



To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** December 7, 2021
From: Will Ng **File:** 09-5000-01/2021-Vol
 Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge 01
Re: RCMP Monthly Activity Report – November 2021

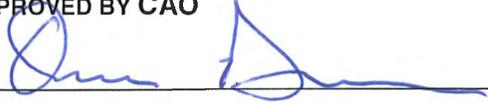
Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – November 2021”, dated December 7, 2021, from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment, be received for information.



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

Att. 3

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
	
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS:
	
APPROVED BY CAO	
	

Staff Report

Origin

At the request of the Community Safety Committee, the Officer in Charge will keep Council informed on matters pertaining to policing in the Richmond community. This monthly activity report for the RCMP provides information on each of the following areas:

1. Activities and Noteworthy Files
2. Analysis of Police Statistics
3. Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions
4. Block Watch
5. Community Police Station Programs
6. Crime Prevention Unit
7. Road Safety Unit
8. Victim Services
9. Youth Section

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2018-2022 Strategy #1 A Safe and Resilient City:

Enhance and protect the safety and well-being of Richmond.

Analysis

Activities and Noteworthy Files

Fatal Vehicle Collisions

On November 1, 2021, Richmond RCMP officers responded to the intersection of Alderbridge Way and No. 3 Road for a serious collision involving a Sport Utility Vehicle (SUV) and a school bus.¹ The driver of the SUV died at the scene.

On November 2, 2021, Richmond RCMP officers attended the intersection of Westminster Highway and No. 4 Road for a two-vehicle collision. One person was pronounced deceased at the scene and three others were transported to hospital with life-threatening injuries.

Both collisions are under investigation.

Pedestrian Hit and Run

On November 10, 2021, Richmond RCMP issued a media release seeking witnesses to a collision involving a pedestrian. The incident occurred on October 29, 2021, in the 11000 block of Bridgeport Road. The driver did not remain at the scene. The pedestrian was treated in hospital and was later released. The collision remains under investigation.

¹ There were no passengers on the school bus at the time of the collision.

Missing Person

On November 17, 2021, the Richmond RCMP issued a media release requesting the public's assistance in locating an elderly Richmond man who had gone missing the previous night. Police later issued a follow up release advising that the man had been located and was deceased. Police are investigating the circumstances but do not suspect foul play.

Richmond RCMP Toy Drive

On November 20, 2021, the Richmond RCMP hosted its 7th Annual Toy Drive in partnership with Richmond Cares, Richmond Gives. The fundraising event was held in the parking lot of Lansdowne Centre and featured refreshments for participants who made a minimum donation. Over \$22,000 in cash and 1.5 tons in toys were collected in support of the Richmond Christmas Fund.

Analysis of Police Statistics

Arson

In November 2021, there were eight reported arsons, which is up three incidents from the previous month and up two incidents from November 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of arsons this month is within the expected range.

Assault Serious (Assault with a Weapon)

There were 16 assault serious events in November 2021, which is up 13 per cent from the previous month and up 13 per cent from November 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of serious assaults this month is within the expected range.

Auto Theft

In November 2021, there were 19 incidents of auto theft, which is down 17 per cent from the previous month and down 34 per cent from November 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of auto thefts this month is below the expected range.

Drugs

In November 2021, there were 24 drug files, which is down 29 per cent from the previous month and down 31 per cent from November 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of drug incidents this month is within the expected range.

Mental Health

There were 122 mental health-related incidents in November 2021, which is a 17 per cent decrease from the previous month and is a 10 per cent decrease from November 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of mental health-related incidents this month is within the expected range.

There were 89 police apprehensions this month and the average hospital wait was 99 minutes. Both of these statistics are within the expected ranges.

Residential Break and Enter

There were 29 break and enters to residences in November 2021, which is a four per cent increase from the previous month and is a 36 per cent decrease from November 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of residential break and enters this month is below the expected range.

Commercial Break and Enter

In November 2021, there were 15 break and enters to businesses, which represents a 40 per cent decrease from the previous month and is a 40 per cent decrease from November 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of commercial break and enters this month is below the expected range.

Robbery

There were four robbery incidents in November 2021, which represents no change from the previous month and is up two incidents from November 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of robberies this month is within the expected range.

Sexual Offences

In November 2021, there were 25 sexual offence files, which is up 56 per cent from previous month and is almost double the number of incidents reported in November 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of sexual offences this month is above the expected range.

Referrals from the BC Integrated Child Exploitation Team accounted for 44 per cent of the files this month. The other reported incidents included four sexual assaults, three indecent acts and two incidents of sexual interference. Suspects have been identified in 48 per cent of the files reported this month.

Shoplifting

There were 66 reported shoplifting thefts in November 2021, which is a 53 per cent increase from the previous month and is a 12 per cent increase from November 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of shoplifting thefts this month is within the expected range.

Theft from Automobile

There were 121 theft from automobile incidents in November 2021, which is up two per cent from the previous month and down 11 per cent from November 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of thefts from automobiles this month is within the expected range.

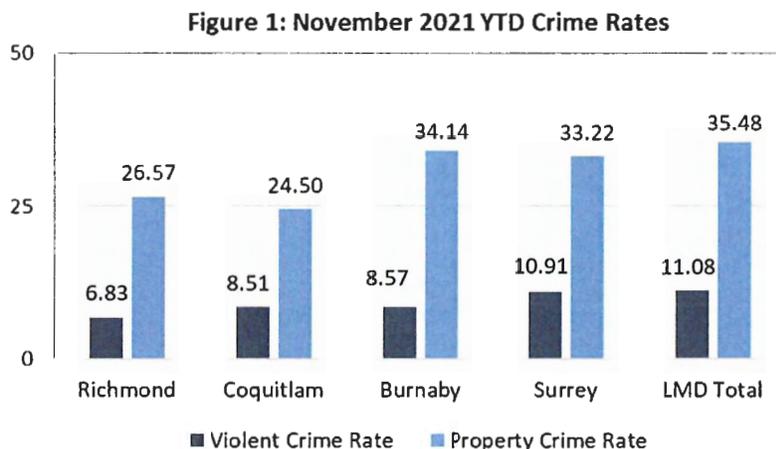
Hate Crimes and Incidents

Table 1 presents the number of hate crimes and hate incidents reported between January 1, 2018 and November 30, 2021.² A “hate crime” refers to any criminal offence targeting an identifiable group. The criteria for an offence to be considered a hate crime as per the *Criminal Code* carries a higher threshold and usually involves one or more criminal offences. A “hate incident” may be motivated by the same factors as a hate crime, but does not reach the threshold of being a criminal offence. The events reported this month were related to the use of racial slurs and racist graffiti.

Table 1 – Hate Crimes and Hate Incidents			
Year	Hate Crime Files	Hate Incident Files	Total
2018	19	4	23
2019	11	9	20
2020	21	13	34
2021 YTD	19	26	45

Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions

Data on crime rates is presented in Figure 1.³ In November 2021, out of the four largest municipalities policed by the RCMP in the Lower Mainland District (LMD), Richmond had the lowest violent crime rate and the second lowest property crime rate.



On November 3, 2021, the BC RCMP issued a media release warning the public of an emerging trend where social media and online dating sites are being used for crypto-asset investment scams. In the first eight months of 2021, British Columbians reported losses of \$3.5 million from crypto-asset scams, which is triple the amount reported last year. On November 23, 2021, the Richmond RCMP warned the public that five romance/cryptocurrency scams had occurred in a

² The BC Hate Crimes Unit uses the terms hate-motivated crime and hate-motivated incident.

³ Crime rate is calculated per 1,000 people.

10-day period earlier in the month. The media release contained fraud education and prevention information.

Block Watch

At the end of November 2021, the Block Watch program had 303 groups totaling 7,069 participants. Currently, the program includes 437 captains and co-captains.

Community Police Station Programs

Community police stations enhance the Richmond RCMP Detachment's policing services by providing an array of crime prevention resources and community safety initiatives. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all three community police stations have been closed to the public since March 2020. Volunteer deployments resumed in June 2020, in accordance with the guidelines established by RCMP 'E' Division's Crime Prevention Services; however, the scope of volunteer activities has been limited. City staff and volunteers continue to pursue safety initiatives to enhance crime prevention program awareness, community engagement and police accessibility.

During the month of November, volunteer highlights included:

- The deployment of three volunteer bike patrols, totalling 36 hours.
- Nine Lock Out Auto Crime deployments took place, which resulted in 242 information letters being distributed.
- Speed Watch was conducted on 289 vehicles and 33 information letters were issued.
- There were two Fail to Stop deployments during which 45 information letters were issued.
- In collaboration with ICBC, there were seven Pedestrian Safety deployments where a total of 1,913 safety reflectors were distributed.
- November 3 – Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a Pedestrian Safety Blitz in the Steveston Village area. A total of 400 safety reflectors were distributed.
- November 10 – Volunteers partnered with Walk Richmond and ICBC to promote pedestrian safety at the Thompson Community Centre.⁴
- November 10 – Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a Pedestrian Safety Blitz at the Brighthouse SkyTrain station. A total of 1,000 safety reflectors were distributed.
- November 20 – Thirteen volunteers assisted with the Toy Drive fundraising event held in the Lansdowne Mall parking lot.
- November 21 – Three volunteers participated in a Crime Watch deployment and checked 503 vehicles at multiple locations throughout the city.⁵

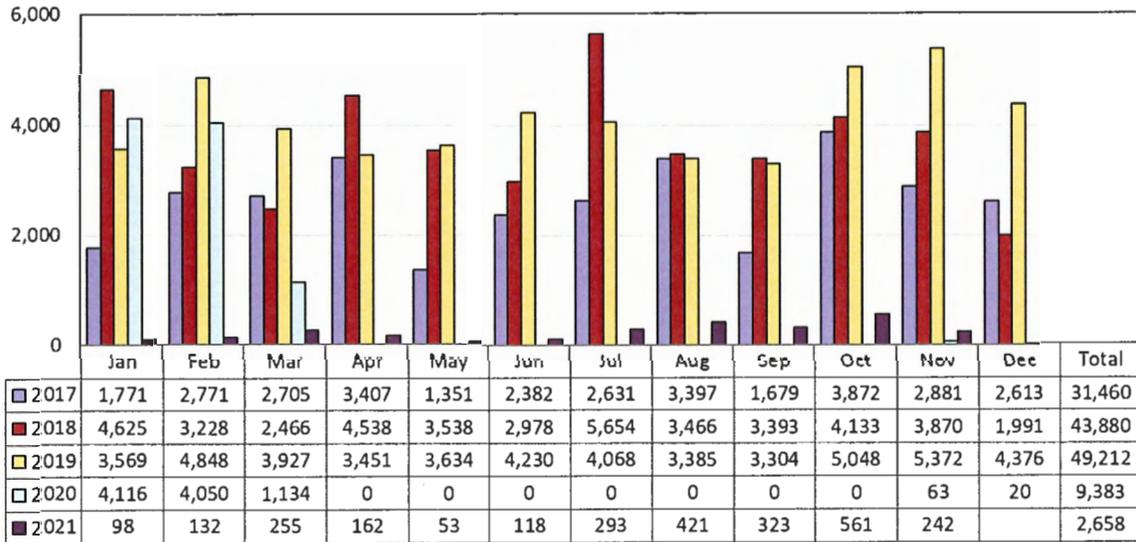
⁴ Walk Richmond is a City program that provides volunteer opportunities and resources promoting walking.

⁵ During Crime Watch deployments volunteers check for stolen vehicles and report suspicious activities to police

Lock Out Auto Crime

Figure 2 provides a comparison by year of the number of vehicle notices issued.⁶

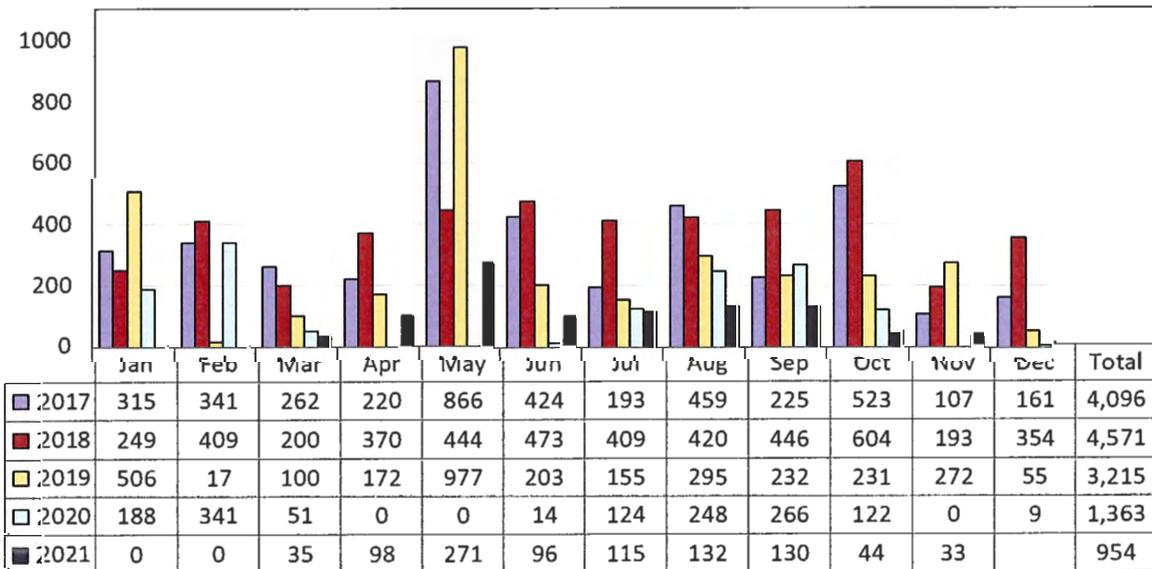
Figure 2: Lock Out Auto Crime Vehicles Issued a Notice



Speed Watch

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

Figure 3: Speed Watch Letters Sent



⁶ Beginning in November 2020, Lock Out Auto Crime letters were issued in place of notices.

Crime Prevention Unit

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

- Community Outreach Patrols
- Fraud Prevention Presentation
- Pedestrian Safety
- Place of Worship Patrols
- Proactive Foot Patrols
- Toy Drive

Road Safety Unit

The Road Safety Unit makes Richmond's roads safer through evidence-based traffic enforcement, investigation of serious vehicle collisions and public education programs. Table 2 compares statistics for November 2021 to both September 2021 and October 2021. Violation Tickets were issued for the following infractions:

Table 2: Violation Tickets Issued

Infraction	September 2021	October 2021	November 2021
Distracted Driving	226	114	133
Driver License	190	161	154
Impaired	35	40	28
Intersection Offences	39	34	52
Moving Infractions ⁷	144	128	171
Speeding	175	204	201
Seatbelts	15	9	7
Vehicle Related ⁸	106	89	76
Other ⁹	8	7	7
Total	938	786	829

Victim Services

In November 2021, Richmond RCMP Victim Services met with 100 new clients and attended eight crime/trauma scenes after hours. Victim Services reduced in-person client services in March 2020 and began offering services by phone but continue to attend some of the more serious calls in person. The unit currently maintains an active caseload of 132 files. In November, Victim Services responded to a number of cases involving medical-related sudden deaths, suicides and serious traffic accidents.

⁷ Moving infractions 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 failing to remain at the scene of an accident and failing to stop for police.

Youth Section

The Richmond RCMP Detachment's Youth Section focuses on strategies that contribute to safe and healthy behaviours essential to the development of productive and civic-minded adults. During the month of November, Youth Section highlights included:

- The Youth Section concluded the first term of the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program and delivered 58 DARE classes to Grade 5 students.
- RCMP officers in the Youth Section conducted 39 proactive school visits at Secondary Schools and 77 visits at Elementary Schools. Police officers engaged with the students at recess and lunch, as well as during morning and afternoon supervision.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

In November 2021, the Richmond RCMP conducted a number of noteworthy investigations, including two fatal vehicle collisions. Police statistics for this month indicate that most crime types were within the expected ranges with some exceptions; Auto theft, residential break and enters and commercial break and enters were all below the expected ranges. The number of sexual offences, however, were elevated this month.

In November, the Richmond RCMP Community Engagement Team and volunteers continued to promote crime prevention and road safety initiatives, including pedestrian safety. In addition, the Richmond RCMP hosted its 7th Annual Toy Drive in support of the Richmond Christmas Fund. The Officer in Charge of the Richmond RCMP Detachment will continue to ensure that Richmond remains a safe and desirable community.



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

EW:

- 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

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.

NOVEMBER 2021 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.

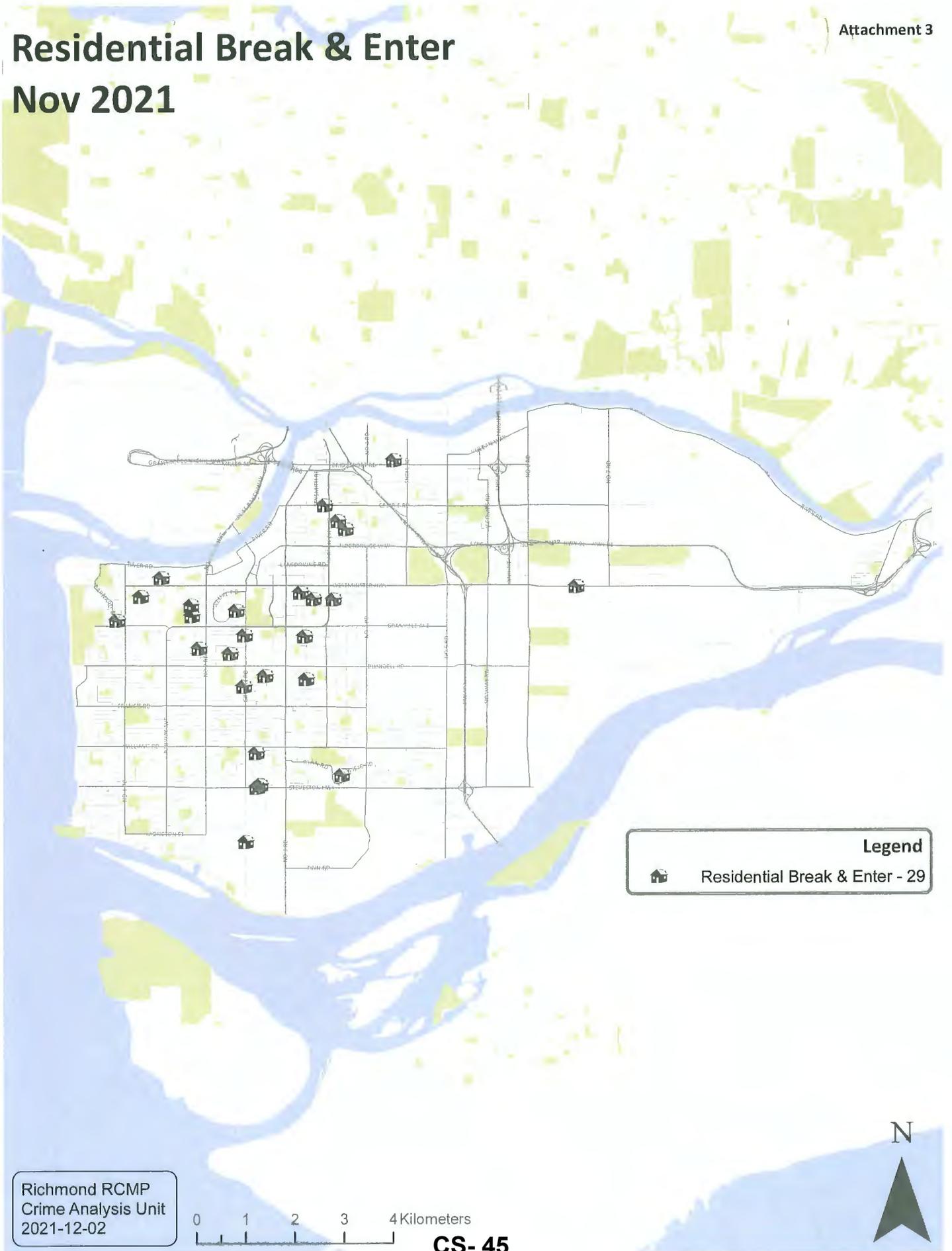
In 2019, changes were implemented regarding the collection of UCR data. The new standards provide much more stringent criteria to classify a file as unfounded. As a result, there will be an increase in many crime statistics, and clearance rates will conversely decline. This creates numerous challenges 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**.

	Month	5-Yr Avg	5-Yr Range	Year to Date Totals			
	Nov-21	November		2020	2021	% Change	# Change
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	144	124.0	109-139	1560	1581	1%	21
Robbery <small>UCR 141 (1-3)</small>	4	4.8	2-7	50	50	0%	0
Assault Common <small>UCR 142</small>	52	43.4	35-52	558	518	-7%	-40
Assault Serious <small>UCR 1410, 1420</small>	16	12.4	10-15	148	167	13%	19
Sexual Offences <small>UCR 240, 240, 240, 240, 240</small>	25	14.8	12-18	180	222	23%	42
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	507	607.0	584-630	6120	5780	-6%	-340
Business B&E <small>UCR 210 (1)</small>	15	29.8	23-37	354	296	-16%	-58
Residential B&E <small>UCR 210 (2)</small>	29	64.4	50-79	415	303	-27%	-112
Auto Theft <small>UCR 210 (1-10) (200)</small>	19	26.0	24-28	251	234	-7%	-17
Theft from Auto <small>UCR 2132, 2142</small>	121	163.8	141-187	1530	1474	-4%	-56
Theft <small>UCR 210, 2140</small>	73	75.6	64-87	654	647	-1%	-7
Shoplifting <small>UCR 2133</small>	66	57.8	50-66	576	644	12%	68
Fraud <small>UCR 210 (4-11), 210 (1-16)</small>	76	75.0	69-81	797	796	0%	-1
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	219	163.6	140-187	2099	2662	27%	563
Arson <small>UCR 260, 260</small>	8	4.0	2-6	71	67	-6%	-4
SUBTOTAL CC OFFENCES (UCR 1000 to 3000 Series)	870	894.8	844-946	9924	10026	1%	102
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	24	52.8	25-81	571	376	-34%	-195
MHA RELATED CALLS (MHA files or Mental Health flag)	122	133.2	113-153	1766	1455	-18%	-311

Prepared by Richmond RCMP Crime Analysts. Data collected from PRIME on 2021-12-02. Published 2021-12-02. These data are operational and subject to change. This document is not to be copied, reproduced, used in whole or part or disseminated to any other person or agency without the consent of the originator(s).

Residential Break & Enter Nov 2021



Legend
🏠 Residential Break & Enter - 29

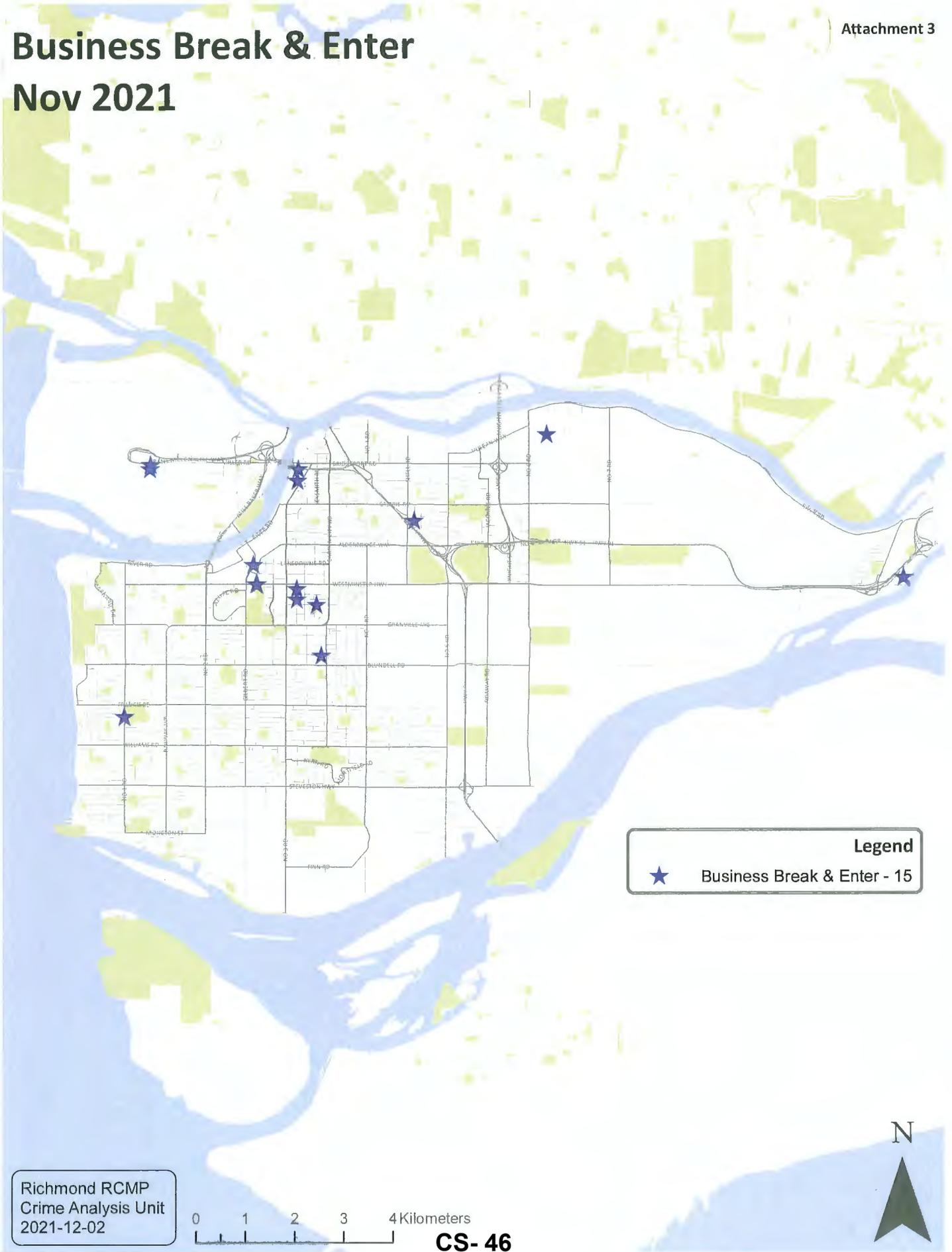
Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2021-12-02

0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers

CS- 45



Business Break & Enter Nov 2021



Legend
★ Business Break & Enter - 15

Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2021-12-02

0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers

CS- 46



Auto Theft Nov 2021



Legend
Auto Theft - 19

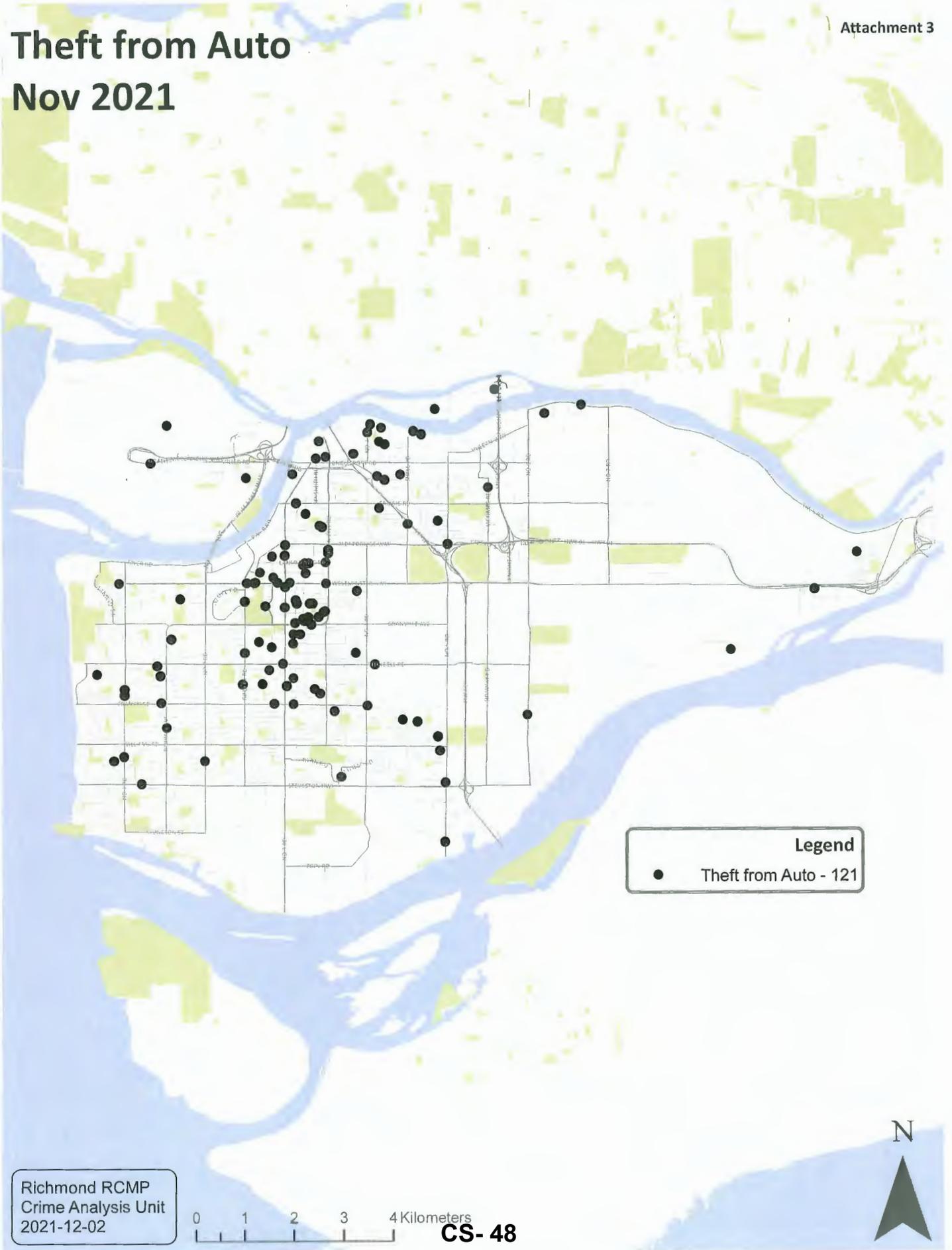
Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2021-12-02

0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers

CS-47



Theft from Auto Nov 2021



Legend
● Theft from Auto - 121

Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2021-12-02

0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers
CS- 48

