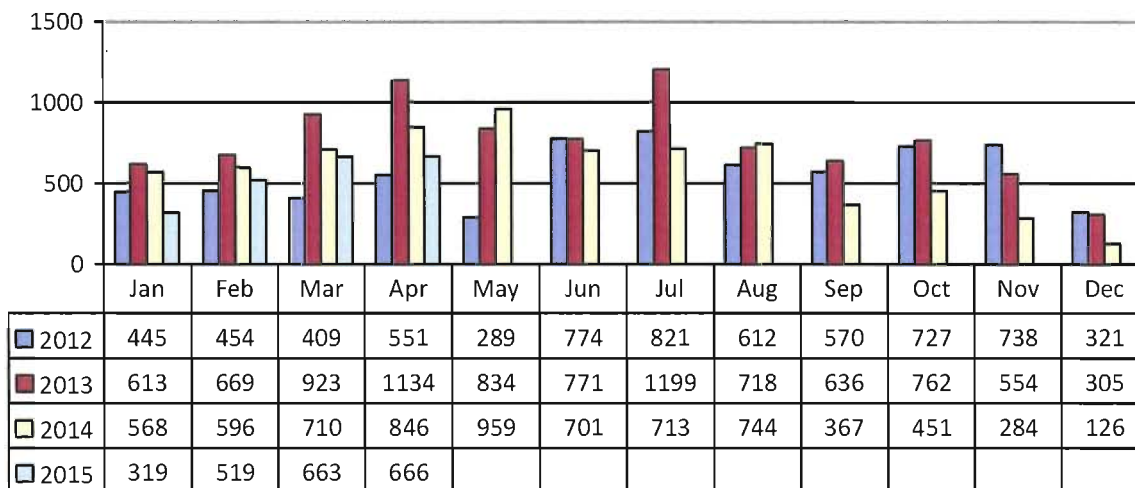
Speed Watch Statistics

Speed Watch promotes safe driving habits by alerting drivers of their speed in school zones and on roadways. Trained volunteers are equipped with radar and a speed watch reader board that gives drivers instant feedback regarding their speed. The volunteers record the license plate

number and the speed, and a letter is sent to the vehicle’s registered owner when there is an infraction. The letter includes the date, time, location and what the penalties would be if the driver had received a violation ticket.

Figure 3 provides a comparison by year of the number of letters sent.

Figure 3: Speed Watch Letters Sent

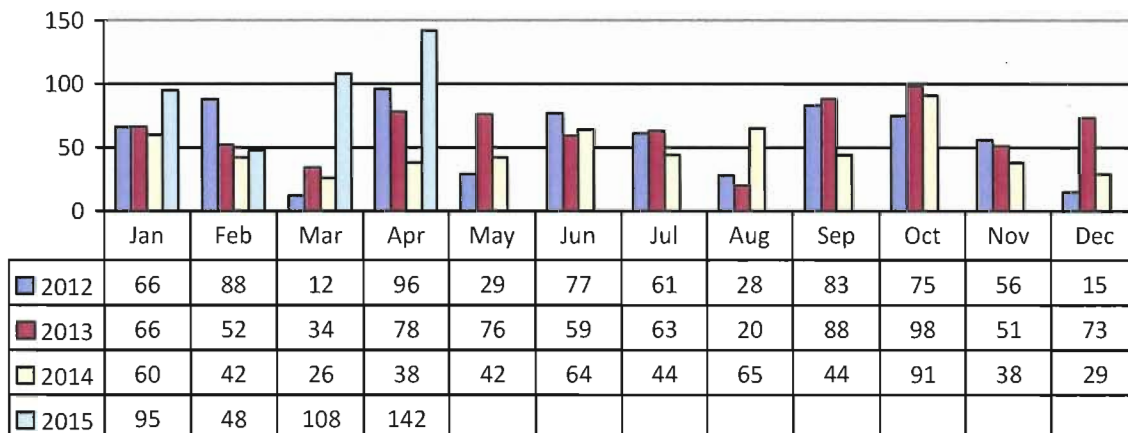


Distracted Drivers Statistics

While volunteers are performing bike/foot patrols or Speed Watch duty, they note drivers that are on their cell phones, using other electronic devices, reading a newspaper, shaving or putting on makeup. The registered owner of the vehicle is sent a letter with the date, time and location of the observed offence. Also included in the letter is the type of driving infraction and amount the fine would be had the driver received a violation ticket.

Figure 4 provides a comparison by year for the number of letters sent.

Figure 4: Distracted Driver Letters Sent



Volunteer Foot/Van Patrol and Bike Patrol Program

In April 2015, there were 5 foot/van patrols, totaling 49 hours and 10 bike patrols totaling 79 hours. The volunteers assisted the public with directions, general questions and minor vehicle collisions. They also reminded jaywalkers to use the crosswalks, noted any distracted drivers and used palm pilots to run license plates to see if any vehicles were stolen. During the patrols, the volunteers visited local parks and schools to make sure these areas were safe and looked for possible grow ops and abandoned houses.

Volunteer Highlights include:

- On April 9, 8 volunteers participated with Cst. Kandola in the Mail Theft Reduction Project. The volunteers went to Garden City and Ferndale complexes and handed out packages to the residents.
- The annual RCMP Volunteer Appreciation Dinner was held on April 10. RCMP members, City staff and 165 volunteers were in attendance.
- On April 14, 12 volunteers participated in a Lock-Out Auto Crime blitz. The volunteers gave out 397 notices.
- On April 20, while the volunteers were out on bike patrol in the Hamilton area they came across a campground where homeless people are residing at the west end of Gilley Road. The information was passed on to the Detachment’s Bike Section.
- On April 28, 10 volunteers participated in a Lock-Out Auto Crime blitz. The volunteers gave out 501 notices.
- On April 29, Cst. James Simpson gave a presentation to the volunteers on social media and life at the RCMP’s Depot Academy in Regina, Saskatchewan.
- On April 30, while the volunteers were out on bike patrol they came across a severely vandalized vehicle parked near Dyke Road and No. 3 Road. According to local residents

the vehicle has been there for quite some time and there was a male sleeping inside the vehicle. The information was passed on to the Detachment's Bike Section.

Road Safety Unit

Name	Act	Example	Jan 2015	Feb 2015	Mar 2015
Violation Tickets	Provincial Act Offences	Speeding	904	754	755
Notice & Orders	Equipment Violations	Broken Tail-light	391	462	433
Driving Suspensions	Motor Vehicle Act	24 hour driving prohibition for alcohol or drugs	50	55	25
Parking Offences	Municipal Bylaw	On or off the street Municipal parking offences	11	14	15
MTI's	Municipal Ticket Information	Any other Municipal Bylaw offence	0	1	1

Victim Services

- During April, Richmond RCMP Victim Services provided services to 43 new clients and attended 17 crime and trauma scenes, in addition to maintaining an active caseload of 220 on-going files.
- Victim Services provided on-going emotional support to help victims of robberies, family disputes, and medical related sudden deaths. Referrals are provided for long term help.
- Victim Services Coordinator Wendy Coulter was nominated for the Community Safety Award the Richmond Chamber of Commerce 911 Awards event.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

The Officer in Charge, Richmond Detachment continues to ensure Richmond remains a safe and desirable community.



Lainie Goddard
Manager, RCMP Administration
(604-207-4767)

LG:jl

Att. 1: Crime Stats
2: Crime Maps



APRIL 2015 STATISTICS

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

The Average Range data is based on activity in a single month over the past 5 years. 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	5-YR AVERAGE RANGE	YEAR-TO-DATE TOTALS			
	Apr-15	April		2014	2015	% Change	Change in # of Incidents
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	99	105.8	91-121	400	364	-9.0%	-36
<i>Robbery</i>	2	6.2	3-9	23	26	13.0%	3
<i>Assault Common</i>	35	38.2	33-44	138	145	5.1%	7
<i>Assault w/ Weapon</i>	9	8.8	6-12	37	33	-10.8%	-4
<i>Sexual Offences</i>	6	7.6	5-10	32	16	-50.0%	-16
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	682	595.0	530-660	2726	2699	-1.0%	-27
<i>Business B&E</i>	32	34.6	26-43	119	127	6.7%	8
<i>Residential B&E</i>	57	41.6	38-45	284	278	-2.1%	-6
<i>MV Theft</i>	25	23.6	20-28	101	108	6.9%	7
<i>Theft From MV</i>	200	174.2	114-234	921	743	-19.3%	-178
<i>Theft Other</i>	127	99.8	88-112	406	546	34.5%	140
<i>Shoplifting</i>	47	57.0	49-65	227	187	-17.6%	-40
<i>Fraud</i>	75	43.2	35-51	196	230	17.3%	34
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE: (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	176	160.8	144-178	653	710	8.7%	57
<i>Arson - Property</i>	3	3.8	2-5	17	16	-5.9%	-1
SUBTOTAL (UCR 1000- to 3000-Series)	957	861.6	781-942	3779	3778	0.0%	-1
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	60	60.6	48-73	191	208	8.9%	17

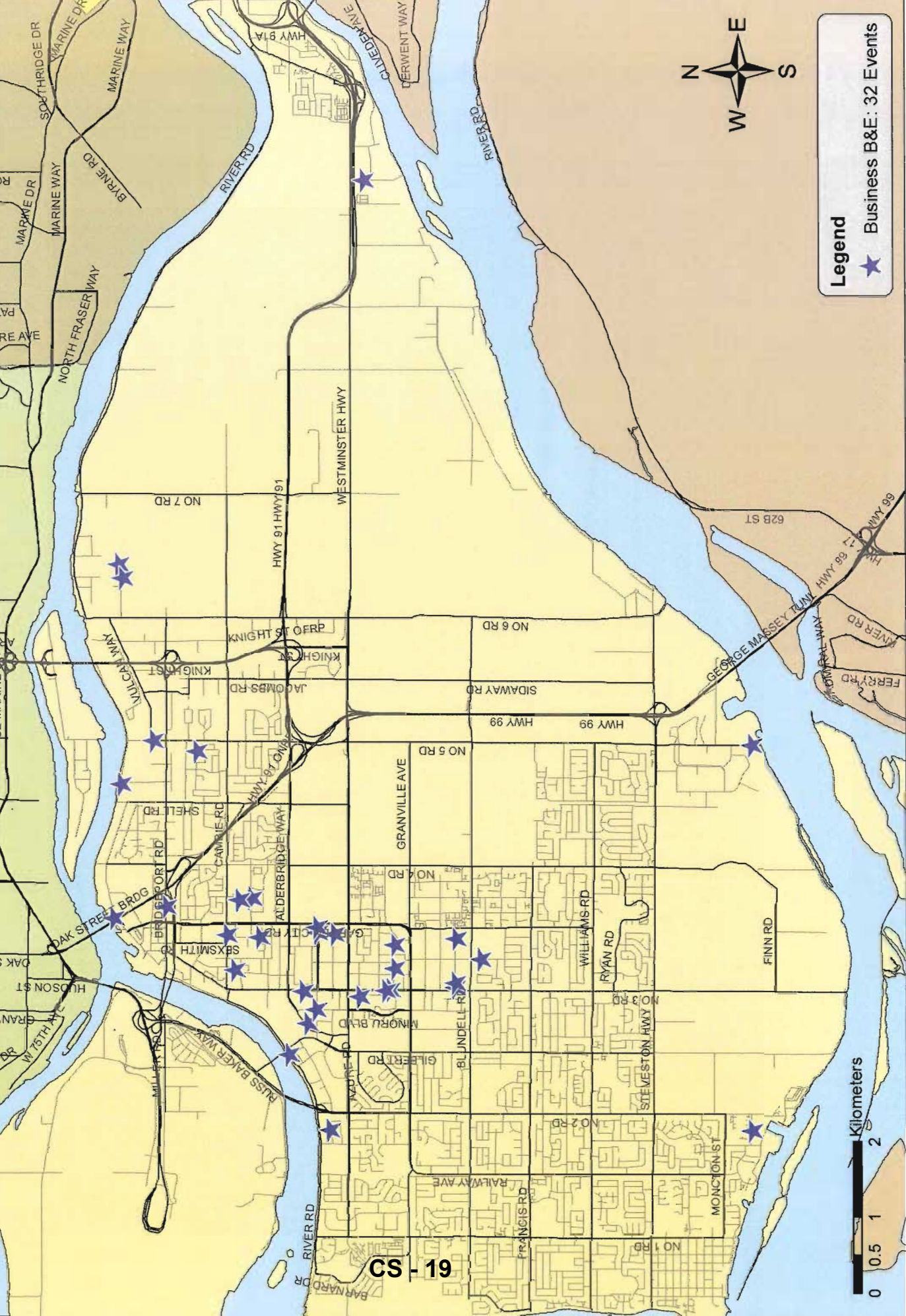
Prepared by Richmond RCMP.

Data collected from PRIME on 2015-05-07. Published 2015-05-07.

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City of Richmond Business Break and Enter

April 2015



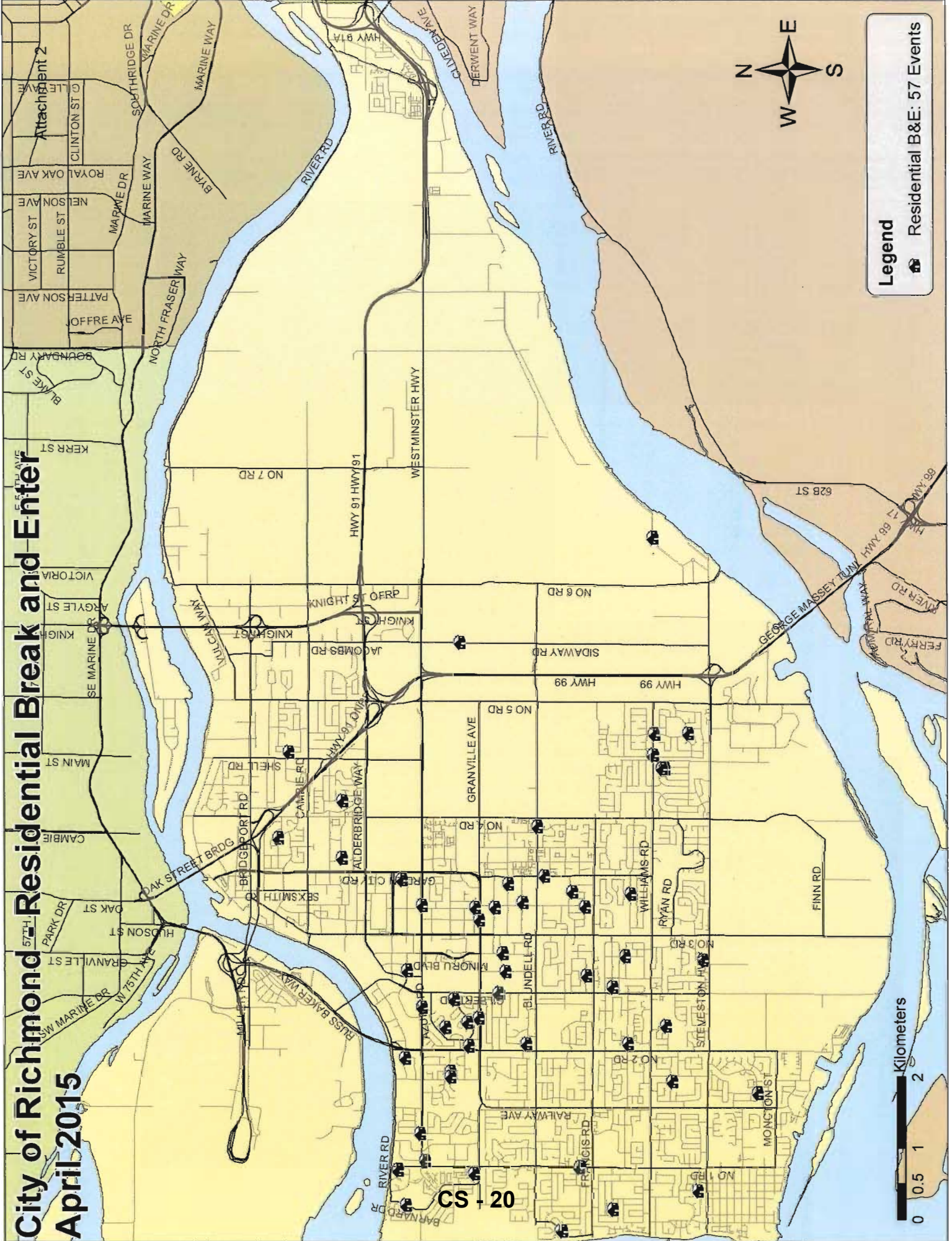
Legend

- ★ Business B&E: 32 Events




CS - 19

City of Richmond - Residential Break and Enter April 2015



Legend

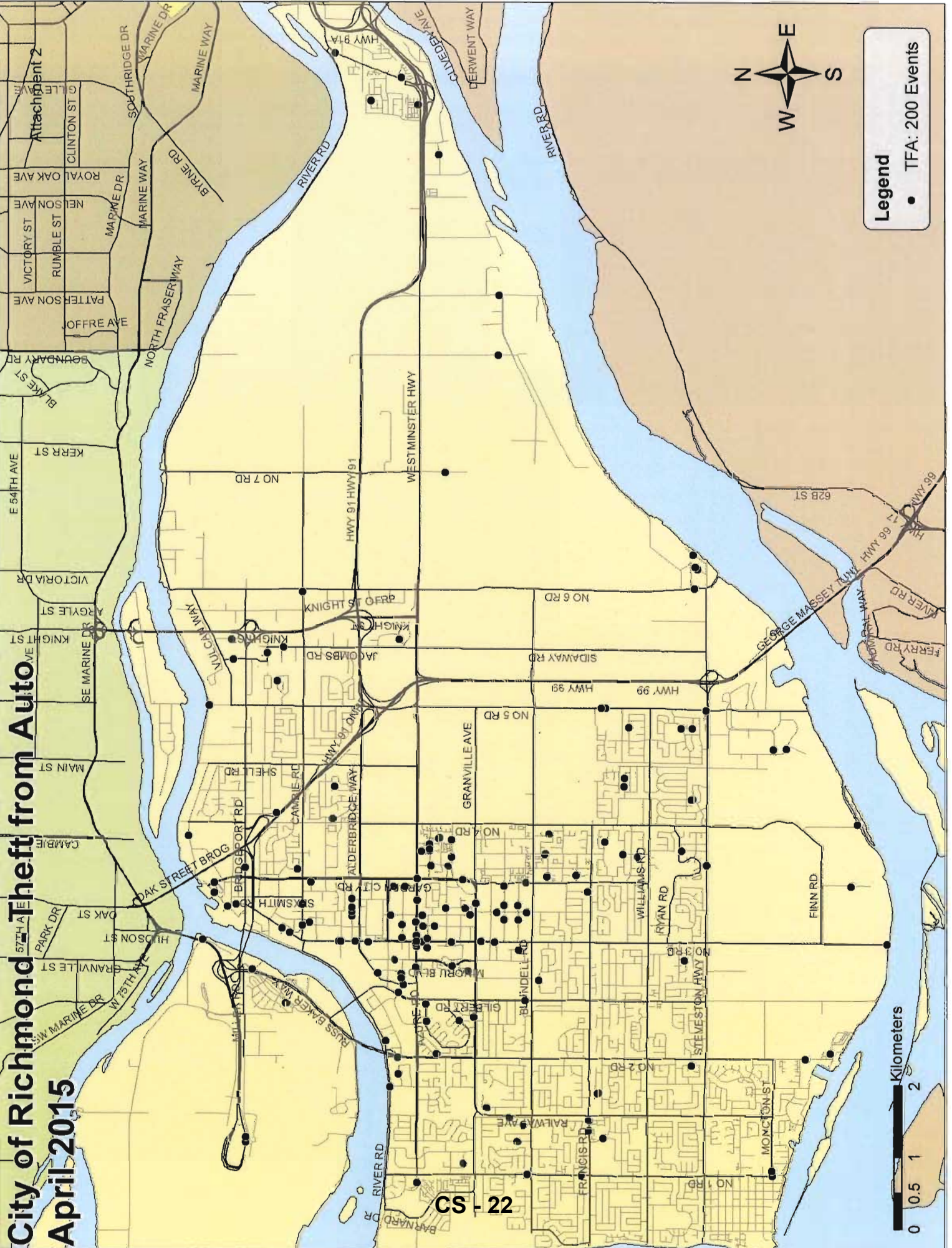
 Residential B&E: 57 Events

0 0.5 1 2 Kilometers



CS + 20

City of Richmond Theft from Auto April 2015



Legend

- TFA: 200 Events

0 0.5 1 2 Kilometers

CS - 22