




City of Richmond

Report to Committee

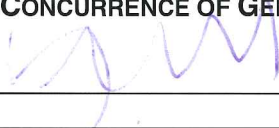


To: Community Safety Committee
From: Rendall Nasset, Superintendent
Officer In Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment
Date: January 21, 2016
File: 09-5000-01/2015-Vol
01 (16.02)
Re: RCMP's Monthly Report - December 2015 Activities

Staff Recommendation

That the report titled "RCMP's Monthly Report – December Activities 2015," dated January 21, 2016 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 2014-2018 Term Goal #1 A Safe Community:

Maintain emphasis on community safety to ensure Richmond continues to be a safe community.

Analysis

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

Noteworthy Files and Activities

Richmond RCMP Investigating Reports of Shots Heard

Richmond RCMP responded to the area of Cambie Road and Shell Road to investigate a report of possible shots heard on December 1. A dark coloured vehicle drove towards two males who were sitting in an open area northeast of the intersection and shots were overheard. Both males and the vehicle fled the scene in different directions. The Lower Mainland Police Dog Service and Forensics Unit assisted in the investigation which is still ongoing.

What Goes Up, Must Come Down

Richmond RCMP Quick Response Team (QRT) was conducting operations in the Spires Gate and Cooney Road area as part of an enhanced safety initiative on December 1. The attention of the officers was drawn to a male acting suspiciously. The male had been knocking on doors of houses at the front and back of properties. When the male started doubling back to other houses he had already been to, the officers were alerted. Officers observed the suspicious male using a ladder to climb up to the second floor window of one of the homes. The suspect was surprised when he was surrounded and arrested upon descending the ladder. Officers were able to recover a number of stolen items of sentimental value to the owner.

Shop Gets Chopped by Richmond RCMP and VPD

Officers from the Richmond RCMP Property Crime Unit (PCU) and the Vancouver Police Department Auto Crime Enforcement (ACE) executed a search warrant in the early afternoon of December 7, at an industrial property being used as a chop shop, in the 11,000 block of River Road. A dismantled Acura TL sedan and a Honda S2000 sports car were among the vehicles recovered in addition to an assortment of auto parts and other items including clothing and merchandise. A 32 year old female suspect has been arrested and is known to the police. Charges are pending and the investigation is ongoing.

Richmond RCMP Investigating Early Morning Fatality

In the 20,000 block of River Road, a black Nissan sport utility vehicle had collided with the support structure of an elevated train bridge on December 14, early in the morning. The lone occupant driver of the Nissan sustained massive injuries and required extrication from the vehicle by Richmond Fire Rescue. Despite the best efforts of the emergency crews, the driver succumbed to his injuries. The Richmond RCMP, with assistance from the Integrated Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Service (ICARS) and from the CN Police, is investigating. CN engineers were contacted to assess the structural integrity of the bridge.

Male Charged With Sexual Assault of KPU Student

A 24 year old male approached a female Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) student on September 16 posing as a massage therapy student conducting a survey. Upon completion of the survey the victim was to be awarded a complimentary massage but was sexually assaulted. On September 22, officers arrested a 24 year old male. On December 8 a Richmond man appeared in court and is charged with one count of Sexual Assault.

Richmond RCMP Investigating Discovery of a Body

Officers responded to the 8,000 block of River Road for a body found floating in the water on December 20. The Richmond RCMP and the BC Coroners Service are investigating.

Richmond RCMP Investigating Social Media Threats to YVR

YVR received an online threat via their Twitter social media platform on December 21. It was determined that the social media based threats had originated from a geographic location within the United States. Officers from the Technological Crimes Unit and YVR Detachment have been working with the Philadelphia Police Department Homeland Security Unit in the United States. A 16 year old male is currently under investigation and the social media threats were not deemed credible.

Richmond RCMP and Community Help 6 Year Old Boy with Hockey Dreams

Richmond RCMP Constable Gurch Bharaj was investigating a break and enter to a residence that occurred in October, 2015. A hockey bag belonging to a 6 year old boy was one of the items stolen. The bag had special meaning as it not only symbolized his love for the game of hockey, but also community spirit as it was donated by the Richmond Minor Hockey Association.

Constable Bharaj took it upon himself to make things right and was able to replace some of the hockey equipment out of his own pocket. Additional gear was donated by Constable George Kapaclis of the West Vancouver Police Department and Chris Blanchette, the Manager of Canadian Tire at Ironwood Plaza. Constable Bharaj presented the hockey bag and gear to the 6 year old boy as an early Christmas present, which helped to restore his faith in people.

Richmond Mounties Rescue Victims Mauled by Dog

Officers responded to a 911 call that a female was being viciously mauled by a dog and desperately needed police assistance on December 30. When officers arrived, a female was observed on the ground, covered in blood, trying to fend off a large 80 lb Rottweiler/Husky cross that belongs to the victim's boyfriend. One of the officers attempted to distract the dog while the other officer tried extracting the wounded victim. The dog was momentarily distracted and returned to re-attack the victim and one of the officers. The officer was then forced to discharge her service pistol at the dog.

The 21 year old female from Richmond suffered extensive injuries from the attack and was rushed to the local area hospital to undergo surgery. The victim was trying to draw the dog away from attacking her 3 year old nephew, who was unharmed. The victim's sister was also injured in the attack as well as a Good Samaritan who tried to intervene. Both were treated in hospital for their injuries. The officers were not harmed in this incident. The dog fled, but was eventually located and captured, uninjured.

Body Recovered in Richmond

Richmond RCMP officers recovered a body from the frozen waters south of Garden City Park on December 31. The RCMP Underwater Recovery Team provided the technical expertise required for the recovery in addition to the Swift Water Rescue Technician support from the Richmond Fire Rescue. The BC Coroner's service is involved in the investigation and the cause of death is not considered suspicious at this time.

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 December 2015, Richmond Detachment's complement of Auxiliary Constables was 42. The Auxiliary Constables volunteered 562 hours during the month of December.

Auxiliary Constables Activities for December 2015 include:

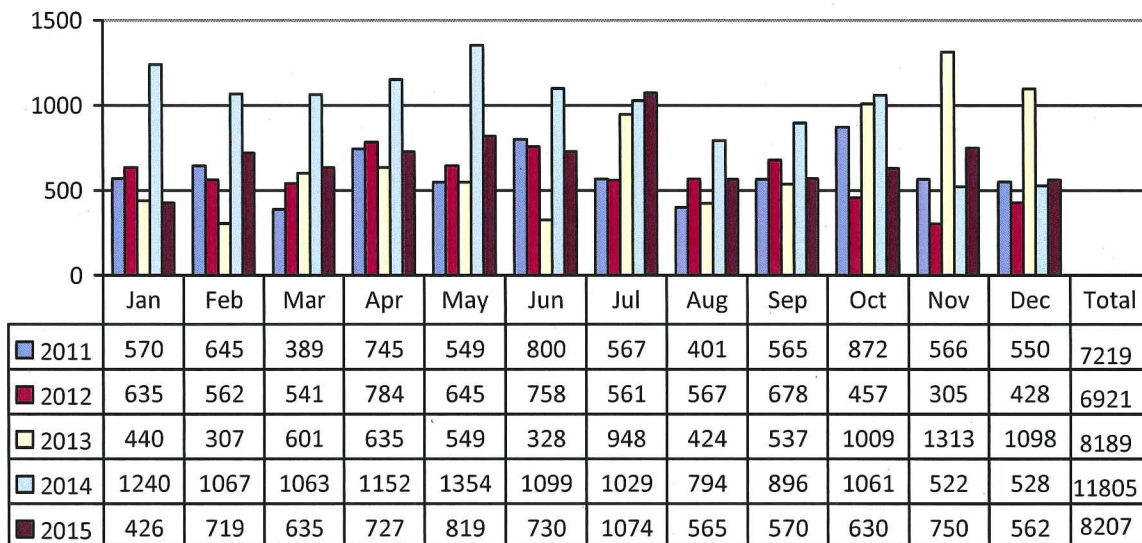
- Mental Health Initiatives – attended the Pathways Clubhouse to provide support and encouragement to Pathway clients that have mental illness and also to create positive client relationships with police.
- School Sports Event – participated in sports games held at Richmond elementary schools for youth engagement.
- Youth Squad – assisted Youth Section training Richmond students interested in policing.

Auxiliary Constables Activities for December 2015 include:

- YVR Patrols – assisted YVR police officers to provide additional uniformed presence at peak travel times during the holiday season.
- Community Police Offices – provided assistance to enhance service delivery hours available to the public.
- Santa in Steveston – assisted regular members to provide additional support during this event.
- Christmas Eve Parade – assisted with traffic control during this event.
- Ride-a-longs – assisted regular members with traffic and general duty shifts.
- New Years Eve – Auxiliary Constables were paired with regular members to enhance uniformed presence during the night shift on December 31.
- Counterattack Roadside Checks – participated with officers in checking for impaired drivers during the holiday season.

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

Figure 1: Auxiliary Constable Volunteer Hours



Block Watch

Block Watch is a crime prevention program aimed at helping residents organize their neighborhoods to help prevent crime in the community.

Activities for December 2015 include:

- Alerts/Letters - There were 50 residential and 11 business break and enter email alerts and 208 residential and 14 business letters sent during this period to registered Richmond residents and businesses. These emails and letters inform home and business owners that a break and enter has occurred, provide crime prevention information, and direct residents and business owners to the crime prevention web pages.
- Block Watch - As of the end of December, there were 9,685 Block Watch participants in 412 groups with 542 Block Watch Captains and Co-Captains. This is an increase of 8 Block Watch participants, 3 groups and 2 Captains/Co-Captains.

Community Police Stations

The Community Police Stations enhance the Detachment's community policing service by providing an array of crime prevention resources and community safety initiatives. City staff and volunteers pursue community safety initiatives which have led to a greater awareness of crime prevention programs, enhanced community engagement, accessibility, and reduced fears of crime. The demographics of the programs vary month to month based on weather conditions, seasonal initiatives, events and the availability of volunteers. Programs and activities for the month of December 2015 include:

Fail to Stop

Volunteers monitored areas where drivers are not making a full stop at prominent intersections with stop signs and red lights. In December, 459 information letters were sent to the registered owners of vehicles advising them of the fine if they were pulled over by a police officer. In December, the areas of focus were:

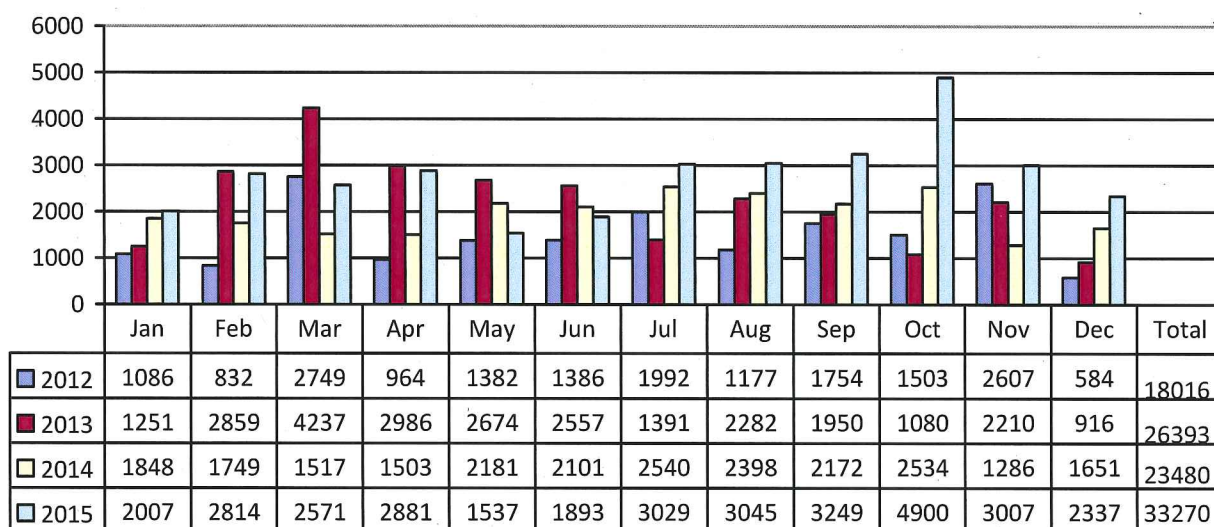
- River Road and Cambie Road
- Kwantlen Road and Alexandra Road
- General Currie Road and Heather Street
- No. 2 Road/Moncton Road
- Buswell Road and Park Road
- Ironwood Parking Lot
- Lansdowne Road and Minoru Blvd.

Lock-Out Auto Crime Statistics

Co-sponsored by the Insurance Corporation of BC (ICBC), this program involves volunteers patrolling city streets and parking lots for automobile security vulnerabilities. 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 secure.

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

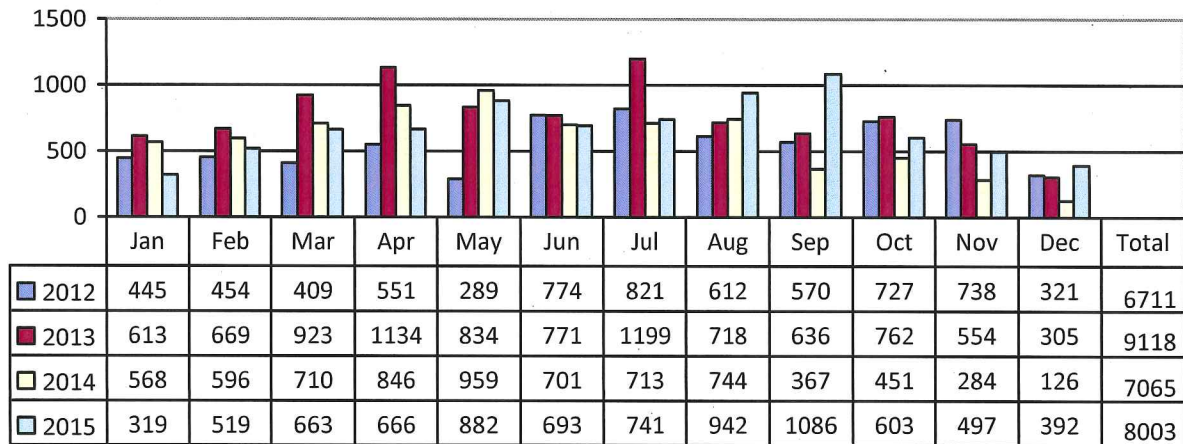


Speed Watch Statistics

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 penalty would have been issued if the driver had received a violation ticket.

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

Figure 3: Speed Watch Letters Sent

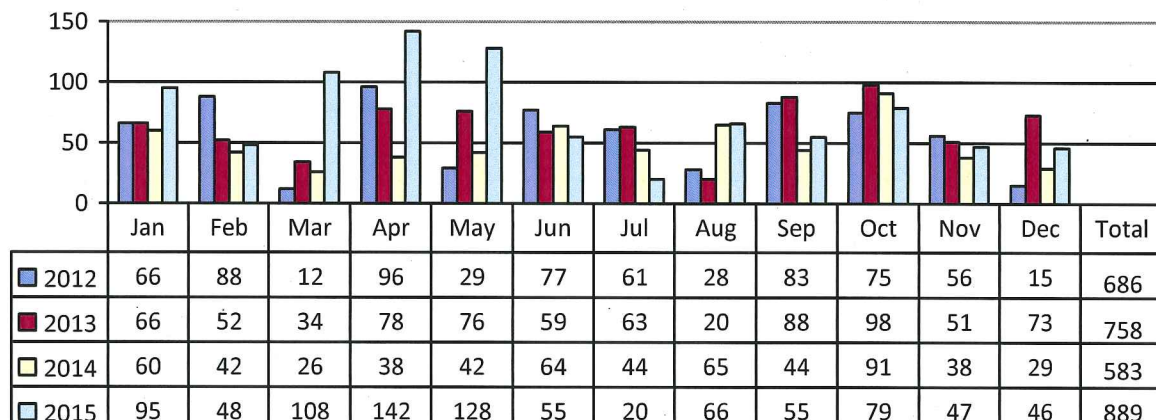


Distracted Drivers Statistics

Trained volunteers monitor intersections and observe distracted drivers. 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. The letter also includes the type of driving infraction and the potential fine amount had the driver received a violation ticket.

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

Figure 4: Distracted Driver Letters Sent



Volunteer Foot/Van Patrol and Bike Patrol Program

Trained volunteers patrol Richmond neighbourhoods, report suspicious activities and provide a visible deterrent to crime. In December 2015, there were 10 foot/van patrols, totaling 52 hours of patrol. 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 queried license plates to see if any vehicles were stolen. The volunteers patrolled local parks and schools to make sure these areas were safe and looked for possible grow ops and abandoned houses. Volunteers also gave out 24 reflectors on December 1 and 40 reflectors on December 4 while out on foot patrol.

Volunteer Highlights include:

- Community Response Team training was held on December 2, 14, and 15 for 12 volunteers.
- As part of the Crime Reduction initiatives, seven volunteers participated with a Crime Prevention Constable in Lock Out Auto Crime, Business Link and mail box thefts awareness in hot spot neighbourhoods on December 10 for two hours.
- On December 19 and December 22 - Crime Watch volunteers along with the Auxiliary Constables assisted Road Safety members at several Counter Attack locations throughout the shift. The volunteers queried licence plates on iPads, checked insurance decals and noted any vehicles that were avoiding the road block.
- Speed Watch was conducted at two elementary schools:
 - McKinney Elementary – at 8:00-9:00 am, 18 cars went through the deployment and the top speed was 51 km/hr. At 2:30-3:30 pm, 72 cars went through the deployment and the top speed was 52 km/hr.
 - Choice School for Gifted Children – at 8:00 – 9:30 am, 130 cars went through the deployment and the top speed was 82 km/hr.

Road Safety Unit

Name	Act	Example	Oct 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2015
Violation Tickets	Provincial Act Offences	Speeding	1099	703	700
Notice & Orders	Equipment Violations	Broken Tail-light	273	175	173
Driving Suspensions	Motor Vehicle Act	24 hour driving prohibition for alcohol or drugs	38	46	52
Parking Offences	Municipal Bylaw	On or off the street Municipal parking offences	19	17	10
MTI's	Municipal Ticket Information	Any other Municipal Bylaw offence	0	0	0

Victim Services

Victim Services provides victims and witnesses with professional and timely support to lessen the impact of trauma resulting from crime.

- During December, Richmond RCMP Victim Services provided services to 61 new clients and attended 12 crime and trauma scenes, in addition to maintaining an active caseload of 189 on-going files.
- Victim Services provided on-going emotional support to help victims of threatening behaviour, family conflict and medical related sudden deaths. Referrals were provided for long term help. Victim Services provided support to victims of crime by providing court orientations and accompaniments to trial.
- Of note this month, Victim Services provided support at two drowning. Both cases are still under investigation and in both instances witnesses and family are receiving assistance by Victim Services.

Youth Section

Terra Nova Play Structure Mischief Solved

Perpetrators of the vandalism to the Terra Nova play structure that occurred in early 2015 have been identified by members of the Youth Section. With agreement from the City of Richmond and support of Restorative Justice of Touchstone Family Association, the matter has been dealt with extra judicially. A plan has been agreed upon for the offenders to repair the harm done.

Youth Squad Graduation

On December 10, 31 students graduated from the program that began October 22, 2015. Richmond students in Grade 10-12 were selected to participate in the eight week course. Under the program, students are introduced to facets of policing and given the chance to meet police officers working in specialized units and learn about their day-to-day work in Road Safety, Police Dog Services, Emergency Response, and Forensic Services Units. The Canadian Armed Forces, BC Ambulance Service, and Richmond Fire Rescue also participated in this program.

Financial Impact

There is no cost associated with this report.

Conclusion

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lainie Goddard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

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

LG:jl

Att. 1: Crime Statistics
2: Crime Maps



DECEMBER 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			
	Dec-15	December		2014	2015	% Change	Change in # of Incidents
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	98	103.6	90-117	1225	1213	-1.0%	-12
<i>Robbery</i>	2	14.0	9-19	79	68	-13.9%	-11
<i>Assault Common</i>	30	37.2	32-43	429	455	6.1%	26
<i>Assault w/ Weapon</i>	14	8.0	7-9	121	127	5.0%	6
<i>Sexual Offences</i>	3	4.0	1-7	94	57	-39.4%	-37
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	642	671.8	593-751	8424	8206	-2.6%	-218
<i>Business B&E</i>	41	35.2	20-50	405	375	-7.4%	-30
<i>Residential B&E</i>	39	79.4	39-119	981	677	-31.0%	-304
<i>MV Theft</i>	33	30.4	24-37	347	383	10.4%	36
<i>Theft From MV</i>	220	159.0	159-228	2488	2366	-4.9%	-122
<i>Theft Other</i>	107	110.0	95-126	1348	1493	10.8%	145
<i>Shoplifting</i>	61	60.2	55-65	661	673	1.8%	12
<i>Fraud</i>	33	46.4	41-52	577	651	12.8%	74
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	214	167.0	145-189	2259	2409	6.6%	150
<i>Arson - Property</i>	4	4.8	4-6	66	58	-12.1%	-8
SUBTOTAL (UCR 1000- to 3000-Series)	954	942.4	847-1038	11949	11830	-1.0%	-119
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	39	58.0	42-74	649	720	10.9%	71

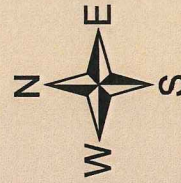
Prepared by Richmond RCMP.

Data collected from PRIME on 2016-01-05. Published 2016-01-05.

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).

[illegible]

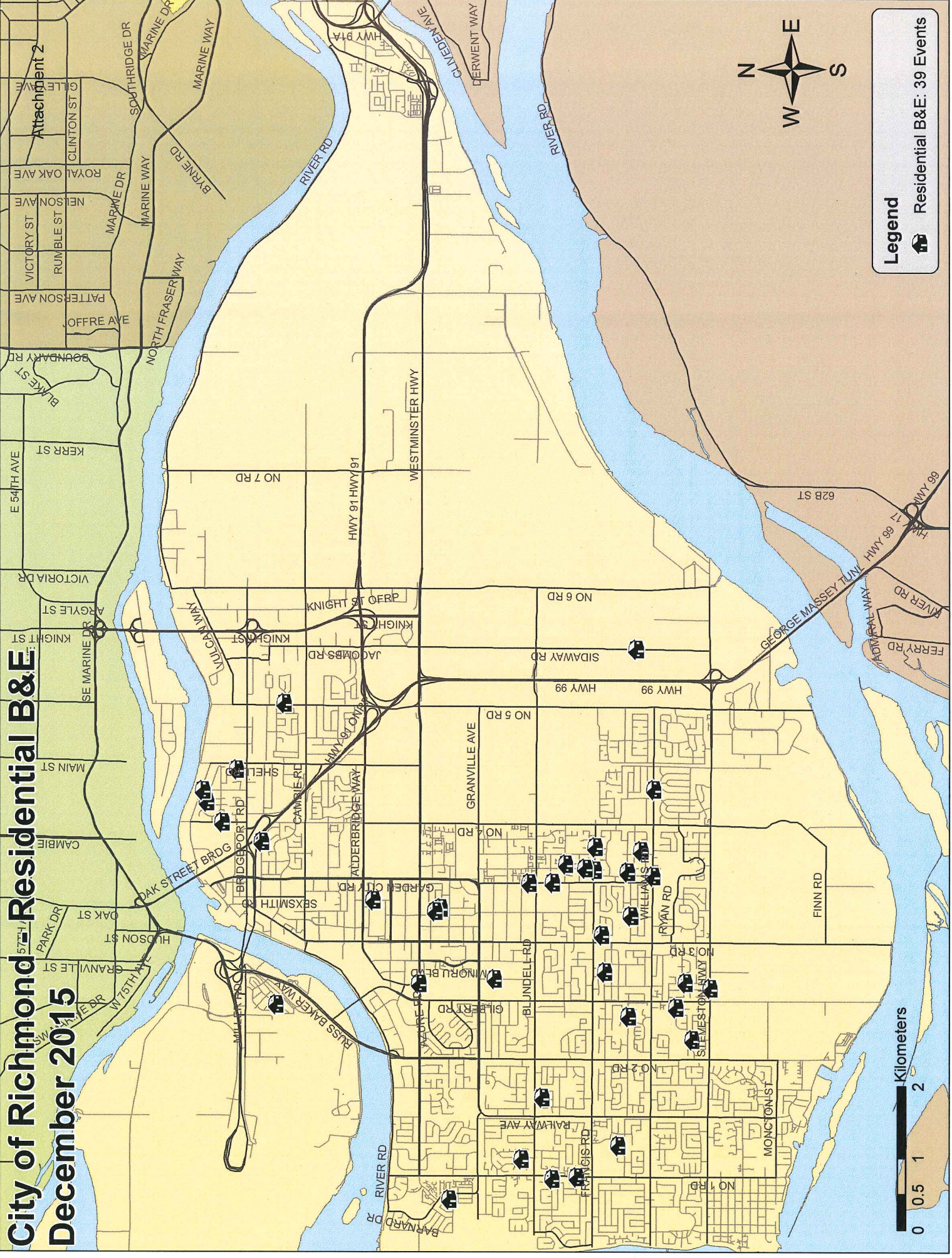
Business B&E: 41 Events



Kilometers



City of Richmond - Residential B&E December 2015



Legend

Residential B&E: 39 Events

0 0.5 1 2 Kilometers

City of Richmond Auto theft December 2015

Legend
Auto Theft: 33 Events

Scale: 0 0.5 1 2 Kilometers

North Arrow: N, S, E, W

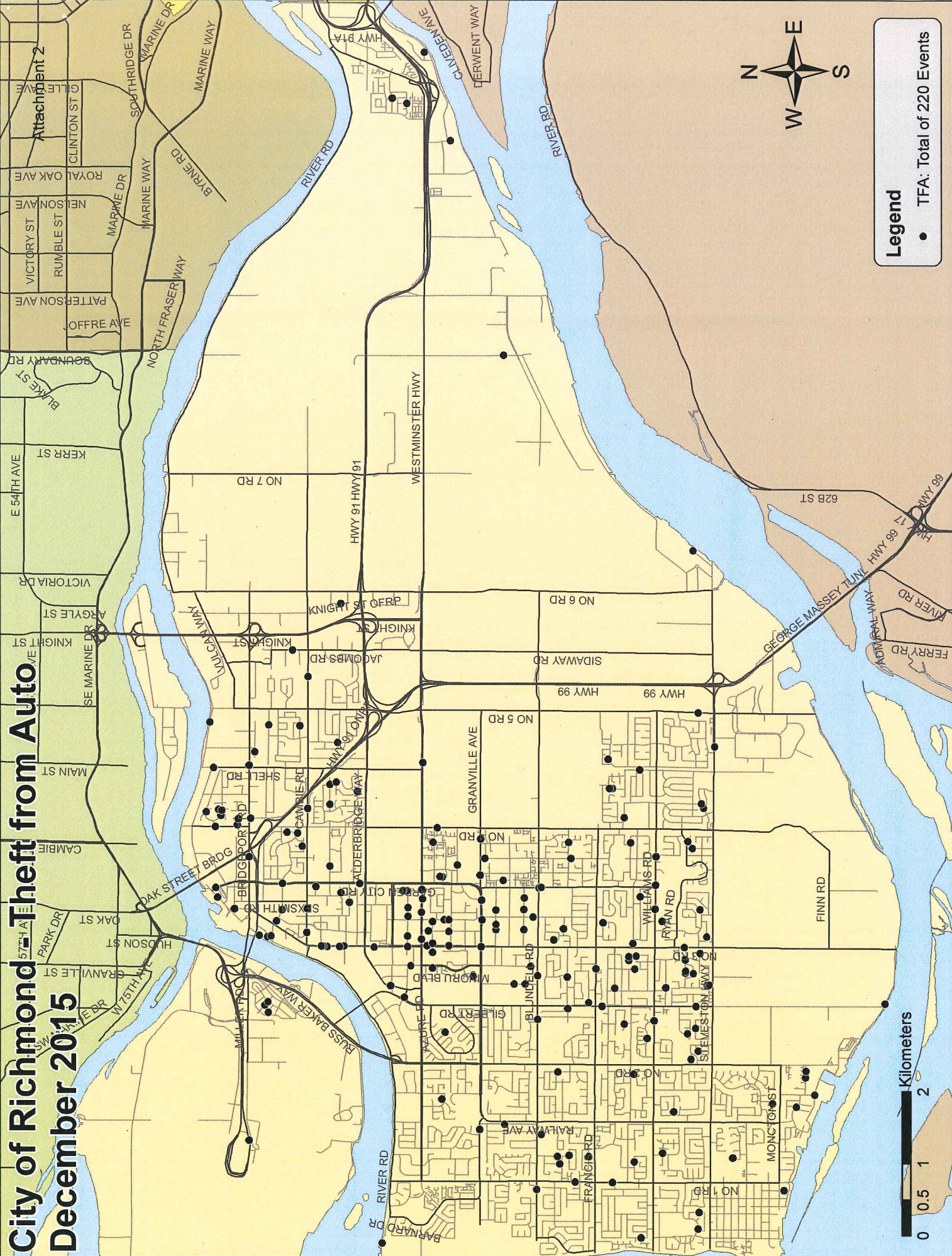
Map Labels: Fraser River, Highway 91, Highway 99, Richmond International Airport, and various residential streets including Main St, Oak St, and others.

Auto Theft: 33 Events



Kilometers

City of Richmond - Theft from Auto December 2015



Legend

- TFA: Total of 220 Events

0 0.5 1 2 Kilometers