



**Community Safety Committee
Electronic Meeting**

**Council Chambers, City Hall
6911 No. 3 Road**

**Wednesday, October 11, 2023
4:00 p.m.**

Pg. # ITEM

MINUTES

CS-4 *Motion to adopt the **minutes** of the meeting of the Community Safety Committee held on September 12, 2023.*



NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

November 15, 2023, (tentative date) at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION

- 1. ANIMAL PROTECTION SERVICES MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – AUGUST 2023**

(File Ref. No. 12-8375-01) (REDMS No. 7372375)

CS-10

See Page CS-10 for full report

Designated Speaker: Geoffrey Bramhill

Community Safety Committee Agenda – Wednesday, October 11, 2023

Pg. # ITEM

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the staff report titled “Animal Protection Services Monthly Activity Report – August 2023”, dated September 15, 2023, from the General Manager, Community Safety, be received for information.

☐

2. **PROPERTY USE AND PARKING ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – AUGUST 2023**

(File Ref. No. 12-8375-01) (REDMS No. 7372437)

CS-14

See Page CS-14 for full report

Designated Speaker: Mark Corrado

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the staff report titled “Property Use and Parking Enforcement Monthly Activity Report – August 2023”, dated September 15, 2023, from the Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing, be received for information.

☐

3. **RICHMOND FIRE-RESCUE MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – AUGUST 2023**

(File Ref. No. 09-5140-01) (REDMS No. 7376415)

CS-22

See Page CS-22 for full report

Designated Speaker: Fire Chief Jim Wishlove

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the staff report titled “Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – August 2023”, dated September 13, 2023, from the Fire Chief, be received for information.

☐

Community Safety Committee Agenda – Wednesday, October 11, 2023

Pg. #

ITEM

4. **FIRE CHIEF BRIEFING**

(Verbal Report)

Designated Speaker: Fire Chief Wishlove

Item for discussion:

None.

☐

5. **RICHMOND RCMP MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – AUGUST 2023**

(File Ref. No. 09-5000-01/2023) (REDMS No. 7339267)

CS-36

See Page CS-36 for full report

Designated Speaker: Supt. Dave Chauhan

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – August 2023”, dated September 14, 2023, from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment, be received for information.

☐

6. **RCMP/OIC BRIEFING**

(Verbal Report)

Designated Speaker: Supt. Dave Chauhan

Items for discussion:

(i) Recruiting Drive

(ii) RCMP 150 Anniversary-Acts of Giving

☐

7. **MANAGER’S REPORT**

ADJOURNMENT

☐



Community Safety Committee

Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023

Place: Council Chambers
Richmond City Hall

Present: Councillor Alexa Loo, Chair
Councillor Andy Hobbs
Councillor Laura Gillanders
Councillor Kash Heed
Councillor Bill McNulty

Also Present: Mayor Malcolm Brodie
Councillor Carol Day
Councillor Michael Wolfe (by teleconference)

Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

AGENDA ADDITIONS & DELETIONS

It was moved and seconded

That Richmond Traffic Intersection Cameras be added to the Agenda as Item No. 1A and that Item No. 1 become Item No. 1B.

CARRIED

MINUTES

It was moved and seconded

That the minutes of the meeting of the Community Safety Committee held on July 11, 2023, be adopted.

CARRIED

Community Safety Committee
Tuesday, September 12, 2023

COUNCILLOR KASH HEED

1A. RICHMOND TRAFFIC INTERSECTION CAMERAS

(File Ref. No.) (REDMS No.)

The following **referral motion** was introduced:

It was moved and seconded

- (1) *That Staff research, analyse, and recommend to the Committee a process to elevate and use high resolution Traffic Camera images for the purposes of criminal investigation and prosecution;*
- (2) *That judicial or other required oversight is considered to ensure compliance and prevent misuse; and,*
- (3) *That Staff report back to the Committee with recommendation(s) before the end of 2023.*

Before the question was called, Councillor Heed provided a background to the referral noting:

- traffic cameras currently operate at a reduced resolution;
- police are tasked with appealing for dashboard camera footage or other ways of collecting images related to investigations; and
- the need for progressive investigative assistance is vital to aid police with respect to serious crime activity.

Discussion ensued noting the following:

- since 2017, the City has been seeking increased traffic camera resolution to have the ability to assist the RCMP with efficiencies in their duty to investigate serious crimes that happen in Richmond;
- a robust policy requiring judicial oversight will be a necessary process for obtaining any camera footage (e.g. must be a serious crime);
- the position of the Privacy Commissioner to change legislation will be the central issue;
- footage from a private citizen's dashcam, a restaurant or private business is already utilized without permission, therefore having increased resolution for traffic cameras and a bonefide law enforcement process (limited to a certain type of crime) in order to obtain any traffic camera footage, is warranted;

The question on the **referral motion** was then called and it was CARRIED with Cllr. Gillanders opposed.

Community Safety Committee

Tuesday, September 12, 2023

The Chair recessed the meeting at 4:35 p.m. for the Closed Community Safety meeting.

The meeting reconvened at 5:39 p.m. following the Closed Community Safety meeting with all members of Community Safety Committee present, including Councillor Michael Wolfe (by teleconference) and Councillor Carol Day.

COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION

1B. PROPERTY USE AND PARKING ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – JUNE & JULY 2023

(File Ref. No. 12-8375-01) (REDMS No. 7334739)

A brief discussion ensued with respect to noise complaints. Staff noted that, over a three year average, approximately 60% of calls are related to construction, 15% predominantly mechanical noises such as HVAC systems, and a smaller percentage relating to landscaping noises such as leaf blowers.

It was moved and seconded

That the staff report titled “Property Use and Parking Enforcement Monthly Activity Report – June & July 2023”, dated August 21, 2023, from the Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing, be received for information.

CARRIED

2. ANIMAL PROTECTION SERVICES MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – JUNE AND JULY 2023

(File Ref. No. 12-8375-01) (REDMS No. 7334743)

It was moved and seconded

That the staff report titled “Animal Protection Services Monthly Activity Report – June and July 2023”, dated August 21, 2023, from the General Manager, Community Safety, be received for information.

CARRIED

3. BUSINESS LICENSE ACTIVITY REPORT – SECOND QUARTER 2023

(File Ref. No. 12-8375-01) (REDMS No. 7320433)

In response to queries from the Committee, staff noted they will follow up with a memorandum of a comparison of the Business Licenses issued currently to those issued pre-pandemic (2018-2019).

3.

Community Safety Committee

Tuesday, September 12, 2023

It was moved and seconded

That the staff report titled “Business Licence Activity Report – Second Quarter 2023”, dated July 11, 2023, from the Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing, be received for information.

CARRIED

4. **RICHMOND FIRE-RESCUE MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – JUNE AND JULY 2023**

(File Ref. No. 09-5140-01) (REDMS No. <#>)

A brief discussion ensued with respect to the number of overdose/poisoning calls and the general locations (indoor/outdoor, residential/commercial).

In response to queries from the Committee, Acting Fire Chief Alan McGrath provided an overview of some of the positive lessons learned through various emergency preparedness activities. In particular, (i) improvement in the way multi-agencies simulations are run, (ii) increased communication skills, and (iii) networking opportunities, enhancing relations with Richmond stakeholders.

With regards to the VAFFC spill exercise, staff was requested to provide a memorandum on the jet fuel tanks and the associated suppression system.

It was moved and seconded

That the staff report titled “Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – June and July 2023”, dated August 10, 2023, from the Fire Chief, be received for information.

CARRIED

5. **FIRE CHIEF BRIEFING**

(Verbal Report)

Items for discussion: None.

Acting Fire Chief Alan McGrath reported that 13 new recruits started on September 12, 2023, replacing retirees and a few members through attrition.

6. **RICHMOND RCMP MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – JUNE AND JULY 2023**

(File Ref. No. 09-5000-01/2023) (REDMS No. 7317040)

Discussion ensued with respect to homelessness activity and welfare.

Community Safety Committee

Tuesday, September 12, 2023

In response to queries from the Committee, Chief Supt. Chauhan noted (i) the RCMP Vulnerable Persons Unit has been working with Richmond Bylaws Richmond Fire Rescue, and Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, to provide constant and proactive engagement with homeless individuals, offering assistance with shelter, transit tickets, etc., (ii) a correlation between individuals that are suffering from underlying mental health issues and incidents of serious/violent criminal offences has been noted, and there is a tracking mechanism in place to assist in identifying those individuals, (iii) RCMP Vulnerable Peoples Unit, together with Richmond Bylaws continue to look at ways to enhance communications to inform the public.

It was moved and seconded

That the report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – June and July 2023”, dated August 14, 2023, from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment, be received for information.

CARRIED

7. **RCMP/OIC BRIEFING**

(Verbal Report)

Chief Supt. Chauhan provided the following update:

Update on Deployment for BC Fires

Wildfires have had a devastating impact to BC communities across the province. As of the morning of September 11th, there were 404 fires burning, 5 new fires started and 172 out of control fires, 14 of which are considered noteworthy (have caused significant risk to BC communities).

On August 31st, the Province extended the provisional State of Emergency until September 14th to support the ongoing response and efforts caused by wildfires. Richmond RCMP, along with other police forces, stepped up at a moments notice and provided support to other communities, helping colleagues and community members in need. The number of requests for emergency deployment have now scaled back as the end of the wildfire season approaches.

8. **MANAGER’S REPORT**

None.

5.

Community Safety Committee
Tuesday, September 12, 2023

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded

That the meeting adjourn (6:25 p.m.).

CARRIED

Certified a true and correct copy of the
Minutes of the meeting of the Community
Safety Committee of the Council of the
City of Richmond held on Tuesday,
September 12, 2023.

Councillor Alexa Loo
Chair

Lorraine Anderson
Legislative Services Associate



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** September 15, 2023
From: Cecilia Achiam **File:** 12-8375-01/2023-Vol
General Manager, Community Safety 01
Re: **Animal Protection Services Monthly Activity Report – August 2023**

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled “Animal Protection Services Monthly Activity Report – August 2023”, dated September 15, 2023, from the General Manager, Community Safety, be received for information.

Mark Corrado
Director of Community Bylaw & Licencing
(604-204-8673)
Acting on behalf of Cecilia Achiam, General Manager of Community Safety

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE
Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS:
APPROVED BY CAO 	

Staff Report

Origin

This report for the Animal Protection Services department provides information and statistics for enforcing bylaws related to Animal Protection Services as well as education and public awareness initiatives.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #1 Proactive in Stakeholder and Civic Engagement:

Proactive stakeholder and civic engagement to foster understanding and involvement and advance Richmond's interests.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #3 A Safe and Prepared Community:

Community safety and preparedness through effective planning, strategic partnerships and proactive programs.

Analysis

Animal Protection Services

In August 2023, a total of 88 dog licenses were issued including 85 new dog license applications and 3 renewals of existing licenses. The cumulative count of licensed dogs for the current year now stands at 7,516. This is an increase of 98 licenses when contrasted with the same time period last year.

During this same period, BC SPCA Officers responded to 257 service calls pertaining to a range of animal control and dog licensing violations. These officers also engaged in proactive patrols covering a total of 37 parks, dikes and schools.

Throughout the month of August, a total of 32 bylaw violation notices were issued by BC SPCA Officers. These violations were primarily identified through foot patrols carried out by these officers in non-permitted off-leash parks, City dike and school grounds. In addition to enforcement actions, these patrols also serve an educational purpose by contributing to increased compliance awareness.

Figure 1 below reflects the monthly and year-to-date animal control and dog licensing enforcement activity measured by ticket issuance. It should be noted, for reference, that the annual canvassing of outstanding dog licences is conducted by staff during the months of April through October. The corresponding revenue is reflected in Figure 2.

The decrease in violations issued in August can be credited to proactive efforts undertaken, in the preceding months of 2023, to resolve outstanding dog license accounts. Accounts found in

arrears are verified by staff, and when possible, dog licenses are renewed or accounts are closed. As of August 2023, there are 151 accounts outstanding which represented a 66% (445) decrease compared to the same period last year.

Figure 1: Animal Protection Services Violation Issuance Comparison

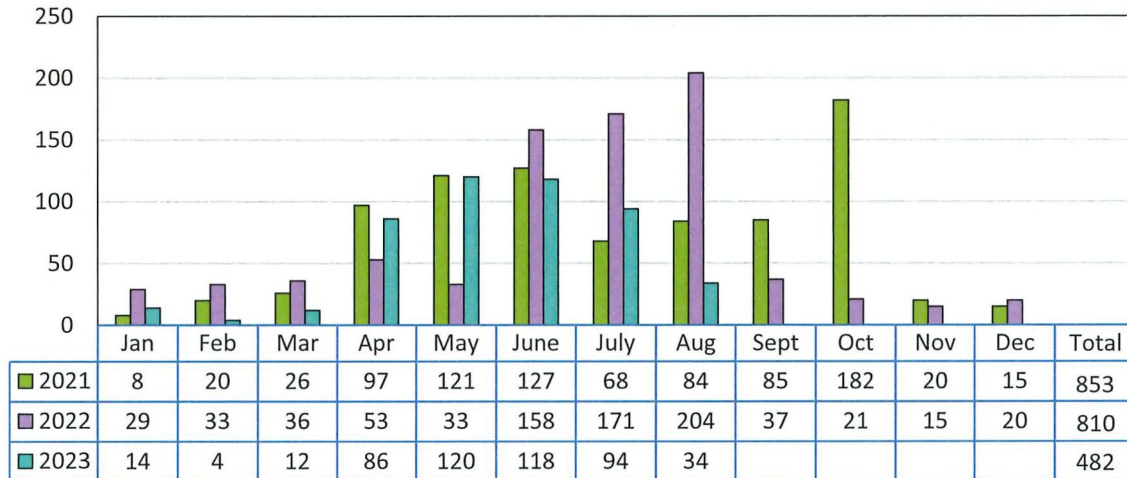
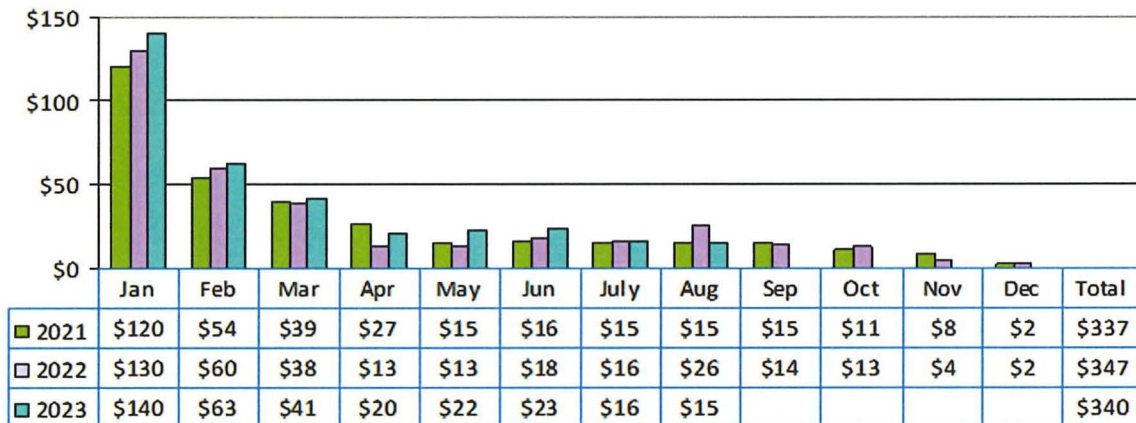


Figure 2: Animal Protection Services Revenue Comparison (000's)



Administrative Staff Activity

In August, staff received 144 calls from the public related to animal services. These calls consisted of a variety of subject matters related to dog licences, bylaw infractions, off-leash dog parks, adjudication process and general inquiries. From January to August 2023, there were 2,821 Calls for Service.

Animal Protection Services Bylaw Adjudication

The next adjudication session is scheduled for November 6, 2023. A total of six violation notices are under dispute.

Revenue and Expenses

The Animal Protection Services department derives revenue from dog licences and fines as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Animal Protection Services Revenue by Source

Program Revenue	Budget Aug 2023	Actual Aug 2023	YTD Budget Aug 2023	YTD Actual Aug 2023
Dog Licences	9,635	5,699	243,255	291,271
Fines	1,908	9,075	5,923	49,140
Total Revenue	11,543	14,774	249,178	340,411

Table 2 highlights Animal Protection Services revenue and expenses for August YTD.

Table 2: Animal Protection Services Revenue and Expenses

	YTD Budget Aug 2023	YTD Actual Aug 2023
Revenue	249,178	340,411
Expenses	1,078,000	1,131,650
Net Revenue (Expense)	(828,822)	(791,239)

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

Staff administer a wide range of bylaws related to animal protection, which includes public parks and school grounds, dog licencing and animal control. This report provides a summary of monthly enforcement and educational activity, including revenue and expenses.



Geoffrey Bramhill
Acting Manager, Animal Protection Services and Contract Administration
(604-276-4136)



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** September 15, 2023
From: Mark Corrado **File:** 12-8375-01/2023-Vol
Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing 01
Re: **Property Use and Parking Enforcement Monthly Activity Report – August 2023**

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled “Property Use and Parking Enforcement Monthly Activity Report – August 2023”, dated September 15, 2023, from the Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing, be received for information.

Mark Corrado
Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing
(604-204-8673)

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER (ACTING)
Finance Department	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Engineering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS:	APPROVED BY CAO

Staff Report

Origin

This monthly report for the Property Use and Parking Enforcement sections of Community Bylaws provides information and statistics on the calls for service and bylaw enforcement actions related to unsightly premises, land use, noise, soil deposit/removal, short-term rentals, parking permits and enforcement.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area # 3 A Safe and Prepared Community:

3.2 Leverage strategic partnerships and community-based approaches for comprehensive safety services.

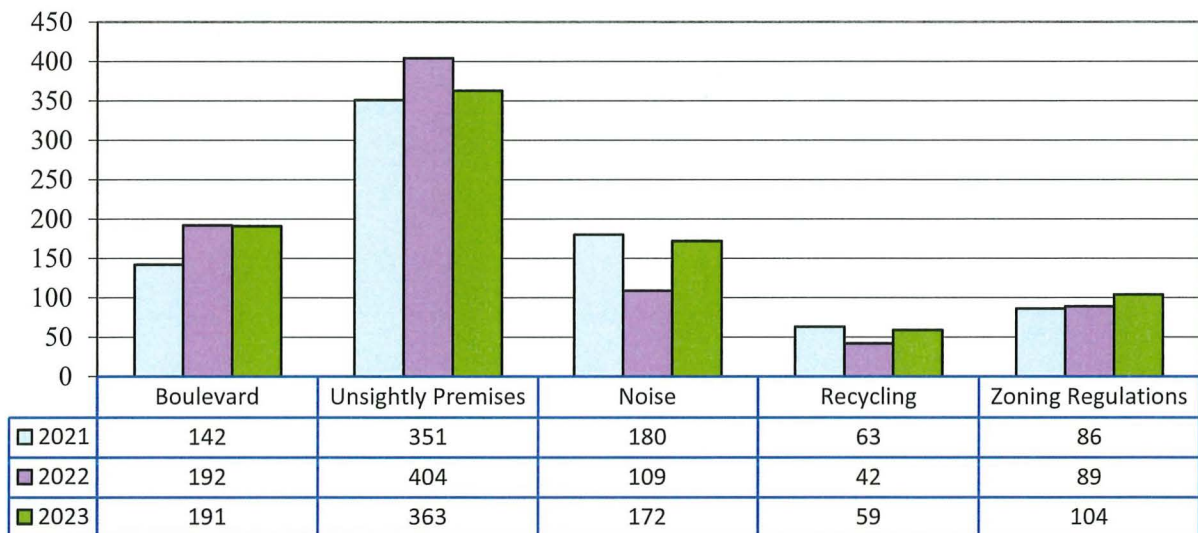
3.4 Ensure civic infrastructure, assets and resources are effectively maintained and continue to meet the needs of the community as it grows.

Analysis

Property Use Calls for Service

In August 2023, a total of 337 calls for service files were opened for investigation, which is a 65 per cent increase (204) from the same time last year. Depending on the nature of the investigation, staff must often liaise with multiple departments and other government agencies to conduct a fulsome review of a given complaint. Among 21 potential calls for service categories, Figure 1 highlights the most common calls for service received for Property Use officers to follow up on and investigate.

Figure 1: Property Use Calls For Service - August Year-To-Date Comparison



The rise in calls for service can be attributed to an increase in water restriction-related calls due to the implementation of Stage 2 restrictions by Metro Vancouver on August 4th. This year there were 151 calls received, whereas during the same month last year, only 45 calls were received.

Noise related calls for service have trended upwards and are driven by a combination of calls related to seasonal landscaping mechanical and construction related noise. Four noise files are currently active and under investigation. The majority of complaints have come into compliance as a result of investigative and enforcement action. Construction noise related calls for service are not specific to one classification but often relate to work beginning earlier or running later than permitted.

Zoning related calls for services were up slightly due to calls relating to businesses operating contrary to zoning permissions. Overall, the variety of calls are not indicative of a trend.

Other Community Bylaws Calls for Service

Figure 2 shows a three-year break down of other calls for service that are closely related to Property Use matters. Table 1 highlights the short-term rentals calls for service for the listed year.

Figure 2: Property Use Calls For Service - August Year-To-Date Comparison

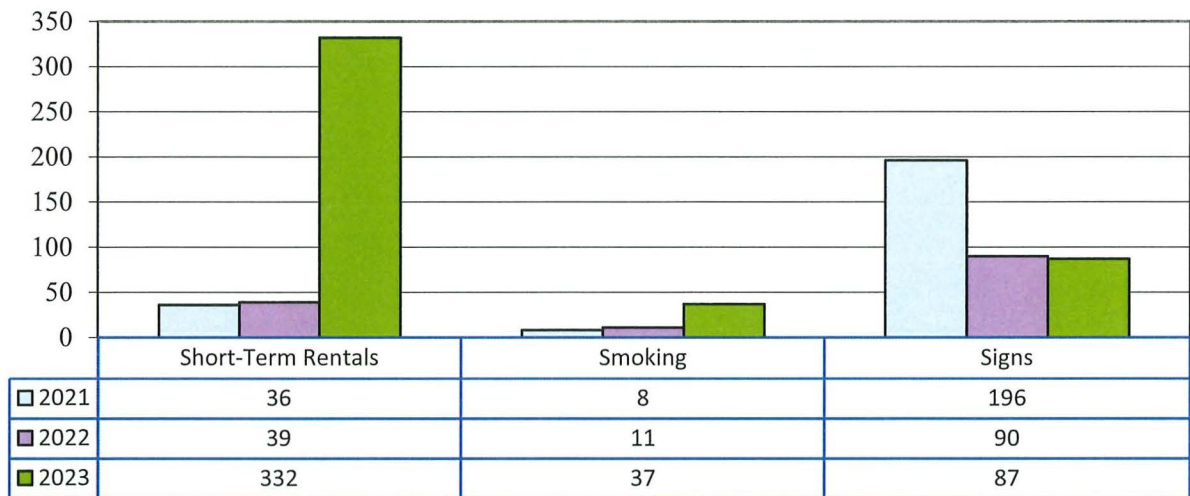


Table 1: Pre-pandemic Short-Term Rental Calls for Service*

Year	Calls for Service
2018	222
2019	151
2020	43

*Figures represent the total calls received up to the end of August in the given year.

Calls for service for potential short-term rental violations are increasingly driven by dedicated staffing resources monitoring complaints submitted by the community as well as proactively generating files. Complaints are resolved by either removing the short-term rental listing or by obtaining a boarding and lodging license, if permissible.

Smoking related calls have trended upwards. The majority of smoking related calls were regarding purported smoking on private residential properties or strata lots. A total of six tickets have been issued for smoking on public property in contravention of the Public Health Bylaw No. 6989.

Tow Permit Applications

A year-to-date total of 270 tow permit applications have been reviewed and issued.

Grease Inspections

In August, staff conducted 32 grease trap inspections. These inspections are primarily proactive and serve to ensure the safe handling of grease products and that no product is being deposited in an unsafe manner. A total of 335 inspections have taken place year-to-date.

Administration Activity

In August, staff received 775 calls from the public for a variety of subject areas. Property use and parking related calls for service accounted for 653 of these calls with the remaining 122 calls related to parking permit issuance, ticket disputes and general inquiries.

Soil Activity

Staff are responsible for responding to public complaints and issues of non-compliance related to unauthorized filling; monitoring permitted soil deposits and removal sites; and inspecting properties that are undergoing remediation to come into compliance with applicable City bylaws. Staff conducted 70 site inspections in the month of August.

Stop Work/Removal Orders issued for the following properties:

- 3600 No. 6 Road
- 12500 Gilbert Road
- 14540 Westminster Highway
- 11991 Mitchell Road

The following properties are now in compliance:

- 11551 Blundell Road
- 12060 No. 2 Road
- 11571 Mitchell Road
- 12871 Steveston Highway
- 10620 Sidaway Road
- 8660 Finn Road

There are 19 soil deposit proposals under various stages of the application process. Staff are monitoring 13 approved sites and are currently addressing 29 properties that are considered non-compliant.

Bylaw Prosecutions

A court date is set for September 21, 2023 regarding the swearing of charges pertaining to a soil compliance matter on No. 6 Road.

Parking Enforcement

Staff responded to collective 316 calls for service for August. This is a 6 per cent increase (298) from the same month last year. When contrasted with 2022 data from the same period, parking enforcement revenue has increased by 18 per cent with parking violation issuance up by 35 per cent, however, this is not indicative of a trend. This contrast between parking revenue and violation issuance is the result of enforcement efforts leading to increased use of City parking meters and monthly parking permit issuance.

Figure 3: Parking Enforcement Revenue Comparison (000's)

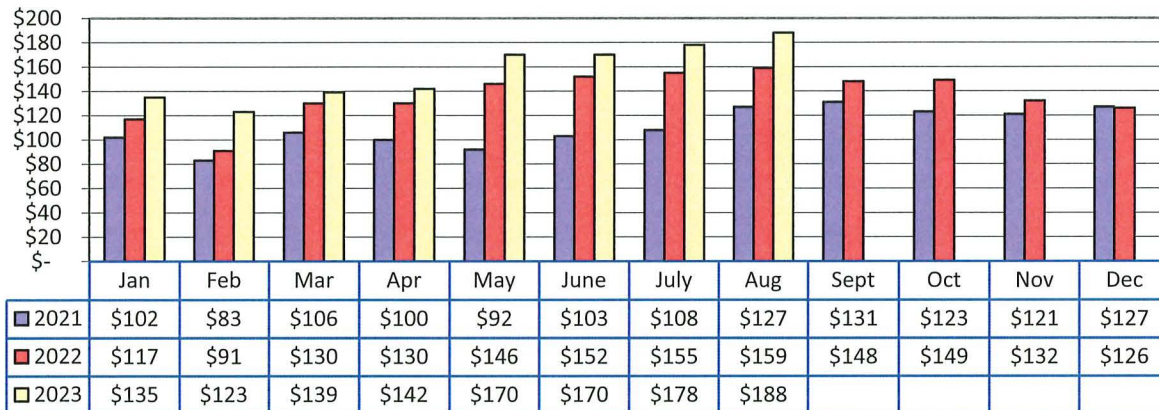
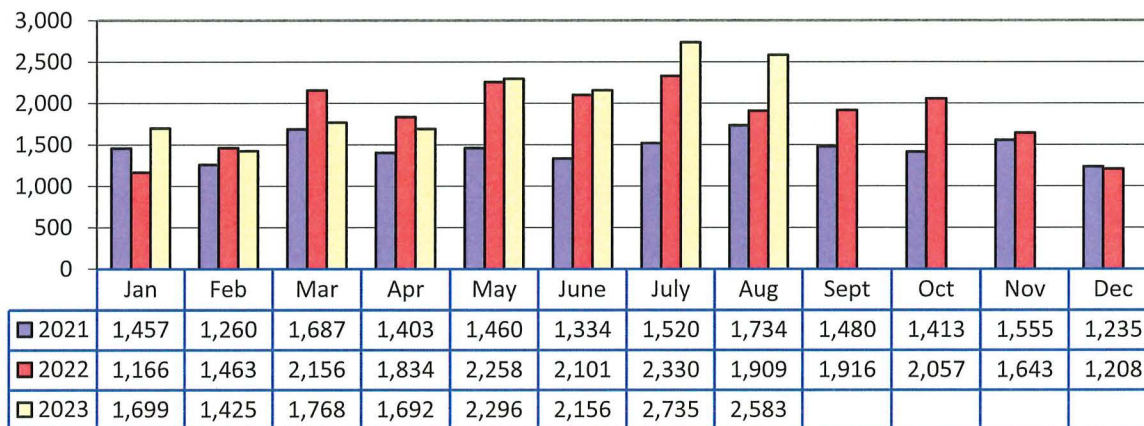


Figure 4: Parking Violation Issuance Comparison



Ticketing

Table 2 reflects non-parking related Bylaw ticket issuance for the month of August and year-to-date.

Table 2: Community Bylaw Offences

Ticket Issuance (BVN's & MTI's)	August	YTD
Short-Term Rental Offences	54	456
Soil Deposit and Removal Offences	7	46
Watercourse Protection Offences	0	1
Unsightly Premises Offences	1	9
Noise Offences	1	13
Solid Waste and Recycling Offences	0	0
Parks Offences	3	4
Sign Offences	12	48
Watering Offences	45	45
Totals	123	622

Short-term rental offences are up due to dedicated staffing resources and the development of new technologies for identifying and monitoring advertised short-term rental properties. The increase in watering offences are due to Metro Vancouver moving the region to Stage 2 restrictions on August 4th, 2023.

Soil related offences increased in part due to the seasonal nature of soil remove/deposition activities, as well as the addition of one temporary soil bylaw officer to support the portfolio. Sign related offences can be attributed to unpermitted signs on City property.

Bylaw Adjudication

On August 23, an adjudication session was held. A total of 10 tickets were disputed and reviewed by the adjudicator, 9 tickets were upheld and 1 was dismissed.

The next session will be held on November 23, 2023.

Revenue and Expenses

Revenue in the Property Use section is primarily derived from permits, tickets and court fines related to bylaw prosecutions. Soil permit applications and volume fees follow a seasonal trend and tend to pick up after the winter season. In August, a negative amount is noted due to a complication with an applicant's cheque. The associated soil application is not proceeding until the matter is resolved. The collection of revenue in other Bylaw fines can be primarily attributed to fines issued for the operation of unpermitted short-term rentals. These results are shown in Table 3.

Parking enforcement generates much of its revenue from meters, permits and fines. Parking typically sees receivable income as a result of the Richmond Night Market, which opened in late

April. As this event is seasonal, the revenue in this budget line comes in later in the year. Table 4 outlines individual revenue sources within parking enforcement. Of note, August parking enforcement revenue exceeded budget for the month. Table 5 outlines the net revenue and expenses for both property use and parking.

Table 3: Property Use Revenue by Source

Program Revenue	Budget Aug 2023	Actual Aug 2023	YTD Budget Aug 2023	YTD Actual Aug 2023
False Alarm	4,750	0	38,000	18,120
Towing Permits	829	2,319	12,793	18,166
Newspaper Box Permits	0	0	7,362	5,616
Soil Permit Application and Volume Fees	5,176	(1,024)	72,533	33,582
Other Bylaw Fines	3,796	26,450	58,600	129,652
General Expense Recovery	0	0	0	100
Total Revenue	14,551	27,745	189,288	205,236

Table 4: Parking Revenue by Source

Program Revenue	Budget Aug 2023	Actual Aug 2023	YTD Budget Aug 2023	YTD Actual Aug 2023
Contract Revenue ¹	5,000	5,000	40,000	40,000
Filming Revenue	0	0	0	12,335
Parking Revenue ²	170,675	188,019	1,365,400	1,245,270
Receivable Income ³	12,500	5,742	75,000	23,627
Total Revenue	188,175	198,761	1,480,400	1,321,232

Table 5: Property Use and Parking Revenue and Expenses

		YTD Budget Aug 2023	YTD Actual Aug 2023
Property Use	Revenue	189,288	205,236
	Expenses	992,863	808,808
	Net Revenue (Expense)	(803,575)	(603,572)
Parking	Revenue	1,480,400	1,321,232
	Expenses	1,089,667	1,121,188
	Net Revenue (Expense)	390,733	200,044

¹ City Towing Contract with Rusty's towing

² Parking Revenue consists of Parking Meters, Monthly Parking Permits, and Parking Enforcement

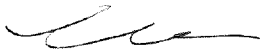
³ Receivable Income consists of Night Market Recoveries

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

Staff administer and enforce 38 bylaws. Most notably related to unsightly premises, land use, noise, soil deposit/removal, short-term rentals, parking permits and enforcement. This report provides a summary of staff's activity in August.



Mark Corrado
Director, Community Bylaws and Licencing
(604-204-8673)



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee

Date: September 13, 2023

From: Jim Wishlove
Fire Chief

File 09-5140-01/2023-Vol
01




Re: Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – August 2023

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled “Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – August 2023”, dated September 13, 2023, from the Fire Chief, be received for information.

Jim Wishlove
Fire Chief
(604-303-2715)

Att. 1

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

Staff Report

Origin

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #3 A Safe and Prepared Community:

Community safety and preparedness through effective planning, strategic partnerships and proactive programs.

Analysis

Emergency Programs

During August, staff supported the safety and security of the annual Richmond Maritime Festival, held on Saturday, August 26 and Sunday, August 27, by: contributing to the development of the event safety plan; supplying communications platforms; and coordinating emergency service support to the public.

In August, 2023, there were persons displaced who were provided with Emergency Social Support as shown below in Table 1.

Table 1: Emergency Social Support incidents					
Date	Address	Volunteers Deployed	ESS Deployed	# of Evacuees	Services Delivered
Aug 1	Cook Road	Y	Y	Three families	No additional services required.
Aug 6	Patterson Road	N	Y	Three persons	Accommodation & food provided.

Public Outreach & Education

In August 2023, staff facilitated outreach events to provide educational opportunities to the community, including fire hall and vehicle tours for six organizations. Staff also participated in large community events for the Maritime Festival, Steveston Block Party and a Cambie Community event.

Internal Staff Training

In August 2023, staff organized training schedules, logistics, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and gear in preparation for the arrival of the new thirteen firefighter recruits in early September.

Emergency Response

One of the City's emergency response goals is to arrive on scene in time and with enough resources to contain a fire to the room of origin. The room of origin standard is especially important in terms of fire loss and damage, which can be reduced when a fire is contained to the room of origin. Meeting this standard also assists in mitigating loss of life, reduction of property damage and protection of the environment. In August 2023, there were 1,063 reported incidents of all types, representing an overall increase of 5 per cent in incidents from August 2022 to August 2023 (Table 2).

Table 2: Total Incidents - August 2023					
	Incident Totals August (2023)	Incident Totals August (2022)	Number Change from August 2022 to 2023	Percentage Change from August 2022 to 2023	5 Year Average for August
Alarm Active - No Fire	177	159	+18	+11	145
Explosion	1	2	-1	-50	1
Fire	68	60	+8	+13	54
Hazardous Materials	13	10	+3	+30	10
Medical	537	523	+14	+3	389
Motor Vehicle Incident	77	83	-6	-7	74
Public Hazard	7	9	-2	-22	9
Public Service	93	107	-14	-13	93
Response Cancelled/Unfounded	87	59	+28	+47	65
Specialized Transport	2	3	-1	-33	4
Technical Rescue	1	0	+1	+100	0
Total	1063	1015	+48	+5	844

The average time on scene in August 2023 for emergency response crews was 30 minutes, which is lower than the number recorded in 2022: 33 minutes. The time spent on scene can vary due to the nature and severity of each incident.

In August 2023, there were 68 fire incidents reported to the Office of the Fire Commissioner, representing a 13 per cent increase from August 2022. The average number of fires reported each August over the last five years is 54.

Fire damage and property losses during August 2023 are estimated at \$1,535,500. This total includes \$1,138,450 for building/asset loss and \$397,050 for content loss. The total building/asset and content value at risk is estimated to be \$15,192,550 and the total value preserved from damage was \$13,657,050. These numbers translate to 90 per cent of value protected (Table 3), which is lower than the value observed in 2022: 99 per cent.

Table 3: Fire Incidents By Type and Loss Estimates - August 2023

Incident Type Breakdown	Incident Volume	Estimated Building/Asset Value (\$)	Estimated Building/Asset Loss (\$)	Estimated Content Value (\$)	Estimated Content Loss (\$)	Estimated Total Value Preserved (\$)
Residential: Single family	4	2,146,400	50,050	-	-	2,096,350
Residential: Multi family	4	3,690,500	849,600	352,050	352,050	2,840,900
Commercial/Industrial	5	4,656,100	65,000	20,000	20,000	4,591,100
Outdoor	49	3,228,500	99,800	3,000	3,000	3,128,700
Vehicle/Vessel	6	1,074,000	74,000	22,000	22,000	1,000,000
Totals*	68	14,795,500	1,138,450	397,050	397,050	13,657,050

* The dollar losses shown in this table are preliminary estimates. They are derived from RFR's record management system and are subject to change due to delays in reporting and confirmation of actual losses from private insurance agencies (as available).

Significant Events

Emergency response crews minimized harm, limited damage and stopped fire spread from the place of origin and performed life-saving interventions in these notable August 2023 incidents:

- **August 1, 2023 – Commercial Building Fire on Hammersmith Way.** Emergency crews responded to an industrial warehouse roof fire. On arrival, a working fire was declared and crews performed a quick attack to extinguish the fire. Once extinguished, crews checked that there was no extension to the fire. The fire appeared to have started in the motor of a roasting hopper, which had resulted in a high volume of white smoke coming from the roof of the building. There were no injuries to the public or RFR personnel. A Fire Investigator attended.
- **August 1, 2023 – Structure Fire on Cook Road.** Crews responded to a report of a multi-townhouse complex fire on Cook Road. The first arriving officer reported the fire was through the roof in the common attic space and declared a working fire. Crews aggressively attacked the fire and managed to contain the fire to one unit with some extension to a second unit. The fire was extinguished and crews checked for hot spots and performed overhaul. There were no injuries to occupants or RFR personnel but, unfortunately, one family pet was declared deceased. An Emergency Programs Duty Officer was contacted to provide on-scene support for Emergency Support Services needs. At least two families were not able to re-enter the complex due to significant smoke and fire damage. A Fire Investigator attended.

- **August 6, 2023 – Residential Fire on Patterson Road.** Crews attended a kitchen fire which had been extinguished prior to their arrival. Unfortunately one of the occupants had suffered burns to their arm. The patient was attended to by BC Emergency Health Services crews and was transported to Richmond General Hospital. The home had multiple tenants who were displaced due to the fire. Emergency Social Services were requested to provide support to the displaced tenants. There were no other injuries to occupants or RFR personnel reported. Security was requested to attend to secure the building and Emergency crews remained at the scene until security arrived to ensure scene continuity. There were no injuries to the public or RFR personnel. A Fire Investigator attended.
- **August 11, 2023 – Residential Property Fire on Smith Crescent.** Crews attended to the scene of a structure fire involving a single storey residential home. The fire was quickly extinguished. Two tenants, who had evacuated the home, were displaced and Emergency Social Services were activated to provide assistance. There were no injuries to the public or RFR personnel. A Fire Investigator attended. BC Hydro and Fortis Gas attended to secure the scene.
- **August 13, 2023 – Water Rescue near Williams Road.** First on scene crews were met by RCMP, who informed crews that the patient was located in the river offshore. RFR personnel donned technical water rescue PPE and entered the river utilizing the RFR inflatable rescue boat. The technical rescue teams were successful in making contact with the patient and were able to bring them to shore. Onshore, the patient was assessed by BC Emergency Health Services staff and transported to the hospital for further assessment. No other injuries were reported to the public or RFR personnel. A private civilian boat and crew assisted in locating the patient for RFR crews and supporting the rescue. Contact information was provided to the Fire Chief who recognized the individual.
- **August 15, 2023 – Outdoor Fire on Beckwith Road.** Emergency crews responded to reports of a fire in the trees behind a nearby home. Once on scene crews reported heavy flames in the brush on fire on Beckwith Road. Due to the location and the difficulties faced in accessing the property, it was necessary to relocate two fire apparatus units to Bridgeport Road to access a water supply. This resulted in requiring RCMP to temporarily close Bridgeport Road underneath the Oak Street Bridge. Once access was made it was discovered that there were two outbuildings approximately 10ft by 10ft on the south side of the property. One building was fully involved with fire along with extension to the trees surrounding the property. The fires were extinguished and crews began breaking down equipment and demobilizing operations on Bridgeport Road so it could be reopened in time to support the morning commute. Crews performed overhaul. There were no injuries reported for the public or RFR personnel. A Fire Investigator attended.
- **August 20, 2023 – Structure Fire on Douglas Street.** Emergency crews responded to a structure fire on Douglas Street. Upon arrival, crews discovered a detached garage at the back of the address on fire. Crews established command, declared a working fire, and initiated a defensive attack. There was some fire spread to an empty grass lot to the east of the property. All fires were extinguished along with any hot spots. Utilities were not required as the house was empty, boarded up and already disconnected. No occupants were in the building and there were no injuries to the public or RFR personnel. Overnight security was arranged for the site. A Fire Investigator attended.

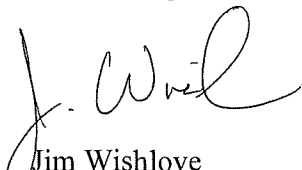
- **August 24, 2023 – Boat Fire near River Road.** Emergency crews responded to a reported boat explosion at the marina near River Road. On arrival, crews were met by an employee who indicated there was an explosion after fueling a boat. The boat was not on fire and had been secured away from the fuel source. There were two victims with injuries and two employees with no apparent injuries. Crews updated dispatch and had an ambulance stand-by. Crews carried out an investigation and confirmed no residual heat or flame and that there was no sign of fire or smoke. BC Emergency Health Services crews responded to the patients for assessment and transport to them to hospital. The boat involved began to drifting in the water and a passing boat pulled the damaged boat back to the dock. The vessel did not take on water but sustained serious damage. Minor damage to the dock and building was reported. There were no other injuries to the public or RFR personnel reported. A Fire Investigator attended.
- **August 26, 2023 – Hazardous Materials on Alexandra Road.** Emergency crews responded to a Hazardous materials call. On arrival crews were met by employees of a hotel who stated they were feeling the effects of a strange odor on the 4th floor. Crews established command and investigated the odour in full PPE gear. Crews confirmed that bear spray had been released in a suite and was the cause of the odour. The bear spray was contained and bagged. All employees affected were assessed and indicated no adverse affects from the spray. No other injuries to the public or RFR staff on scene, and RCMP attended.
- **August 28, 2023 – Fire on No. 1 Road.** Emergency crews responded to a report of fire and smoke coming from a service access hole on No. 1 Road. The fire had involved a portion of a nearby property. First on scene crews established command and investigated. Crews notified BC Hydro who stated there were no electrical vaults in the immediate area. The fire was located in a storm drain and was extinguished. The accelerant had been consumed by the fire, which negated any environmental concerns. Witnesses noticed a youth leaving the scene carrying a jerry can and the RCMP were notified. There were no injuries to the public or RFR personnel reported.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

Richmond Fire-Rescue continues to monitor activities to identify and create programs to respond to emerging trends.



Jim Wishlove
Fire Chief

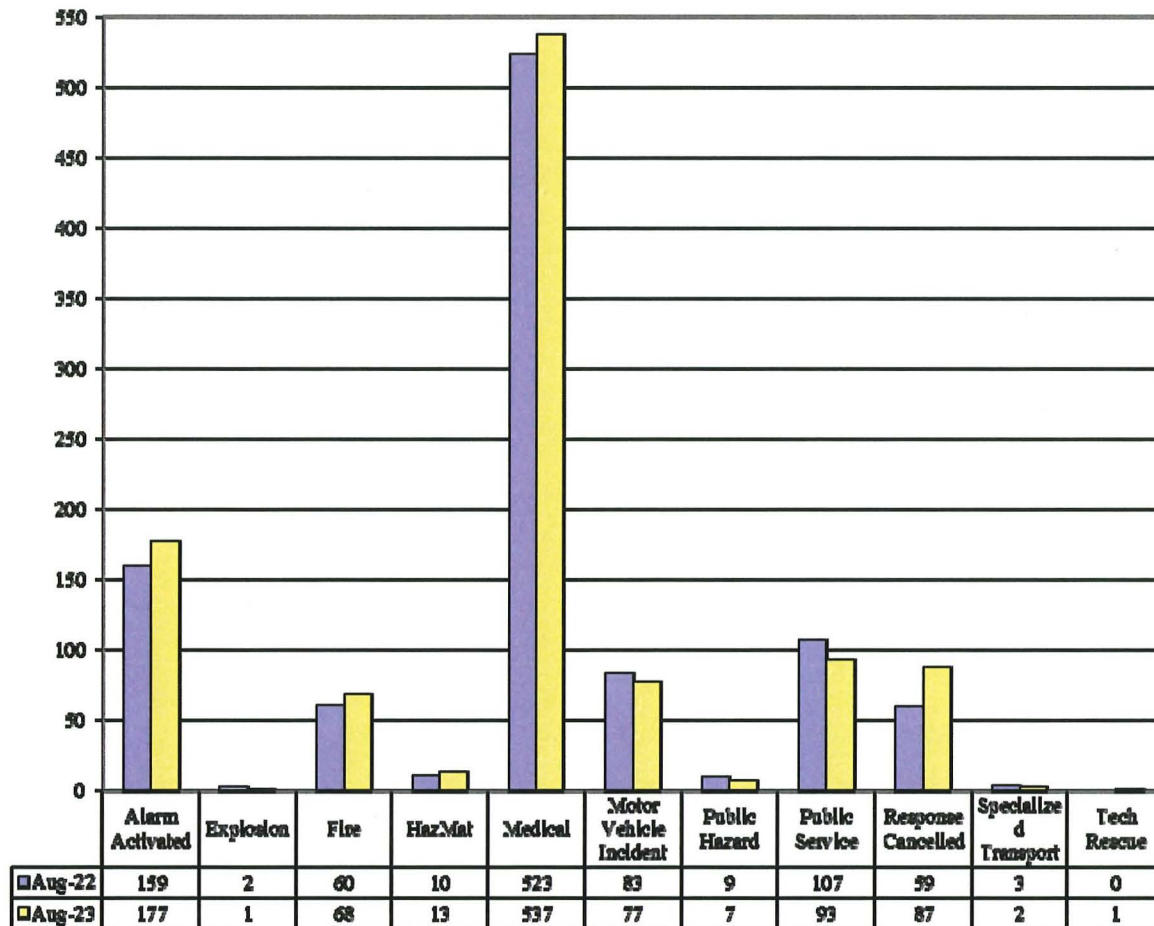
(604-303-2715)

Att. 1: Suppression Activity, including location of August's Fire, Medical and MVIs

Incident Volumes

The following chart provides a month-to-month comparison regarding incidents occurring in August 2022 and 2023. In August 2023, there were 1,063 incidents, compared to 1,015 in August 2022. This represents an overall increase of 5 per cent.

Table 4: August 2022 & August 2023 Incident Volumes



Incident Type Legend:

HazMat: includes fuel or vapour; spills, leaks, or containment

Medical includes: cardiac arrest, emergency response, home or industrial accidents

Public Hazard includes: aircraft emergency, bomb removal standby, object removal, or power lines down

Public Service includes: assisting public, ambulance or police, locked in/out, special events, trapped in elevator, water removal

First Responder Totals

Medical first responder incidents comprised 51 per cent of the total emergency responses for RFR during the month of August 2023. A detailed breakdown of the medical incidents for August 2022 and 2023 is set out in the following table by sub-type. There were 537 medical incidents in August 2023 compared to 523 in August 2022, an increase of 3 per cent.

Table 5a: August 2022 & August 2023 Medical Calls by Type

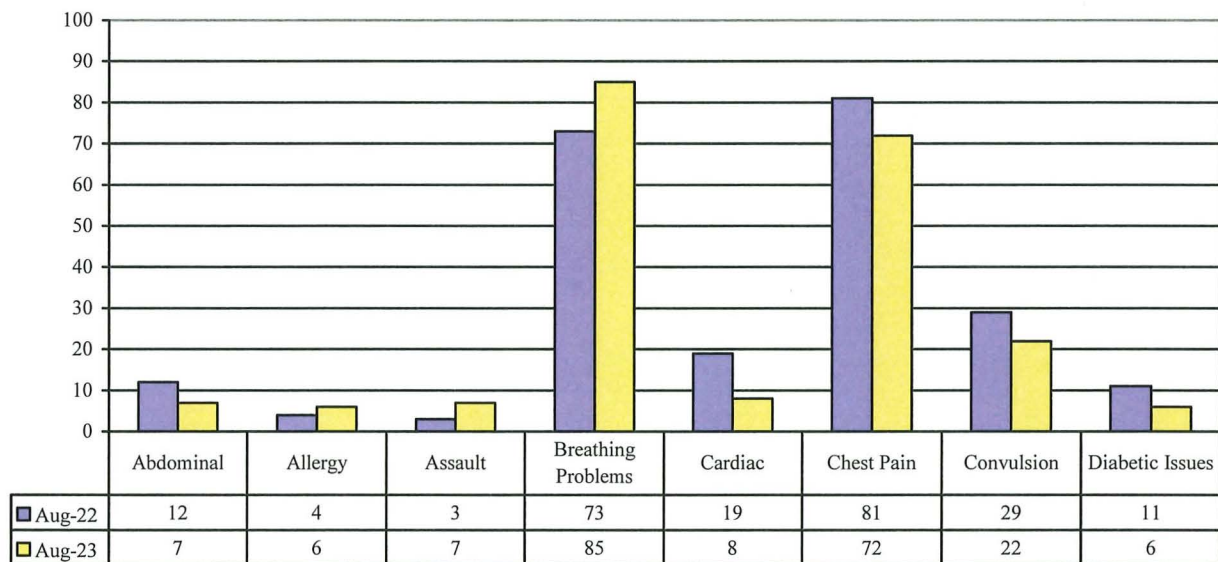
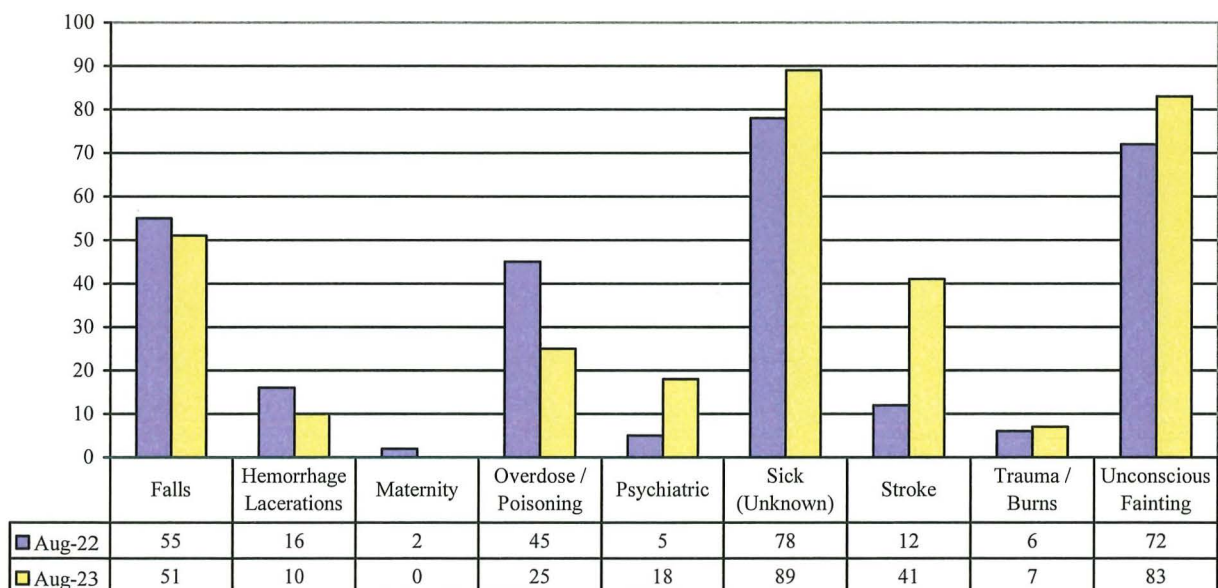


Table 5b: August 2022 & August 2023 Medical Calls by Type



The following chart provides the overdose / poisoning incident volume breakdown for August 2023.

Table 5c: Overdose / Poisoning Incidents By Type – August 2023	
	Details
Opioids	8
Other Miscellaneous Drugs	3
Alcohol	2
Unknown (No patient contact / BC Emergency Health Services staff on scene)	11
Totals	25

In August, out of 25 total overdose / poisoning calls, 19 were located outdoors and 6 were located in a commercial property or residence.

The following charts provide total incident volumes on a year-to-year comparison in August from 2014 to 2023.

Table 5d: Total Fire Calls for Service in August from 2014 to 2023

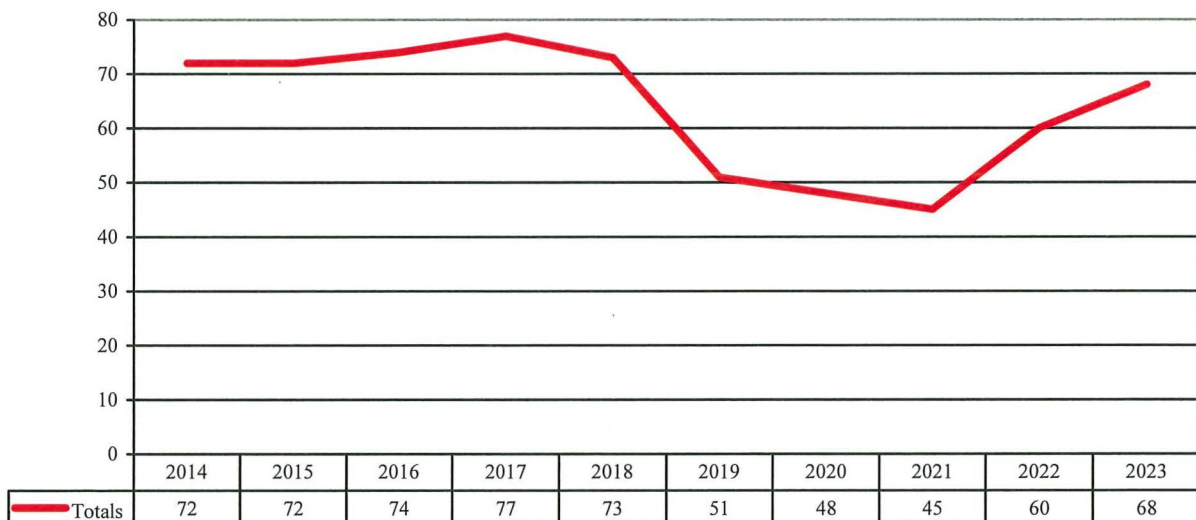


Table 5e: Total Medical Calls for Service in August from 2014 to 2023



Changes to BC Emergency Health Services Clinical Response Model dispatch system (2017-2018)

Start of pandemic

Fire Investigations

The fire investigation statistics for August 2023 are listed below:

Table 6: Total Fire Investigation Statistics – August 2023			
	Suspicious	Accidental	Undetermined
Residential - Single-family	-	3	1
Residential - Multi-family	-	3	1
Commercial/Industrial	1	3	1
Outdoor	11	29	9
Vehicle	-	3	3
Totals	12	41	15

Richmond Fire-Rescue investigators report all suspicious fires to the RCMP, while working alongside RCMP staff to address potential risks to the community.

Hazardous Materials

Table 7: Hazardous Materials Incidents By Type – August 2023	
	Details
Corrosive	1
Flammable/Combustible Liquids	2
Gasses (Natural / Propane)	9
Miscellaneous	1
Totals	13

Figure 1: Location of reportable fires attended in August 2023 (total 68)

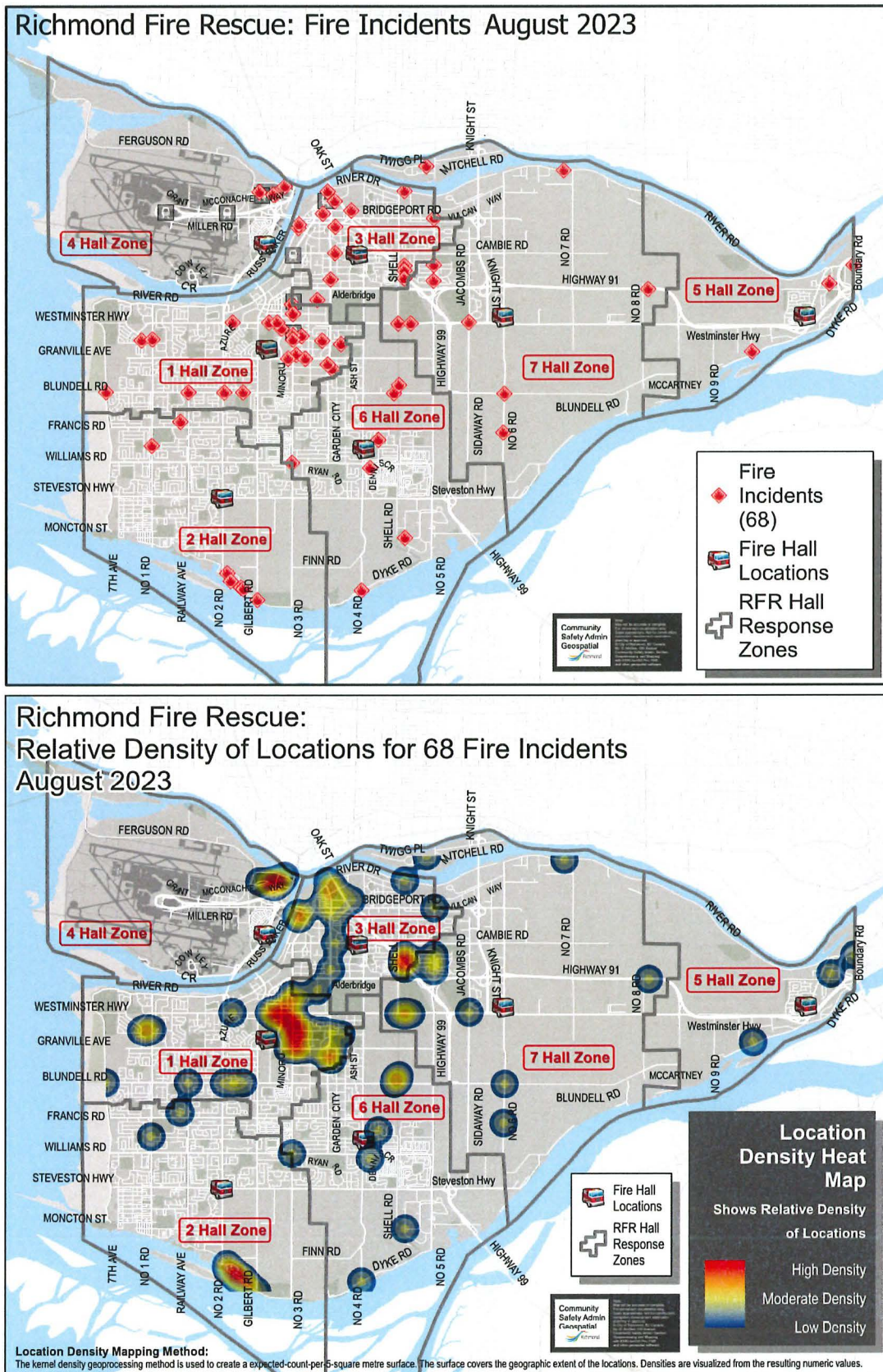
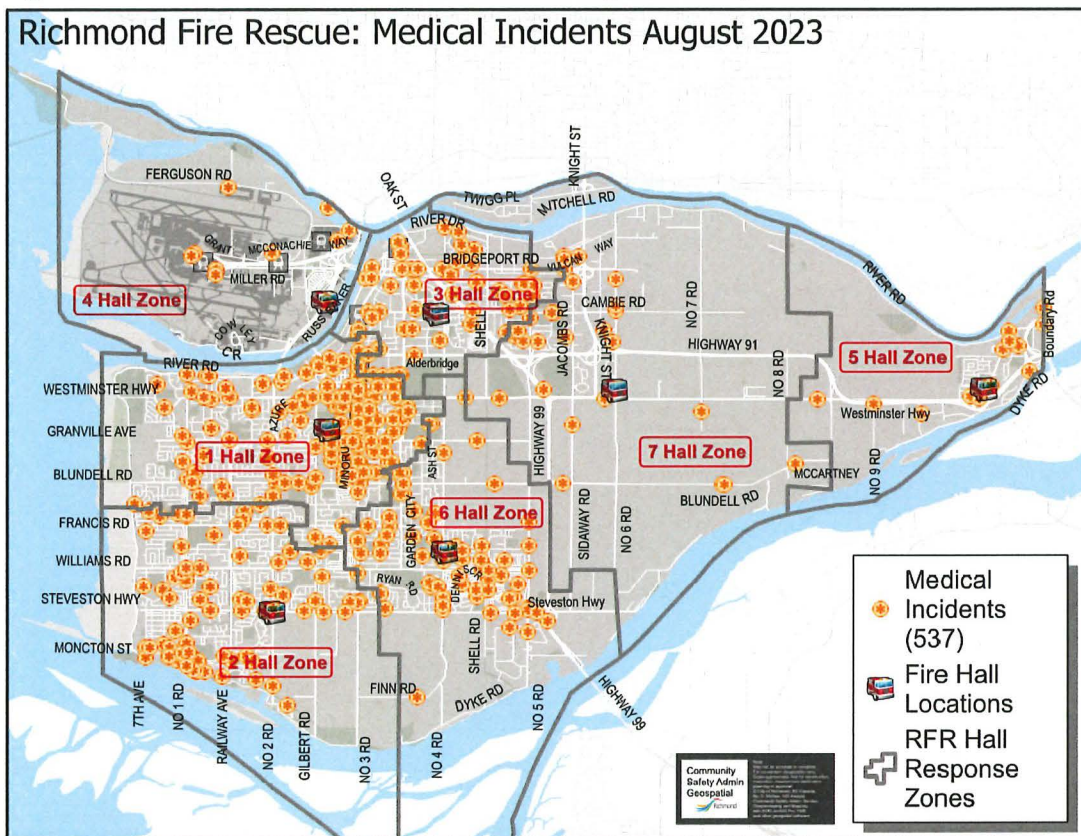


Figure 2: Location of Medical Incidents in August 2023 (total 537)



**Richmond Fire Rescue:
Relative Density of Locations for 537 Medical Incidents
August 2023**

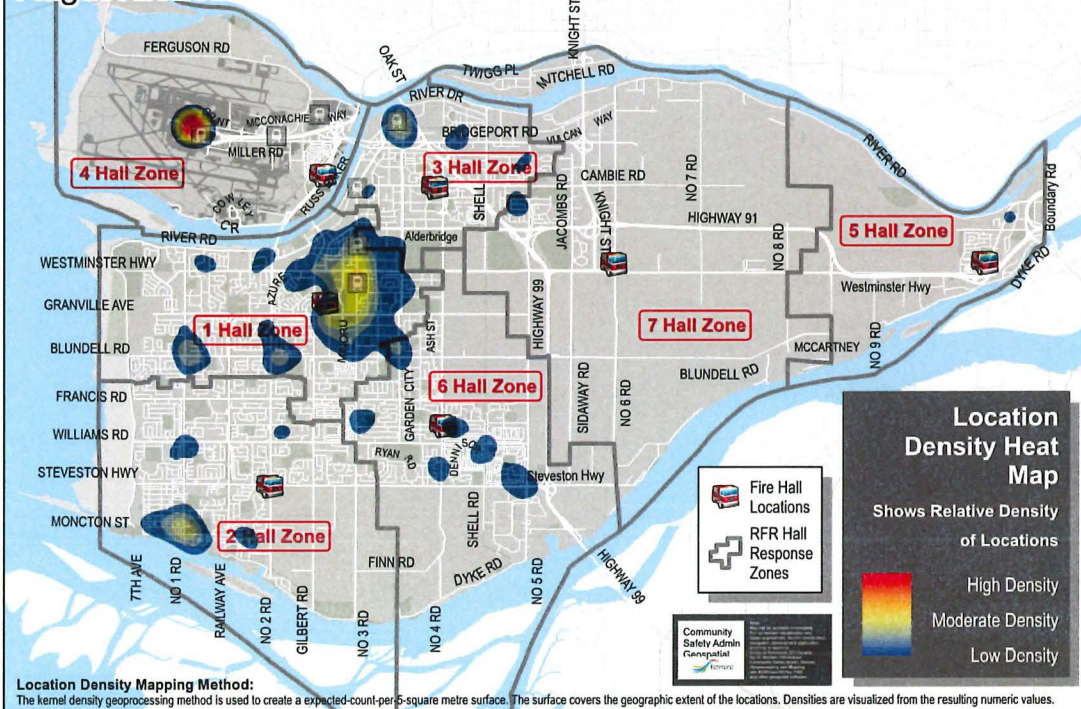
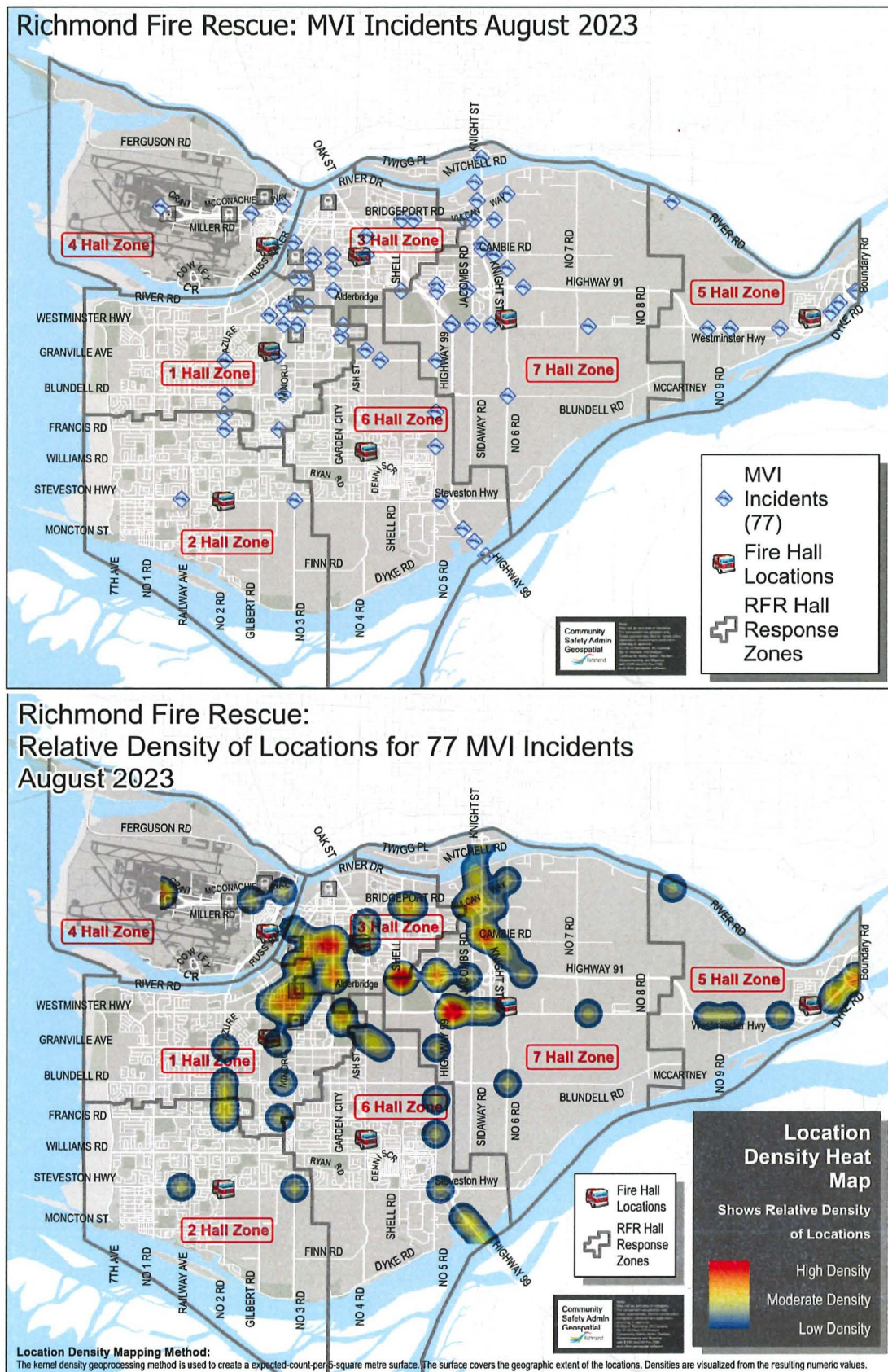


Figure 3: Location of MVI Incidents in August 2023 (total 77)





City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee

Date: September 14, 2023

From: Dave Chauhan
Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge

File: 09-5000-01/2023-Vol
01




Re: RCMP Monthly Activity Report – August 2023

Recommendation from the OIC

That the report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – August 2023”, dated September 14, 2023, from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment, be received for information.

Dave Chauhan
Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge
(604-278-1212)

Att. 3

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

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 2022-2026 Focus Area #1 Proactive in Stakeholder and Civic Engagement:

Proactive stakeholder and civic engagement to foster understanding and involvement and advance Richmond's interests.

Analysis

Activities and Noteworthy Files

Assault

On August 4, 2023, Richmond RCMP officers responded to Moncton Street and Easthope Avenue for reports of an assault. A female victim had been bear-sprayed and hit with a bat-like object by two unknown males. The Integrated Police Dog Section (PDS) and RCMP Helicopter (Air 1) assisted in the search. Two youth suspects were located and arrested nearby.

Assault Arrests

On August 12, 2023, Richmond RCMP officers responded to Richmond Centre Mall after two people were sprayed with a toxic substance. Two male suspects were observed leaving the scene following the unprovoked attack. The PDS and Air 1 were deployed in the search. Two youth suspects were located and arrested.

Carjacking Arrests

On August 13, 2023, Richmond RCMP officers responded to the 5600 block of Cooney Road after two masked suspects stole a delivery van at gunpoint. With the assistance of multiple police agencies, the vehicle was located in Surrey, and one suspect was arrested. Another suspect later turned himself in to the Surrey RCMP. The investigation is ongoing.

Recruiting

On August 23, 2023, the Richmond RCMP issued a media release announcing the start of a local recruiting drive aimed at identifying potential local applicants and increasing the accessibility of the recruiting process. In addition to hosting two upcoming career presentations this fall, RCMP officers will engage with residents at community events.

E-Scooter Safety Video

On August 25, 2023, the Richmond RCMP, in partnership with ICBC and a local Richmond student, launched an educational video to promote E-scooter safety. This initiative continues the Richmond RCMP's proactive public engagement and social media efforts to enhance public awareness of E-scooter use's safety and regulatory aspects.¹

Analysis of Police Statistics

Arson

In August 2023, there were 10 reported arsons, an increase of two incidents from the previous month and a decrease of six incidents from August 2022. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of arsons this month is within the average range.

Assault Serious (Assault with a Weapon)

There were 23 serious assault events in August 2023, a 10 per cent increase from the previous month and a five per cent increase from August 2022. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of serious assaults this month is above the average range.

Thirty per cent of assaults in August 2023 involved family violence. There were two stranger assaults this month, including one incident discussed in this report's Activities and Noteworthy Files section.

Auto Theft

In August 2023, there were 17 auto theft incidents, a 39 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 21 per cent increase from August 2022. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of auto thefts this month is within the average range.

Drugs

In August 2023, there were 54 drug offences, a 22 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 26 per cent increase from August 2022. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of drug incidents this month is within the average range.

Approximately 78 per cent of the files in August 2023 occurred at YVR. This month's increase in drug incidents has been attributed to processing a backlog of drug exhibits originating as Canada Customs seizures at YVR.

¹ <https://bc-cb.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/ViewPage.action?siteNodeId=2122&languageId=1&contentId=80991>

Mental Health

There were 237 mental health-related incidents in August 2023, a two per cent increase from the previous month and representing no change from August 2022. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of mental health-related incidents this month is within the average range.

There were 94 police apprehensions, and the average hospital wait time was 144 minutes; these statistics exceeded the average ranges. The excessive wait times have been attributed to eight files with exceptionally long wait times.

Residential Break and Enter

There were 17 break and enters to residences in August 2023, a 55 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 19 per cent decrease from August 2022. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of residential break and enters this month is below the average range.

Commercial Break and Enter

In August 2023, there were 25 break and enters to businesses, representing a four per cent increase from the previous month and a 47 per cent increase from August 2022. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of commercial break and enters this month is within the average range.

Robbery

There were eight robberies in August 2023, an increase of two incidents from the previous month and a decrease of one incident from August 2022. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of robberies this month is within the average range.

Suspects have been identified in three incidents to date. Handguns were used in four robberies, while two involved knives.

Sexual Offences

In August 2023, there were 19 sexual offence files, a 24 per cent decrease from the previous month and a five per cent decrease from August 2022.² No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of sexual offences this month is within the average range.

Suspects have been identified in 63 per cent of the offences reported in August 2023. Approximately 42 per cent of the incidents were sexual assaults.

² The Sexual Offences category comprises a range of offences including: sexual assault, sexual interference, making and distributing child pornography, possessing and accessing child pornography and indecent acts/exposing.

Shoplifting

There were 94 reported shoplifting thefts in August 2023, a 23 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 22 per cent increase in August 2022. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of shoplifting thefts this month is above the average range.

Shoplifting thefts have been increasing across Lower Mainland jurisdictions. Inflation and labour shortages have been identified as potential driving factors.

Theft from Automobile

There were 74 thefts from automobile incidents in August 2023, a 20 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 34 per cent decrease from August 2022. The number of thefts from automobiles this month is below the average range.

Hate Crimes and Incidents

Table 1 presents the number of hate crimes and hate incidents reported between January 1, 2019 and August 31, 2023.³ 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. There were five hate crime files in August 2023; four involved racist and anti-LGBTQS+ graffiti near several schools, including rainbow crosswalks, and one involved a Nazi flag at an elementary school. The hate incidents were connected to these events.

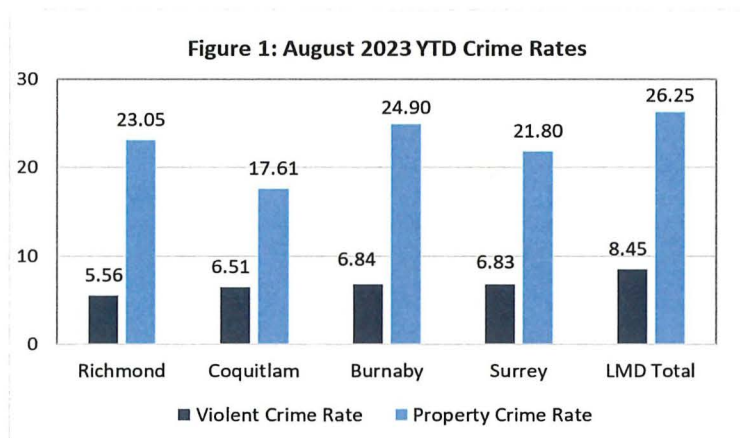
Table 1 – Hate Crimes and Hate Incidents			
Year	Hate Crime Files	Hate Incident Files	Total
2019	11	9	20
2020	21	13	34
2021	21	24	45
2022	8	26	34
2023 (YTD)	6	16	22

Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions

Data on crime rates is presented in Figure 1.⁴ In August 2023, out of the four largest municipalities policed by the RCMP in the Lower Mainland District (LMD), Richmond had the lowest violent crime rate. The property crime rate for Richmond was below the LMD average.

³ The BC Hate Crimes Unit uses the terms hate-motivated crime and hate-motivated incident.

⁴ Crime rate is year to date (YTD) and calculated per 1,000 people.



Block Watch

At the end of August 2023, the Block Watch program had 306 groups, totalling 7,084 participants. Currently, the program includes 442 captains and co-captains.

Community Police Station Programs

Community police stations continue to enhance the Richmond Detachment's policing services by providing various crime prevention resources and community safety initiatives. City staff and volunteers pursue safety initiatives to improve 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 and the availability of volunteers.

During August, volunteer highlights included:

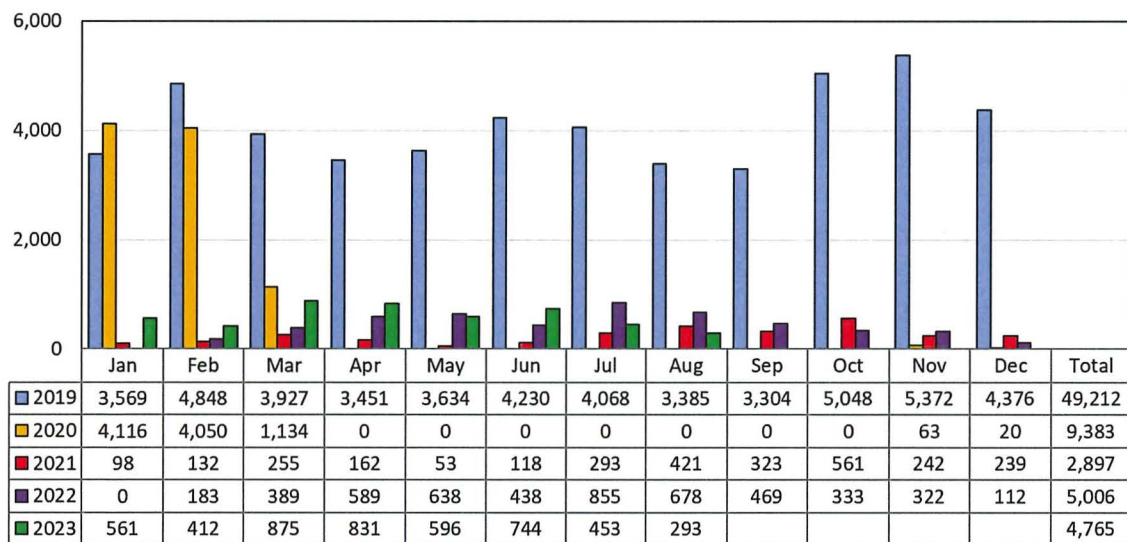
- The deployment of four volunteer bike patrols, totalling 28 hours and nine volunteer foot/van patrols, totalling 165 hours.
- A total of 13 Fail to Stop deployments took place, resulting in 539 information letters issued.
- There were 19 Lock Out Auto Crime deployments, resulting in 293 information letters issued.
- Speed Watch was conducted on 2,511 vehicles, resulting in 164 information letters issued.
- August 1 – Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with the annual Pathways BBQ and engagement event. Pathways Clubhouse is a non-profit mental health community services organization offering support services to its members and creating a meaningful community for people with mental illness.
- August 5 – Volunteers and RCMP officers, in partnership with ICBC and Transport Canada, participated in the 3rd Annual McDonald Boat Launch to increase awareness of prevention and enforcement measures associated with boating safety and impaired driving.
- August 8 – Volunteers attended the Steveston Boardwalk to distribute E-scooter/E-bike safety cards and engage with residents.

- August 19 – Volunteers conducted foot patrols at the Richmond Dragon Boat Festival, promoting the Community Safety App and distributing E-scooter safety cards.
- August 26 and 27 – Volunteers conducted foot and bike patrols at the Richmond Maritime Festival and supported RCMP officers with the Community Engagement Team booth. They provided recruiting information, crime prevention resources, and E-scooter safety cards.
- August 30 – Volunteers assisted RMCP officers with engagement efforts at the Cambie Community Centre End of Summer BBQ. Volunteers provided tours of RCMP vehicles and interactive activities, in addition to providing crime prevention and road safety resources.

Lock Out Auto Crime

Figure 2 provides a yearly comparison of the number of vehicle notices issued.⁵

Figure 2: Lock Out Auto Crime Vehicles Issued a Notice

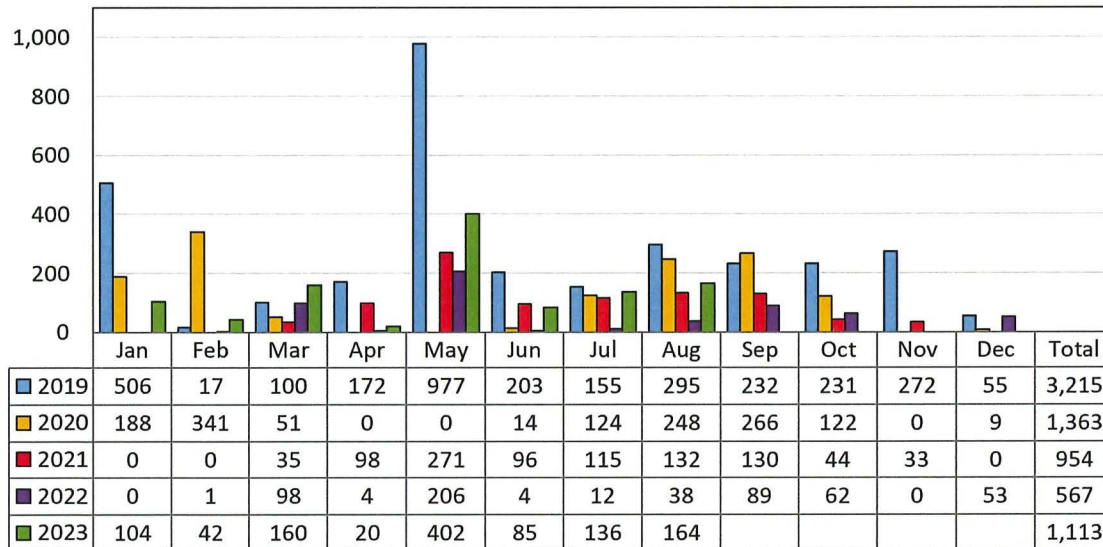


⁵ Beginning in November 2020, Lock Out Auto Crime letters were issued in place of notices. Letters are only issued to vehicles displaying security vulnerabilities; whereas previously, notices were issued to all vehicles. This has resulted in a significant reduction in the number of letters issued.

Speed Watch

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

Figure 3: Speed Watch Letters Sent



Crime Prevention Unit

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

- Business Outreach
- Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives
- Dragon Boat Festival
- Maritime Festival
- Pathways Clubhouse BBQ
- Place of Worship Patrols

Road Safety Unit

The Road Safety Unit makes Richmond's roads safer through evidence-based traffic enforcement, investigation of serious vehicle collisions and public education programs. Table 2 compares statistics for August 2023 to both July 2023 and June 2023. Violation tickets were issued for the following infractions:

Table 2: Violation Tickets Issued

Infraction	June 2023	July 2023	August 2023
Distracted Driving	130	106	97
Driver License	210	226	178
Impaired	36	41	32
Intersection Offences	55	45	38
Moving Infractions ⁶	75	105	79
Speeding	167	198	180
Seatbelts	20	21	14
Vehicle-Related ⁷	133	132	151
Other ⁸	10	27	29
Total	836	901	798

Victim Services

In August 2023, Richmond RCMP Victim Services met with 68 new clients and attended three crime/trauma scenes after hours. The unit currently maintains an active caseload of 100 files. In August, Victim Services responded to several cases involving medical-related sudden deaths, property crimes and family conflicts.

Youth Section

The Richmond RCMP Detachment's Youth Section focuses on strategies contributing to safe and healthy behaviours essential to developing productive and civic-minded adults. During August, Youth Section highlights included:

- RCMP officers in the Youth Section conducted increased patrols at three secondary and two elementary schools following racist and anti-LGBTQS+ graffiti and vandalism.
- RCMP officers in the Youth Section attended multiple summer camps throughout the city and presented on various topics, including the role of police in the community.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

In August 2023, the Richmond RCMP conducted several noteworthy investigations and activities, including two stranger assaults and the launch of a recruiting drive. Police statistics for this month indicate that most crime types were within the average ranges, except for serious assaults and shoplifting, which were elevated, and residential break and enters and thefts from vehicles, which are below average.

⁶ Moving infractions refers to unsafe lane change and unsafe passing.

⁷ Vehicle related refers to vehicle defects, for example no lights and no insurance.

⁸ Other refers to miscellaneous charges including failing to remain at the scene of an accident and failing to stop for police.

In August, the Community Engagement Team and volunteers continued promoting crime prevention and road safety initiatives. The Officer in Charge of the Richmond RCMP Detachment will continue to ensure that Richmond remains a safe and desirable community.



Edward Warzel
Manager, Police Services
(604-207-4767)

- Att. 1: Community Policing Programs
2: Crime Statistics
3: Crime Maps

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.

Spot the Target

- This initiative consists of frequently stolen items being placed in the volunteer van for participants to identify in order to enhance awareness of thefts from automobiles.

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 2023 STATISTICS

RICHMOND RCMP

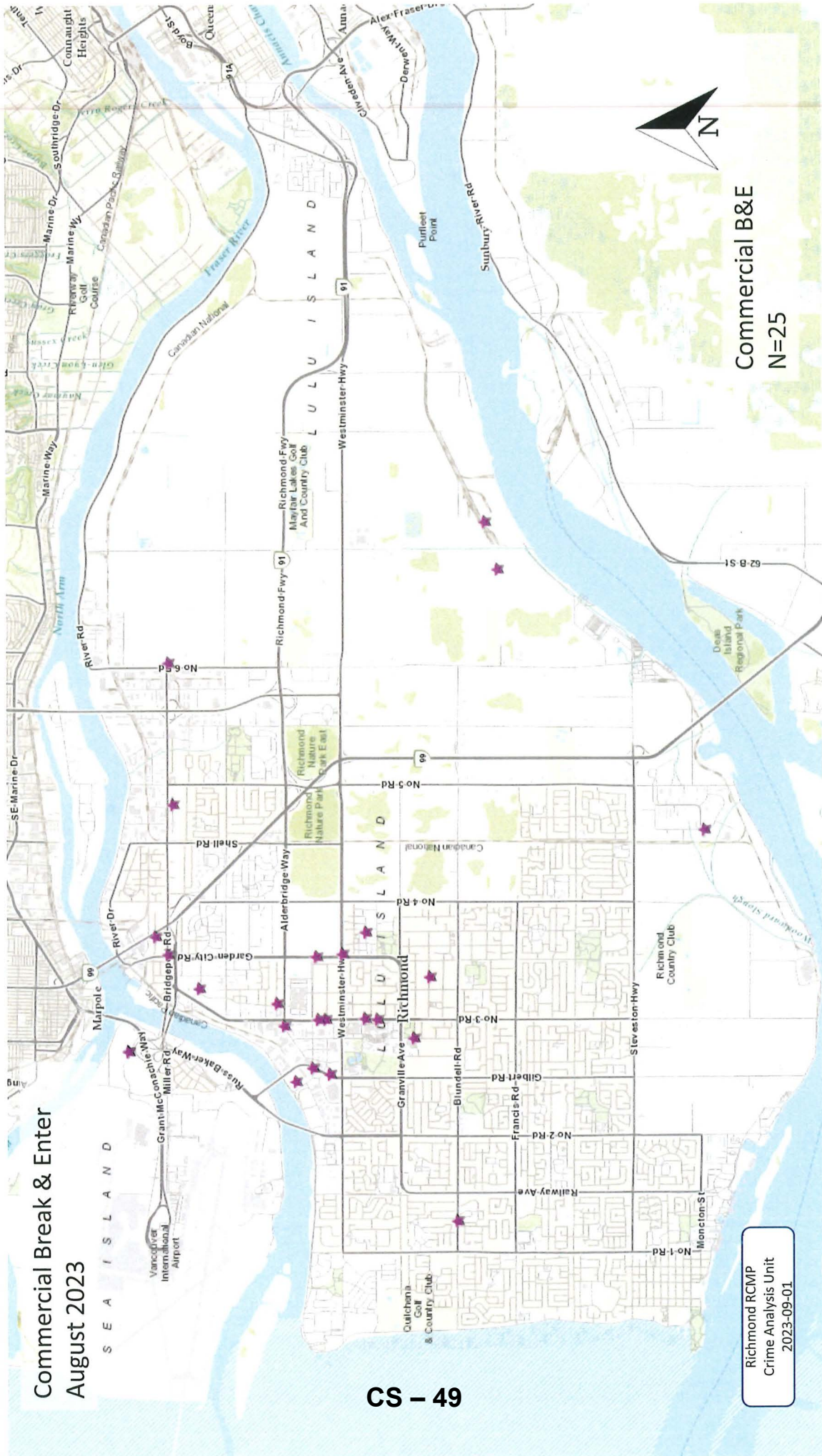
The following information is a limited list of select crime-type samples, which does not comprise the entirety or assortment of all crimes captured by the RCMP. The statistics in this chart should be considered independently of the analysis provided as the data is unrelated to the research provided earlier in this report.

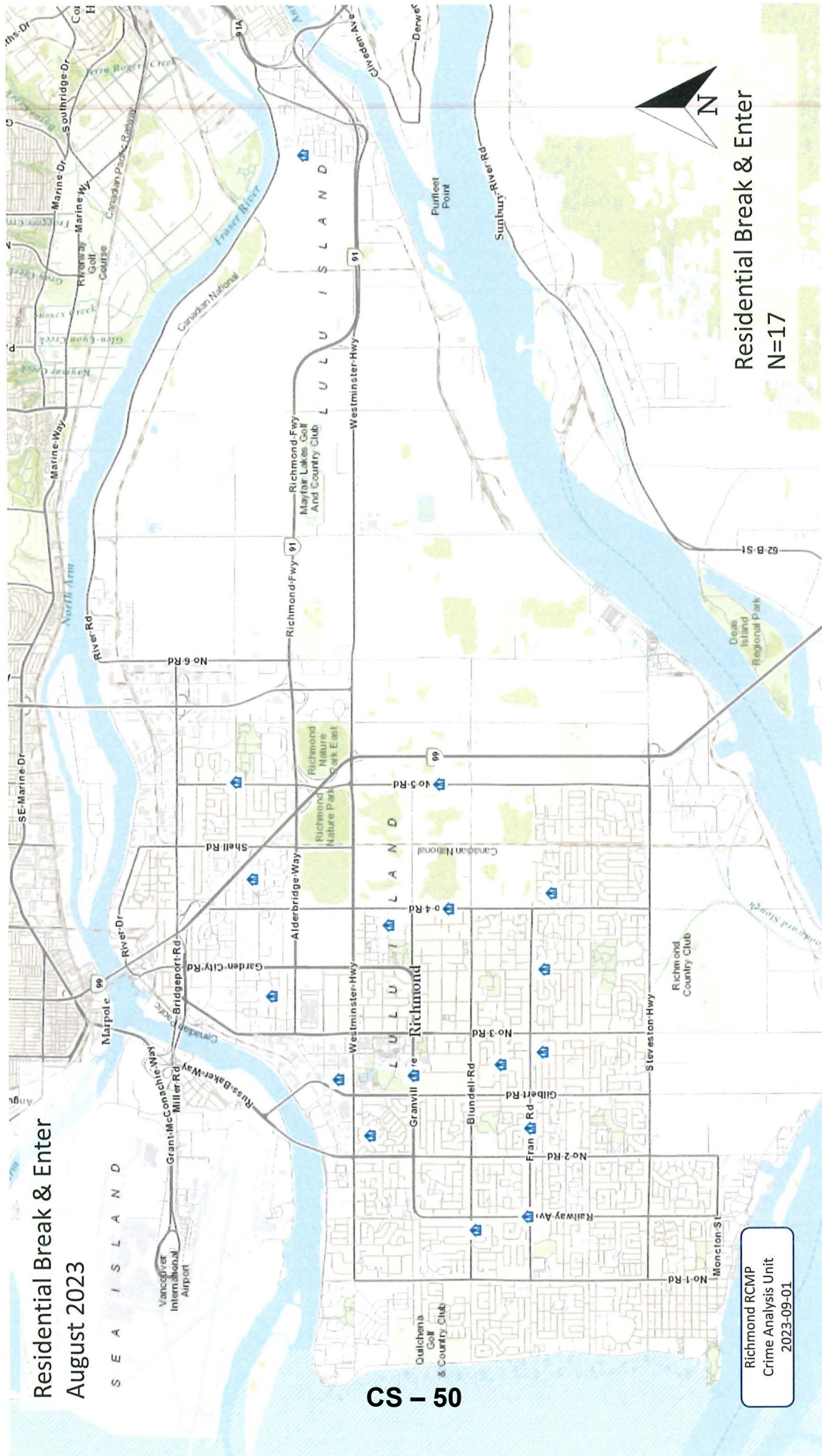
This chart identifies the monthly totals for founded Criminal Code incidents, excluding traffic-related Criminal Code incidents. Based on Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) scoring, there are three categories: (1) Violent Crime, (2) Property Crime, and (3) Other Criminal Code. Within each category, particular 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.

The 5 year average is based on activity within a single month over the past 5 years. If the current monthly total for an offence falls outside the 5 year range (using one standard deviation) due to crime trends, patterns, or spikes, it will be noted in **red** if higher and **blue** if below. If the current monthly total for an offence is above the 5 year range due to primarily non-operational reasons such as the new UCR

	Month	5-Yr Avg	5-Yr Range	Year to Date Totals			
	Aug - 23	August		2022	2023	% Change	# Change
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	149	147.0	128-166	953	1241	30%	288
Robbery <small>UCR 1610 (1-3)</small>	8	6.0	4-8	37	36	-3%	-1
Assault Common <small>UCR 1430</small>	47	53.8	46-62	335	395	18%	60
Assault Serious <small>UCR 1420, 1420</small>	23	12.8	8-18	121	169	40%	48
Sexual Offences <small>UCR 1325, 1320, 1350, 1310, 2450/57/59</small>	19	18.6	16-21	120	161	34%	41
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	628	613.0	578-648	3886	5194	34%	1308
Business B&E <small>UCR 2329-1</small>	25	32.2	24-41	228	204	-11%	-24
Residential B&E <small>UCR 2329-2</small>	17	37.4	21-54	197	191	-3%	-6
Auto Theft <small>UCR 2375 (11-30), 2378</small>	17	22.0	14-30	145	174	20%	29
Theft from Auto <small>UCR 2372, 2372</small>	74	150.0	130-170	809	990	22%	181
Theft <small>UCR 2370, 2370</small>	141	81.2	62-100	589	944	60%	355
Shoplifting <small>UCR 2383, 2383</small>	94	71.4	57-86	451	798	77%	347
Fraud <small>UCR 2360 (all), 2365, 2366</small>	73	66.8	55-78	475	642	35%	167
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	323	256.4	217-296	1612	2164	34%	552
Arson <small>UCR 1020, 2110</small>	10	6.0	1-11	43	50	16%	7
SUBTOTAL CC OFFENCES (UCR 1000 to 3000 Series)	1100	1016.4	980-1053	6457	8603	33%	2146
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	54	48.4	34-62	339	384	13%	45
MHA RELATED CALLS (MHA files or Mental Health flag)	237	251.6	232-271	1646	1911	16%	265

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Residential Break & Enter
August 2023

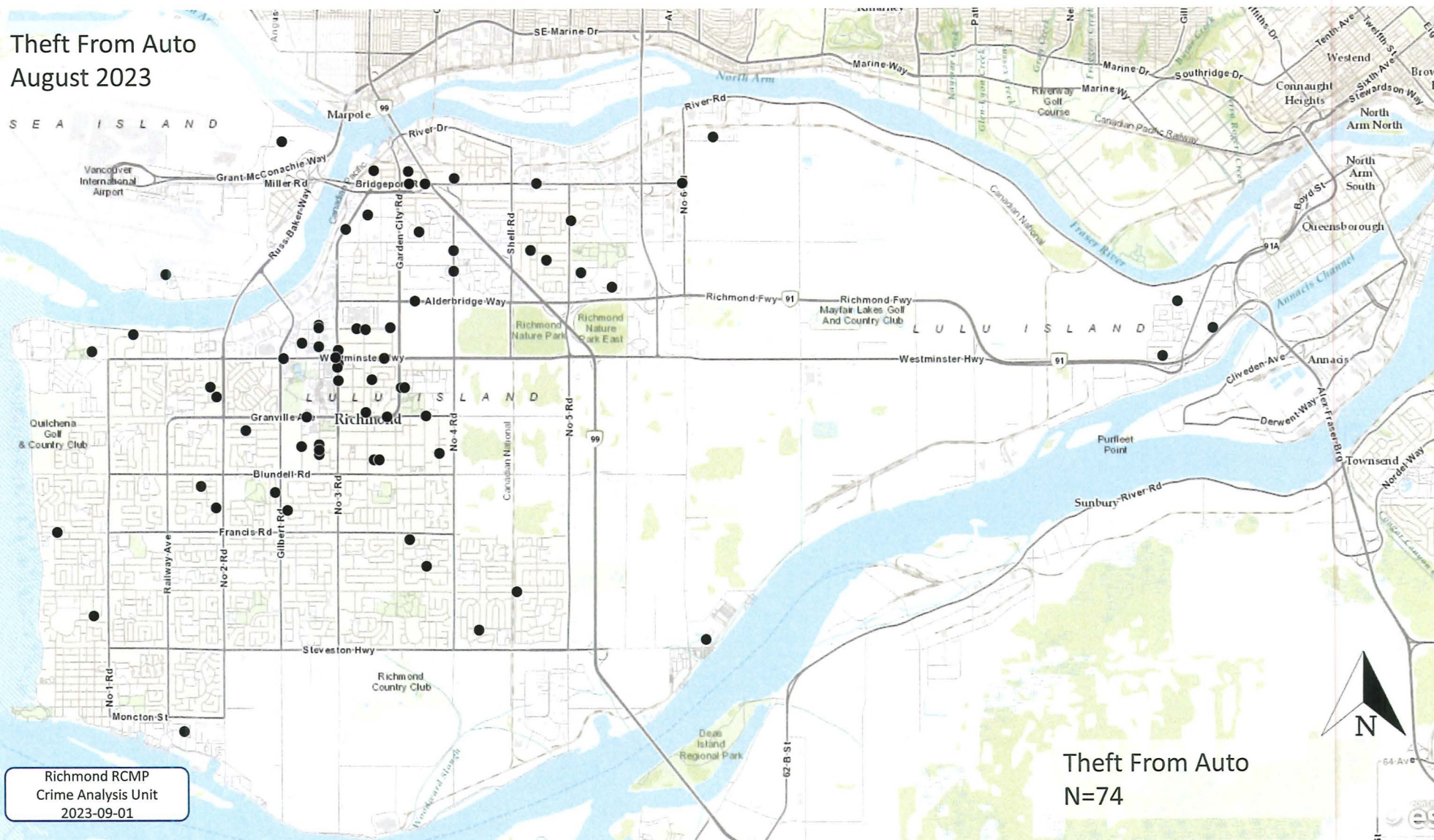
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Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2023-09-01

Residential Break & Enter
N=17

Theft From Auto August 2023

SEA ISLAND



Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2023-09-01

Theft From Auto
N=74