



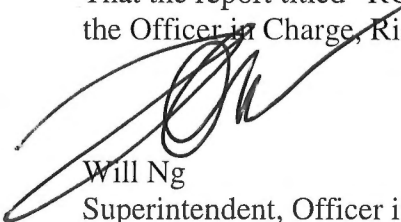
City of Richmond

Report to Committee

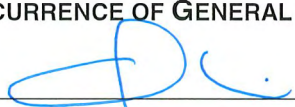


To: Community Safety Committee
From: Will Ng, Superintendent
Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment
Date: June 12, 2019
File: 09-5000-01/2019-Vol
01
Re: **RCMP Monthly Activity Report – May 2019**

Staff Recommendation

That the report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – May 2019”, dated June 12, 2019, from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment, be received for information.


Will Ng
Superintendent, Officer in Charge
(604-278-1212)

Att. 3

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 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. Auxiliary Program
5. Block Watch
6. Community Police Station Programs
7. Crime Prevention Unit
8. Road Safety Unit
9. Victim Services
10. Youth Section

Analysis

Activities and Noteworthy Files

Pedestrian Motor Vehicle Accident

On May 4, 2019, a mother and two young children were struck by a vehicle in the area of Cook Road and No. 3 Road. The 29-year-old mother and her five-year-old son sustained non-life-threatening injuries, while her infant daughter, who was in a stroller, sustained minor injuries. The family was transported to hospital. The driver remained on scene and is cooperating with police.

Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) Threat

On May 8, 2019, KPU's five campuses, including Richmond, were closed after the Surrey RCMP received an unsubstantiated threat. KPU closed campuses as a precautionary measure. Richmond RCMP officers were on scene at the Richmond campus to assist in the evacuation. Police investigation determined there was no threat to safety.

Positive Tickets

On May 9, 2019, the Richmond RCMP introduced the enhanced Positive Ticket for Youth program.¹ The original initiative was launched in 2001 to encourage positive behaviours in the community. Recent updates to the program include a new ticket design and more enhanced opportunities for youth to get involved in recreational activities. Richmond RCMP officers and other community service providers will be issuing tickets which can be redeemed for a free drop-in activity at a participating community facility.

¹ City of Richmond, <https://www.richmond.ca/newsevents/city/positiveticketforyouthprogram2019May09.htm>

Police Week

Police across Canada connected with local communities during National Police Week from May 12 to 18. Richmond RCMP participated by hosting local events at the City and Hamilton Community Centres. Officers were on hand to share information on crime prevention programs as well as to give visitors a glimpse of police cars and ATVs.

Pedestrian Motor Vehicle Accident

On May 22, 2019, RCMP officers responded to a call involving a pedestrian in the area of Gilbert Road and Blundell Road. The 70-year-old male was crossing the road with his wife when he was struck by a vehicle. The driver fled the scene. The victim was transported to hospital with serious injuries. The Richmond RCMP Criminal Collision Investigation Team is investigating.

Analysis of Police Statistics

In January 2019, important changes were implemented regarding the collection of Uniform Crime Reporting Survey data.² As a result of significant media attention in February 2017 regarding sexual assault reporting, the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS) and the Police Information and Statistics Committee of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police worked to develop recommendations for changes to police records methodology, with particular attention on classifying founded and unfounded cases. These changes will impact police statistics across Canada with effects on various crime types, not only sexual offences. The new standards will classify a case as founded unless there is evidence that the offence did not occur. As a result, there will likely be an increase in many police/crime statistics and clearance rates will conversely decline. This creates numerous challenges when conducting comparisons with previous years' data. The information presented in this section must be evaluated within the context of this limitation. Further analysis will be provided throughout the year.

Arson

In May 2019, there were five reported incidents of arson, which is up three incidents from the previous month. The number of arsons this month is up three incidents from May 2018 and remains within the five-year average range.

Assault Serious (Assault with a Weapon)

There were 12 assault serious events in May 2019, which is down one incident from April 2019. The number of serious assaults this month represents a 100 per cent increase from May 2018, during which a statistically low number of assaults were reported. The number of serious assaults this month is within the five-year average range.

² Statistics Canada, <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54973-eng.htm>

Auto Theft

There were 25 auto theft incidents this month, which is a 47 per cent increase from the previous month and a four per cent increase from May 2018. The number of auto thefts this month is within the five-year average range.

Drugs

In May 2019, there were 25 drug incidents, which is a 45 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 65 per cent decrease from May 2018. The number of drug offences this month is significantly below the five-year average range.

Mental Health

There were 164 mental health incidents in May 2019, which is a three per cent increase from April 2019 and a 10 per cent increase from May 2018. For a sixth consecutive month, the number of mental health incidents is significantly above the five-year average range.

Analyst projections indicate these elevated numbers are expected for future months. No patterns or trends have been identified. Further analysis indicates that the number of police apprehensions this month remained consistent with previous months. However, there were longer than average hospital wait times, including one incident which resulted in a hospital wait time of over five hours.

Residential Break and Enter

There were 43 break and enters to residences in May 2019, which is a seven per cent decrease from the previous month and a 20 per cent decrease from May 2018. The number of residential break and enters this month is within the five-year average. Year to date data indicates an eight per cent reduction compared to the same period last year.

Commercial Break and Enter

In May 2019, there were 22 break and enters to businesses, which represents a 22 per cent increase from April 2019 and a 12 per cent decrease from May 2018. Commercial break and enters are within the five-year average range.

Robbery

There were five robbery incidents in May 2019, which represents no change from the previous month and is three more incidents than reported in May 2018. This number of robberies is within the five-year average range.

Sexual Offences

There were 26 sexual offence files in May 2019, which is up one incident from the previous month and is more than double the incidents recorded in May 2018. This month's total is significantly above the five-year average range.

The offences include sexual assault, sexual harassment, voyeurism and indecent acts. The increased number of sexual offences this month is due various factors including a number of investigations which originated with the BC Integrated Child Exploitation Unit as well as the CCJS scoring changes. No patterns or trends have been identified.

Shoplifting

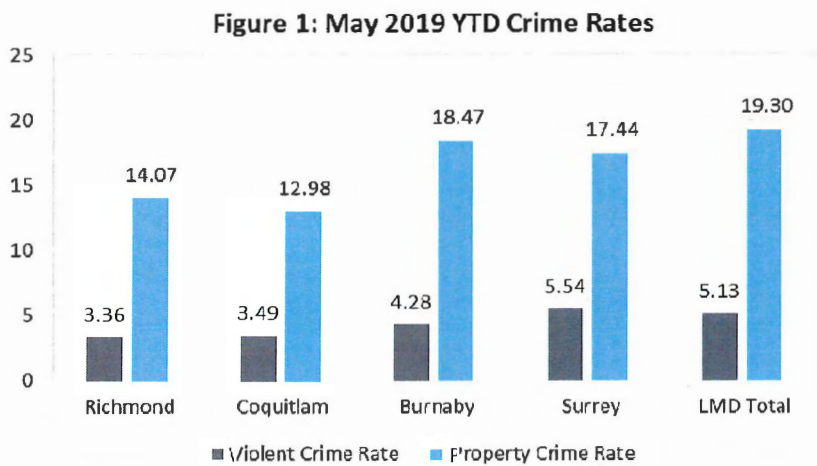
There were 98 shoplifting thefts in May 2019, which is a 26 per cent increase from the previous month and is more than double the number recorded in May 2018. This month, reported shoplifting thefts are above the five-year expected range. This increase is likely due to improved detection rather than an actual increase in this crime type.

Theft from Auto

There were 140 theft from auto incidents in May 2019, which represents an eight per cent decrease from the previous month and a 26 per cent decrease from May 2018. The number of theft from auto incidents is significantly below five-year average range. Year to date, there has been a 21 per cent decrease in thefts from automobiles compared to the same period in 2018.

Crime Trends across Jurisdictions

Data on crime rates is presented below (Figure 1)³ Out of the four largest municipalities policed by the RCMP in the Lower Mainland District (LMD), Richmond has the lowest violent crime rate as well as the second lowest property crime rate. Many municipalities are experiencing crime types which are above the five-year averages. Violent crime rates, in particular, have significantly increased across the Lower Mainland. There is a strong likelihood that these increases are a result of the CCJS scoring changes.



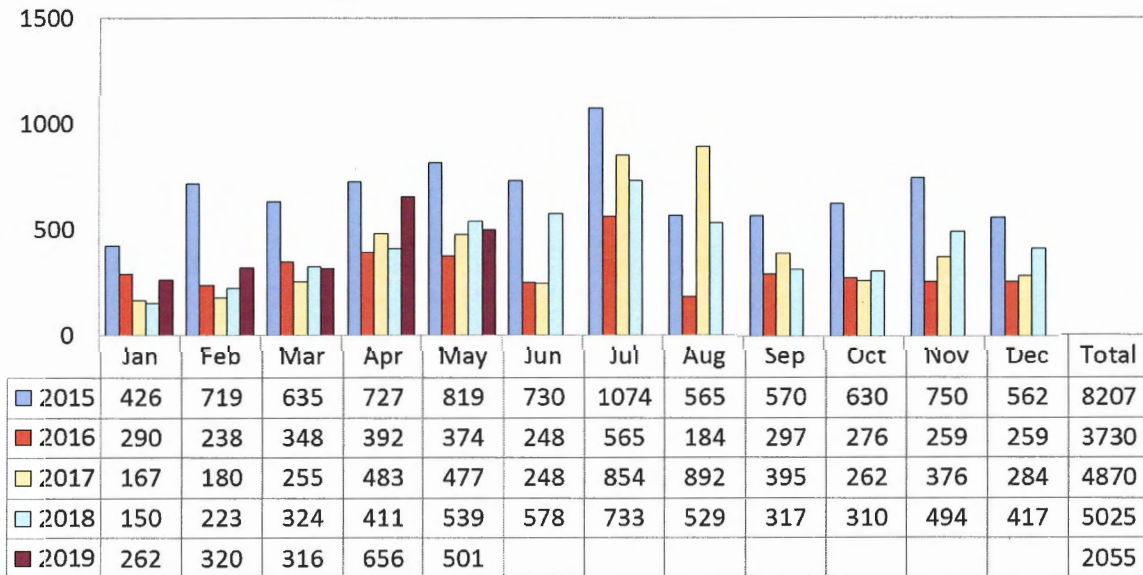
³ Crime rate is calculated per 1,000 people (using 2019 population projections)

Auxiliary Program

In May 2019, Richmond Detachment has a complement of 35 Auxiliaries.⁵ Auxiliaries provided a total of 501 volunteer hours during the month of May. In the coming months, the Province of BC and RCMP “E” Division are expected to announce the training standards for the Tier 3 Auxiliary program.⁶ Once these details are known, the Detachment will commence recruitment of a new troop of Auxiliaries. In December 2018, the RCMP announced that for the immediate future there will be no changes to the current Auxiliary uniform.

Figure 2 compares the monthly hours of service provided by month from 2014 to 2018.

Figure 2: Auxiliary Volunteer Hours



Auxiliary Program Activities

Auxiliaries attend events in the community to promote a positive police presence, support RCMP members and provide traffic and crowd control. During the month of May, Auxiliaries participated in:

- Break and Enter Outreach
- Crime Watch
- Home Security Checks
- Police Week
- Positive Ticket Program
- School Sports Events

⁵ Previously referred to as Auxiliary Constables.

⁶ <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/auxiliary-program-tiers>

Block Watch

At the end of May 2019, the Block Watch program had 455 groups totaling 8,496 participants. Currently, the program includes 551 captains and co-captains.⁷

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, events and the availability of volunteers.

During the month of May volunteer highlights included:

- The deployment of 29 volunteer foot/van patrols totalling 189 hours and three bike patrols, totalling 16 hours.
- 45 Fail to Stop deployments took place, which resulted in 1,299 warning letters.
- Speed Watch was conducted on 22,298 vehicles at various locations.
- May 2 – Four RCMP Members and 17 volunteers participated in Project SWOOP. During this Speed Watch blitz 326 vehicles were observed speeding and notices were sent to registered vehicle owners.
- May 4 – Two volunteers and two RCMP members participated in the Safe and Secure Living Fair at Aberdeen Centre, providing educational information on crime prevention and personal safety.
- May 7 – Three volunteers and an RCMP member participated in crime prevention outreach in a residential break and enter hot spot area.
- May 7 – RCMP members and three volunteers engaged students in a basketball event at Diefenbaker Elementary School.
- May 11 – Volunteers, RCMP members and Auxiliaries participated in the Works Yard Open House.
- May 14 – Volunteers, RCMP members and the Safety Bear participated in the Hamilton Community Centre Police Week event. Information on crime prevention programs, such as Block Watch was provided.
- May 15 – RCMP members and six volunteers engaged students in a basketball event at Manoah Steeves Elementary School.
- May 16 – Four volunteers and RCMP members participated in the City Centre Community Centre Police Week event.
- May 23 – RCMP members and three volunteers engaged students in a basketball event at Quilchena Elementary School.
- May 23 – Three volunteers participated in crime prevention outreach in residential break and enter hot spot areas. Accompanied by an RCMP member and an Auxiliary, volunteers visited 41 homes and spoke to residents about the Block Watch program.

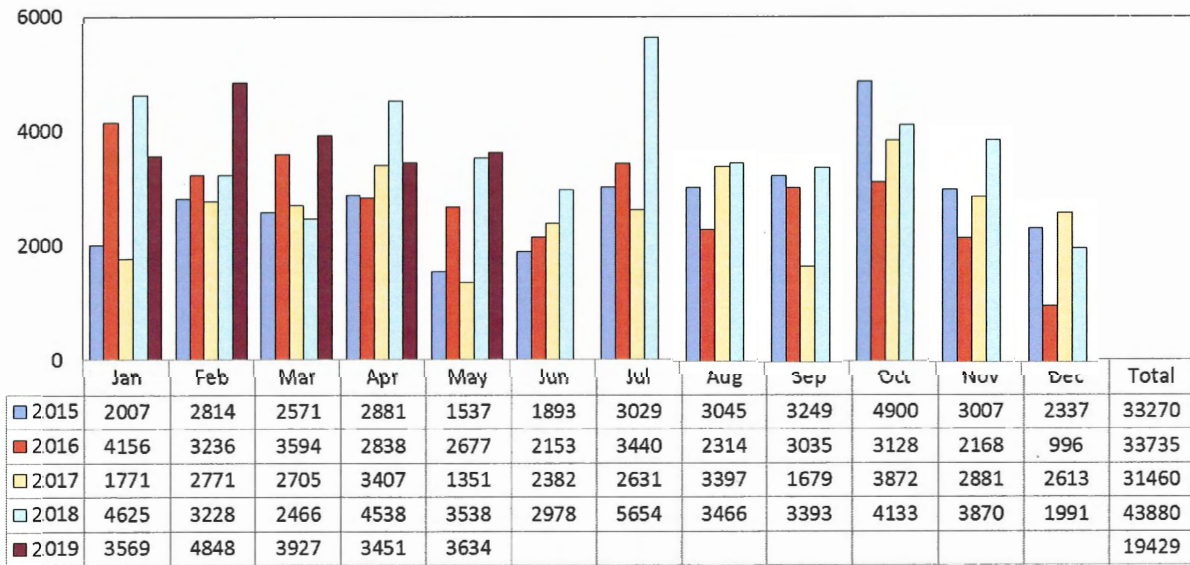
⁷ The variance from previous months' data is due to an ongoing database upgrade. Revised numbers will continue to reflect more accurate participation data.

- May 28 – RCMP members and three volunteers engaged students in a soccer event at Pythagoras Academy.
- May 29 – Eight RCMP Members and eight volunteers participated in Project SWOOP at two different locations. A total of 64 Speed Watch letters were sent out as a result of this activity. Road Safety members issued 63 violation tickets.

Lock Out Auto Crime

Figure 3 provides a comparison by year of the number of vehicle notices issued.

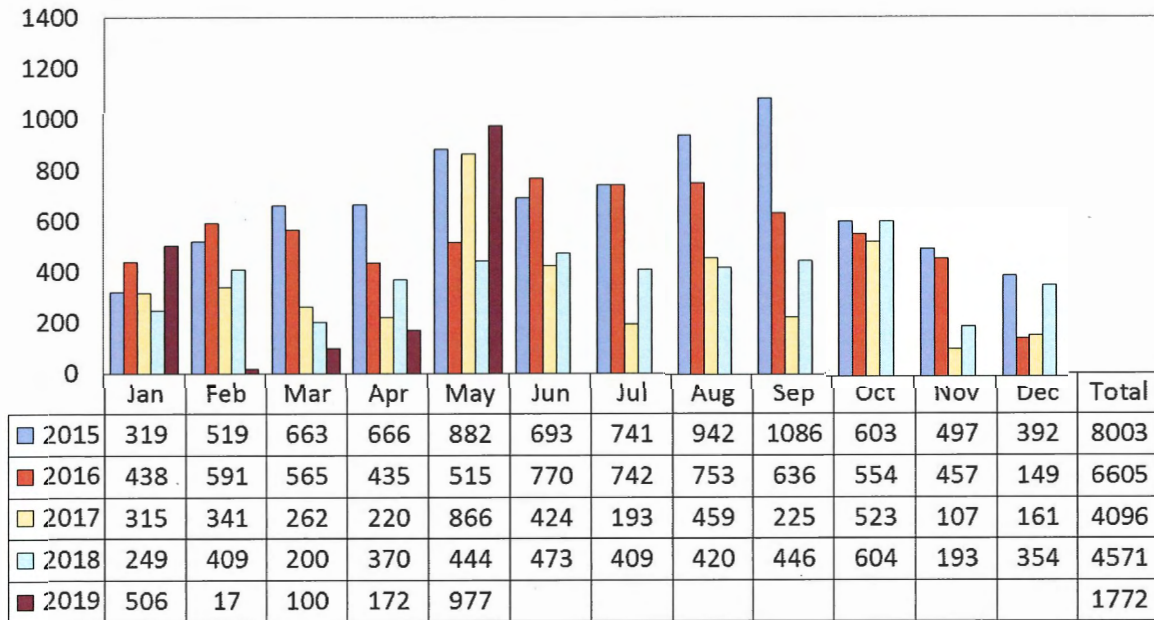
Figure 3: Lock Out Auto Crime Vehicles Issued a Notice



Speed Watch

Figure 4 provides a yearly comparison of the number of letters sent to registered vehicle owners.

Figure 4: Speed Watch Letters Sent



Crime Prevention Unit

The Crime Prevention Unit reduces crime and enhances community engagement through public awareness and dialogue initiatives. During the month of May, the Crime Prevention Unit participated in the following events/activities:

- Break and Enter Outreach
- Broadmoor Patrols
- McHappy Day
- Police Week
- Project SWOOP
- Vulnerable Institution Patrols

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. The following statistics compare May 2019 data to both March 2019 and April 2019.

Violation Tickets were issued for the following infractions:

Table 1: Violation Tickets Issued

Infraction	March 2019	April 2019	May 2019
Distracted Driving	207	161	133
Driver License	261	267	265
Impaired	28	23	36
Intersection Offences	97	61	62
Moving Violations ⁸	145	133	108
Speeding	314	580	439
Seatbelts	16	4	8
Vehicle Related ⁹	66	83	74
Other ¹⁰	11	27	19
Total	1,145	1,339	1,144

Victim Services

In May 2019, Richmond RCMP Victim Services attended after hours to 57 new clients and 13 crime/trauma scenes. The unit continues to currently maintain an active caseload of 148 ongoing files. Victim Services responded to a number of cases involving medical-related sudden deaths, suicides, motor vehicle accidents and family conflict.

Youth Section

The 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 May, Youth Section highlights include:

- RCMP members from the Youth Section conducted a variety of presentations at Richmond high schools and elementary schools. The topics included the role of police, online issues affecting youth, social media and internet safety.
- Two RCMP members and an Auxiliary attended the Ferris Elementary School Family Fair and engaged with approximately 300 attendees, including school staff, students and parents.

Financial Impact

None.

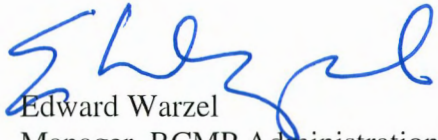
⁸ Moving violations refers to unsafe lane change and unsafe passing.

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

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

Conclusion

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



Edward Warzel
Manager, RCMP Administration
(604-207-4767)

EW: mf

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

Auxiliary Constables

- The primary mandate of Richmond's Auxiliary Constables is to support community policing activities related to public safety and crime prevention.
- For more information, visit www.richmond.ca/safety/police/prevention/auxiliary.htm

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

Difference Maker Project

- The Difference Maker Project is an off-shoot of the School Sports Programs. Elementary school students are mentored by teachers, police officers and community ambassadors. This activity aims to encourage social and civic responsibility amongst elementary and secondary school aged youth through community projects.

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.

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.

MAY 2019 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.

In 2019, changes were implemented regarding the collection of UCR data. The new standards provide much more stringent criteria to classify a file as unfounded. As a result, there will be an increase in many crime statistics, and clearance rates will conversely decline. This creates numerous challenges when comparing previous years' data. Full details on the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey are available at Statistics Canada: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54973-eng.htm>. For more information, contact Richmond Crime Analysts.

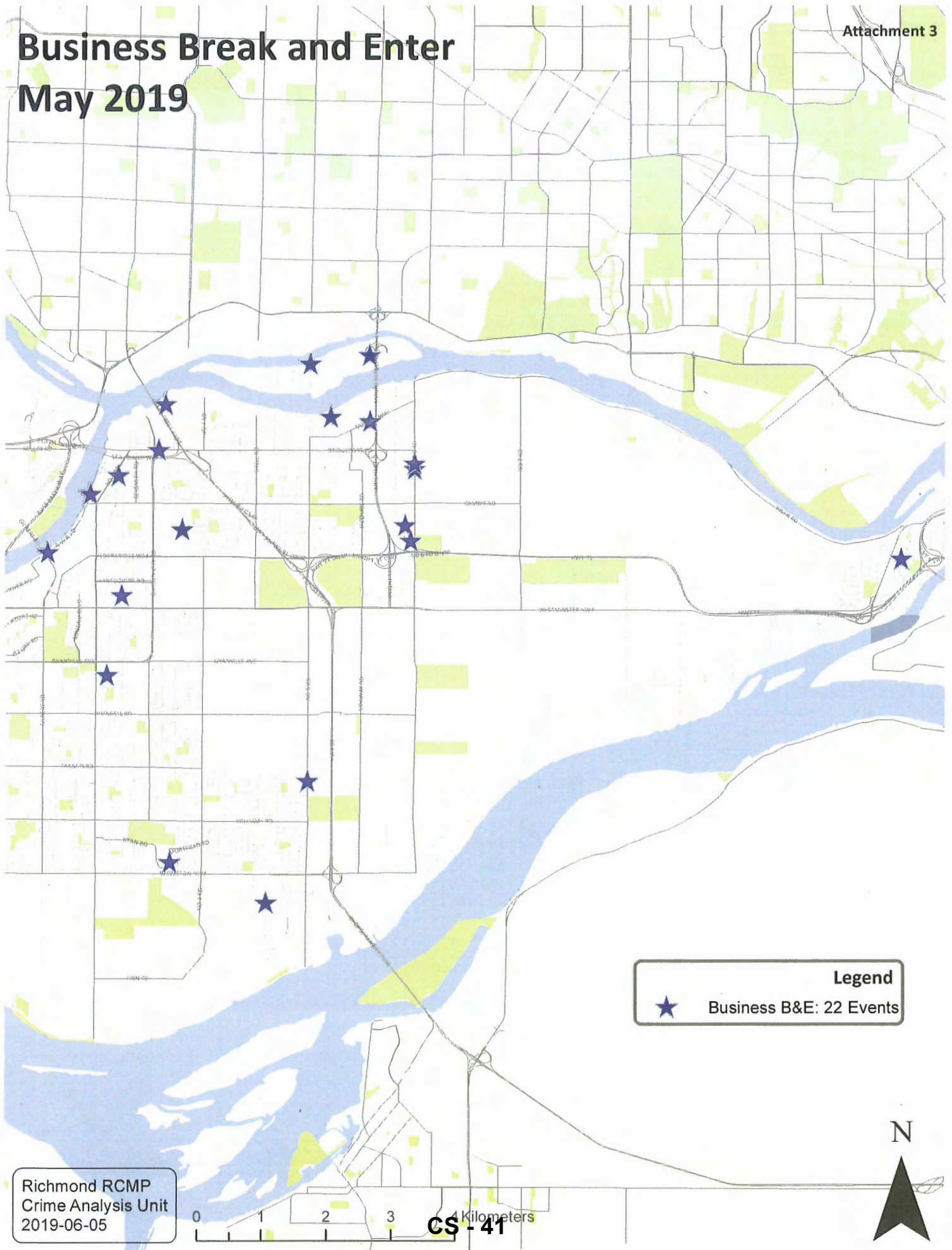
The 5 year average range data is based on activity within a single month over the past 5 years. If the current monthly total for an offence is above the expected average range (using one standard deviation) due to crime trends, patterns, or spikes, it will be noted in **red**. If the current monthly 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**.

Year-to-Date percentage change is used to numbers from the prior year, but the new CCJS/UCR standards reduce the utility of this metric. 2019 YTD numbers will be biased to increase from the 2018 totals, despite any positive police action.

	Month	5-Yr Avg	5-Yr Range	Year to Date Totals			
	May-19	May		2018	2019	% Change	# Change
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	149	119.8	101-138	506	749	48%	243
Robbery <small>UCR 1610 (1-3)</small>	5	4.8	2-8	21	27	29%	6
Assault Common <small>UCR 1430</small>	51	39.4	36-42	187	251	34%	64
Assault Serious <small>UCR 1410 1420</small>	12	12.8	9-17	48	56	17%	8
Sexual Offences <small>UCR 1345 1330 1386 1310 3450/56/91</small>	26	11.4	9-14	68	101	49%	33
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	616	681.8	633-730	3291	3173	-4%	-118
Business B&E <small>UCR 2120-1</small>	22	27.6	23-33	170	144	-15%	-26
Residential B&E <small>UCR 2120-2</small>	43	54.0	43-65	321	296	-8%	-25
Auto Theft <small>UCR 2135 (1-10) 2178</small>	25	27.6	24-31	103	117	14%	14
Theft from Auto <small>UCR 2132 2142</small>	140	202.0	176-228	1053	827	-21%	-226
Theft <small>UCR 2130 2140</small>	82	105.8	84-127	449	468	4%	19
Shoplifting <small>UCR 2133 2145</small>	98	55.6	42-69	328	401	22%	73
Fraud <small>UCR 2160 (a&b) 2165 2166</small>	77	66.8	56-78	361	361	0%	0
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	196	201.4	177-226	884	871	-1%	-13
Arson <small>UCR 1629 2110</small>	5	6.8	3-11	9	12	33%	3
SUBTOTAL CC OFFENCES (UCR 1000 to 3000 Series)	961	1003.0	930-1076	4681	4773	2%	92
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	25	71.6	58-85	260	185	-29%	-75
MHA RELATED CALLS (MHA files or Mental Health flag)	164	117.4	99-136	597	859	44%	262

Prepared by Richmond RCMP Crime Analysts. Data collected from PRIME on 2019-06-05. Published 2019-06-05. 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).

Business Break and Enter May 2019



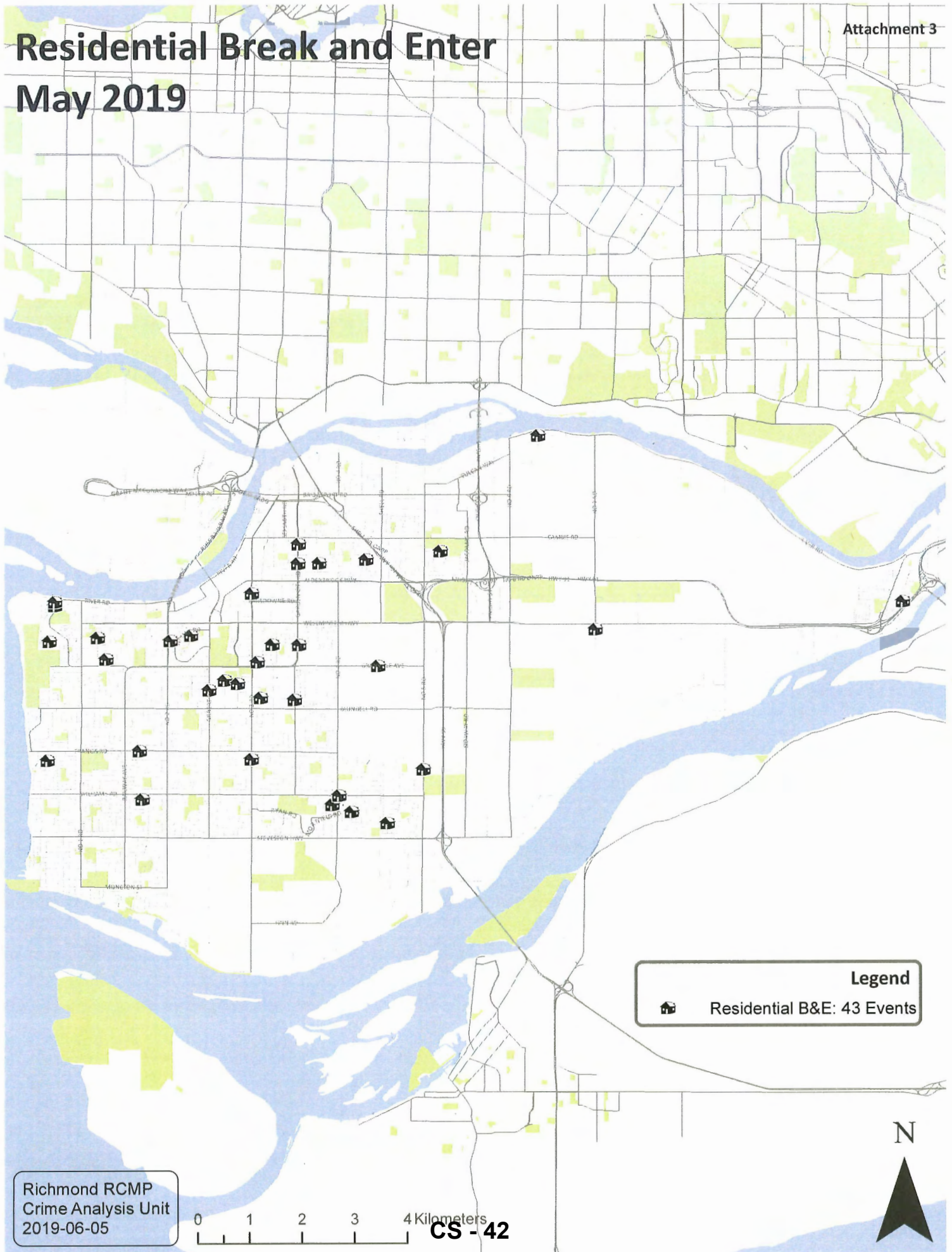
Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2019-06-05

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Residential Break and Enter May 2019

Attachment 3



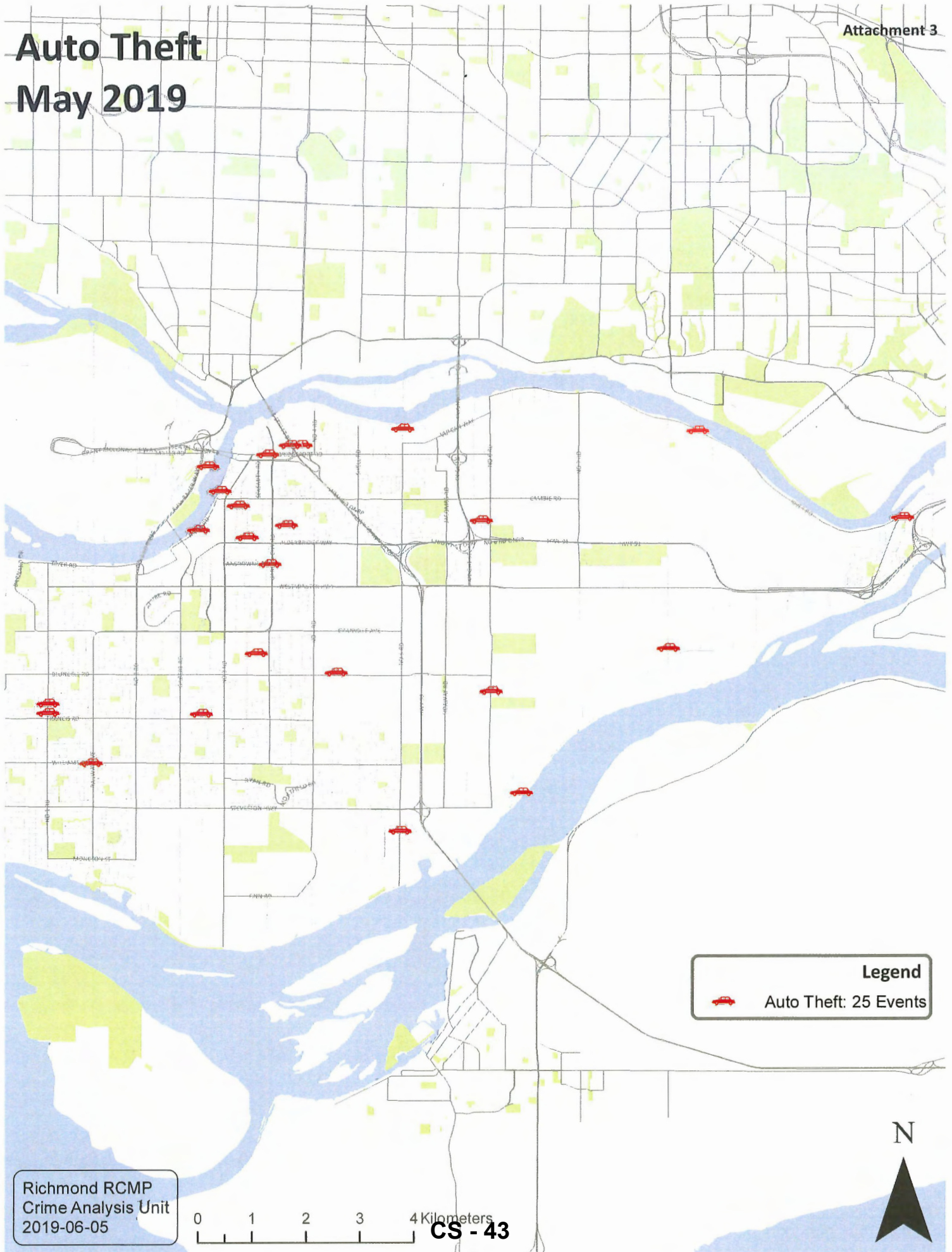
Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2019-06-05

0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers
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Legend
🏠 Residential B&E: 43 Events



Auto Theft May 2019

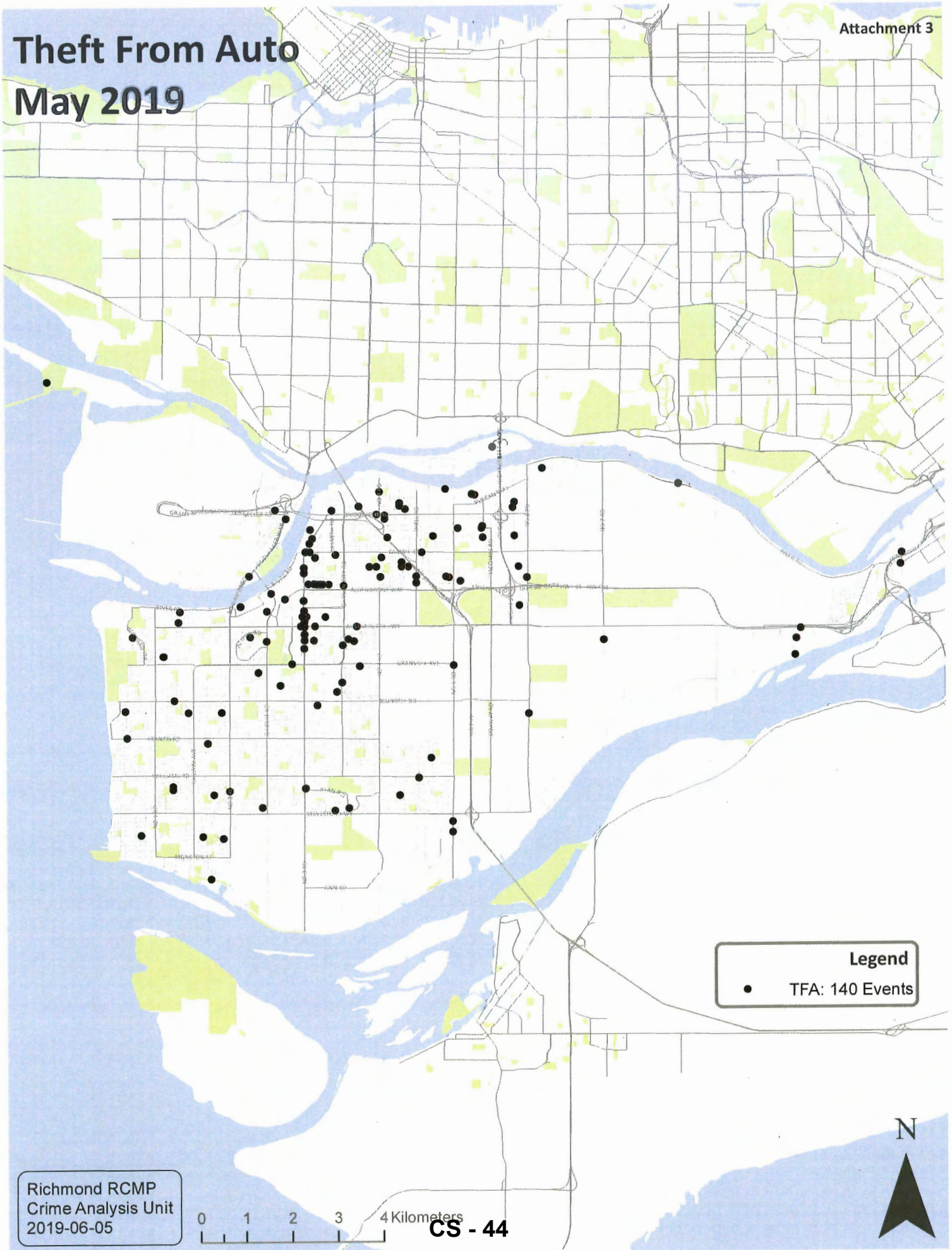


Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2019-06-05

0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers

CS - 43

Theft From Auto May 2019



Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2019-06-05

0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers

CS - 44