



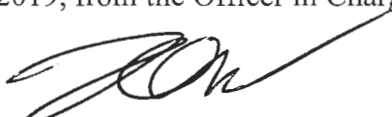
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**To:** Community Safety Committee **Date:** September 11, 2019  
**From:** Will Ng, Superintendent **File:** 09-5000-01/2019-Vol  
Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment 01  
**Re:** RCMP Monthly Activity Report – August 2019

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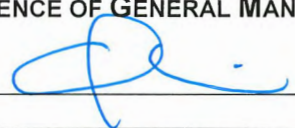


**Staff Recommendation**

That the report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – August 2019”, dated September 11, 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

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

##### *Stolen Property*

On August 8, 2019, Richmond RCMP officers accompanied City Community Bylaw officers to a property in the 18000 block of River Road to conduct an inspection. RCMP officers noticed a number of suspicious items on the property including vehicles, trailers and tools. Upon further investigation police discovered that many of the items had been stolen. The Richmond RCMP Property Crime Unit is investigating.

##### *Cyclist Motor Vehicle Accident*

On August 19, 2019, Richmond RCMP officers responded to a call of a cyclist accident at the Terra Nova Village shopping centre. A 15-year-old boy was taken to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries after being struck by a vehicle. The driver of the vehicle, which is described as a dark coloured SUV, did not remain on the scene. The incident remains under investigation.

##### *Thefts*

On August 20, 2019, Richmond RCMP issued a media release warning the public of a recent trend in the theft of catalytic converters. In addition to their high dollar replacement value, these motor vehicle parts contain precious metals. Thieves are stealing catalytic converters for resale or to recycle the parts used in their construction. Police notified the public to be on the alert for

suspicious persons who may be working underneath parked vehicles. These incidents remain under investigation.

### *Parking Lot Incident*

On August 23, 2019, the Richmond RCMP received a complaint concerning a video shared on social media regarding an incident in the parking lot of 6140 Blundell Road. The contents of the video included a woman using racist and profane language. In consultation with the BC Prosecution Service, police determined criminal charges will not be forwarded.

### Analysis of Police Statistics

In January 2019, important changes were implemented regarding the collection of Uniform Crime Reporting Survey data.<sup>1</sup> As a result of significant media attention in February 2017 regarding sexual assault reporting, the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS) and the Police Information and Statistics Committee of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police worked to develop recommendations for changes to police records methodology, with particular attention on classifying founded and unfounded cases. These changes will impact police statistics across Canada with effects on various crime types, not only sexual offences. The new standards classify a case as founded unless there is evidence that the offence did not occur. As a result, there has been an increase in many police/crime statistics. This change 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 continues to be provided throughout the year.

### *Arson*

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

### *Assault Serious (Assault with a Weapon)*

There were seven assault serious events in August 2019, which represents a 42 per cent decrease from July 2019. The number of serious assaults this month represents a 30 per cent decrease from August 2018. The number of serious assaults this month is within the five-year average range.

### *Auto Theft*

There were 18 auto theft incidents this month, which represents a 31 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 53 per cent decrease from August 2018. The number of auto thefts this month is significantly below the five-year average range.

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<sup>1</sup> Statistics Canada, <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54973-eng.htm>

### *Drugs*

In August 2019, there were 73 drug incidents, which is a 52 per cent increase from the previous month and a 36 per cent increase from August 2018. The number of drug offences this month is within the five-year average range. Year to date, drug offences are down 20 per cent when compared to the same period in 2018.

### *Mental Health*

There were 212 mental health incidents in August 2019, which is a nine per cent increase from July 2019 and a 77 per cent increase from August 2018. For the eighth consecutive month, the number of mental health incidents is significantly above the five-year average range. Year to date, mental health-related files are up 42 per cent compared to the same period in 2018.

No patterns or trends have been identified. One high volume client was responsible for 61 calls, which accounts for 29 per cent of the incidents this month. These calls did not require police attendance. There were 77 police apprehensions this month, which is up one incident from the previous month. Hospital wait times remain within the average range.

### *Residential Break and Enter*

There were 37 break and enters to residences in August 2019, which is a 12 per cent increase from the previous month and represents a significant 44 per cent decrease from August 2018. The number of residential break and enters this month is below the five-year average. Year to date, there has been an 18 per cent reduction in residential break and enters compared to the same period last year.

### *Commercial Break and Enter*

In August 2019, there were 30 break and enters to businesses, which represents no change from July 2019. Commercial break and enters are down 17 per cent from August 2018 and within the five-year average range. Year to date totals are down 16 per cent from the same period in 2018.

### *Robbery*

There were three robbery incidents in August 2019, which is down nine incidents from the previous month, during which a statistically high number of robberies were reported. This month's total is down 63 per cent from August 2018 and is below the five-year average range.

Suspects were identified and arrested in connection to robbery incidents in June and July of this year. These arrests contributed to the notable decrease observed this month.

### *Sexual Offences*

There were 18 sexual offence files in August 2019, which represents no change from the previous month and is a 13 per cent increase from August 2018. This month's total is within the five-year average range.

No patterns or trends have been identified. Year to date, sexual offences are up 50 per cent compared to the same period in 2018. Crime analysts have identified that this is likely due to CCJS scoring changes.

*Shoplifting*

There were 98 shoplifting thefts in August 2019, which represents a seven per cent increase from the previous month and a 63 per cent increase from August 2018. This month, reported shoplifting thefts are above the five-year expected range. This increase is likely the result of improved detection rather than an actual increase in this crime type.

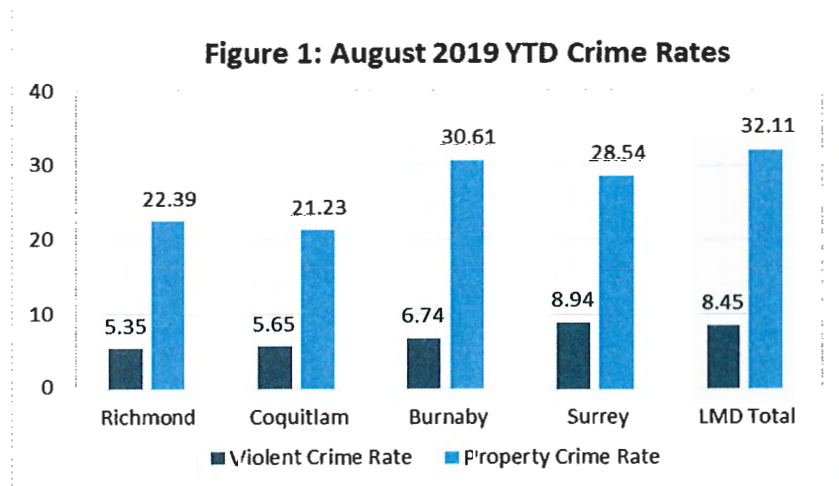
*Theft from Auto*

There were 161 theft from automobile incidents in August 2019, which is up 21 per cent from the previous month and represents a five per cent decrease from August 2018. The number of theft from automobile incidents this month is below the five-year average range. Year to date, there has been an 18 per cent decrease in thefts from automobiles compared to the same period in 2018.

Crime Trends across Jurisdictions

In July and August 2019 a number of municipalities in the Lower Mainland experienced an increase in catalytic converter thefts. In August 2019, Richmond RCMP and Burnaby RCMP issued media releases alerting the public of an increase in this crime type. Richmond RCMP members and volunteers have been conducting crime prevention outreach to businesses in target areas.

Data on crime rates is presented below (Figure 1).<sup>2</sup> Out of the four largest municipalities policed by the RCMP in the Lower Mainland District (LMD), Richmond has the lowest violent crime rate as well as the second lowest property crime rate. In addition, the property crime rate in Richmond year to date has declined almost one per cent from the same period in 2018.



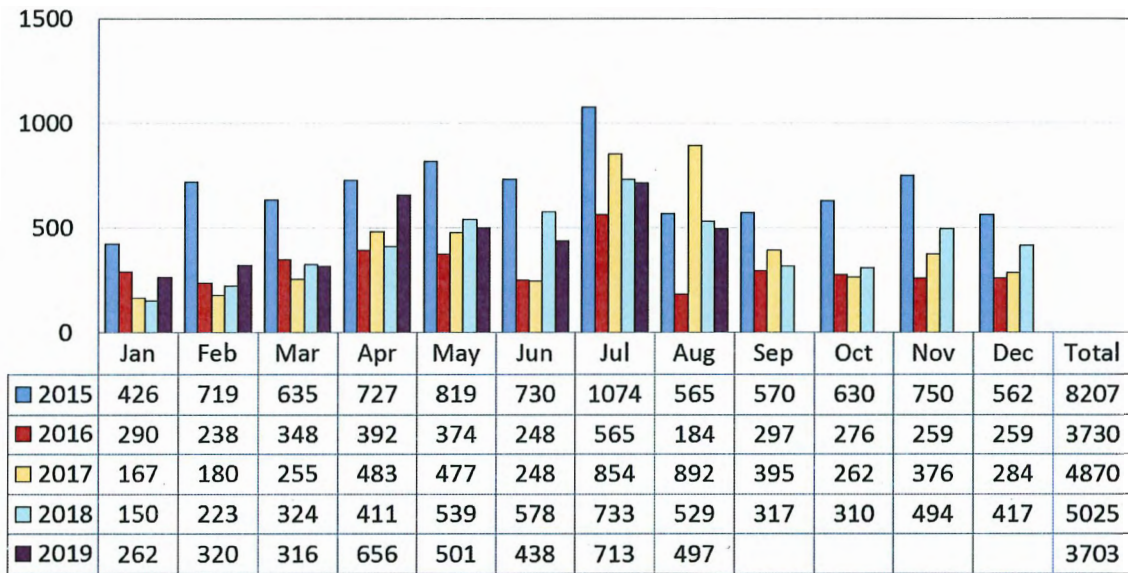
<sup>2</sup> Crime rate is calculated per 1,000 people (using 2019 population projections)

Auxiliary Program

In August 2019, Richmond Detachment had a complement of 32 Auxiliaries.<sup>3</sup> Auxiliaries provided a total of 497 volunteer hours during the month of August.

Figure 2 compares the monthly hours of service provided from 2015 to 2019.

**Figure 2: Auxiliary Volunteer Hours**



*Auxiliary Program Activities*

Auxiliaries attend events in the community to promote a positive police presence, support RCMP members and assist with community policing and crime prevention initiatives as well as traffic and crowd control. During the month of August, Auxiliaries participated in:

- Bait Car
- Block Watch BBQ
- Crime Watch
- Dragon Boat Festival
- Home Security Checks
- Richmond World Festival

Block Watch

At the end of August 2019, the Block Watch program had 397 groups totaling 8,523 participants. Currently, the program includes 550 captains and co-captains.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Previously referred to as Auxiliary Constables.

<sup>4</sup> The variance from previous months' data is due to an ongoing database upgrade. Revised numbers will continue to reflect more accurate participation data.

### Community Police Station Programs

Community police stations continue to enhance the Detachment's policing services by providing an array of crime prevention resources and community safety initiatives. City staff and volunteers pursue safety initiatives to enhance crime prevention program awareness, community engagement and police accessibility. These initiatives help to reduce anxiety and fear related to crime. The program activities vary from month to month reflective of weather conditions, seasonal initiatives, events and the availability of volunteers.

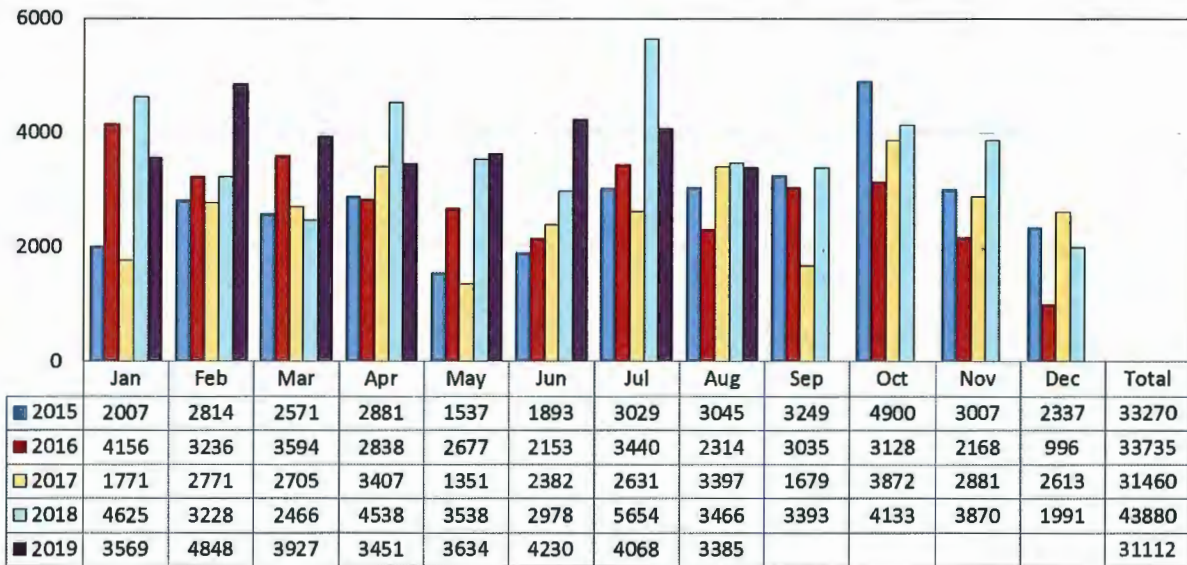
During the month of August volunteer highlights included:

- The deployment of 26 volunteer foot/van patrols totalling 204 hours and 10 bike patrols, totalling 77 hours.
- 47 Fail to Stop deployments took place, which resulted in 1,694 warning letters.
- Speed Watch was conducted on 2,680 vehicles at various locations.
- August 13 – Four volunteers were accompanied by RCMP officers in the area near Horseshoe Way and Blacksmith Place for crime prevention outreach. A total of 19 businesses were visited and were given information on catalytic converter thefts.
- August 14 – Five volunteers attended the City Centre Community Centre Movie Night at Garden City Park and provided crime prevention information at the Richmond RCMP table.
- August 14 – Five volunteers assisted an RCMP member at the Cambie Summer Fun Night at King George Park. Volunteers provided information on crime prevention programs and an RCMP vehicle was on display as part of this community engagement event.
- August 20 – Three volunteers were accompanied by RCMP officers in the Ironwood business area for crime prevention outreach. A total of 30 businesses were visited and were given information on catalytic converter thefts.
- August 24 – Six volunteers and RCMP members attended the Dragonboat Festival. Crime prevention information was provided, including access to the Project 529 Bike Registry.
- August 29 – Volunteers and RCMP members attended the Kids Camp at the West Richmond Community Centre where they hosted a mini-RCMP camp for 60 children. A variety of stations were set up including fingerprinting, a role of police presentation and an up-close look at police vehicles.
- August 30 and 31 – Volunteers and RCMP members attended the Richmond World Festival and shared crime prevention information as well as registering a number of bicycles through Project 529.

*Lock Out Auto Crime*

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

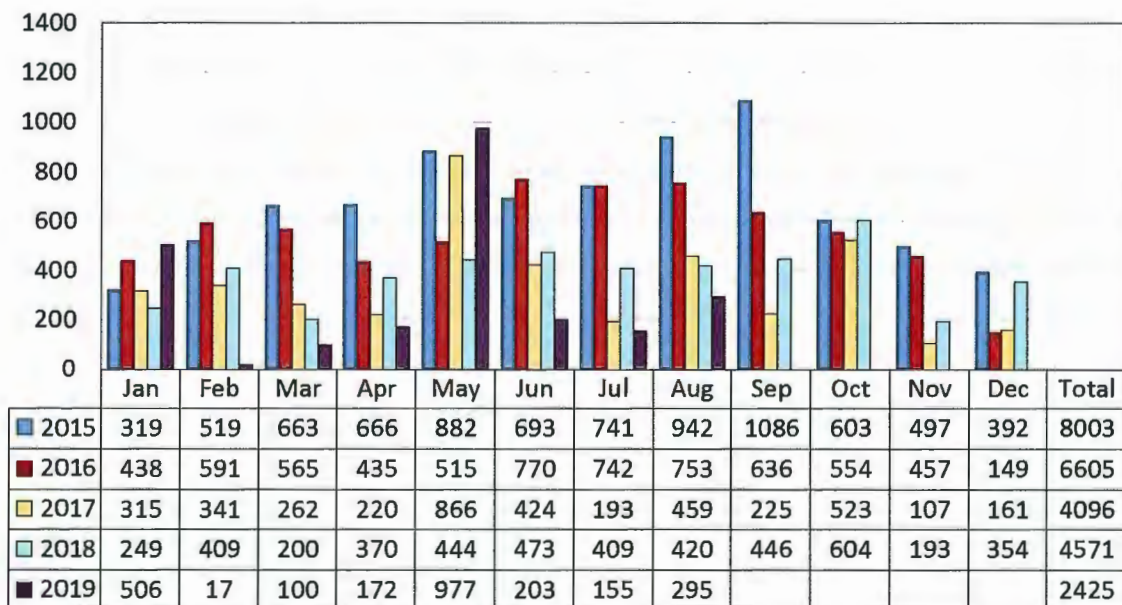
**Figure 3: Lock Out Auto Crime Vehicles Issued a Notice**



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

- ATV Patrols
- Broadmoor Patrols
- Dragon Boat Festival
- Movie Nights in Richmond Parks
- Vulnerable Institution Patrols
- Richmond World Festival

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 August 2019 data to both June 2019 and July 2019.

Violation Tickets were issued for the following infractions:

Table 1: Violation Tickets Issued

<b>Infraction</b>	<b>June 2019</b>	<b>July 2019</b>	<b>August 2019</b>
Distracted Driving	121	133	155
Driver License	252	259	244
Impaired	49	38	56
Intersection Offences	57	112	78
Moving Violations <sup>5</sup>	189	220	232
Speeding	508	495	367
Seatbelts	6	8	6
Vehicle Related <sup>6</sup>	84	65	66
Other <sup>7</sup>	13	7	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,279</b>	<b>1,337</b>	<b>1,217</b>

Victim Services

In August 2019, Richmond RCMP Victim Services attended to 49 new clients and attended nine crime/trauma scenes after hours. The unit currently maintains an active caseload of 146 ongoing files. Victim Services responded to a number of cases involving medical-related sudden deaths, interpersonal conflict and suicides.

<sup>5</sup> Moving violations refers to unsafe lane change and unsafe passing.

<sup>6</sup> Vehicle related refers to vehicle defects, for example no lights and no insurance.

<sup>7</sup> Other refers to miscellaneous charges including fail to remain at the scene of an accident and failing to stop for police.

### 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 August, Youth Section highlights include:

- RCMP members from the Youth Section participated in large summer camp events at a variety of locations including St. Gregory Armenian Church, McKay Elementary and West Richmond Community Centre. Youth participants rotated through different stations, which included a presentation on the role of police, fingerprinting, an up-close look at police vehicles and engaging in sports and games with police officers. Throughout the events police officers discussed cyber safety/bullying and youth mental health.
- RCMP members in the Youth Section conducted park zone traffic enforcement as well as ATV patrols.

### **Financial Impact**

None.

### **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](http://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](mailto:blockwatch@richmond.ca)
- For more information, visit [www.richmond.ca/safety/police/prevention/blockwatch.htm](http://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](http://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](http://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.

# AUGUST 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.

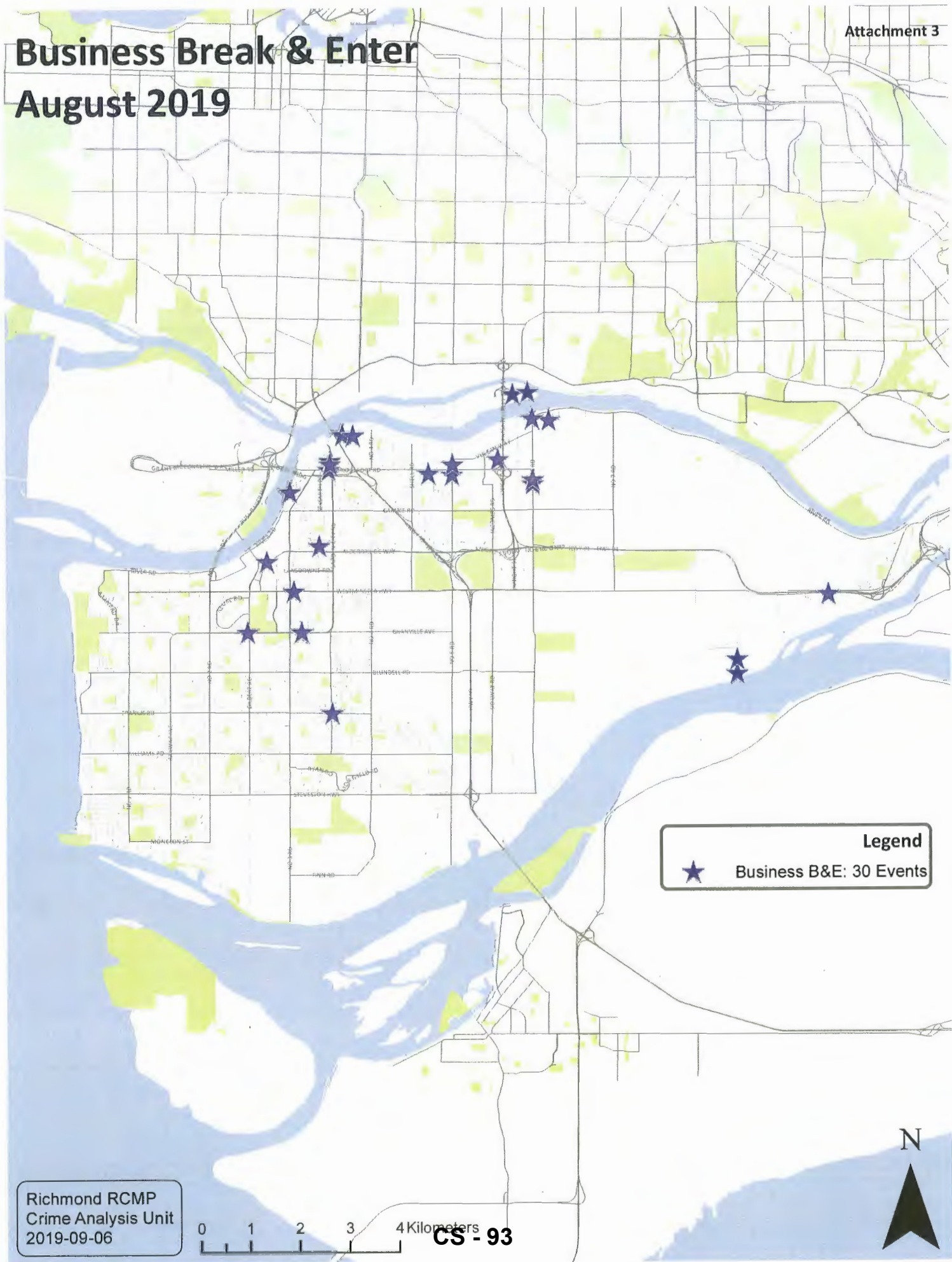
The 5 year average range data is based on activity within a single month over the past 5 years. If the current monthly total for an offence is above the expected average range (using one standard deviation) due to crime trends, patterns, or spikes, it will be noted in **red**. If the current monthly 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			
	Aug-19	August		2018	2019	% Change	# Change
<b>VIOLENT CRIME</b> (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	<b>130</b>	<b>119.2</b>	<b>103-136</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>1179</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>299</b>
Robbery <small>UCR 1610 (1-3)</small>	<b>3</b>	6.6	5-8	40	52	30%	12
Assault Common <small>UCR 1430</small>	<b>55</b>	38.4	35-42	312	423	36%	111
Assault Serious <small>UCR 1410, 1420</small>	<b>7</b>	11.4	8-15	94	86	-9%	-8
Sexual Offences <small>UCR 1345, 1330, 1375, 1310, 2450/555</small>	<b>18</b>	14.4	10-18	101	152	50%	51
<b>PROPERTY CRIME</b> (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	<b>642</b>	<b>686.0</b>	<b>649-723</b>	<b>5097</b>	<b>5060</b>	<b>-1%</b>	<b>-37</b>
Business B&E <small>UCR 2120-1</small>	30	32.0	24-40	258	218	-16%	-40
Residential B&E <small>UCR 2120-2</small>	<b>37</b>	55.8	45-67	484	396	-18%	-88
Auto Theft <small>UCR 2135 (1-10), 2178</small>	<b>18</b>	35.0	29-41	186	187	1%	1
Theft from Auto <small>UCR 2132, 2142</small>	<b>161</b>	183.6	163-204	1536	1260	-18%	-276
Theft <small>UCR 2130, 2140</small>	<b>88</b>	118.8	100-137	703	776	10%	73
Shoplifting <small>UCR 2133, 2143</small>	<b>98</b>	61.8	57-67	501	700	40%	199
Fraud <small>UCR 2100 (all), 2155, 2155</small>	71	64.8	58-72	575	573	0%	-2
<b>OTHER CRIMINAL CODE</b> (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	<b>242</b>	<b>215.4</b>	<b>199-232</b>	<b>3031</b>	<b>1574</b>	<b>-48%</b>	<b>-1457</b>
Arson <small>UCR 3529, 2110</small>	3	4.4	3-5	20	24	20%	4
<b>SUBTOTAL CC OFFENCES</b> (UCR 1000 to 3000 Series)	<b>1014</b>	<b>1020.0</b>	<b>984-1056</b>	<b>7473</b>	<b>7793</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>320</b>
<b>DRUGS</b> (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	<b>73</b>	<b>59.4</b>	<b>44-75</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>-20%</b>	<b>-90</b>
<b>MHA RELATED CALLS</b> (MHA files or Mental Health flag)	<b>212</b>	<b>115.6</b>	<b>100-131</b>	<b>1019</b>	<b>1446</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>427</b>

Prepared by Richmond RCMP Crime Analysts. Data collected from PRIME on 2019-09-06. Published 2019-09-06. 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 & Enter August 2019



**Legend**  
★ Business B&E: 30 Events

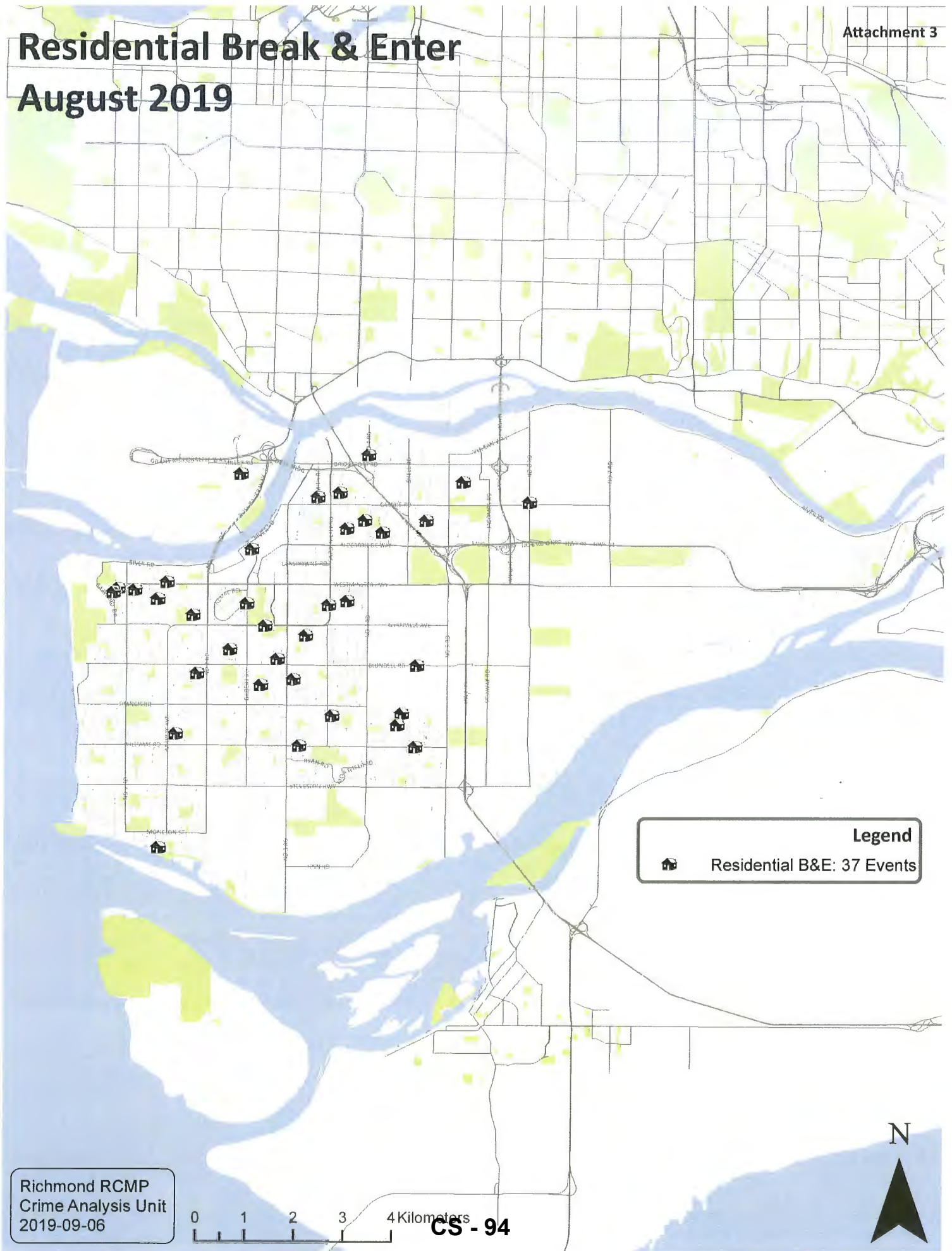
Richmond RCMP  
Crime Analysis Unit  
2019-09-06

0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers

CS - 93



# Residential Break & Enter August 2019



**Legend**  
🏠 Residential B&E: 37 Events

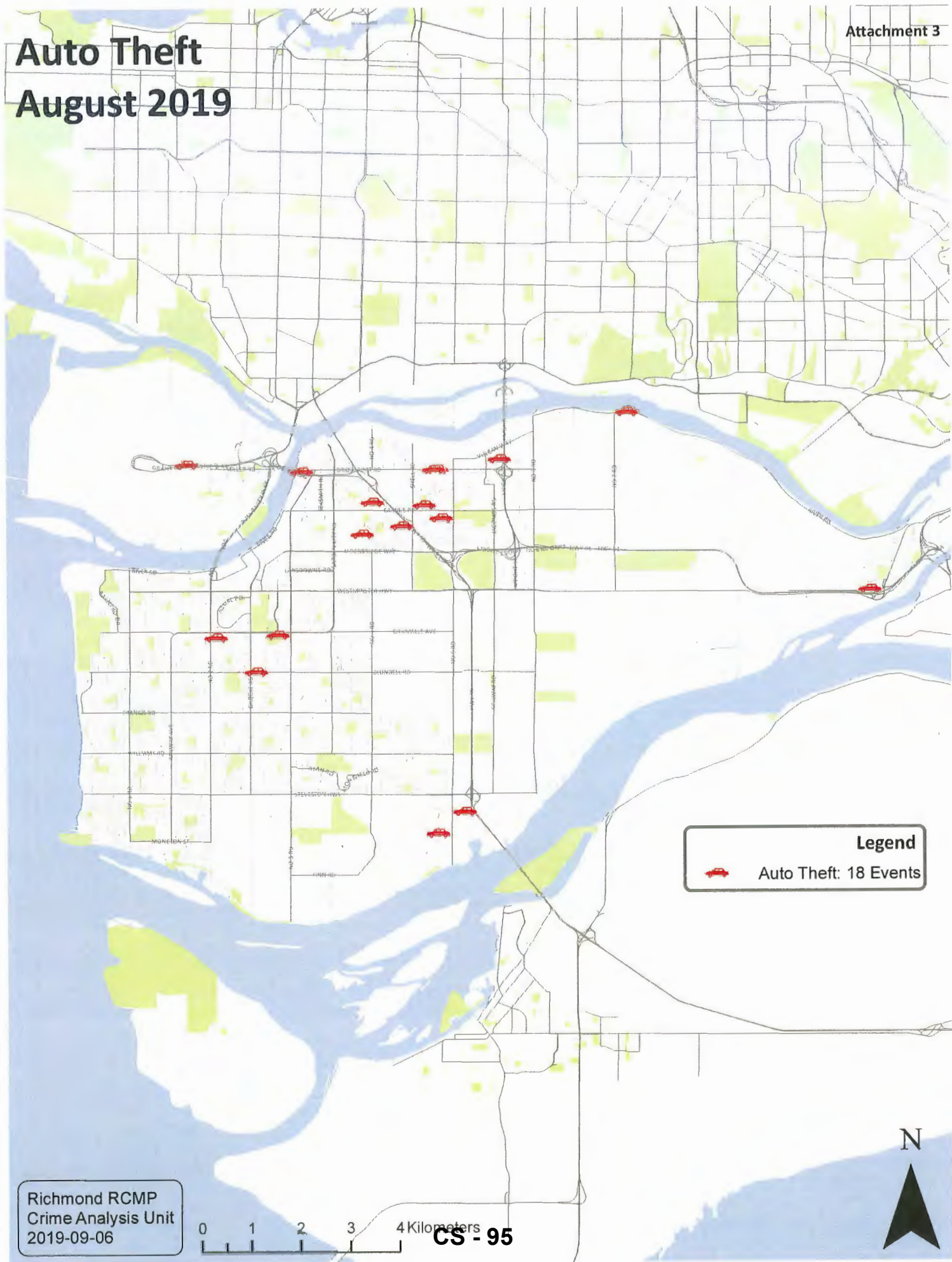
Richmond RCMP  
Crime Analysis Unit  
2019-09-06

0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers

CS - 94



# Auto Theft August 2019



Richmond RCMP  
Crime Analysis Unit  
2019-09-06

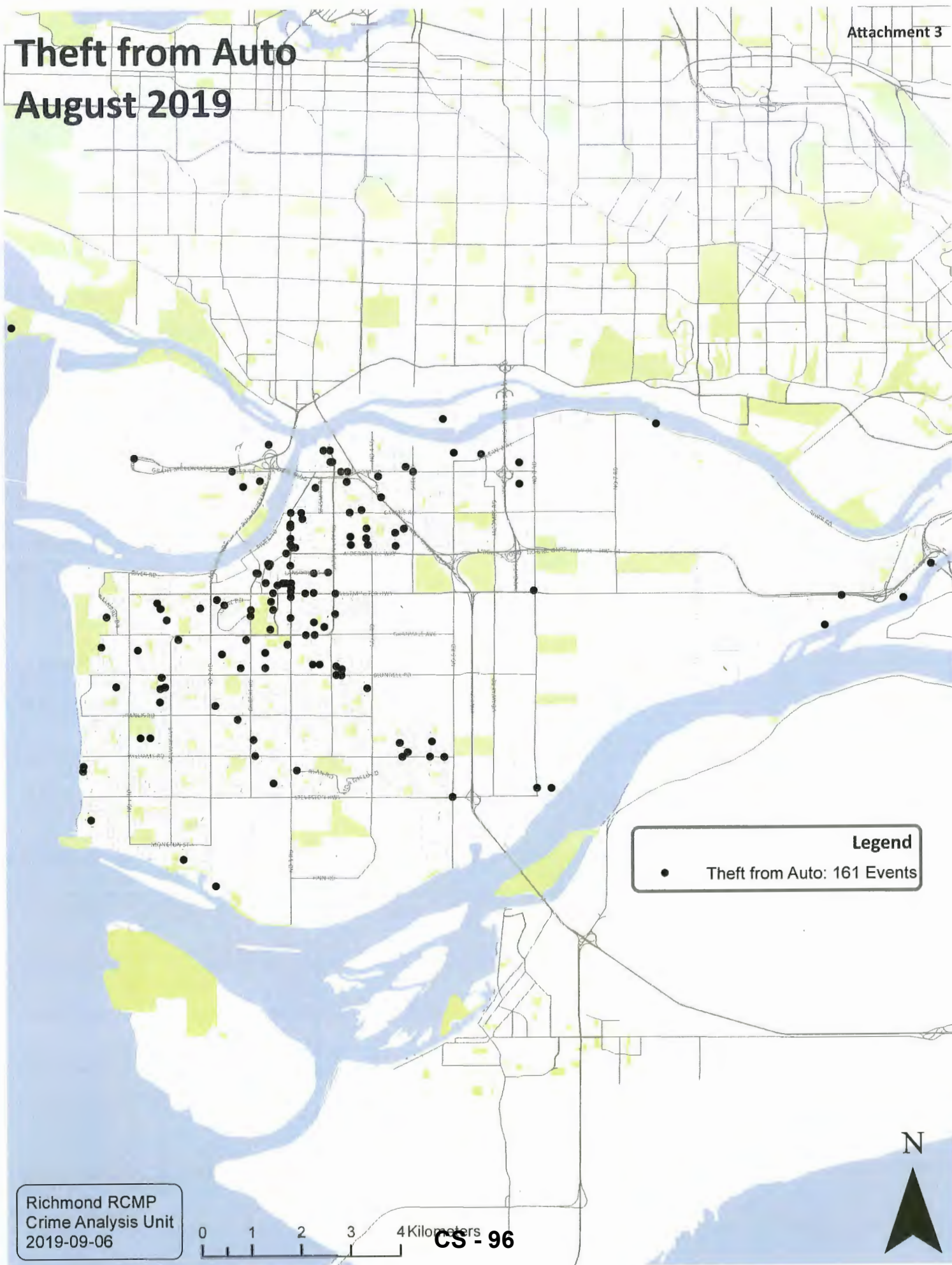
0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers  
**CS - 95**

**Legend**  
Auto Theft: 18 Events





# Theft from Auto August 2019



Richmond RCMP  
Crime Analysis Unit  
2019-09-06

0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers  
CS - 96

