

# **Community Safety Committee**

Council Chambers, City Hall 6911 No. 3 Road Tuesday, April 13, 2021 4:00 p.m.

Pg. # **ITEM MINUTES** CS-4 Motion to adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Community Safety Committee held on March 9, 2021. NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE May 11, 2021, (tentative date) at 4:00 p.m. in Council Chambers **COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION** PROPERTY USE MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – FEBRUARY 1. 2021 (File Ref. No. 12-8375-01/2021-Vol 01) (REDMS No. 6641541) **CS-9** See Page CS-9 for full report Designated Speaker: Carli Williams STAFF RECOMMENDATION That the staff report titled "Property Use Monthly Activity Report -February 2021", dated March 11, 2021, from the General Manager, Community Safety, be received for information.

Pg. #	Com ITEM	munity Safety Committee Agenda – Tuesday, April 13, 2021
	2.	COMMUNITY BYLAWS PARKING ENFORCEMENT AND ANIMAL SERVICES MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – FEBRUARY 2021 (File Ref. No. 12-8060-01) (REDMS No. 6622734)
<b>CS-14</b>		See Page CS-14 for full report
		Designated Speaker: Susan Lloyd
		STAFF RECOMMENDATION
		That the staff report titled "Community Bylaws Parking Enforcement and Animal Services Monthly Activity Report – February 2021", dated March 12, 2021, from the General Manager, Community Safety, be received for information.
	3.	RICHMOND FIRE-RESCUE MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – FEBRUARY 2021 (File Ref. No.) (REDMS No. 6616265)
<b>CS-22</b>		See Page CS-22 for full report
		Designated Speaker: Fire Chief Tim Wilkinson
		STAFF RECOMMENDATION
		That the staff report titled "Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – February 2021", dated March 9, 2021, from the Fire Chief, be received for information.

4. FIRE CHIEF BRIEFING

(Verbal Report)

Designated Speaker: Fire Chief Tim Wilkinson

Items for discussion:

- (i) Emergency Programs Quarterly Report Update
- (ii) Hiring for Fire and Life Safety Educator

Pg. #	ITEM	
	5.	2021-2022 RICHMOND RCMP DETACHMENT ANNUAL PERFORMANCE PLAN – COMMUNITY PRIORITIES (File Ref. No. 09-5000-01) (REDMS No. 6599735)
<b>CS-33</b>		See Page CS-33 for full report
		Designated Speaker: Chief Superintendent Will Ng
		STAFF RECOMMENDATION
		That the priorities, Property Crime, Organized Crime, Road Safety and Vulnerable Persons, listed in the staff report titled "2021-2022 Richmond RCMP Detachment Annual Performance Plan-Community Priorities", dated March 5, 2021 from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP, be endorsed for inclusion in the Richmond RCMP Detachment's fiscal year 2021-2022 (April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022) Annual Performance Plan.
	6.	RCMP MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT - FEBRUARY 2021 (File Ref. No. 09-5000-01) (REDMS No. 6626794)
CS-41		See Page CS-41 for full report
		Designated Speaker: Chief Superintendent Will Ng
		STAFF RECOMMENDATION
		That the staff report titled "RCMP Monthly Activity Report - February 2021", dated March 8, 2021 from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment, be received for information.
	7.	RCMP/OIC BRIEFING (Verbal Report)
		Designated Speaker: Chief Superintendent Will Ng
		Items for discussion:  None.
	8.	MANAGER'S REPORT
		ADJOURNMENT

Community Safety Committee Agenda – Tuesday, April 13, 2021



#### **Minutes**

# **Community Safety Committee**

Date:

Tuesday, March 9, 2021

Place:

**Council Chambers** 

Richmond City Hall

Present:

Councillor Bill McNulty, Chair

Councillor Carol Day (by teleconference) Councillor Alexa Loo (by teleconference) Councillor Harold Steves (by teleconference) Councillor Michael Wolfe (by teleconference)

Also Present:

Councillor Chak Au (by teleconference)

Call to Order:

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

## **MINUTES**

It was moved and seconded

That the minutes of the meeting of the Community Safety Committee held

on February 9, 2021, be adopted.

**CARRIED** 

## NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

April 13, 2021, (tentative date) at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers

#### COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION

# 1. BUSINESS LICENCES QUARTERLY REPORT - 2020 YEAR IN REVIEW

(File Ref. No. 12-8375-03) (REDMS No. 6616469)

In response to queries from Committee, staff advised that (i) the decrease in 2016 revenues compared to current years were due to a changeover in staffing, and (ii) the decrease in permits for short-term boarding and lodging are due to the pandemic and travel restrictions.

It was moved and seconded

That the staff report titled "Business Licences Quarterly Report – 2020 Year in Review", dated February 9, 2021, from the General Manager Community Safety be received for information.

**CARRIED** 

# 2. PROPERTY USE MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – JANUARY 2021 (File Ref. No. 12-806 0-01) (REDMS No. 6616973 v. 2)

In reply to queries from Committee, staff advised that (i) the properties listed in the staff report were found to be in non-compliance and resolved within the same month, (ii) the soil bylaw does not permit impact to neighbouring properties, (iii) further discussion would need to take place to determine whether light pollution would fall under Community Bylaws, (iv) there is no specific trend with regard to short-term rental revenue changes, and (v) once COVID-19 travel restrictions are lifted, two inspectors dedicated to short-term rentals will be hired.

It was moved and seconded

That the staff report titled "Property Use Monthly Activity Report – January 2021", dated February 10, 2021, from the General Manager, Community Safety, be received for information.

**CARRIED** 

# 3. COMMUNITY BYLAWS PARKING ENFORCEMENT AND ANIMAL CONTROL MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – JANUARY 2021 (File Ref. No. 12-8060-01) (REDMS No. 6614733)

In reply to queries from Committee, staff noted that (i) letters were sent out to all residents of Gilley Road notifying them about new parking regulations; however, no signage will be installed, and (ii) increase in revenue was due to monthly parking permits, ticketing, and dog license renewals.

It was moved and seconded

That the staff report titled "Community Bylaws Parking Enforcement and Animal Control Monthly Activity Report – January 2021", dated February 12, 2021, from the General Manager, Community Safety, be received for information.

**CARRIED** 

# 4. RICHMOND FIRE-RESCUE MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – JANUARY 2021

(File Ref. No.) (REDMS No. 6616265)

In reply to queries from Committee, Fire Chief Tim Wilkinson noted that (i) the Provincial Health Orders have reduced the number of events that firefighters are responding to and that allowing firefighters to act as a transport in case of ambulance shortage would require a change to the legislation, (ii) Richmond Fire-Rescue worked with the Department of National Defence to help safeguard their property from future fires while following BC Fire Code and BC Services Act, and (iii) Richmond Fire-Rescue would be willing to work with the Parks Department to help install bat houses to ensure the City can continue with its Bat Friendly Community designation.

It was moved and seconded

That the staff report titled "Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – January 2021", dated February 9, 2021, from the Fire Chief, be received for information.

**CARRIED** 

#### 5. FIRE CHIEF BRIEFING

(Verbal Report)

Items for discussion:

None.

#### 6. RCMP MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT -- JANUARY 2021

(File Ref. No. 09-5000-01) (REDMS No. 6608584)

In reply to queries from Committee, Chief Superintendent Will Ng noted that (i) calls related to social gatherings and failure to wear a mask can be directed to the non-emergency line or to Community Bylaws, (ii) infrastructure needs for the Community Police Office in Hamilton will need to be discussed, (iii) the RCMP is liaising with the provincial government with regard to the provincial auxiliary officer program, (iv) the Crime Prevention newsletter is circulated to all community centres, Block Watch captains, and is available on the RCMP app, and (v) the RCMP officer capacity ensures that there is enough coverage for the youth programs.

Discussion ensued with regard to the request for a provincial auxiliary police program.

As a result of the discussion, the following **motion** was introduced:

It was moved and seconded

That a letter be drafted for the Mayor's signature and sent to the Province of BC, outlining Richmond's auxiliary police program, including additional needs and successes of the program.

**CARRIED** 

It was moved and seconded

That the staff report titled "RCMP Monthly Activity Report – January 2021", dated February 8, 2021, from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment, be received for information.

**CARRIED** 

#### 7. RCMP/OIC BRIEFING

(Verbal Report)

Items for discussion:

None.

#### 8. MANAGER'S REPORT

#### (i) Migration to MyRichmond Emergency Notification System

Staff provided an update on the Emergency Notification System, noting that the City is transferring to a new emergency notification system that will work with MyRichmond and will have a much larger reach than the old system.

#### (ii) Traffic Camera Project

Staff provided an update on the traffic camera project, noting that they are aiming for a go-live date at the beginning of Q2 of 2021, and the project includes an extensive online system through MyRichmond thus increasing efficiency.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved and seconded *That the meeting adjourn (4:52 p.m.).* 

**CARRIED** 



# **Report to Committee**

To:

Community Safety Committee

General Manager, Community Safety

Date:

March 11, 2021

From:

Cecilia Achiam

File:

12-8375-01/2021-Vol

01

Re:

**Property Use Monthly Activity Report - February 2021** 

#### Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled "Property Use Monthly Activity Report – February 2021", dated March 11, 2021, from the General Manager, Community Safety, be received for information.

Cecilia Achiam

General Manager, Community Safety

(604-276-4122)

REPORT CONCURRENCE				
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE			
Finance Engineering	☑ ☑			
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	Initials:			
APPROVED BY CAO				

#### **Staff Report**

#### Origin

This monthly report for the Property Use department provides information and statistics for enforcing bylaws related to grease, soils, zoning and short-term rentals as education and public awareness initiatives.

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.

1.1 Enhance safety services and strategies to meet community needs.

#### **Analysis**

#### Property Use

Property use enforcement matters are divided among several groups in Community Bylaws, Engineering, Business Licencing and Vancouver Coastal Health. Figure 1 shows the calls for service (files opened) by Property Use Inspectors. Figure 2 shows all other property related enforcement.

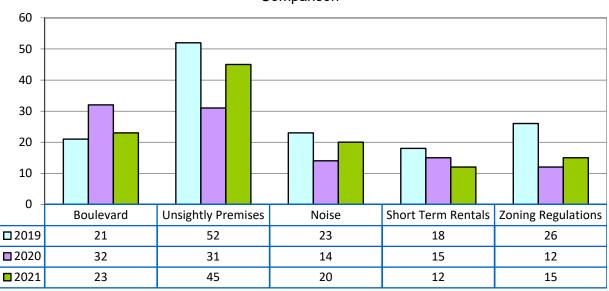


Figure 1: Property Use Calls For Service - February Year-To-Date Comparison

Calls were up in many categories this month when compared to 2020 but still lower in most cases than the same period in 2019. This is within expected month to month fluctuations.

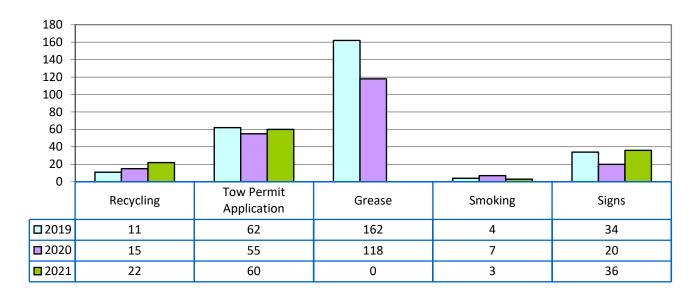


Figure 2: Other Calls For Service - February Year-To-Date Comparison

#### **Grease**

Grease inspections in 2021 have occurred primarily through focused investigations and working directly with properties in areas with observed issues in the sanitary system. With most of the food establishments re-opened from COVID-related closures in 2020, a plan is in place to continue inspections on a priority basis and restore to full capacity over the next several months.

#### **Soils**

During the month of February, the Soil Bylaw Officer conducted 63 site inspections and is currently addressing 40 properties that are considered to be in non-compliance. Warnings and/or Stop Work Orders were issued to:

- 7931 McLennan Ave; and
- 10051 Sidaway Road.

In addition to the properties above, compliance was also obtained for the property at 11400 Westminster Hwy after they had been found filling a City owned road allowance. This was resolved with an application for lawful use of the City land and removal of the unapproved material.

In addition to enforcement activities, there are eight soil deposit proposals under various stages of review by City staff and the Officer continues to monitor 12 approved sites. The City is awaiting a decision from the Agricultural Land Commission on two projects, for 5800 No. 7 Rd (Mahal) and 19740 River Rd (Jagbar Farms), both of which previously received endorsement from City Council.

#### **Short-Term Rental Enforcement**

There are two types of legal short-term rental operations that require licences (Bed and Breakfast and Boarding and Lodging). Enforcement staff ensure that all licence holders comply with business regulations plus investigate allegations of unlicensed operations.

Council has approved two bylaw enforcement officer positions to be dedicated to the enforcement of short-term rental regulations. However, as a result of travel restrictions, there are very few verified complaints of illegal short term regulations and even those licensed are not currently hosting guests. Due to the current conditions, the staff dedicated to this program have not been hired. Hiring will proceed when the travel restrictions are lifted.

#### **Bylaw Prosecutions**

Bylaw prosecutions occur when a bylaw violation cannot be resolved through education or ticketing. In these cases when staff cannot achieve compliance, the file is then prepared for trial in Provincial Court. On a go forward basis, this monthly activity report will include summaries of new bylaw prosecution files as well as those that have been resolved through a trial or consent agreement.

For the months of January and February, information was sworn in for bylaw violations at the following addresses:

- 10660 Railway Non-compliance with Zoning regulations
- 7620 No. 2 Road Non-compliance with Zoning and Unsightly regulations
- 6391 No. 4 Road Non-Compliance with Building regulations
- 6360 No. 6 Road Non-compliance with Zoning, Building and Business regulations
- 10288 Bird Road Non-Compliance with Zoning and Building regulations

There were no trials this month or cases that were settled with a consent agreement.

#### **Ticketing**

As shown in Table 1, there were four tickets issued in February related to Property Use offences. The tickets this month were related to noise and unsightly premises.

Table 1: Community Bylaw Violations

Ticket Issuance (BVN's & MTI's)	February	YTD
Short-Term Rental Offences	0	3
Soil Removal & Fill Deposit Offences	0	0
Watercourse Protection Offences	0	0
Unsightly Premises	1	3
Noise	3	3
Grease Trap Offences	0	0
Totals	4	9

#### Revenue and Expenses

Revenue in Property Use is derived from soil permit revenue, tickets and court fines. Revenue in February was higher than budgeted due to better than expected collection of ticket revenue. Year-to-date, revenue remains high due to the court fines received in January. The full results are shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Property Use Revenue by Source

Program Revenue	Budget Feb 2021	Actual Feb 2021	YTD Budget Feb 2021	YTD Actual Feb 2021
Towing Permits	1,333	1,734	2,666	3,222
Soil Permit Applications	250	0	500	0
Other Bylaw Fines	3,042	6,625	6,084	33,175
Recovery-General Exp.	0	0	0	(126)
Total Revenue	4,625	8,359	9,250	36,271

In addition to positive results related to revenue, the overall budget position is improved further by lower than budgeted expenses. This is primarily due to the delayed hiring of bylaw enforcement officers dedicated to short-term rentals. The full results are shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Property Use Revenue and Expenses

		YTD Budget Feb 2021	YTD Actual Feb 2021
Property Use	Revenue	9,250	36,271
	Expenses	194,450	127,650
	Net Revenue (Expense)	(185,200)	(91,379)

#### **Financial Impact**

None.

#### Conclusion

Property Use administers a wide range of bylaws related to land use, unsightly premises, short-term rentals, soil and grease. This report provides a summary of this month's activity, including revenue and expenses. Notable this month are several bylaw prosecution files started this month in Provincial Court.

Carli Williams, P.Eng.

Manager, Business Licence and Bylaws

(604-276-4136)



# **Report to Committee**

To:

Community Safety Committee

Date:

March 12, 2021

From:

Cecilia Achiam

File:

12-8060-01/2021-Vol

General Manager, Community Safety

Re:

**Community Bylaws Parking Enforcement and Animal Services Monthly** 

**Activity Report – February 2021** 

#### **Staff Recommendation**

That the staff report titled "Community Bylaws Parking Enforcement and Animal Services Monthly Activity Report – February 2021", dated March 12, 2021, from the General Manager, Community Safety, be received for information.

Cecilia Achiam

General Manager, Community Safety

(604-276-4122)

REPORT CONCURRENCE					
ROUTED TO:	Concurrence				
Finance					
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS:				
APPROVED BY CAO					

#### **Staff Report**

#### Origin

This monthly report for the Parking Enforcement and Animal Services department provides information and statistics for enforcing bylaws related to Pay Parking, Parking Enforcement, Animal Services and Dog Licencing as well as education and public awareness initiatives.

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.

1.1 Enhance safety services and strategies to meet community needs.

#### **Analysis**

#### Dog Licencing and Patrols

In February the total number of dogs licenced was 3,342 dogs. This figure represents 138 new dog licence applications and 3,204 dog licence renewal applications. The total number of dogs licenced year to date is 5,735.

February 2021 was the first month that animal services were fully provided for by the BC SPCA. BC SPCA Officers conducted 57 on-foot patrols of 32 parks and dykes located within the City. Figure 1 below highlights the top five patrolled parks followed by Figure 2, which represents BC SPCA Officer public engagement while conducting enforcement and education within the parks for the month of February. Figure 3 below represents the 109 calls for service that BC SPCA Officers attended for the month of February, with the category "dog at large" receiving the highest number of calls for service. Community Bylaws, together with the BC SPCA, are addressing public awareness of keeping your dog in a safe, enclosed space or within your home, by posting BC SPCA website literature on the City's social media, beginning in March 2021. BC SPCA Officers conduct both education and enforcement which includes licence checks, muzzling requirements, and general animal services and dog licencing violations, while continuing to foster a strong relationship within the community.

Figure 1: Parks Patrolled by BC SPCA

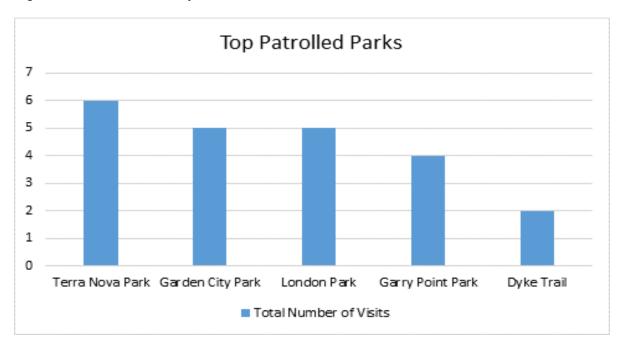
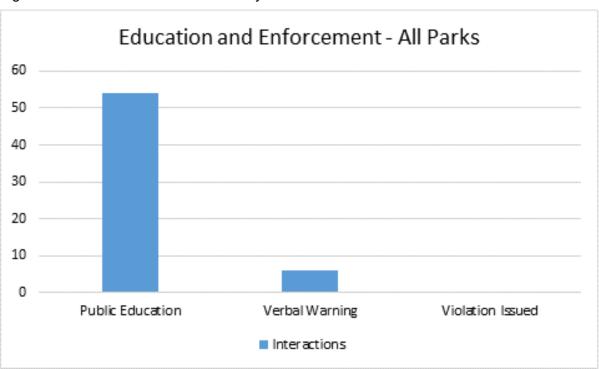


Figure 2: Education and Enforcement by BC SPCA



Number of Dispatches Animal in Hot Car Animal Welfare Barking Dog Canada Post Dog Incident Dog at Large Dog Bite - Other Dog/Animal Dog Bite - Person Domestic Animal DOA Licence Check Parks Patrol Stray Cat or Dog Stray Other Animal Wildlife 0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18

Figure 3: Dispatch Calls for Service - Animals

#### Parking Enforcement

For the month of February 2021, Parking Officers continue to monitor assigned files while proactively patrolling City owned off-street parking lots for compliance of pay parking and City roadways for stopping and parking offences. Parking Officers also conduct monthly, rotational school patrols which are prioritized based on both public and school staff concerns.

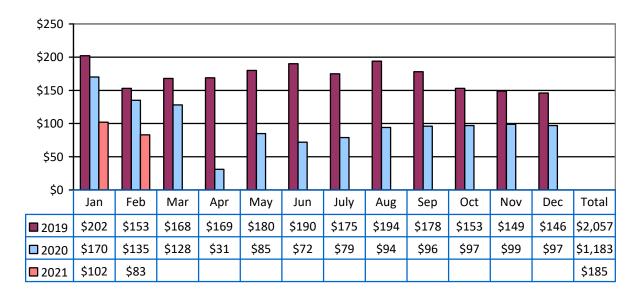
Parking Officers attended 198 calls for service, out of which 192 were for parking and/or stopping related offences and six calls for service were attributed to COVID-19 social distancing and unauthorized use of a City sports field. Due to the snowfall received in mid-February, Parking Officers attended 38 businesses within the City's downtown core, handing out snow and ice pamphlets to remind owners and/or tenants of their obligation under the Traffic Bylaw No. 5870 Section 6.1, to clear all snow and ice from the sidewalk adjacent to their property by 10:00 a.m. Management of files by Parking Officers is priority based, with all safety and obstruction requests receiving top priority.

Figure 4 reflects the monthly and year-to-date parking enforcement activity measured by violation issuance. The corresponding revenue is reflected in Figure 5.

3,000 2,500 2,000 1,500 1,000 500 0 Feb May Aug Total Jan Mar Apr June July Sept Oct Nov Dec **2**019 2,427 2,786 2,636 2,479 2,779 1,906 1,753 1,513 27,921 2,804 2,258 2,645 1,935 **2**020 1,852 2,198 1,835 465 997 1,246 1,230 1,309 1,740 1,575 1,566 1,273 17,286 **2**021 1,457 1,260 2,717

Figure 4: Parking Violations Issuance Comparison

Figure 5: Parking Revenue Comparison (000's)



#### Ticket Issuance

Parking violations make up the majority of tickets issued by Bylaw Enforcement Officers. Table 1 exhibits the number of parking violations issued together with the number of animal services violations issued.

Table 1: Violations Issued

Ticket Issuance (BVN's & MTI's)		February	YTD
Parking & Stopping Offences		1260	2717
Animal Services Offences		10	17
	Totals	1270	2734

Ticketing issuance continues to be lower than in previous years not only due to the redeployment of resources to support education and enforcement of the public health orders but an increasing amount of individuals working from home due to the risk of spreading COVID-19, which has resulted in less traffic violations being issued.

#### **Bylaw Adjudication**

The adjudication session was held on February 25, 2021 and consisted of two violations in contravention of Traffic Bylaw No. 5870, one violation in contravention of the Dog Licencing Regulation Bylaw No. 7138 and one violation under the Business Licence Bylaw No. 7360. All violations were upheld and were ruled in favour of the City by the adjudicator. The next adjudication hearing is scheduled for May 27, 2021.

#### Revenue and Expenses

Parking Revenue<sup>2</sup>

**Total Revenue** 

Receivable Income<sup>3</sup>

The Community Bylaw Parking and Animal Services department derives much of its revenue from parking meters, parking permits and parking violations. The remainder of revenue generated is from dog licences, animal services fines, false alarm disturbances, and newspaper box permits. Table 2 outlines individual revenue types while Table 3 highlights revenue and expenses for the programs within Community Bylaws Parking and Animal Services.

YTD Budget Budget Actual YTD Actual **Program Revenue** Feb 2021 Feb 2021 Feb 2021 Feb 2021 5,000 5,000 10,000 Contract Revenue<sup>1</sup> 10,000 Filming Revenue 408 False Alarm 4,625 2,625 9,250 5,250 Dog Licences 20,292 52,058 40,584 103,132 **Newspaper Box Permits** 2,983 1,190 5,966 4,503 **Animal Services Fines** 850 1,900 1,700 5,325

82,736

145,509

338,433

17,000

422,933

184,597

(1,165)

312,050

169,217

211,467

8,500

Table 2: Parking and Animal Services Revenue by Source

Table 3: Parking & Animal Services Revenue and Expenses

		YTD Budget Feb 2021	YTD Actual Feb 2021
Parking⁴	Revenue	380,650	203,593
	Expenses	245,928	168,464
	Net Revenue (Expense)	134,722	35,129
Animal Services <sup>5</sup>	Revenue	42,283	108,457
	Expenses	47,483	30,448
	Net Revenue (Expense)	(5,200)	78,009

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> City Towing Contract with Rusty's towing

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Parking Revenue consists of Parking Meters, Monthly Parking Permits, and Parking Enforcement

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Receivable Income consists of the COVID-19 reimbursement claim with Emergency Management British Columbia (EMBC) and Night Market Recoveries for 2019 (which was reconciled in March 2020)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Includes all revenue from Table 2, excluding dog licences and animal services fines

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Includes dog licences and animal services fines from Table 2 CS – 20

#### **Financial Impact**

None.

#### Conclusion

Parking and Animal Services administers a wide range of bylaws related to parking, animal services, public parks and school grounds. This report provides a summary of monthly enforcement and educational activity, including revenue and expenses. Due primarily to the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic, ticketing revenue continues to decrease. However, the decrease in revenue was managed and partially offset by a decrease in costs in all areas of the department.

Susan Lloyd

Program Manager, Administration, Parking Enforcement and Animal Services (604-247-4467)



# **Report to Committee**

To:

Community Safety Committee

Date:

March 9, 2021

From:

Tim Wilkinson

Fire Chief

File:

99-Fire Rescue/2021-

Vol 0

Re:

Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – February 2021

#### **Staff Recommendation**

That the staff report titled "Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – February 2021", dated March 9, 2021, from the Fire Chief, be received for information.

Tim Wilkinson Fire Chief (604-303-2701)

Att. 1

REPORT CONCURRENCE

CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER

SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW

APPROVED BY CAO

#### **Staff Report**

#### Origin

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**

#### Training and Public Education

The education and development of firefighters in the Province of British Columbia is regulated through the Office of the Fire Commissioner. The Office of the Fire Commissioner has created minimum training standards which are found within the "Structure Firefighters Competency and Training Playbook" or "Playbook". Richmond Fire-Rescue (RFR) implemented a new program in February 2019 where all firefighters will review, practice and demonstrate the skills identified within the Playbook. Firefighters are continuing within their Playbook training.

Fire Training staff facilitated multiple training activities during February 2021 including; probationary recruit 12 month practical and theory exams, fire blanket suppression system, the Road to Mental Health Readiness (R2MR) Instructors Workshops, Frontline Leadership and Playbook drills.

During February 2021, public education events remained on hold. Fire staff continued to create and post educational videos on the RFR Facebook and website pages, along with preparation for the next round of recruitment.

#### Recruitment

In February there were approximately 500 applications for the next round of firefighter recruitment. This year's recruitment has been streamlined to improve the process, while adhering to COVID-19 health guidelines. These improvements also include the introduction of a more efficient resume format and the use of online testing resources.

#### **Emergency Response**

Richmond Fire-Rescue staff continue to support incidences emanating from Health Orders issued by the Province to combat the COVID-19 pandemic as well as provide regular services to the community.

Richmond Fire-Rescue's goal is to respond to incidences in a manner where loss of life, reduction of property damage and protection of the environment is mitigated. In February 2021 there were a total of 577 incidents, representing a 16 per cent decrease in incidences from February 2020 (Attachment 1).

The average time on scene for RFR crews was 29 minutes, which was the same in 2020. Time on scene can vary due to the nature and severity of each incident.

Table 1: Total Incidents - February 2021					
	Totals	Percentage Change (February 2020)	Number Change (February 2021)		
Alarm Active No Fire	113	-7%	-8		
Explosion	0	-	0		
Fire	26	+44%	+8		
Haz-Mat	15	+50%	+5		
Medical	239	-28%	-95		
MVI	48	-39%	-31		
Public Hazard	6	-14%	-1		
Public Service	81	+9%	+7		
Response Cancelled/Unfounded	46	+12%	+5		
Specialized Transport	2	+100%	+1		
Tech Rescue	1	-	+1		
Totals	577	-16%	-108		

In February 2021 there were 26 reportable fires to the Office of the Fire Commissioner, representing a 44 per cent increase from February 2020. The average figure for fires reported in February over the last five years is 21.

Richmond Fire-Rescue continues to experience decreases in medical responses due to the changes of the Provincial Health Orders and Medical Health Officer's direction. RFR continues to monitor all activities to identify and create programs to respond to emerging trends.

Richmond Fire-Rescue's emergency fire response goal is to contain the fire to the room of origin. The room of origin standard is especially important in terms of fire loss, which increases significantly once the fire leaves the room of origin.

Fire damage and property losses during February 2021 are estimated at \$54,700. This total includes \$1,500 for building/asset loss and \$53,200 for content loss. The total building/asset and content value at risk was estimated to be \$16,906,200 and the total value preserved from damage was \$16,851,500. These numbers translate to 99 per cent of value protected (Table 2); this is greater than the 97 per cent protected value observed in 2020.

Table 2: Fire Incidents By Type and Loss Estimates - February 2021							
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	6	3,301,000	-	165,000	50,500	3,415,500	
Multi family	1	12,336,000	-	500	500	12,336,000	
Commercial/Industrial	1	600,000	-	500,000	-	1,100,000	
Outdoor	17	-	-	2,200	2,200	-	
Vehicle/Vessel	1	1,500	1,500	-	-	-	
Totals*	26	16,238,500	1,500	667,700	53,200	16,851,500	

<sup>\*</sup> 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

Fire crews minimized harm and limited fires to the place of origin in these notable February 2021 incidents:

- **February 5 Motor Home fire on River Road.** On arrival crews found a motor home fully involved with fire and was unable to be salvaged. There were no injuries to civilians or RFR personnel. After RFR crews left the scene, the owner of the motor home arrived and identified themselves to the onsite Investigator. The owner was using the motor home as their permanent residence. The RFR Fire Investigator triggered the Canadian Red Cross (CRC) support process and the motor home owner was provided accommodation for 72 hours while they worked through their insurance process. Richmond RCMP and an RFR Fire Investigator attended the scene to determine the cause and origin of the fire.
- **February 17 Structure fire on No. 2 Road.** RFR Crews arrived on scene to a structure fire involving a split-level residence. On arrival, the fire had involved the back patio of the residence extending into the attic space. Crews worked to extinguish the fire along with any hot spots. Three tenants had self-evacuated upon arrival and, although not injured, required emergency services through the CRC. RFR successfully rescued four cats from the residence. There are no reported injuries to RFR staff. A Fire Investigator attended to determine cause and origin of the fire. One media request from the Richmond News was addressed by staff.
- February 21 Dumpster fire on Great Canadian Way. On arrival RFR crews found a dumpster with burning material up against a commercial building. Crews quickly extinguished the fire and checked for any extension to the nearby building. There were no occupants present. The business owner was contacted by RCMP and arrived on scene shortly after. RFR crews were able to winch the dumpster out of the covered area to ensure that there was no spread of fire in the outbuilding. Two Richmond units remain on scene to ensure the overhaul was complete. A Fire Investigator attended to determine the cause and origin of the fire. There are no reported injuries.
- **February 23 Structure fire on Thormanby Crescent**. On arrival RFR crews found a large newer home with heavy smoke and fire on the exterior. Crews quickly extinguished the fire and prevented extension into the soffit and attic space. The fire had broken a window and strong winds had driven significant smoke and some fire into the interior. Interior crews dealt with any hot spot concerns and a primary search confirmed there were no occupants present. A Fire Investigator attended the scene. There were no injuries to report. The owner arrived later on scene and the home was unable to be re-occupied at that time.

#### **Financial Impact**

None.

#### Conclusion

During February 2021, Richmond Fire-Rescue crews continue to experience impacts on all incident volumes. For medical incidents, this is due to the decreases in medical responses emanating from the temporary changes by order of the Provincial Medical Health Officer in response to the pandemic.

The impacts of the pandemic, on incident volumes, has resulted in RFR Management pivoting staff to learning, development and preparedness activities. Richmond Fire-Rescue staff remain ready to react and adapt to the ever changing pandemic situation.

Richmond Fire-Rescue has not experienced any negative impacts to emergency response and continues to monitor activities to identify and create programs to respond to emerging trends.

Tim Wilkinson

Fire Chief

(604-303-2701)

TW:js

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

#### **Incident Volumes**

The following chart provides a month to month comparison regarding incidents occurring in February 2021 and 2020. In February 2021, there were a total of 577 incidents, compared to 685 in February 2020. This represents a decrease of 16 per cent.

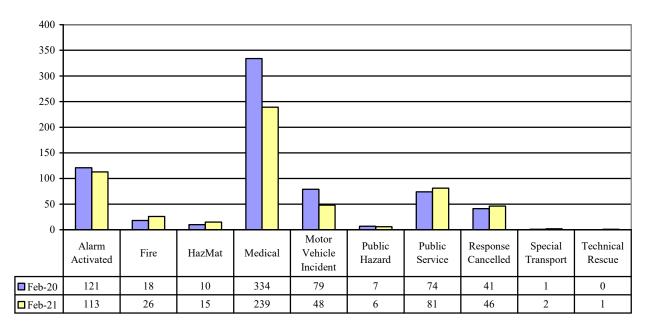


Table 3: February 2020 & February 2021

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 41 per cent of the total emergency responses for RFR during the month of February 2021. A detailed breakdown of the medical incidents for February 2020 and 2021 is set out in the following table by sub-type. There were a total of 239 medical incidents in February 2021 compared to 334 in February 2020, a decrease of 28 per cent.

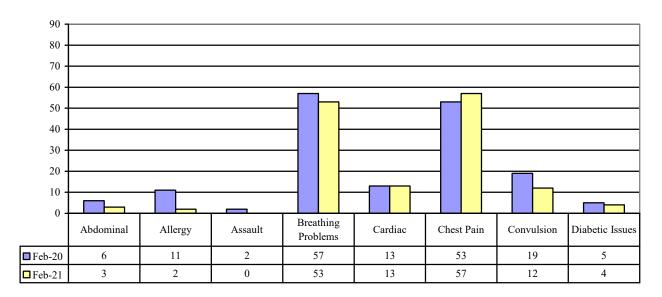
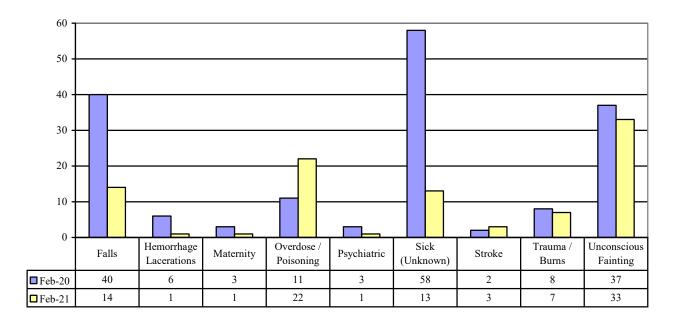


Table 4a: February 2020 & February 2021 Medical Calls by Type





## Fire Investigations

The fire investigation statistics for February 2021 are listed below:

Table 5: Total Fire Investigation Statistics – February 2021			
	Suspicious	Accidental	Undetermined
Residential - Single-family Residential - Multi-family	-	6 1	-
Commercial/Industrial	-	-	1
Outdoor	-	13	4
Vehicle	-	1	-
Totals	-	21	5

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**

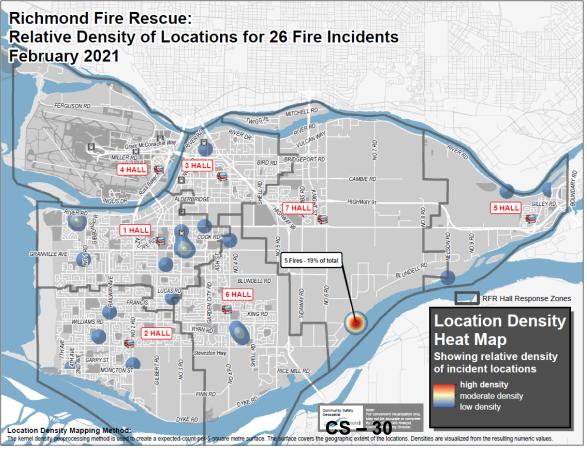
Table 6: Hazardous Materials Incidents By Type – February 2021		
	Details	
Natural Gas / Propane Leaks (small)	6	
Unclassified	3	
Vapour Leak	2	
Flammable / Combustible Liquids	4	
Totals	15	

Richmond Fire Rescue: Fire Incidents
February 2021

\*\*February 2021

\*\*Feb

Figure 1: Location of reportable fires attended in February 2021 (total 26)



Richmond Fire Rescue: Medical Incidents

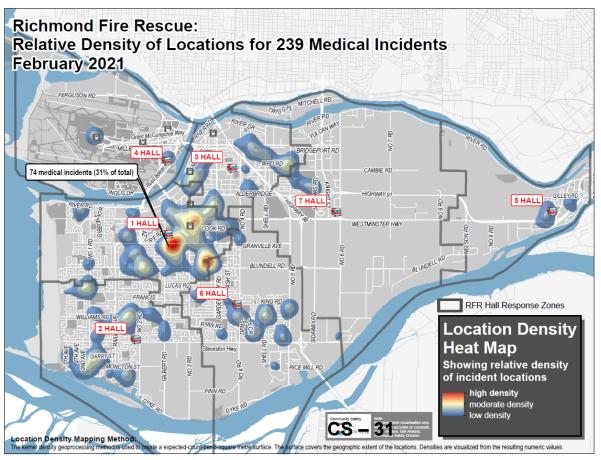
January 2021

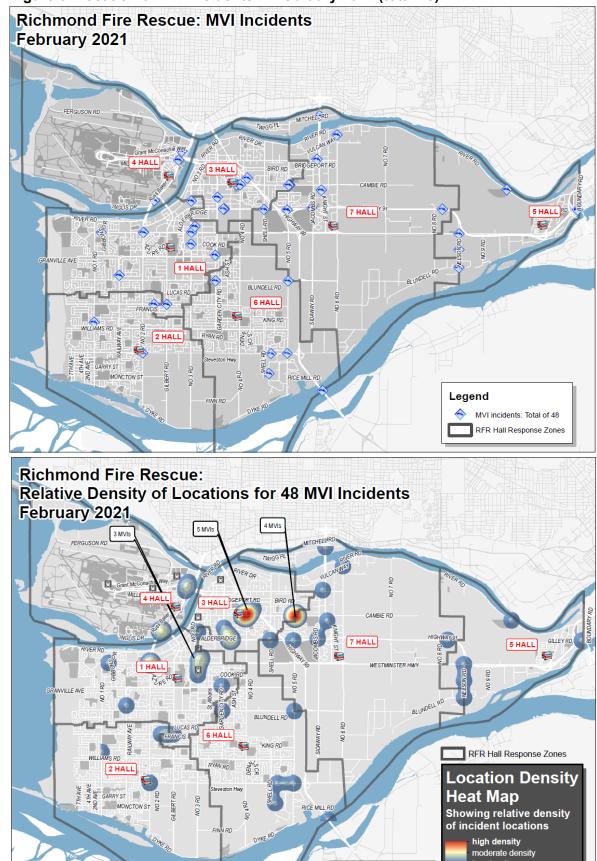
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SHALL

SHAL

Figure 2: Location of medical Incidents in February 2021 (total 239)





ation Density Mapping Method:

low density

nt or ne octations. Densities are visualized from the resulting numeric values.

Figure 3: Location of MVI Incidents in February 2021 (total 48)



# **Report to Committee**

To:

**Community Safety Committee** 

Date: N

March 5, 2021

From:

Will Ng

File:

09-5000-01/2021-Vol

Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge

01

Re:

2021-2022 Richmond RCMP Detachment Annual Performance Plan -

**Community Priorities** 

#### Staff Recommendation

That the priorities, Property Crime, Organized Crime, Road Safety and Vulnerable Persons, listed in the staff report titled "2021-2022 Richmond RCMP Detachment Annual Performance Plan – Community Priorities", dated March 5, 2021 from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP, be endorsed for inclusion in the Richmond RCMP Detachment's fiscal year 2021-2022 (April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022) Annual Performance Plan.

Will Ng

Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge

(604-278-1212)

REPORT CONCURRENCE

**CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER** 

SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW

INITIALS:

APPROVED BY CAO

6599735

#### **Staff Report**

#### Origin

The Officer in Charge (OIC) of the Richmond RCMP Detachment (Richmond Detachment) is committed to aligning the Richmond Detachment's strategic goals with the City of Richmond's vision "to be the most appealing, livable and well-managed community in Canada" and the RCMP's vision to promote safe communities. As such, the Richmond Detachment requests Council's input into the development of its Annual Performance Plan (APP) for the 2021-2022 fiscal year (April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022).

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.

1.1 Enhance safety services and strategies to meet community needs.

#### **Findings of Fact**

#### Background

The APP delivers planning and performance management to the Richmond Detachment and ensures policing initiatives are aligned with the City of Richmond and RCMP strategic priorities. The APP allows the Officer in Charge to systematically evaluate and manage police resources and operations. It also provides a valuable consultation and reporting mechanism for the City of Richmond, the Commanding Officer of RCMP "E" Division and Richmond Detachment staff.

#### **Planning**

The OIC is committed to regular engagement with Council and City staff to identify opportunities for improved service delivery in the community. The Richmond Detachment also promotes community and stakeholder engagement in developing responses to policing priorities. This process contributes to the framework for strategic planning activities and allows for the coordination of policing objectives with the unique needs of the City of Richmond, as well as the RCMP's national, provincial and district initiatives. Measurements, targets and integrated risk assessments for policing initiatives are also created annually to monitor performance and manage opportunities and risks.

#### **Quarterly Performance Updates**

Every quarter, Council receives an update on the status of the APP, which highlights the progress of objectives and policing initiatives, as well as communicates whether planned targets are ontrack. For those measures which are not on-track, an assessment is conducted to determine whether alternative responses would be effective.

#### Annual Performance Plan Features

The APP is designed to facilitate the best management and administrative practices for RCMP Units and Detachments and provides the foundation for the following five organizational initiatives:<sup>1</sup>

- 3 -

- Contract and Aboriginal Policing Community Plans;
- Integrated Risk Management;
- Unit Level Quality Assurance;
- Performance Management; and
- Performance Improvement.

#### **Analysis**

#### **Community Priorities**

The Community Priorities outlined in the APP are selected through the ongoing strategic planning process. This includes the analysis of police statistics and emerging public safety issues, the review of existing programs and initiatives and the results of stakeholder engagement. The selected priorities are carefully reviewed to identify possible opportunities and risks. Initiatives in support of each priority are then developed through a collaborative planning process. A target performance measure is also assigned to each priority to assist with evaluating the success of the initiatives.<sup>2</sup> This process facilitates an effective response to the identified objectives and provides an opportunity to demonstrate accountability to the community.

Community engagement was conducted through the Let's Talk Richmond public engagement platform.<sup>3</sup> An online feedback form was made available from February 24, 2020 to March 8, 2020, which included questions relating to demographics, policing priorities and other elements of police service delivery. A PDF version of the form was also made available in English, French and Traditional and Simplified Chinese. A total of 501 feedback forms were received. In addition, members of the Richmond Detachment Senior Management Team have conducted stakeholder interviews in preparation for the 2021-2025 Richmond RCMP Detachment Strategic Plan. These discussions will contribute to the implementation of current and future programs and initiatives.

Nationally, the RCMP delayed the launch of the 2020-2021 APP due to the COVID-19 pandemic. While strategic planning and performance management activities continued at the detachment level, the significant delay meant that the Richmond Detachment was not able to present the APP Community Priorities to Council, as had been the practice in prior years.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As per RCMP Administrative Manual Chapter 18.2 Annual Performance Plan

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Performance measures will be presented in the quarterly updates.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> While the Feedback Form was launched in support of the 2020-2021 APP, it was also intended to support future planning activities, including the 2021-2022 APP.

The following three priorities were selected internally by the Richmond Detachment Senior Management Team based on crime trends, operational opportunities and the results of engagement activities:

- 1. Property Crime;
- 2. Organized Crime; and
- 3. Road Safety.

Prior to this, the 2019-2020 APP, which Council endorsed on May 14, 2019, identified the following priorities:

- 1. Property Crime;
- 2. Organized Crime;
- 3. Vulnerable Persons: and
- 4. Road Safety.

After assessing recent crime trends and considering the priorities identified through the strategic planning and engagement process, the Richmond Detachment is recommending that Council align this year's priorities with those of previous years in order to maintain Richmond Detachment's commitment to these strategic priorities, while also continuing to develop the responses and initiatives promoting these objectives. The Richmond Detachment is recommending the following four priorities for this year's APP (April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022):

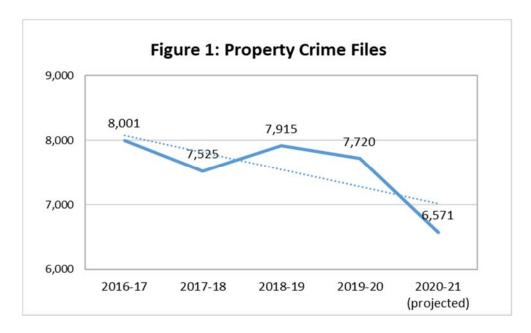
- 1. Property Crime;
- 2. Organized Crime;
- 3. Vulnerable Persons; and
- 4. Road Safety.

#### COVID-19

Due to COVID-19 safety protocols, training opportunities for RCMP members have been reduced, as have some proactive policing measures. Volunteer deployments have been limited, which has impacted the delivery of crime prevention and road safety community programs. The Richmond Detachment is continuously assessing how resources are deployed and the OIC is committed to addressing the priorities identified in the APP, while being responsive to the current public health emergency.

#### **Property Crime**

The Richmond Detachment has maintained property crime as a community priority and has continued to deploy a robust crime reduction strategy built on intelligence-led crime analysis to target property crimes. These responsive measures include the management of prolific offenders, proactive policing initiatives, collaborations with partner agencies and targeted enforcement projects. These measures have resulted in a number of key investigations, leading to notable arrests. This expansive approach to targeting property crime also includes increased training for police officers and increased public awareness of crime prevention measures and programs.



Statistical analysis of property crime incidents for the last five years has identified a decreasing trend, with a prominent reduction in the 2020-21 fiscal year. However, property crime remains a policing priority in order to ensure recent reductions are sustained and to expand existing crime reduction initiatives. Property crime was identified as a significant concern by 53 per cent of respondents who participated in the Let's Talk Richmond feedback form.<sup>4</sup>

### Organized Crime

The Richmond Detachment has maintained organized crime as a community priority. There have been notable incidents of gang activity in the Lower Mainland in recent months, including two fatal shootings in Richmond in January 2021. While the overall violent crime rate has been decreasing in Richmond, the OIC is committed to combatting organized criminal activities, which include drug trafficking, drug production, fraudulent activities and money laundering.

In the 2020-2021 fiscal year, investigators concluded a number of high profile investigations, which included the discovery of three clandestine drug laboratories and arrests of six individuals. The Richmond Detachment continues to prioritize investigations and measures which target the disruption of organized crime. These initiatives include gang suppression patrols, outreach to money service businesses and public anti-fraud messaging. Youth education and engagement programs also continue to be a priority. Organized crime was identified as a significant concern by 45 per cent of respondents who participated in the Let's Talk Richmond feedback form.<sup>5</sup>

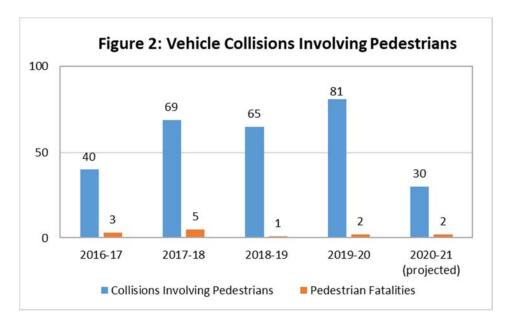
### Road Safety

The Richmond Detachment has worked diligently to increase safety on Richmond's roads. This has been done through a comprehensive road safety strategy built on intelligence-led analysis, the engagement of community policing volunteers, public education campaigns and enhanced

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Respondents who responded Extremely Concerned and Quite Concerned

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Respondents who responded Extremely Concerned and Quite Concerned.

proactive enforcement efforts. Vehicle collisions involving pedestrians decreased in the 2020-2021 fiscal year; however pedestrian fatality numbers remained steady.



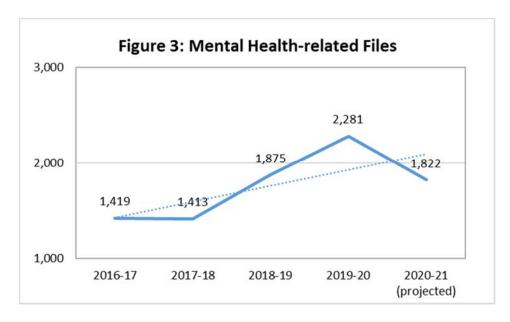
The Richmond Detachment has been promoting public education campaigns and leveraging social media to communicate road safety topics, including pedestrian safety. These initiatives have included videos and safety tips for road users. In addition, the Community Engagement Team has conducted pedestrian safety outreach deployments and have distributed safety reflectors throughout Richmond. This consistent messaging, along with continued targeted enforcement efforts will continue this year. Road Safety was identified as a significant concern by 51 per cent of respondents who participated in the Let's Talk Richmond feedback form.<sup>6</sup>

### **Vulnerable Persons**

Mental health-related calls for service in Richmond have been trending upwards in the last five years. In response to this, the Richmond Detachment, in partnership with Vancouver Coastal Health, launched the Fox 80 Mental Health Car (Fox 80) in October 2019. This program consists of a mental health nurse and police officer providing a joint response to calls where mental health is a concern. Fox 80 provides assistance to frontline officers and conducts wellness checks and police apprehensions under the *Mental Health Act*.

CS - 38

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Respondents who responded Extremely Concerned and Quite Concerned.



The Richmond Detachment has worked to promote collaborative responses to complex social issues surrounding vulnerable persons, including mental health concerns and homelessness. Moreover, the Richmond Detachment has taken on a leadership role in enhancing the collaboration of support services by bringing stakeholders together to find viable solutions to assist vulnerable clients. Fox 80 is the most prominent of these programs; however, there are various ongoing initiatives in place, including homeless outreach, collaboration with the Assertive Community Treatment Team and participation in the Joint Operations Team. This fiscal year, the Richmond Detachment will continue to focus on collaborative responses to issues surrounding vulnerable persons while also working on internal measures to enhance service delivery efficiencies. Stakeholder engagement has also identified opportunities for the continued development of these collaborations.<sup>7</sup>

# **Financial Impact**

None.

### Conclusion

Richmond Detachment requests Council select the following as Community Priorities for inclusion in the 2021-2022 Annual Performance Plan (April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022):

- 1. Property Crime;
- 2. Organized Crime;
- 3. Road Safety; and
- 4. Vulnerable Persons.

The targeted activities, as described in the Community Priorities, will include a focus on intelligence-led policing, offender management, officer visibility and crime reduction initiatives

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Vulnerable Persons was not identified in the Let's Talk Richmond feedback form as public engagement results from the previous year showed that only 33 per cent of respondents viewed it as a policing priority

through community education, engagement and partnerships, as well as intervention and prevention programs.

Edward Warzel

Manager, RCMP Administration

E. Wazel

(604-207-4767)

EW:



# **Report to Committee**

To:

Community Safety Committee

Date:

March 8, 2021

From:

Will Ng

File:

09-5000-01/2021-Vol

01

Re:

RCMP Monthly Activity Report – February 2021

Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge

#### Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled "RCMP Monthly Activity Report – February 2021", dated March 8, 2021 from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment, be received for information.

**yy**in Ng

Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge

(604-278-1212)

Att. 3

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

# **Staff Report**

# Origin

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

- 1. Activities and Noteworthy Files
- 2. Analysis of Police Statistics
- 3. Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions
- 4. 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**

#### Shots Fired

On February 1, 2021, Richmond RCMP officers responded to reports of multiple gunshots in the 22300 block of Chaldecott Drive. The occupants of two vehicles exchanged gunfire and fled the scene at a high rate of speed. No injuries were reported in connection with the shooting. The incident remains under investigation.

#### Pedestrian Struck

On February 4, 2021, Richmond RCMP officers responded to a vehicle collision involving a pedestrian near the intersection of Railway Avenue and Lancing Road. The driver of the vehicle remained at the scene and was cooperative with police. The pedestrian was transported to hospital with serious injuries. The incident is under investigation. Police have identified poor visibility and weather as factors in the collision.

### Accidental Death

On February 11, 2021, the Richmond RCMP issued a media release advising that a man had succumbed to injuries relating to a fall in the 11700 block of River Road. The Richmond RCMP were contacted by the BC Coroners Service requesting clarification on the circumstances of the incident. The Richmond RCMP Serious Crime Unit is investigating.

# Personating a Peace Officer

On February 15, 2021, the Richmond RCMP issued a media releasing advising that charges had been laid in connection with a man who posed as a peace officer at a Richmond residence on January 29, 2021. The suspect faces one count of Personating a Peace Officer and one count of Carrying a Concealed Weapon. The Richmond RCMP Serious Crime Unit is investigating.

# Analysis of Police Statistics

### Arson

In February 2021, there were two reported arsons, which is down five incidents from the previous month and down three incidents from February 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. After two consecutive months of elevated numbers, this month the number of arsons returned to within the expected range.

# Assault Serious (Assault with a Weapon)

There were 10 assault serious events in February 2021, which is down six incidents from the previous month and up three incidents from February 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of serious assaults this month is above the expected range.

Half of the incidents reported this month involved individuals who were known to each other. One notable incident occurred at an unlicensed drinking establishment where police also issued numerous Violation Tickets under the *Emergency Program Act*.

# Auto Theft

In February 2021, there were 18 incidents of auto theft, which represents no change from the previous month and is a five per cent reduction from February 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of auto thefts this month is within the expected range.

### Drugs

In February 2021, there were 33 drug files, which is down 20 per cent from the previous month and down 50 per cent from February 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of drug incidents this month is within the expected range.

#### Mental Health

There were 114 mental health-related incidents in February 2021, which is down eight per cent from the previous month and down 34 per cent from February 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of mental health-related incidents this month is within the expected range.

There were 89 police apprehensions this month and the average hospital wait time was 72 minutes. Both of these statistics are within the expected range.

### Residential Break and Enter

There were 28 break and enters to residences in February 2021, which represents a 28 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 53 per cent decrease from February 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of residential break and enters this month is below the expected range.

### Commercial Break and Enter

In February 2021, there were 23 break and enters to businesses, which represents no change from the previous month and is a 23 per cent reduction from February 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of commercial break and enters this month is within the expected range.

# Robbery

There were six robbery incidents in February 2021, which is up one incident from the previous month and down one incident from February 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of robberies this month is within the expected range.

#### Sexual Offences

In February 2021, there were 20 sexual offence files, which represents a 33 per cent increase from the previous month and is more than double the number reported in February 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of sexual offences this month is above the expected range.

Of the files this month, 20 per cent relate to referrals received from the BC Integrated Child Exploitation Unit. While the referrals were received this month, the incidents may have occurred up to several months prior.

### Shoplifting

There were 58 shoplifting thefts in February 2021, which are down 18 per cent from the previous month and down 15 per cent from February 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of reported shoplifting thefts this month is within the expected range.

### Theft from Automobile

There were 122 theft from automobile incidents in February 2021, which is down nine per cent from the previous month and down 21 per cent from February 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of thefts from automobiles this month is below the expected range.

### COVID-19 Statistics

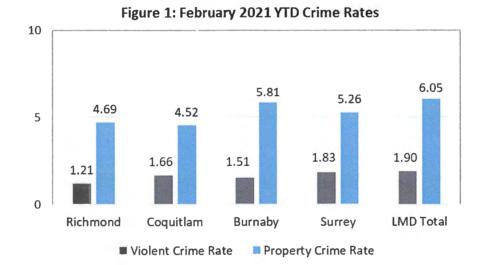
Table 1 outlines the number of police calls for service related to COVID-19. In February 2021, there were 51 COVID-19-related files. The majority of incidents were related to reports of social gatherings and failure to wear masks. Police issued approximately 151 Violation Tickets this

month, the majority of which were in relation to large gatherings, unlicensed drinking establishments, house parties and commercial locations operating like nightclubs/karaoke bars.<sup>1</sup>

Table 1: COVID-19-related	Calls for Service February 2021
Quarantine Act (Federal)	5
Public Health Act (Provincial)	2
Emergency Program Act	44
Total	51

# **Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions**

Data on crime rates is presented in Figure 1.<sup>2</sup> Out of the four largest municipalities policed by the RCMP in the Lower Mainland District (LMD), Richmond had the lowest violent crime rate and the second lowest property crime rate in February 2021.



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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 148 Violation Tickets were issued under the *Emergency Program Act* and three under the Quarantine Act. The total number of Violation Tickets is subject to change as it is based on the physical tickets submitted at the time of writing and there may be delays in the submission of tickets.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Crime rate is calculated per 1,000 people.

# **Auxiliary Program**

In February 2021, the Richmond RCMP Detachment had a complement of 30 Auxiliaries.<sup>3</sup> Due to COVID-19 safety protocols, volunteer activities have been significantly reduced. Auxiliaries provided a total of 144 volunteer hours during the month of February.

**Figure 2: Auxiliary Volunteer Hours** Sep Dec Total Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Oct Nov 3,730 4,870 5,025 □ 2020 5,508 

Figure 2 compares the monthly hours of service provided from 2017 to 2021.

# 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 February, Auxiliaries participated in:

- Administrative Support
- Bait Car
- Diversity Unit

### **Block Watch**

At the end of February 2021, the Block Watch program had 306 groups totaling 6,584 participants. Currently, the program includes 439 captains and co-captains. This month, the Block Watch program launched virtual training for captains and new participants.

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

# **Community Police Station Programs**

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

During the month of February volunteer highlights included:

- February 2 Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a Lock Out Auto Crime and Stolen Auto Recovery deployment at Richmond Centre and issued eight information letters.<sup>4</sup>
- February 5 Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a Lock Out Auto Crime and Stolen Auto Recovery deployment in Central Richmond and issued 33 information letters.
- February 15 Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a Lock Out Auto Crime and Stolen Auto Recovery deployment in the area of No. 5 Road and Cambie Road and located a stolen vehicle with stolen license plates. A total of 12 information letters were also issued during the deployment.
- February 17 and 18 14 volunteers participated in mandatory COVID-19 safety training in order to return to volunteer program activities.
- February 19 Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a Lock Out Auto Crime and Stolen Auto Recovery deployment in the area of Bridgeport Road and St. Edwards Road and issued 27 information letters.
- February 24 and 26 Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with Lock Out Auto Crime and Stolen Auto Recovery deployments in the area of Bridgeport Road and Gage Road and issued 52 information letters.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Crime prevention notices have been temporarily replaced by information letters, which are mailed to registered vehicle owners.

# Lock Out Auto Crime

Figure 3 provides a comparison by year of the number of vehicle notices issued.<sup>5</sup>

6,000 4,000 2,000 0 Nov Total Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Dec 2017 1,771 2,771 2,705 3,407 1,351 2,382 2,631 3,397 1,679 3,872 2,881 2,613 31,460 **2018** 4,625 43,880 3,228 2,466 4,538 3,538 2,978 5,654 3,466 3,393 4,133 3,870 1,991 2019 3,569 4,068 3,385 3,304 5,048 5,372 4,376 49,212 4,848 3,927 3,451 3,634 4,230 □ 2020 0 0 0 9,383 4,116 4,050 1,134 0 0 0 0 63 20 ■ 2021 132 230

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.

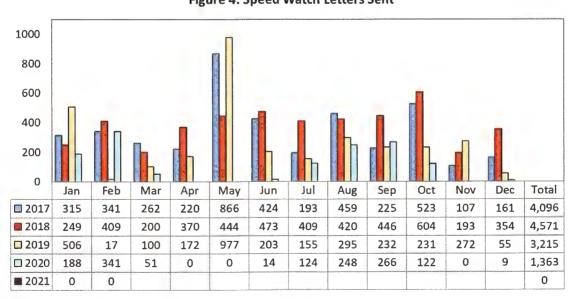


Figure 4: Speed Watch Letters Sent

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Beginning in November 2020, Lock Out Auto Crime letters were issued in place of notices.

# Crime Prevention Unit

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

- Diversity & Inclusion Initiatives
- Lock Out Auto Crime
- Foot Patrols

- Road Safety Presentation
- Safe Place Program
- Volunteer COVID-19 Safety Training

### 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 February 2021 to both December 2020 and January 2021. Violation Tickets were issued for the following infractions:

Table 2: Violation Tickets Issued

Infraction	December 2020	January 2021	February 2021	
Distracted Driving	122	82	105	
Driver License	198	183	157	
Impaired	35	26	24	
Intersection Offences	55	57	54	
Moving Infractions <sup>6</sup>	204	168	135	
Speeding	289	320	272	
Seatbelts	2	1	0	
Vehicle Related <sup>7</sup>	109	98	87	
Other <sup>8</sup>	49	11	5	
Total	1,063	946	839	

# Victim Services

In February 2021, Richmond RCMP Victim Services met with 58 new clients and attended five crime/trauma scenes after hours. Victim Services reduced in-person client services in March 2020 and began offering services by phone but continue to attend some of the more serious calls in-person. The unit currently maintains an active caseload of 232 files. In February, Victim Services responded to a number of cases involving medical-related sudden deaths, suicides, drug overdoses and mental health issues.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Moving infractions refers to unsafe lane change and unsafe passing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Vehicle related refers to vehicle defects, for example no lights and no insurance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</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 Richmond RCMP Detachment's Youth Section focuses on strategies that contribute to safe and healthy behaviours essential to the development of productive and civic-minded adults. During the month of February, Youth Section highlights included:

- 104 Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) classes were delivered via Zoom as the program continued through virtual lessons. Grade 5 students in 17 schools are participating in the second term of the DARE program.
- RCMP officers in the Youth Section conducted 68 proactive school visits at Secondary Schools and 153 visits at Elementary Schools. Police officers engaged with the students at recess and lunch, as well as during morning and afternoon supervision.

# **Financial Impact**

None.

### Conclusion

In February 2021, the Richmond RCMP conducted a number of noteworthy investigations, including a serious collision involving a pedestrian and a shooting. Police statistics for this month indicate that most crime types were within the expected range. However, serious assaults and sexual offences were above the expected range, while residential break and enters and thefts from automobiles were below the expected range.

In February, the Richmond RCMP Community Engagement Team and volunteers conducted crime prevention deployments focusing on automobile theft and theft from vehicles. In addition, the DARE program continued its second term, which is being delivered via virtual lessons. The Officer in Charge of the Richmond RCMP Detachment will continue to ensure that Richmond remains a safe and desirable community.

Edward Warze

Manager, RCMP Administration

(604-207-4767)

EW:

Att. 1: Community Policing Programs

2: Crime Statistics

3: Crime Maps

### **Auxiliary Constables**

- The primary mandate of Richmond's Auxiliary Constables is to support community policing activities related to public safety and crime prevention.
- For more information, visit www.richmond.ca/safety/police/prevention/auxiliary.htm

### **Block Watch**

- Community-based crime prevention program aimed at helping neighbors organize themselves to prevent crime.
- Residents can receive email alerts of neighbourhood residential break and enters by registering their email addresses at: <a href="mailto:blockwatch@richmond.ca">blockwatch@richmond.ca</a>
- For more information, visit www.richmond.ca/safety/police/prevention/blockwatch.htm

# Distracted Driving Program

- Trained volunteers monitor intersections and observe distracted drivers.
- A letter is sent to the registered owner of the offending vehicle with information on the safety risks associated to the observed behaviour and applicable fine amounts.
- For more information, visit www.richmond.ca/safety/police/prevention/programs.htm

### Fail to Stop

- Trained volunteers monitor areas that have been referred to the program by local businesses or residents where drivers are not making a full stop at the stop sign, or running a red light.
- An information letter is sent to the registered owner of the vehicle advising them the
  date, time and location and applicable fine amounts if the driver received a violation
  ticket.

#### Lock Out Auto Crime

- Co-sponsored by the Insurance Corporation of BC (ICBC), volunteers patrol city streets and parking lots looking for automobile security vulnerabilities.
- Notices supplied by ICBC are issued to every vehicle inspected indicating to the owner what issues need to be addressed in order to keep the vehicle and contents secure.

- For more information, visit
- www.richmond.ca/safety/police/personal/vehicle.htm

### Project 529

- This program allows riders to easily and securely register their bikes. This up-to-date database of bikes alerts its registrants if a fellow 529 bike is stolen.
- Project 529 is a unique, multi-national registry that holds a database of all registered and stolen bikes.

### Speed Watch

- Co-sponsored by ICBC, promotes safe driving habits by alerting drivers of their speed.
- Trained volunteers are equipped with radar and a speed watch reader board that gives drivers instant feedback regarding their speed.
- Volunteers record the license plate number and the speed, and a letter is sent to the registered owner of the offending vehicle. The letter includes the date, time and location and applicable fine amounts if the driver received a violation ticket.

# Stolen Auto Recovery

- Co-sponsored by ICBC, trained volunteers equipped with portable computers identify stolen vehicles.
- These volunteers recover hundreds of stolen vehicles each year throughout the Lower Mainland.

# Volunteer Bike and Foot Patrol Program

• Trained volunteers patrol Richmond neighbourhoods reporting suspicious activities and providing a visible deterrent to crime and public order issues.

# FEBRUARY 2021 STATISTICS

# RICHMOND RCMP

This chart identifies the monthly totals for founded Criminal Code incidents, excluding traffic-related Criminal Code incidents. Based on Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) scoring, there are three categories: (1) Violent Crime, (2) Property Crime, and (3) Other Criminal Code. Within each category, particular offence types are highlighted in this chart. In addition, monthly totals for Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA) incidents and MHA-related calls for service are included. Individual UCR codes are indicated below the specific crime type.

In 2019, changes were implemented regarding the collection of UCR data. The new standards provide much more stringent criteria to classify a file as unfounded. As a result, there will be an increase in many crime statistics, and clearance rates will conversely decline. This creates numerous challenges when comparing previous years' data. Full details on the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey are available at Statistics Canada: https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54973-eng.htm. For more information, contact Richmond Crime Analysts.

The 5 year average range data is based on activity within a single month over the past 5 years. If the current monthly total for an offence is above the expected average range (using one standard deviation) due to crime trends, patterns, or spikes, it will be noted in red. If the current monthly total for an offence is above the expected average range due to primarily non-operational reasons such as the new UCR standards or other scoring issues, the total will be noted in purple. Below expected numbers will be noted in blue.

	Month 5-Yr Avg 5-Yr Range				Year to Date Totals			
	Feb-21	February			2020	2021	% Change	# Change
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	126	110.0	91-129		260	274	5%	14
Robbery UCR 1610 (1-3)	6	6.0	1-11		10	11	10%	1
Assault Common	45	41.2	34-49		105	93	-11%	-12
Assault Serious	10	6.2	5-8		18	26	44%	8
Sexual Offences UCR 1345, 1330, 1356, 1310, 3450/55/56	20	8.6	7-10		25	35	40%	10
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	492	636.6	588-686		1198	1025	-14%	-173
Business B&E UCR 2120-1	23	33.8	21-47		61	46	-25%	-15
Residential B&E	28	65.4	53-78		106	67	-37%	-39
Auto Theft UCR 2135 (1-10), 2178	18	21.8	16-27		54	36	-33%	-18
Theft from Auto	122	183.0	161-205		345	256	-26%	-89
Theft UCR 2130, 2140	69	97.6	79-116		145	127	-12%	-18
Shoplifting UCR 2133, 2143	58	62.2	55-70		131	129	-2%	-2
Fraud UCR 2160 (all), 2165, 2166	66	73.8	66-81		155	141	-9%	-14
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	201	167.2	150-185		356	414	16%	58
Arson UCR 1629, 2110	2	2.0	0-4		7	9	29%	2
SUBTOTAL CC OFFENCES (UCR 1000 to 3000 Series)	819	913.8	865-963		1814	1715	-5%	-99
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	33	54.8	40-70		255	74	-71%	-181
MHA RELATED CALLS (MHA files or Mental Health flag)	114	132.0	103-161		339	238	-30%	-101

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