



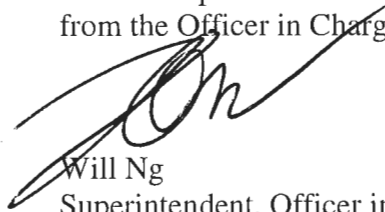
City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** March 14, 2019
From: Will Ng, Superintendent **File:** 09-5000-01/2019-Vol
 Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment 01
Re: RCMP Monthly Activity Report – February 2019

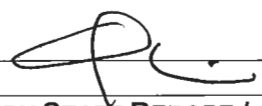

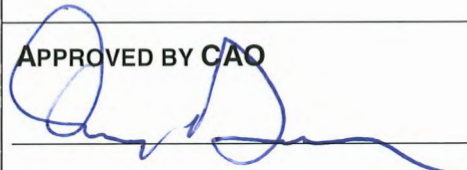
Staff Recommendation

That the report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – February 2019”, dated March 14, 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 Struck

On February 2, 2019, Richmond RCMP officers responded to the intersection of No. 3 Road and Alderbridge Way for reports of a serious motor vehicle collision. A pedestrian was struck and trapped under a vehicle after it struck a lamp post. The pedestrian, a 22-year-old Richmond man, suffered critical injuries and was taken to hospital. The driver of the vehicle, an 18-year-old from Kamloops, sustained minor injuries. The Richmond RCMP Criminal Collision Investigation Team is investigating.

Body Discovered

On February 6, 2019, Richmond RCMP officers discovered a deceased male inside a suspected drug laboratory. A police report filed three days prior indicated a male matching the description of the deceased male was missing. Foul play is not suspected. The Richmond RCMP secured the location in order to execute a search warrant on the property. The Richmond RCMP Organized Crime Unit is investigating.

Fraud Suspect

On February 12, 2019, Richmond RCMP issued a media release with the photo of a fraud suspect. The male is a suspect in fraudulent transactions occurring at eight financial institutions in Richmond and Vancouver. Investigators have uncovered over \$40,000 in fraudulent transactions. A media release encouraged members of the public to come forward with information to the Richmond RCMP or anonymously through Crimestoppers.

Public Consultation

On February 20 and 21, 2019, the Richmond RCMP hosted two Town Hall meetings for the Richmond RCMP Detachment 2019-2020 Annual Performance Plan. The sessions were held at Richmond Hospital and West Richmond Community Centre. Members of the public were given an overview of the Richmond RCMP's strategic priorities as well as challenges and pressures currently being faced by the Detachment. The attendees also provided feedback on this year's upcoming community priorities.¹

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 all 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 February 2019, there were no reported incidents of arson. This is down three incidents from the previous month and one fewer than reported in February 2018. The number of arsons this month is below the five year statistical average range.

Assault Serious (Assault with a Weapon)

There were five assault serious events in February 2019, which is down nine incidents from January 2019, during which a statistically high number of assault serious files were reported. The number of serious assaults this month is up one incident from February 2018 and remains within the five year average range.

Auto Theft

There were 17 auto theft incidents this month, which is a 48 per cent decrease from January 2019 and a six per cent increase from February 2018. After two consecutive months of elevated numbers, the number of auto thefts this month is below the five year average range.

This month, auto thefts experienced one of the smallest monthly totals in the last several years. Effective crime reduction strategies and poor weather have contributed to this decline.

¹ More information will be provided when the APP is presented in the coming months.

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

Drugs

In February 2019, there were 43 drug incidents, representing a four per cent decrease from the previous month and a 30 per cent increase from February 2018. The number of drug offences this month is within the five year average range.

Mental Health

There were 160 mental health incidents in February 2019, which is a 16 per cent decrease from January 2019 and a 48 per cent increase from February 2018. The number of mental health incidents is significantly above the five year average range.

Further analysis indicates that the number of police apprehensions has remained steady; however, the average hospital wait time increased due to a number of incidents that required an extended hospital wait. It should be noted that out of the total number of mental health incidents this month, 44 (approximately 28 per cent) can be attributed to one individual, who has been identified as a high volume client for a number of years. These calls did not require police resources and are linked to the individual's health condition.

Residential Break and Enter

There were 68 break and enters to residences in February 2019, which is a 35 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 23 per cent decrease from February 2018. The number of residential break and enters this month is within the five year average range.

In recent months Richmond Detachment has deployed additional resources to target property crime and targeted enforcement has been conducted. These measures have contributed to the significant reduction observed this month.

Commercial Break and Enter

In February 2019, there were 31 break and enters to businesses. This number represents a 30 per cent decrease from January 2019 and 35 per cent increase from February 2018, during which a statistically low number of commercial break and enters were reported. Commercial break and enters remain within the expected range.

Robbery

There were no robbery incidents in February 2019, which is down 10 incidents from the previous month and down three incidents from February 2018. This number is below the five year average range.

Sexual Offences

There were 10 sexual offence files in February 2019, which represents a 62 per cent decrease from the previous month. The number of sexual offences this month marks a 58 per cent decrease from February 2018. This month's total is within the five year average range.

Shoplifting

There were 60 shoplifting thefts in February 2019, which is a 23 per cent decrease from the previous month and a seven per cent decrease from February 2018. This month, reported shoplifting thefts are within the five year expected range.

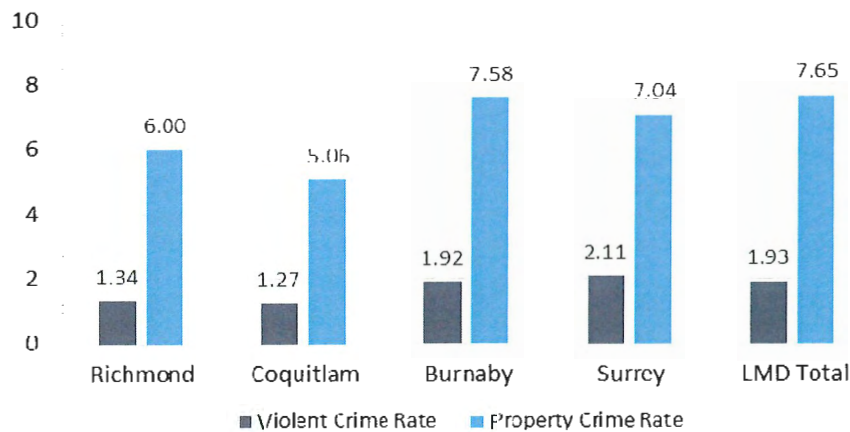
Theft from Auto

There were 165 theft from auto incidents in February 2019, which represents a 10 per cent decrease from the previous month. This number also marks a 15 per cent decrease from February 2018 and is below the five year average range.

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 second lowest violent crime rate as well as the second lowest property crime rate. Many municipalities are experiencing crime types which are significantly above the five-year averages. There is a strong likelihood that these increases are a result of the CCJS scoring changes.

Figure 1: February 2019 Crime Rates



Auxiliary Program

In February 2019, Richmond Detachment had a complement of 37 Auxiliaries.⁴ Auxiliaries provided a total of 320 volunteer hours during the month of February. 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.⁵ Once these details are known, the Detachment will commence recruitment of a new troop of Auxiliaries. The RCMP recently announced that for the immediate future there will be no changes to the current Auxiliary uniform.

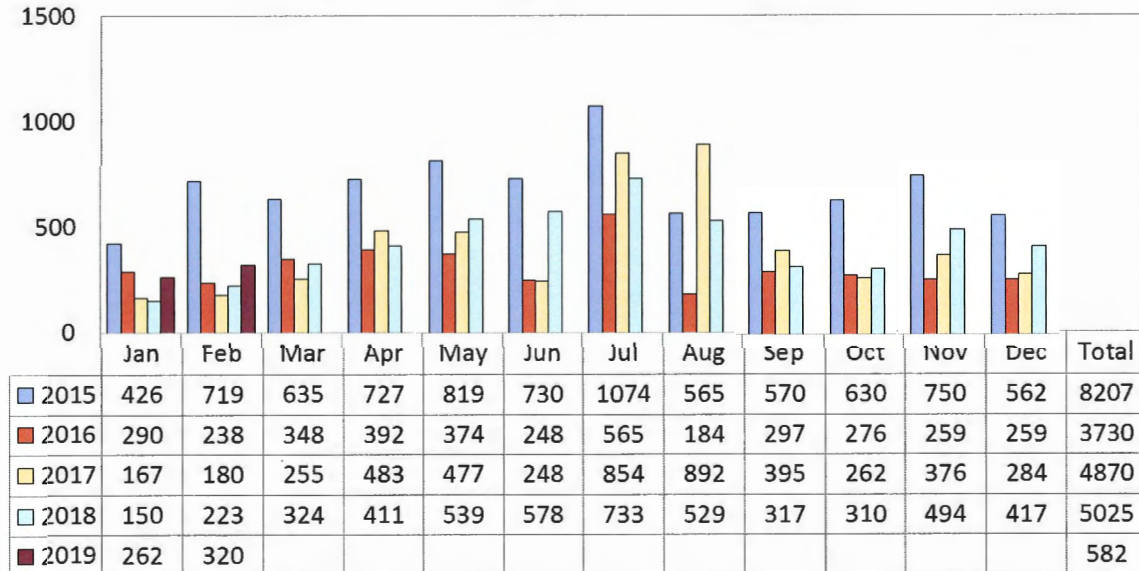
³ Crime rate is calculated per 1,000 people (using 2019 population projections)

⁴ Previously referred to as Auxiliary Constables.

⁵ <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/auxiliary-program-tiers>

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 February, Auxiliaries participated in:

- Bait Car Deployments
- Break and Enter Outreach
- Crime Watch
- Home Security Checks
- Pedestrian Safety Event
- School Sports Events

Block Watch

At the end of February 2019, the Block Watch program had 454 groups totaling 9,026 participants. Currently, the program includes 549 captains and co-captains.⁶

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.

⁶ The variance from previous months’ data is due to an ongoing database upgrade. Revised numbers will continue to reflect more accurate participation data.

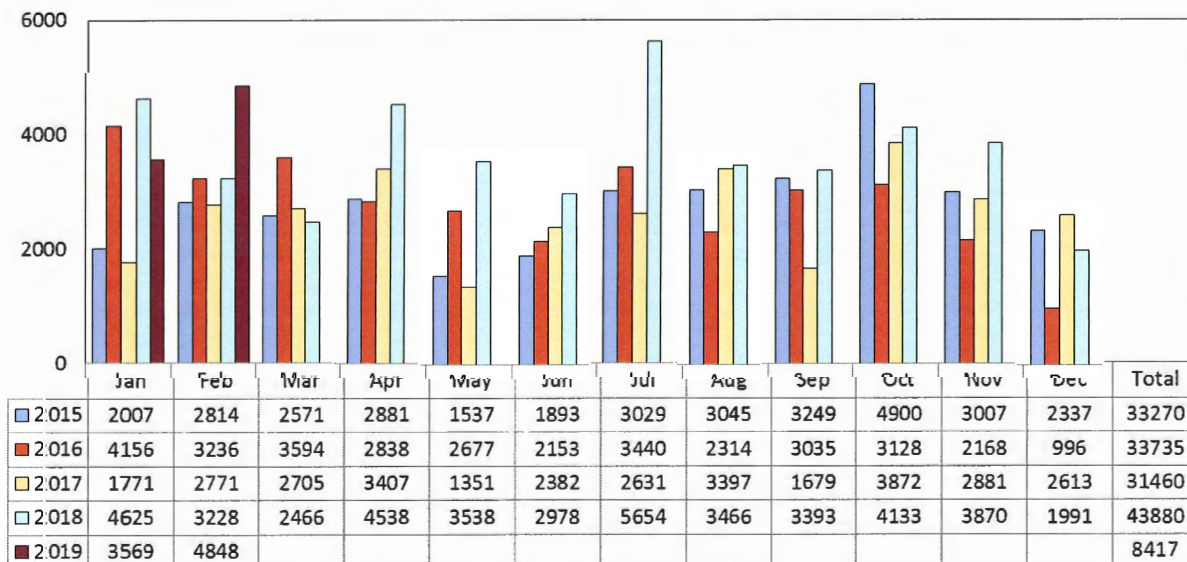
During the month of February volunteer highlights included:

- The deployment of 24 volunteer foot/van patrols totalling 157 hours and two bike patrols, totalling 16 hours.
- 32 Fail to Stop deployments took place, which resulted in 785 warning letters.
- Speed Watch was conducted on 117 vehicles at various locations. The number of Speed Watch deployments this month was limited due to harsh weather conditions. Several deployments had to be cancelled, which resulted in a low number of Speed Watch letters being issued this month (Figure 4).
- February 7 – Three volunteers participated in crime prevention outreach in commercial break and enter hot spot areas. Accompanied by three RCMP Members, the volunteers visited 71 businesses in central Richmond.
- February 19 – Three volunteers participated in crime prevention outreach in residential break and enter hot spot areas. Accompanied by an RCMP Reserve Constable, the volunteers visited 32 residences and provided 22 crime prevention packages.
- February 21 – Six volunteers participated in a Pedestrian Safety blitz at Brighthouse Station. In one hour, 1,750 safety reflectors were distributed.
- February 26 – Three volunteers participated in community outreach in residential break and enter hot spot areas. Accompanied by an RCMP Reserve Constable, the volunteers visited 54 homes and distributed 51 crime prevention packages.
- February 26 – Seven volunteers and three RCMP Members participated in a Lock Out Auto Crime blitz in central Richmond. During the deployment, 438 crime prevention notices were issued.

Lock-Out Auto Crime

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

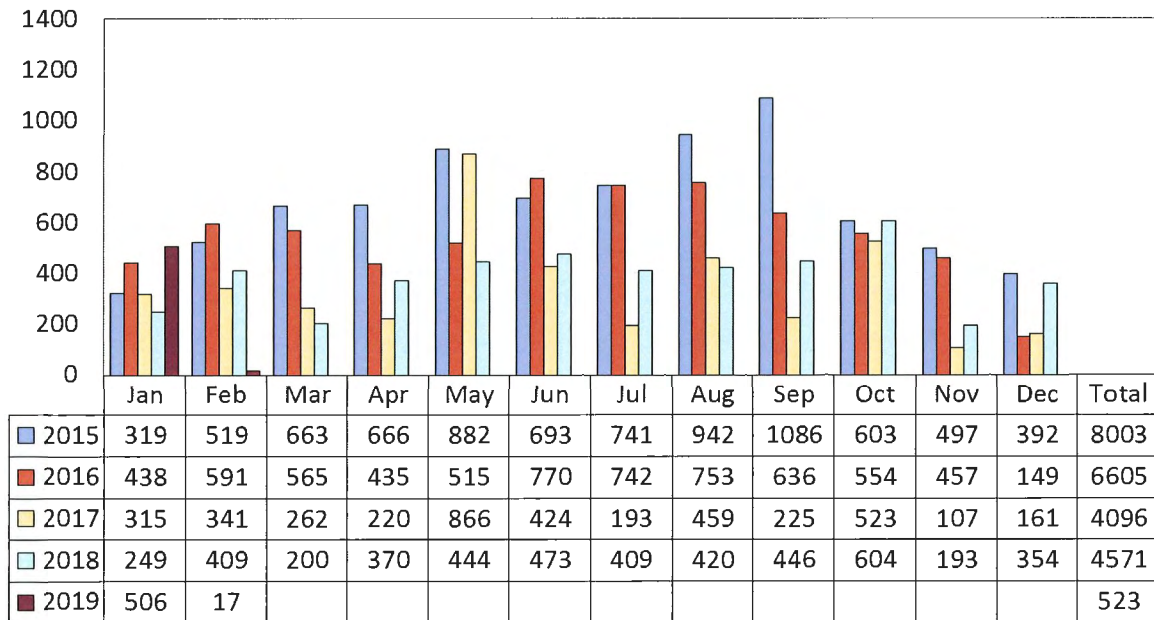
Figure 3: Lock Out Auto Crime Vehicles Issued a Notice



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 February, the Crime Prevention Unit participated in the following events/activities:

- Break and Enter Outreach
- Broadmoor Patrols
- Hot Spot Patrols
- Pedestrian Safety Event
- School Sports Events
- 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 February 2019 data to both December 2018 and January 2019.

Violation Tickets were issued for the following infractions:

Table 1: Violation Tickets Issued

Infraction	December 2018	January 2019	February 2019
Distracted Driving	38	116	172
Driver License	234	232	200
Impaired	38	23	26
Intersection offences	98	98	88
Moving Violations ⁷	222	245	139
Speeding	235	379	308
Seatbelts	17	9	6
Vehicle Related ⁸	89	63	61
Other ⁹	22	12	24
Total	993	1,177	1,024

Victim Services

In February 2019, Richmond RCMP Victim Services attended to 61 new clients and attended 14 crime/trauma scenes after hours. The unit currently maintains an active caseload of 160 ongoing files. Victim Services responded to a number of cases involving property crime, serious motor vehicle accidents, medical related sudden deaths, suicide deaths 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 February, Youth Section highlights include:

- A Member from the Youth Section attended a School Community Mental Health Conference, hosted by the Ministry of Education. Topics discussed at the conference included current trends observed in youth mental health, possible causes and related concerns.
- RCMP Members from the Youth Section hosted two Anti-Bullying Talks at local elementary schools. Members spoke to youth about identifying bullying, its harmful effects and what to do if they are being bullied. On February 27, 2019, Members participated in "Pink Shirt Day" and attended several Richmond schools to show support for the Anti-Bullying campaign.

Financial Impact

None.

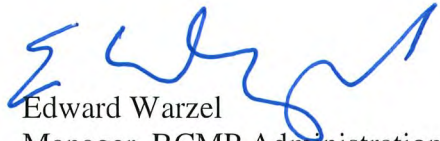
⁷ Moving violations refers to unsafe lane change and unsafe passing.

⁸ Vehicle related refers to vehicle defects, for example no lights and no insurance.

⁹ 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.

FEBRUARY 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.

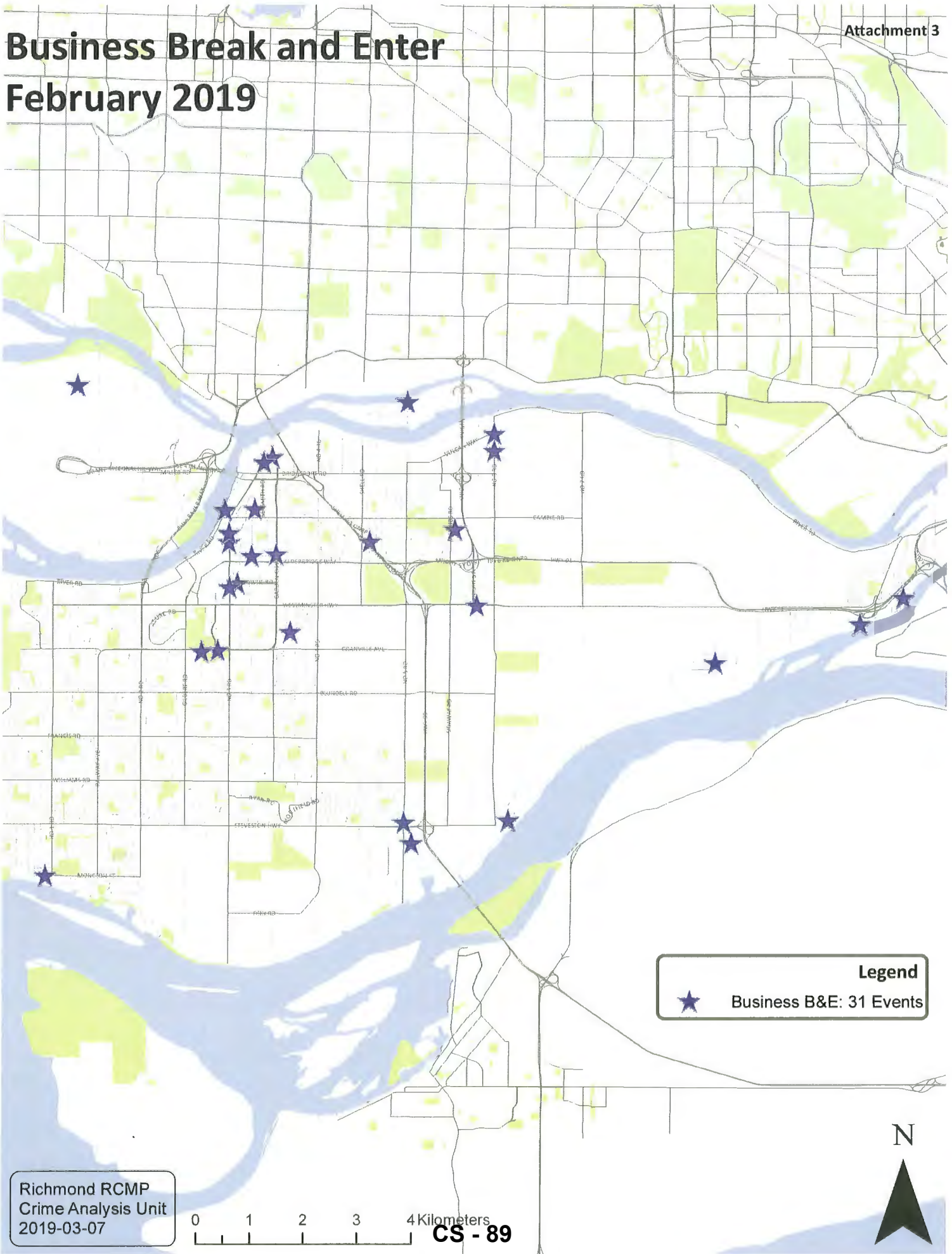
The 5 year average range data is based on activity within a single month over the past 5 years. If the current monthly total for an offence is above the expected average range (using one standard deviation) due to crime trends, patterns, or spikes, it will be noted in **red**. If the current monthly 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			
	Feb-19	February		2018	2019	% Change	# Change
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	132	91.8	79-105	188	292	55%	104
Robbery <small>UCR 1610 (1-3)</small>	0	6.0	1-11	8	10	25%	2
Assault Common <small>UCR 1430</small>	50	33.6	29-38	73	100	37%	27
Assault Serious <small>UCR 1410, 1420</small>	5	7.0	5-9	13	19	46%	6
Sexual Offences <small>UCR 1345, 1330, 1356, 1310, 3450/55-56</small>	10	9.0	7-11	31	36	16%	5
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	592	644.2	601-687	1304	1349	3%	45
Business B&E <small>UCR 2120-1</small>	31	34.8	21-48	93	75	-19%	-18
Residential B&E <small>UCR 2120-2</small>	68	69.4	57-82	163	172	6%	9
Auto Theft <small>UCR 2135 (1-10), 2178</small>	17	26.2	21-31	32	50	56%	18
Theft from Auto <small>UCR 2132, 2142</small>	165	191.4	174-209	410	348	-15%	-62
Theft <small>UCR 2130, 2140</small>	83	106.2	92-120	190	198	4%	8
Shoplifting <small>UCR 2133, 2143</small>	60	54.6	42-67	126	138	10%	12
Fraud <small>UCR 2150 (all), 2105, 2190</small>	73	61.8	48-76	126	149	18%	23
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	152	162.4	153-172	339	312	-8%	-27
Arson <small>UCR 1529, 2110</small>	0	2.8	1-4	3	3	0%	0
SUBTOTAL CC OFFENCES (UCR 1000 to 3000 Series)	876	898.4	838-958	1831	1953	7%	122
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	43	50.6	36-65	77	88	14%	11
MHA RELATED CALLS (MHA files or Mental Health flag)	160	103.0	95-111	219	350	60%	131

Prepared by Richmond RCMP Crime Analysts. Data collected from PRIME on 2019-03-06. Published 2019-03-07. 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 February 2019



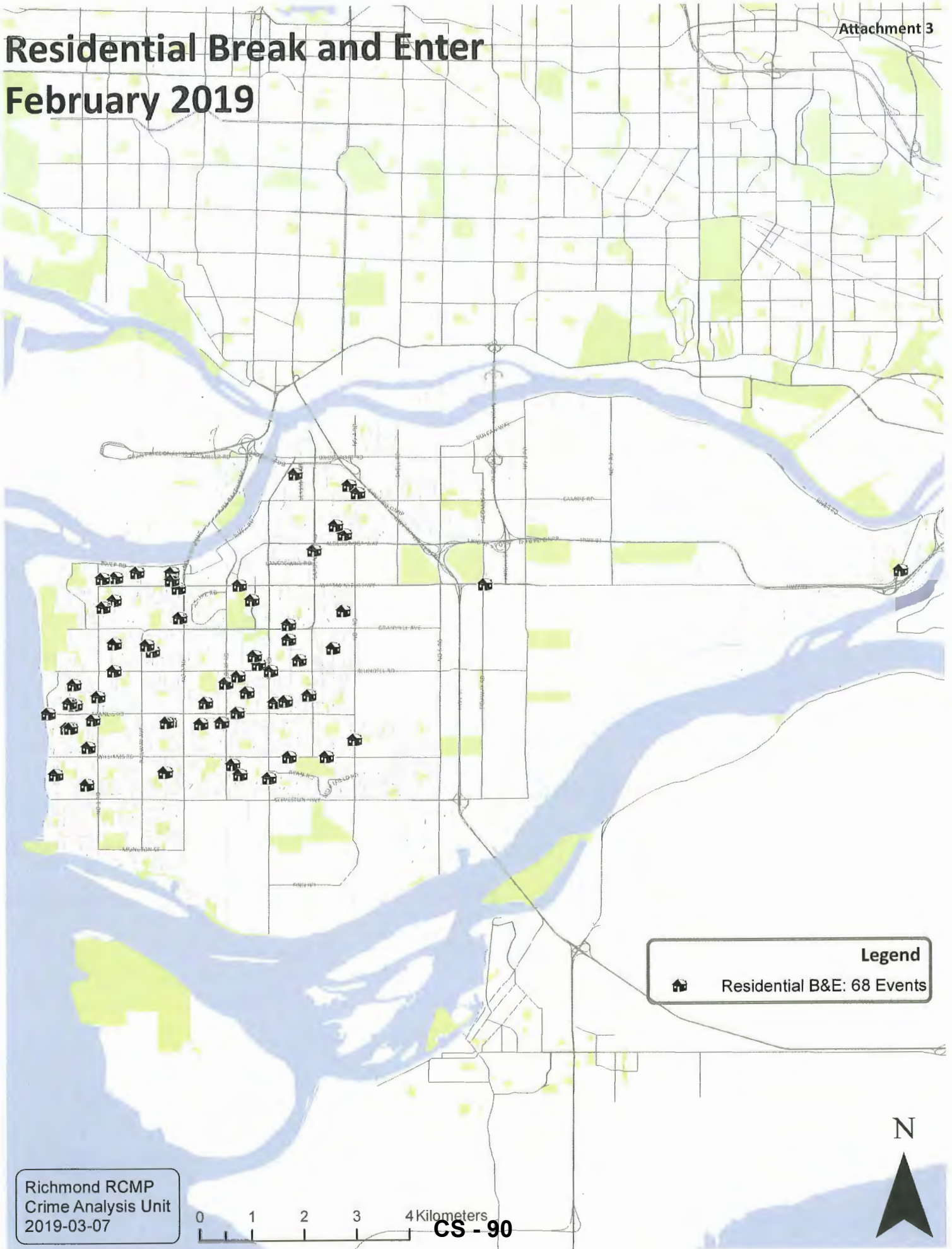
Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2019-03-07

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CS - 89

Legend
★ Business B&E: 31 Events



Residential Break and Enter February 2019



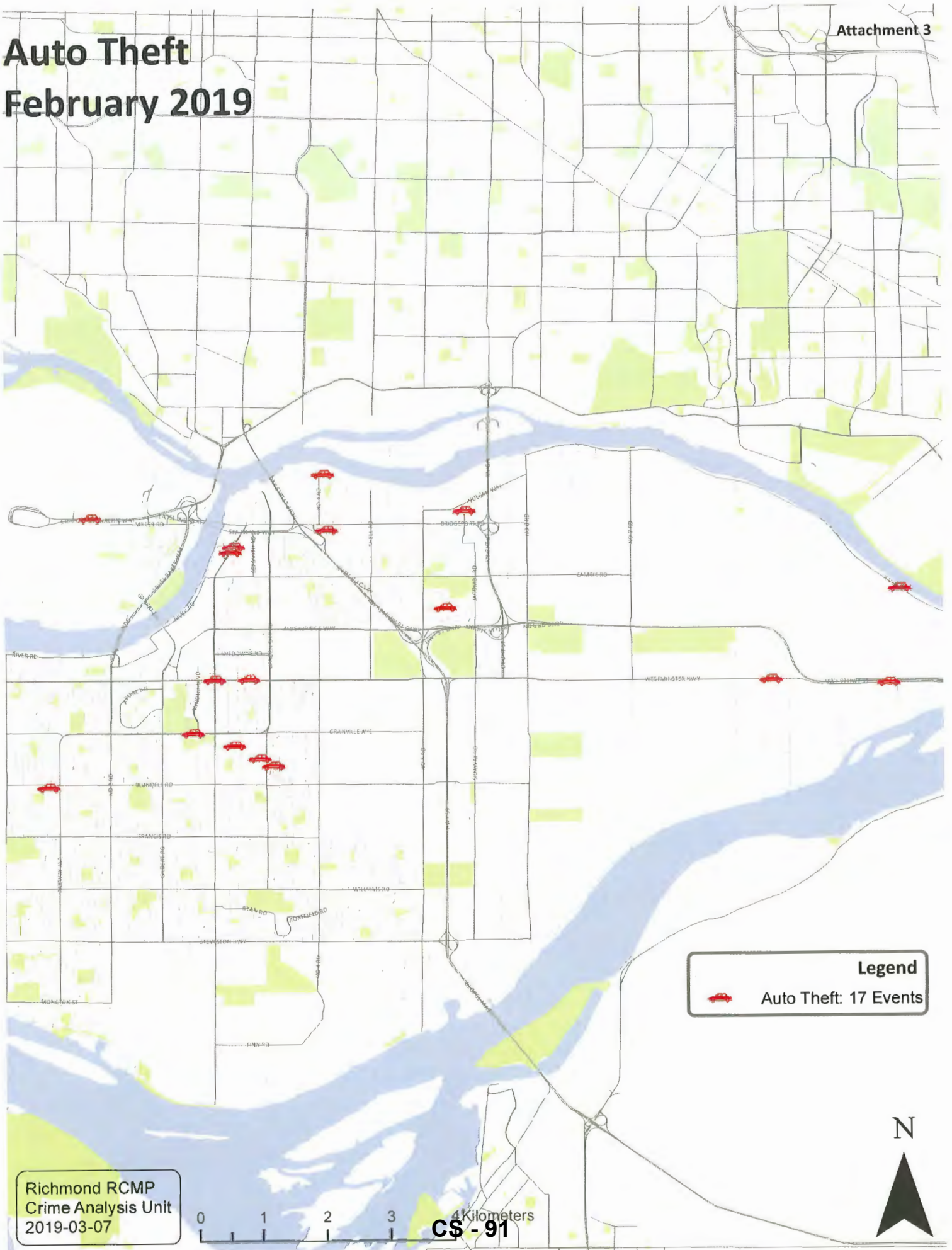
Legend
🏠 Residential B&E: 68 Events

Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2019-03-07

0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers
CS - 90



Auto Theft February 2019

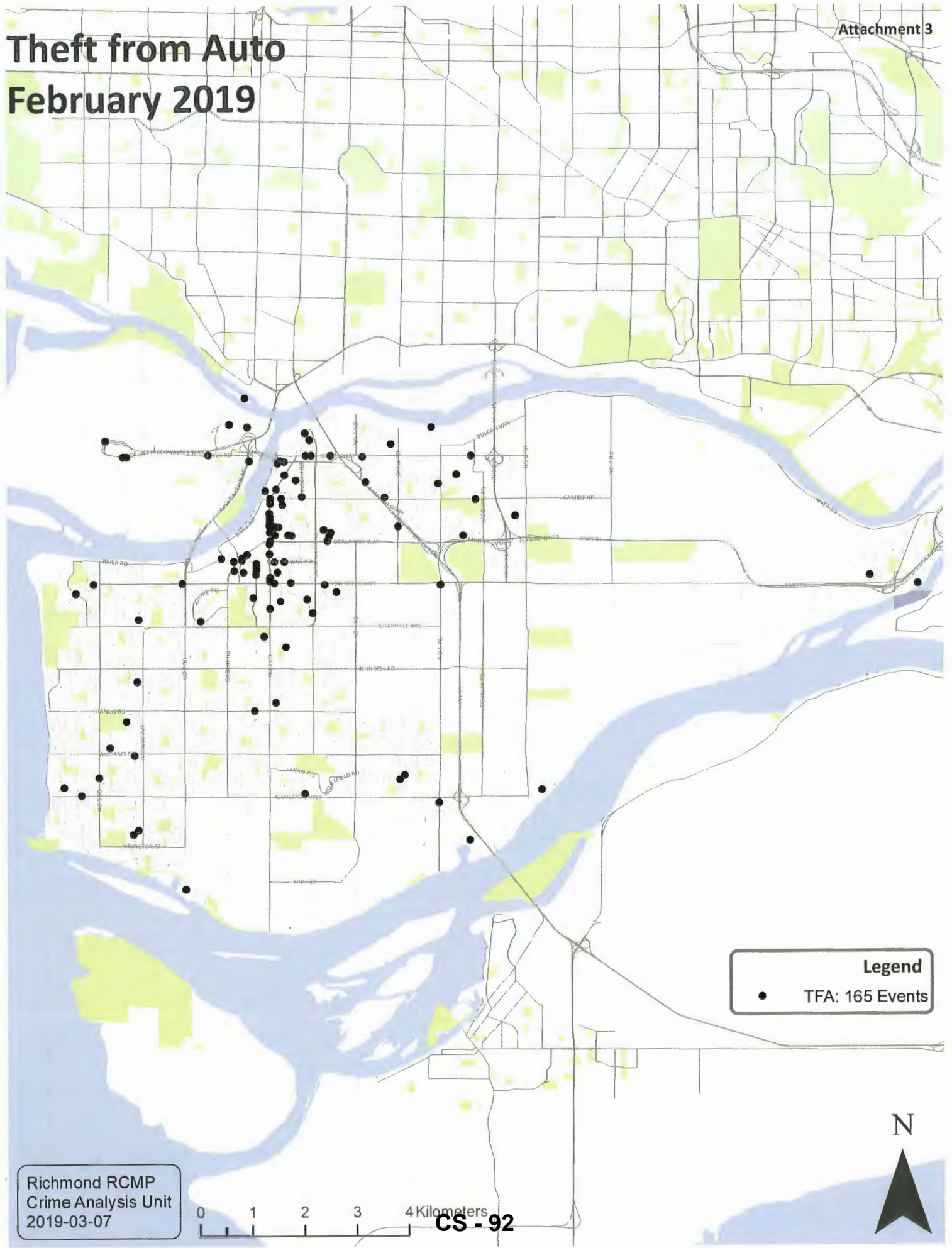


Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2019-03-07

0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers
CS - 91



Theft from Auto February 2019



Legend
● TFA: 165 Events

Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2019-03-07

0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers
CS - 92

