



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** March 5, 2015
From: Rendall Nasset, Superintendent **File:** 09-5000-01/2015-Vol
Officer In Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment 01 (15.07)
Re: **RCMP's Monthly Report - February Activities**

Staff Recommendation

That the report titled "RCMP's Monthly Report – February Activities," dated March 5, 2015 from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP, be received for information.

Rendall Nasset, 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 February 2015 activities.

Noteworthy Files and Activities

RCMP Strategic Plan 2015-2017

Following Council's endorsement, the Detachment released its Strategic Plan for 2015-2017. The plan reflects on-going consultation with the City of Richmond, citizens, community stakeholders, and Detachment employees. The Detachment's consultation efforts coupled with assessment of current and future policing challenges and opportunities have steered the selection of the strategic priorities and will ensure the Detachment remains responsive to community expectations and ever-changing policing landscape.

The Detachment's strategic priorities are: Property Crime, Road Safety, Community Engagement, Youth and Organized Crime. The Strategic Plan will be instrumental in meeting the Detachment's commitment to the City of Richmond's vision "to be the most appealing, liveable and well-managed community in Canada" and realizing the Detachment's ultimate goal of "Safe Homes, Safe Communities."

The entire document can be downloaded at:

<http://www.richmond.ca/shared/assets/StrategicPolicingPlan32912.pdf>

Tip of the Hat to the Vancouver Police Department

Vancouver Police Department (VPD) assisted the Detachment with the arrest of two males in conjunction with a break and enter to a residence. On February 2, 2015 at approximately noon, thieves broke into a home in the 4500 block of Hermitage Drive. The thieves stole several personal electronics including an iMac desktop computer, two Macbook laptops and a sum of currency. Entry was made through a side garage door entrance.

As the thieves made their way into Vancouver, VPD was alerted and arrested the two males in a car on the Arthur Laing Bridge. Both males were charged with one count of break and enter, one count of possession of a weapon for dangerous purpose, and one count of possession of break and enter instruments.

Trap Discovered Near School

The Detachment is investigating the discovery of a trap found in a field near Steveston London Secondary School on February 8 just before 2:00 pm. The trap was found by a student. It was constructed from nails attached to a plastic base which positioned the nails to stand vertically when the base was set down. The 40 cm x 40 cm x 40 cm trap appears to have been deliberately constructed and purposely concealed with grass and placed in a busy foot traffic area to injure people or pets that would have come across it. The area was swept for any other traps prior to school commencing on February 10. The Detachment is coordinating their investigation with the Richmond School District.

Robbery and Assault on Christmas Eve Day

On December 24, 2014 at approximately 1:00 pm, the home owners of a residence in the 6000 block of Nanika Crescent were alerted to a knock on the door. A 76 year old female answered the door and a Caucasian male wearing a scarf covering his face forced the victim into the house and punched her repeatedly in the face. Her 81 year old husband was awakened by her screams and came from the living room to investigate. As he approached the stairs to the kitchen, he was punched repeatedly by the suspect. The female managed to run outside to scream for help but the suspect dragged her back into the house and viciously beat her.

The suspect removed both phones out of the wall and damaged the home owner's only cell phone. He then forced the couple upstairs and bound their hands. The suspect stole a small amount of cash before fleeing. Both victims required medical assistance and were transported to the hospital. They were released some time later. The suspect is described as a Caucasian male, 5'10", stocky build, wearing a blue hoodie, beige work gloves and a scarf covering his face.

The Detachment has made this a priority and is pursuing all investigational avenues to find the person responsible for what appears to be a random and senseless attack. Richmond RCMP Serious Crimes Unit is continuing their investigation. On February 11 the Detachment sent out a news release seeking witness information to contact Constable Darren Forsythe at 604-278-1212, leave a tip at [Richmond tips@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:Richmond_tips@rcmp-grc.gc.ca) or to remain anonymous call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

Body Discovered

The Detachment responded to the discovery of a body in the 14000 block of River Road just after 6:00 am on February 23. At this stage of the investigation, this does not appear to be a random attack. The Integrated Homicide Investigation Team (IHIT) has assumed investigation of this matter. The investigation is ongoing.

Community Policing

Auxiliary Constables

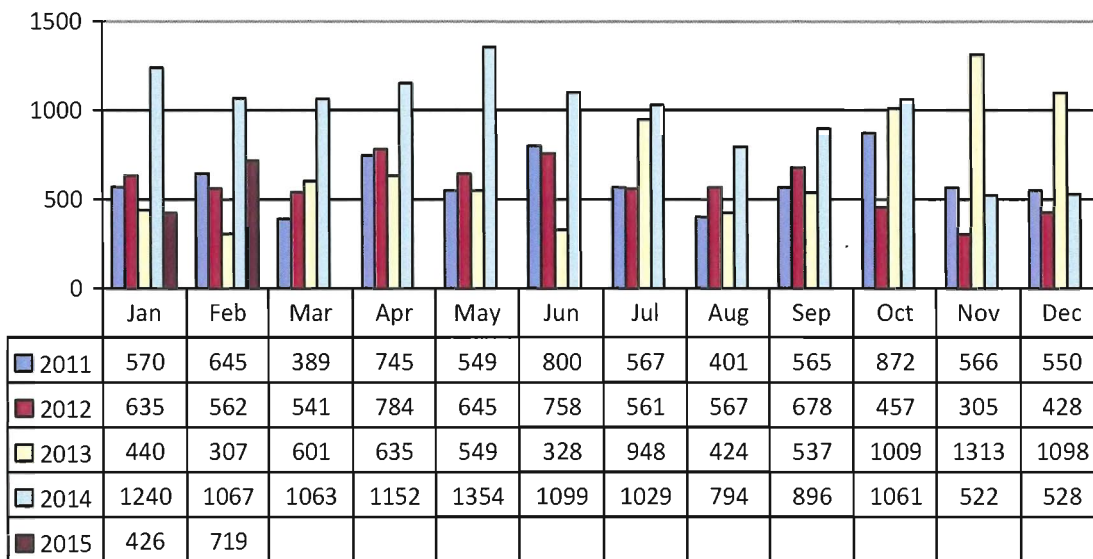
The primary mandate of Richmond's Auxiliary Constables is to support community police activities relating to public safety and crime prevention.

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 February 2015, Richmond Detachment’s complement of Auxiliary Constables was 41. The Auxiliary Constables have volunteered 719 hours during the month of February. Community policing and crime prevention duties remain significantly reduced due to the recent change in National RCMP policy, requiring direct regular member supervision of all Auxiliary Constable duties.

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

Figure 1: Auxiliary Constable Volunteer Hours



Activities for February 2015 include:

- Crime Watch – provided uniformed support to Crime Watch volunteers on weekend patrols.
- 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.
- ICBC Safety Programs – assisted RCMP officers with Pedestrian Safety and Lock-Out Auto Crime campaigns by providing support and assistance to community policing volunteers.
- Youth Programs – participated with RCMP officers in the “Difference Makers” initiative to promote youth leadership and mentoring to foster social responsibility.

- Children's Arts Festival – assisted RCMP officers promoting positive interactions with youth and family.
- Ride-a-longs – assisted RCMP officers with Traffic and General Duty shifts.
- Training – regular recertification training for intervention options is provided as required by RCMP National Policy.

Block Watch/Business Link

Activities for February 2015 include:

- There were 68 residential and 14 business break and enter email alerts and 251 residential and 14 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.
- Two Business Link blitzes occurred with the Crime Prevention Unit, Auxiliary Constables and Station Volunteers participating at Yaohan Centre and East Richmond. During February there was an increase of 64 commercial emails registered to receive the email alerts.
- On February 4 an ad was published in the Richmond Review City Page promoting the residential break and enter email alerts and the City of Richmond's Crime Prevention web pages. During February there was an increase of 160 residential emails registered to receive email alerts.
- Crime Prevention brochures and newsletters were distributed to all Richmond Community Centres and the Minoru Activity Centre. Included in the distribution: When and How to Call the Police, Residential Break and Enter Prevention Tips, Crime Prevention and Business Link Newsletters (English and Chinese versions) and the Block Watch brochure.
- 1000 Business Link brochures were sent to the City of Richmond's Business License Department for inclusion in the new and renewal applications.
- The Police Contact Information cards in English and Tagalog were distributed by Auxiliary Constable Garrett Ruiz to the Filipino community. The cards were very appreciated by the Community.
- A meeting between Block Watch and Emergency Social Services (ESS) occurred to explore options to cross-promote the Block Watch programs. ESS will be preparing an article for the 2nd Quarter 2015 Crime Prevention Newsletter.
- A link to the Business Link program was added to the City of Richmond's Economic Development web page <http://www.richmond.ca/busdev/overview.htm> the link is located under business safety: <http://www.richmond.ca/safety/police/prevention/business.htm>. Information about the Business Link program will be made available to business clients via the web links as noted above, social media: @RichmondEDO and the monthly e-news.

- A link to the Business Email Alerts was added to the Steveston Merchants Association web page www.exploresteveston.com/links.

Community Police Stations

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

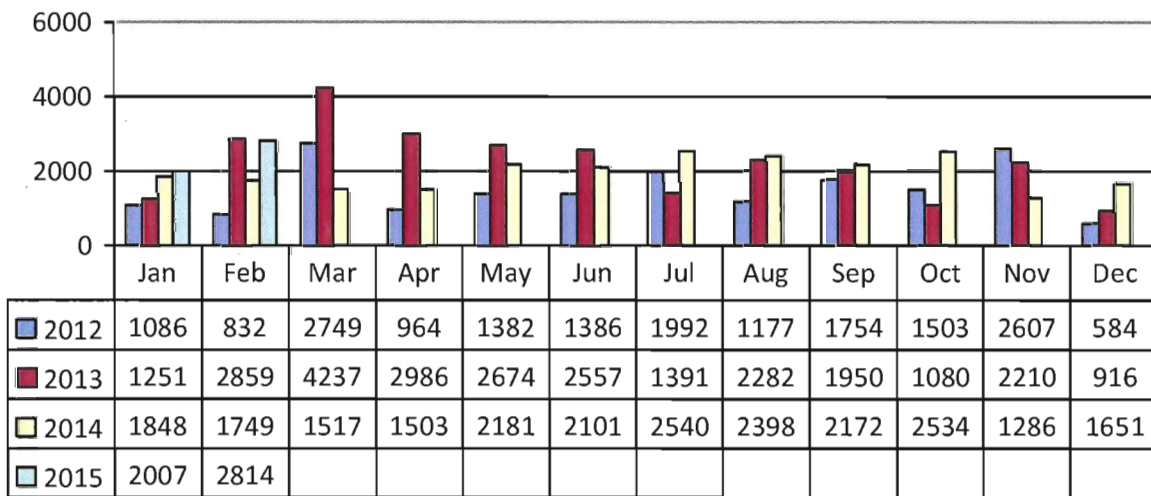
In partnership with ICBC, these programs involve volunteers patrolling city streets and parking lots for automobile security vulnerabilities and stolen vehicles. Under the Lock-Out Auto Crime Program notices supplied by ICBC are issued to every vehicle inspected indicating to the owner what issues, if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

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 suitable 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



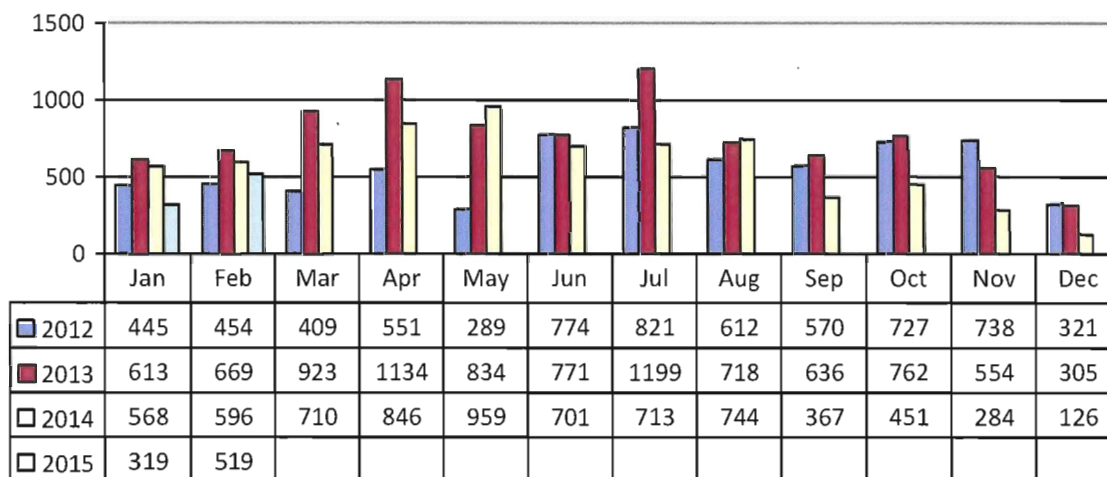
Speed Watch Statistics

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. For the last few months the volunteers have been focused on pedestrian safety, Lock Out Auto Crime blitzes and events such as Work Safe BC fair and Kwantlen Open House to promote pedestrian safety.

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

Figure 3: Speed Watch Letters Sent

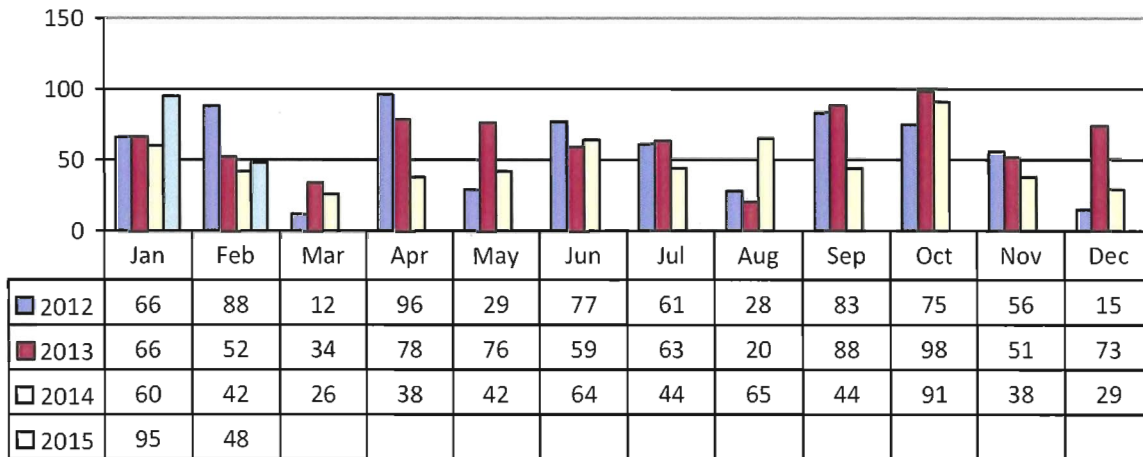


Distracted Drivers Statistics

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. The continuous media messages from ICBC on the radio and television regarding distracted drivers seem to be reaching the population as the volunteers are not observing as many drivers per volunteer shift.

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

Figure 4: Distracted Drivers Letters Sent



Volunteer Foot/Van Patrol and Bike Patrol Program

In February 2015, there were 17 foot/van patrols, totaling 129 hours and 5 bike patrols totaling 25 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:

- The City of Richmond’s Emergency Social Services (ESS) program staff did two presentations on the program and what they do to recruit more volunteers. Five volunteers have sent an email to show their interest in joining the ESS program.
- Cst. Rao did a Fraud presentation to the volunteers as part of a mandatory requirement for all new recruits to do a presentation on any topic they choose.
- Volunteers on van patrol came across a stalled vehicle on No. 2 Road and Steveston Highway. The volunteers put cones out on the road for safety and waited until the tow truck arrived. The owner of the stalled vehicle was very happy with the actions of the station volunteers.
- Cst. Bob Sangha gave a presentation to the volunteers on the RCMP recruiting process and requirements.
- Cst. Kandola gave a presentation to the volunteers on Professional Standards and Core Values of the RCMP.
- Volunteers went to E-Comm for a tour of the facilities.

- Two Business Link blitzes occurred with the Crime Prevention Unit, Auxiliary Constables and Station Volunteers participating at Yaohan Centre and East Richmond (Hamilton area).
- On February 27, staff and volunteers assisted ICBC with a media launch at the main Detachment for the upcoming Distracted Drivers month which occurs in March.
- For the last few months the volunteers have been focused on pedestrian safety, Lock Out Auto Crime blitzes and events such as Work Safe BC fair and Kwantlen Open House to promote pedestrian safety.

Youth Section

In addition to responding to a variety of calls for service involving youth and school facilities, Youth Section members have pursued numerous proactive outreach and engagement initiatives. Highlights include:

RCMP Youth Academy

Next month the RCMP Youth Academy will be delivered in Chilliwack BC. Ten Richmond School District secondary students will be participating this year. All youth section members have played a role in the selection of students over the preceding months. Three members will attend the Academy this year to act as facilitators.

Directed at Grade 11 and 12 students with an interest in policing as a career, the Academy gives candidates an opportunity to experience police training and to partake in police work simulations. The program is built on a partnership between the school districts of Richmond, Burnaby, North Vancouver, Coquitlam, and Surrey, as well as the RCMP detachments from each of those municipalities.

School Sports Program

Youth Section members participated in the School Sport Program at McKay elementary.

The School Sports Program is a travelling road show that was conceived and implemented by Cpl. Kevin Krygier of the Richmond RCMP in 2012. He believed that the Richmond RCMP could better connect and inspire students in the Richmond School District through sports by engaging youth, deterring their involvement in crime and promoting pro-social behaviours. He spent countless volunteer hours getting this program up and running, forming a partnership with the Richmond School District, the Rick Hansen Foundation, and "Ambassadors". Ambassadors have included a number of local Olympic and Paralympic athletes as well as prominent members of the community

The goal of this program is to help students build positive relationship with police. The program provides local youth with the opportunity to play sports with police officers they might not otherwise interact with and also helps police officers and, otherwise sedentary youth, get physically active. The RCMP members and the students square off in a friendly sporting activity such as floor hockey, basketball, volleyball, etc. while other children and school faculty cheer

them on in a show of school and community spirit. The environment is both positive and exciting for all who are involved. Students often talk about this program with a lot of positive comments.

Difference Maker Pilot Project

Over the last several weeks, Richmond Youth Section members have assisted in the delivery of the Difference Maker pilot project. This initiative, operating at two secondary school and two elementary schools, is an off-shoot of the School Sports Program. It will see elementary school students, mentored by local secondary school kids and supported by RCMP members and Ambassadors, take on a "Difference Maker Project". The project aims at making a positive impact in local communities by inspiring local youth and other members of the community to take an active, social conscious role in the community.

Emergency Drills

Youth Section contributed to enhancing the safety of Richmond's schools through participating with local school administrators and teachers in high danger and code red drills.

Family Day

Youth Section represented the detachment at the Family Day festivities held at Minoru Cultural Centre.

School Presentations

Youth Section members delivered presentations to students on a variety of topics, including: social responsibility, drug abuse, healthy relationships, internet safety, cyber bullying, the role of the police in the community, policing as a career and pedestrian safety.

Distracted Driving

As part of the annual spring road safety campaign, Youth Section members collaborated with the School District, ICBC, and Richmond Road Safety Unit to deliver distracted driving awareness to secondary school students. Students participated in the distracted driver's obstacle course. The obstacle course consists of a walk through in a 300 square foot area to simulate texting on a calculator while 3 volunteers attempt to distract the "driver" by ringing bells, asking math questions and various other activities in the three minute walk through.

Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE)

In partnership with the Richmond School District and private schools, Richmond Detachment will deliver the DARE program to approximately 1,700 fifth graders each year. The value of the DARE program transcends equipping school-aged children with skills to recognize and resist drug use. It serves as an important vehicle for the Detachment to establish long-lasting connections with the City's youth and promote pro-social values and protective factors. In February, 13 fifth grade classes received DARE training and are due to graduate in March.

Road Safety Unit

Name	Act	Example	Dec 2014	Jan 2015	Feb 2015
Violation Tickets	Provincial Act Offences	Speeding	713	904	754
Notice & Orders	Equipment Violations	Broken Tail-light	346	391	462
Driving Suspensions	Motor Vehicle Act	24 hour driving prohibition for alcohol or drugs	58	50	55
Parking Offences	Municipal Bylaw	On or off the street Municipal parking offences	7	11	14
MTI's	Municipal Ticket Information	Any other Municipal Bylaw offence	0	0	1

Victim Services

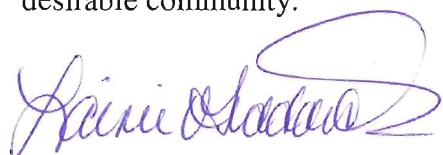
- During February, Richmond RCMP Victim Services provided services to 40 new clients and attended 10 crime and trauma scenes, in addition to maintaining an active caseload of 200 on-going files.
- Victim Services provided on-going emotional support to help victims of robberies, family disputes, and a significant number of medical related sudden deaths and fatal crashes. Referrals are provided for long term help.

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 Statistics
 2: Crime Maps



FEBRUARY 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).

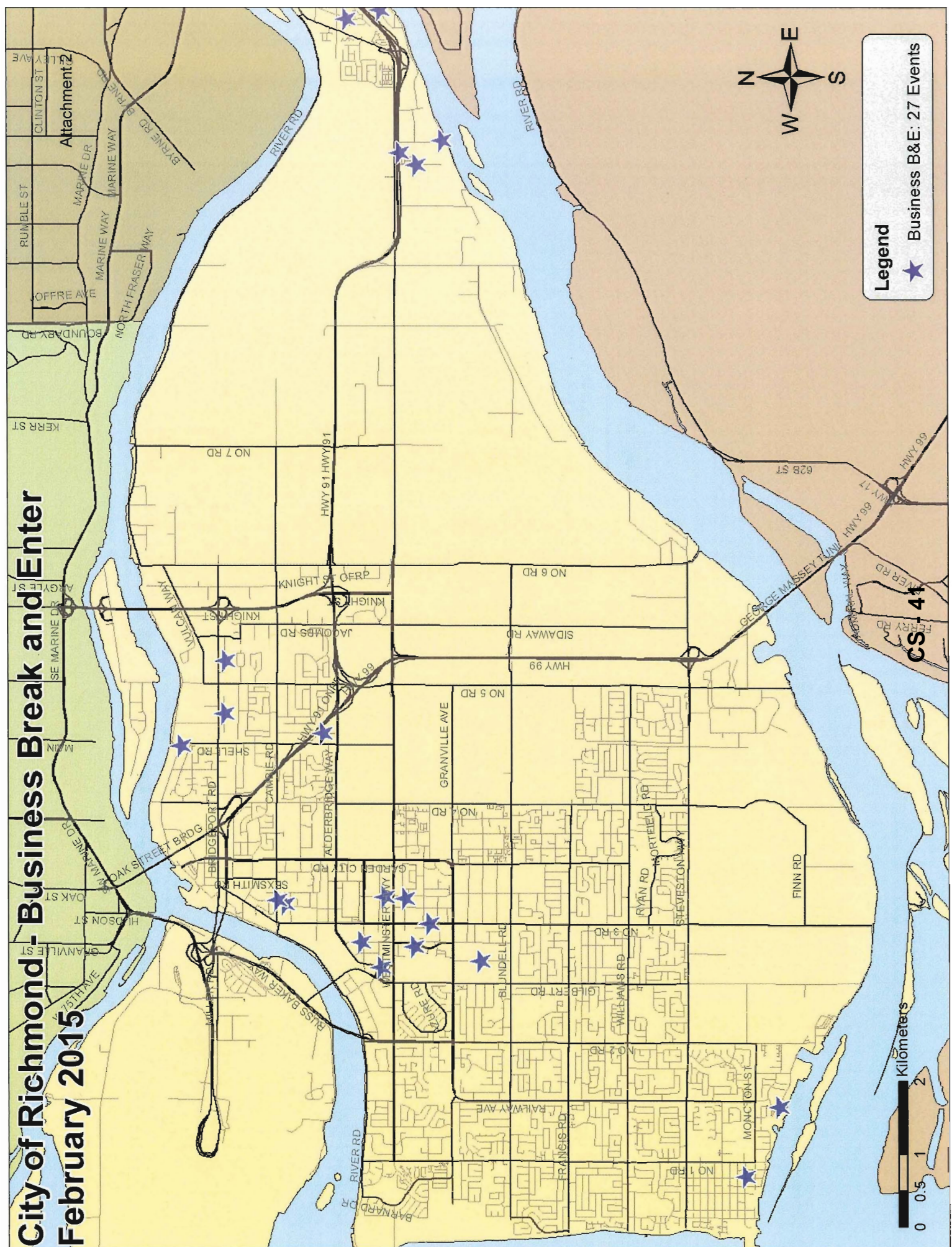
	CURRENT MONTH	5-YR AVERAGE	5-YR AVERAGE RANGE	YEAR-TO-DATE TOTALS			
	Feb-15	February		2014	2015	% Change	Change in # of Incidents
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	77	104.6	89-120	195	164	-15.9%	-31
<i>Robbery</i>	5	6.8	3-10	14	15	7.1%	1
<i>Assault Common</i>	27	38.6	31-46	68	65	-4.4%	-3
<i>Assault w/ Weapon</i>	6	10.2	6-14	18	15	-16.7%	-3
<i>Sexual Offences</i>	5	4.6	3-6	7	7	0.0%	0
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	594	593.8	548-640	1344	1288	-4.2%	-56
<i>Business B&E</i>	27	36.6	26-47	70	67	-4.3%	-3
<i>Residential B&E</i>	73	59.8	49-71	163	160	-1.8%	-3
<i>MV Theft</i>	29	27.4	19-36	55	59	7.3%	4
<i>Theft From MV</i>	166	160.2	121-199	443	314	-29.1%	-129
<i>Theft</i>	121	100.2	85-115	201	278	38.3%	77
<i>Shoplifting</i>	36	62.6	53-72	106	94	-11.3%	-12
<i>Fraud</i>	36	42.4	34-51	89	99	11.2%	10
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	157	151.8	127-177	347	330	-4.9%	-17
<i>Arson - Property</i>	4	4.6	2-7	8	6	-25.0%	-2
SUBTOTAL (UCR 1000- to 3000-Series)	833	850.2	780-921	1886	1787	-5.2%	-99
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	46	67.2	49-86	99	96	-3.0%	-3

Prepared by Richmond RCMP.

Data collected from PRIME on 2015-03-10. Published 2015-03-10.

This 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).

City of Richmond - Business Break and Enter February 2015



Legend

- ★ Business B&E: 27 Events

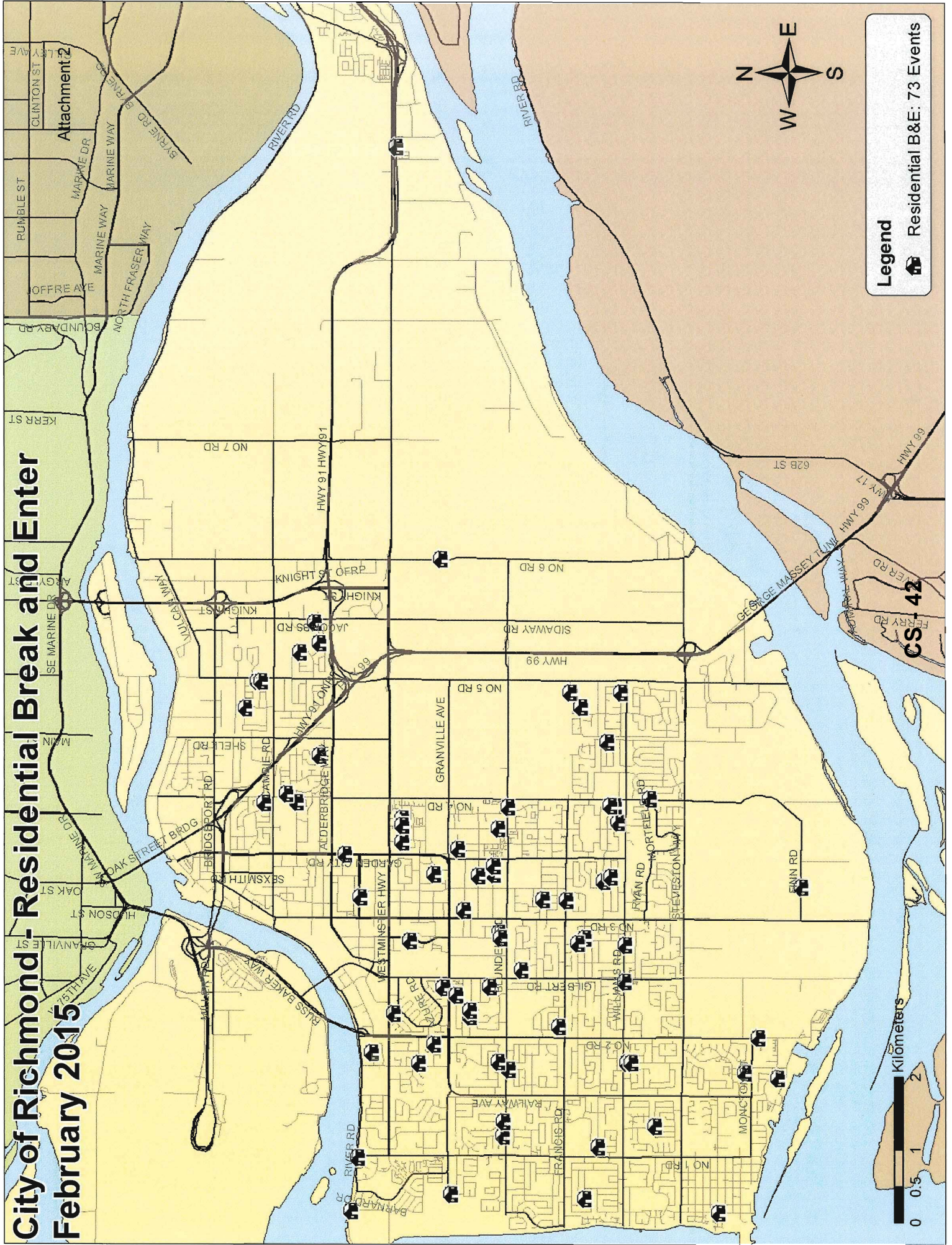
Kilometers
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CS 41

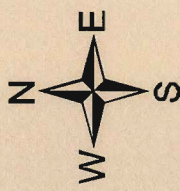
Attachment 2

City of Richmond - Residential Break and Enter February 2015



Legend

-  Residential B&E: 73 Events



City of Richmond - Auto Theft February 2015

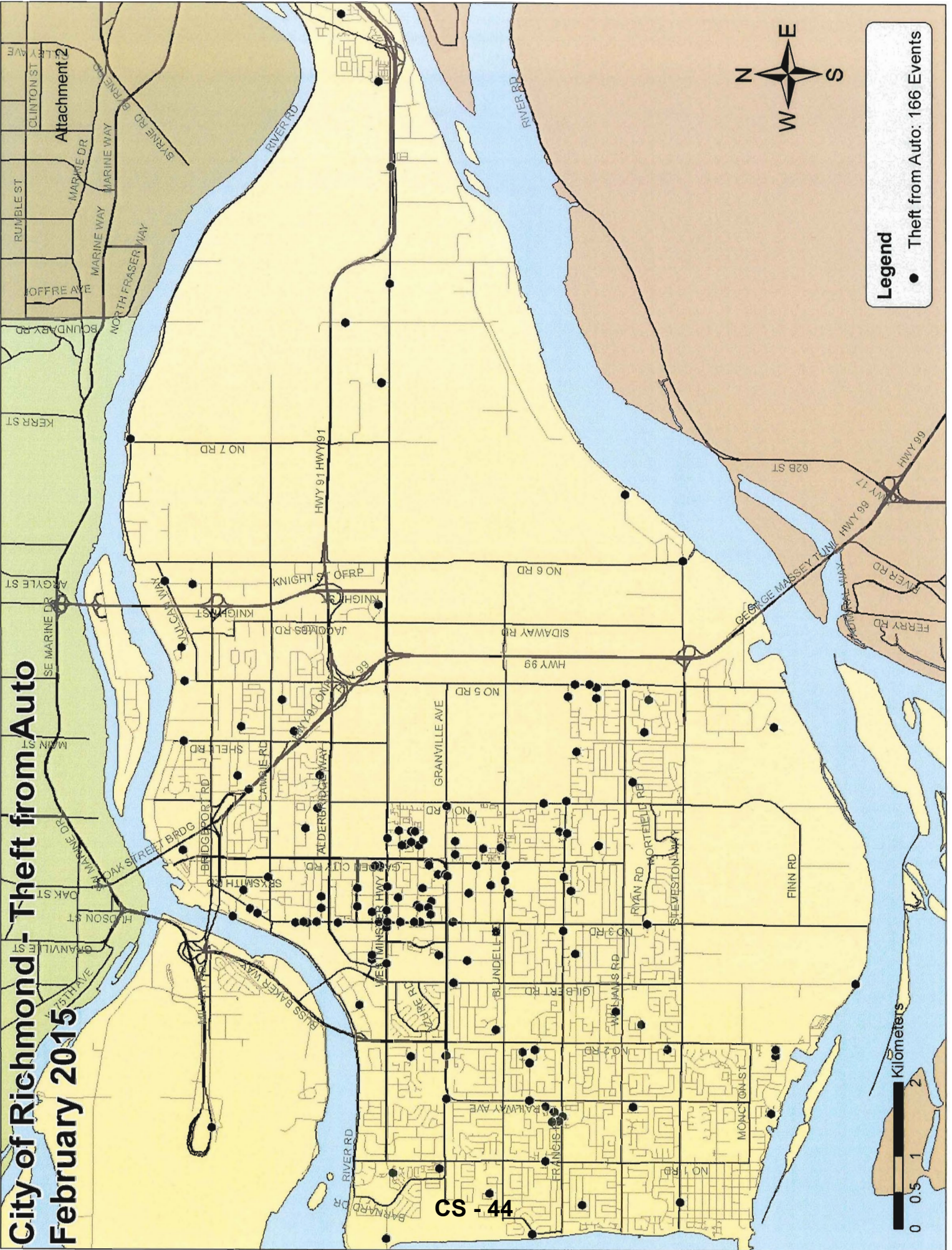


Legend

- Auto Theft: 29 Events

CS-43

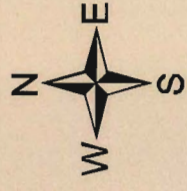
City of Richmond - Theft from Auto February 2015



Legend

- Theft from Auto: 166 Events

0 0.5 1 2 Kilometers



CS - 44