



**Community Safety Committee
Electronic Meeting**

**Anderson Room, City Hall
6911 No. 3 Road**

**Tuesday, June 10, 2025
4:00 p.m.**

Pg. # ITEM

MINUTES

- CS-4 *Motion to adopt the **minutes** of the meeting of the Community Safety Committee held on May 13, 2025.*



NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

July 15, 2025, (tentative date) at 4:00 p.m. in the Anderson Room.

LAW AND COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION

1. **COMMUNITY BYLAWS MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – APRIL 2025**

(File Ref. No. 12-8375-02) (REDMS No. 8050640)

CS-8

See Page CS-8 for full report

Designated Speaker: Mark Corrado

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the staff report titled “Community Bylaws Monthly Activity Report – April 2025”, dated May 12, 2025, from the Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing, be received for information.



2. **RICHMOND FIRE-RESCUE MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – APRIL 2025**

(File Ref. No. 09-5140-01) (REDMS No. 8049337)

CS-18

See Page CS-18 for full report

Designated Speaker: Fire Chief Jim Wishlove

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the staff report titled “Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – April 2025”, dated May 23, 2025, from the Fire Chief, be received for information.



3. **FIRE CHIEF BRIEFING**

(Verbal Report)

Designated Speaker: Fire Chief Jim Wishlove

Items for discussion:

None.

4. **RCMP MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – APRIL 2025**

(File Ref. No. 09-5350-01) (REDMS No. 8035658)

CS-32

See Page CS-32 for full report

Designated Speaker: Chief Supt. Dave Chauhan

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – April 2025”, dated May 14, 2025, from the Officer in Charge, be received for information.



Community Safety Committee Agenda – Tuesday, June 10, 2025

Pg. #

ITEM

5. **RCMP/OIC BRIEFING**
(Verbal Report)

Designated Speaker: Chief Supt. Dave Chauhan

Items for discussion:

None.

6. **MANAGER'S REPORT**

ADJOURNMENT





Community Safety Committee

Date: Tuesday, May 13, 2025

Place: Anderson Room
Richmond City Hall

Present: Councillor Alexa Loo, Chair
Councillor Andy Hobbs (entered the meeting at 4:20 p.m.)
Councillor Laura Gillanders
Councillor Kash Heed
Councillor Bill McNulty

Also Present: Councillor Chak Au
Councillor Michael Wolfe

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 April 15, 2025, be adopted.

CARRIED

AGENDA ADDITION

It was moved and seconded

That Altered Electric Mobility Devices be added to the agenda as Item No. 6A.

CARRIED

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

June 10, 2025, (tentative date) at 4:00 p.m. in the Anderson Room.

Community Safety Committee
Tuesday, May 13, 2025

LAW AND COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION

1. COMMUNITY BYLAWS MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – MARCH 2025

(File Ref. No. 12-8375-02) (REDMS No. 8025423)

It was moved and seconded

That the staff report titled “Community Bylaws Monthly Activity Report – March 2025”, dated April 24, 2025, from the Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing, be received for information.

CARRIED

2. RICHMOND FIRE-RESCUE MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – MARCH 2025

(File Ref. No. 09-5140-01) (REDMS No. 8019168)

It was moved and seconded

That the staff report titled “Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – March 2025”, dated April 24, 2025, from the Fire Chief, be received for information.

CARRIED

3. FIRE CHIEF BRIEFING

(Verbal Report)

None.

4. RCMP MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – MARCH 2025

(File Ref. No. 09-5350-01) (REDMS No. 7990163)

It was moved and seconded

That the report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – March 2025”, dated April 24, 2025, from the Officer in Charge, be received for information.

CARRIED

5. RCMP/OIC BRIEFING

(Verbal Report)

None.

Community Safety Committee
Tuesday, May 13, 2025

6. TOUCHSTONE FAMILY ASSOCIATION RESTORATIVE JUSTICE CONTRACT RENEWAL 2026 - 2028 AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE OUTCOME EVALUATION REPORT
(File Ref. No. 03-1000-05-069) (REDMS No. 8013059)

Councillor Andy Hobbs entered the meeting (4:20 p.m.).

Discussion took place on the funds provided by the Provincial government, and it was noted that most of the funds provided to Touchstone Family Association Restorative Justice is from the City.

It was moved and seconded

- (1) That the contract renewal with Touchstone Family Association for the provision of Restorative Justice for three-years (2026-2028) as outlined in the staff report titled "Touchstone Family Association Restorative Justice Contract Renewal 2026-2028 and Annual Performance Outcome Evaluation Report", dated April 29, 2025, from the General Manager, Law and Community Safety, be approved;*
- (2) That the Chief Administrative Officer and the General Manager, Law and Community Safety be authorized to execute the Touchstone Fee for Services Renewal Agreement as described in this report; and*
- (3) That the Touchstone Fee for Services in the amount of \$110, 770 per year for the three-year renewal term be approved and included as part of the 2026 budget process;*
- (4) That a copy of the staff report and a letter advocating for more funding for the Restorative Justice Program be sent to local Members of the Legislative Assembly and the Attorney General; and*
- (5) That the staff report be posted on the City's website.*

CARRIED

6A. ALTERED ELECTRIC MOBILITY DEVICES
(File Ref. No.)

Discussion took place on complaints received regarding the excessive speeds of modified E-Scooters and E-Bikes on multi-use pathways, sidewalks and roadways.

Community Safety Committee

Tuesday, May 13, 2025

In response to queries from Committee, staff advised that (i) excessive speeds of the modified e-scooters and e-bikes is a community concern, (ii) continuous education and enforcement are important factors to reduce infractions, (iii) signs can be installed along the pathways to advise individuals of the speed limits, and (iv) modifications to the micro mobility vehicles are not illegal, however, they are illegal to ride if they exceed a certain power and speed.

Committee provided direction to staff to examine creative ways to educate the public of appropriate speeds for micro mobility vehicles on multi-use pathways and roadways.

7. **MANAGER'S REPORT**

None.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded
That the meeting adjourn (4:43 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, May 13, 2025.

Councillor Alexa Loo
Chair

Sarah Goddard
Legislative Services Associate



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** May 12, 2025
From: Mark Corrado **File:** 12-8375-02/2025-Vol
Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing 01
Re: **Community Bylaws Monthly Activity Report – April 2025**

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled “Community Bylaws Monthly Activity Report – April 2025”, dated May 12, 2025, from the Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing, be received for information.

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

Att. 1

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

Staff Report

Origin

This monthly report highlights activities, information, and statistics related to calls for service from the Property Use, Parking Enforcement, and Animal Protection units of Community Bylaws.

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.

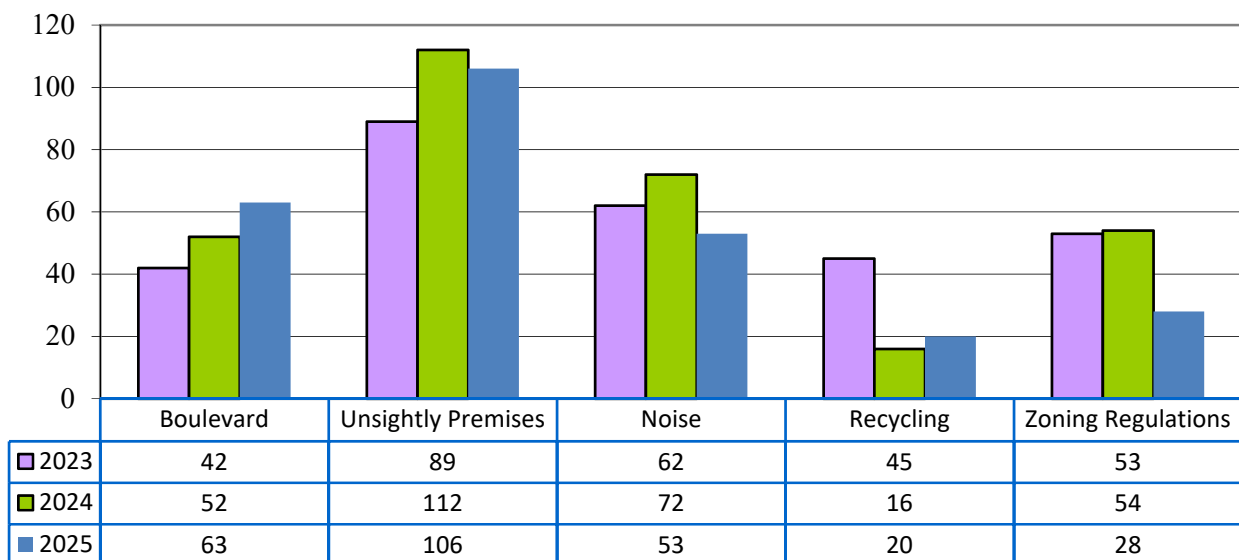
3.4 Ensure civic infrastructure, assets and resources are effectively maintained and continue to meet the needs of the community as it grows.

Analysis

Property Use Calls for Service

In April 2025, a total of 95 calls for service were opened for investigation which represented a 6.8 percent decrease (102) from the same period last year. Depending on the nature of the investigation, staff often liaise with multiple departments and other government agencies to conduct a review of a given complaint. Among 24 potential calls for service categories, Figure 1 highlights the most common calls for service received by Property Use officers to follow up on and investigation. Staff will continue to monitor this variance to determine whether a significant trend is emerging.

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



Tree Island - Update

Since January 2024, the City has been actively addressing issues related to live-aboard vessels, unpermitted structures along the dyke, and unsafe vehicle parking near dyke access points. Enforcement actions have included the removal of unauthorized construction on City property and the towing of hazardously parked vehicles following the issuance of violations.

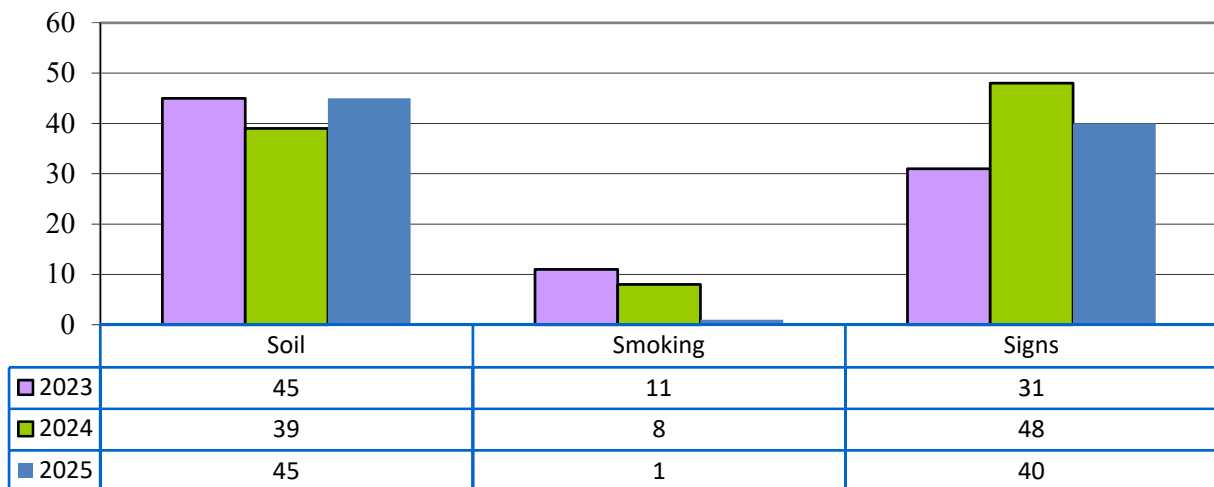
Of particular concern was the unpermitted construction of a dock on the foreshore—an area under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Forests. The presence of this dock facilitated easy moorage of vessels within a federally regulated waterway. On April 24th, in coordination with Natural Resource Officers (NROs) and the Ministry of Forests, the dock was seized and authorized for removal. A specialized marine salvage contractor was engaged by staff to remove the dock from the water side (see Attachment 1). The dock was detached from the dyke and floated down river for haul out and recycling.

The entire dock structure has now been removed from the waterway. In addition, a sunken vessel was also removed from the waterway as part of the same waterside cleanup. There are no permanent live-aboard in the slough, and the three remaining vessels are temporarily anchored. The vessel owners have indicated they will be seeking alternative moorage arrangements. Staff will continue to monitor this area and will keep Council informed of any further developments.

Other Community Bylaws Calls for Service

Figure 2 shows a three-year breakdown of other calls for service that are closely related to Property Use matters.

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



Signage-related calls cover a variety of issues. In April, the Sign Inspector received a total of 19 calls. Of these, 14 were related to the improper placement of election signage, and the remaining five were real estate signage. In these cases, staff work directly with the agents to ensure the signage is brought into compliance or removed altogether.

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 23 site inspections for the month of April. When ongoing unpermitted soil deposition is found, staff frequently issue a Stop Work and/or Removal Order, which is frequently accompanied by ticket issuance and escalating enforcement action.

Stop Work and/or Removal Orders were issued to the following properties:

- 9531 Sidaway Road
- 12060 No. 2 Road
- 11760 Blundell Road

The following properties are now in compliance:

- 7831 No. 5 Road

There are approximately 37 soil deposit proposals under various stages of the application process and staff continue to monitor 19 approved sites. Staff are currently addressing approximately 32 properties that are considered non-compliant.

Bylaw Prosecutions

No new bylaw charges were sworn in the month of April.

Parking Enforcement

In April, parking enforcement officers issued 2,844 tickets which is a 65.6 percent increase from last year (1,717). Staff responded to 421 calls for service, representing a 14.4 percent increase from the calls received during the same period last year (368). The majority of the calls and the largest increase were for safety and obstruction which primarily involve parking issues that pose safety risks, such as vehicles parked in no-stopping zones, near fire hydrants, or obstructing roadways and driveways. Also, regular deployment of the Licence Plate Recognition (LPR) vehicle has improved coverage and efficiency in enforcing time restrictions. Year-to-date, tickets related to time enforcement have increased by 117.8 percent, rising to 536 compared to 246 during the same period last year.

Monthly parking enforcement revenue is highlighted in Figure 3. Figure 4 highlights the monthly parking violation issuance.

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

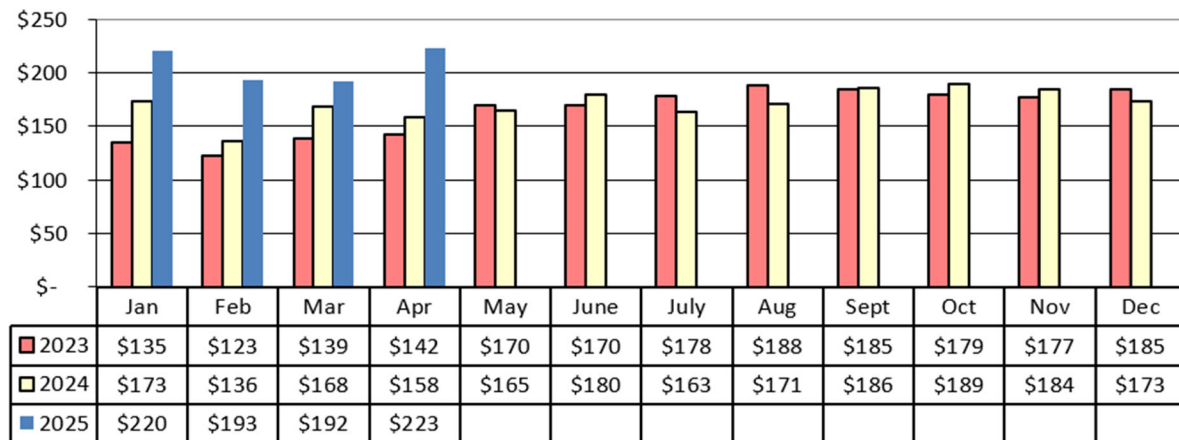
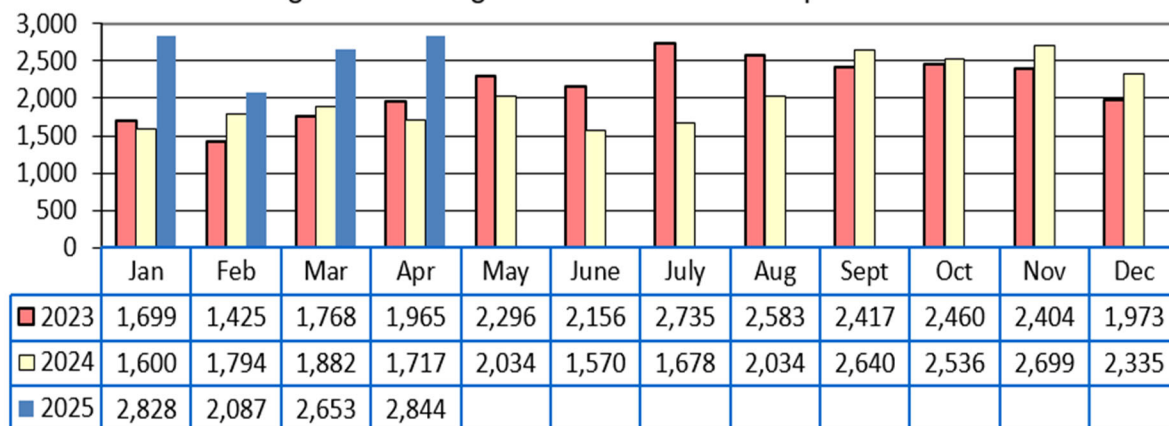


Figure 4: Parking Violation Issuance Comparison



Animal Protection and Dog Licencing

As of May 6, 2025, approximately 6,007 dog licences have been issued. This figure represents 80 percent of the 7,500 licences on file from last year. Dog licenses are valid for the calendar year, regardless of the purchase date. Staff are now focusing on canvassing efforts to follow up with accounts that have not renewed or provided updates on their account status.

In April, BC SPCA Officers responded to 146 calls for service related to animal control and dog licencing violations. Officers conducted 142 park patrols across 38 different parks, dikes, and school grounds. Frequently patrolled parks in April were Garry Point, Gilbert Beach, McNair Secondary School, Steveston Community Centre and No. 3 Road Bark Park. Of the total patrols, 121 were proactive while the remaining were responses to public complaints. In addition to enforcement, these patrols fulfill an important educational role by promoting public awareness and encouraging voluntary compliance.

A press release was issued regarding an emaciated dog found near McNair Secondary. Despite his condition, the dog remains loving and affectionate, at the time of this report, he is still in foster care and will remain there until he has fully recovered and is ready for adoption.

Operationally, the centre could not take in any dogs due to a Parvovirus outbreak that lasted nearly a month. Due to the shelter team's swift response and early detection—particularly when a group of puppies entered care—the outbreak was successfully contained. Dogs were rerouted to other SPCA network shelters while the Richmond shelters was in quarantine. As of April 28th, operations have returned to normal.

Ticketing

Table 1 presents non-parking-related Bylaw ticket issuance for April, sorted accordingly. Year-to-date, all issued tickets have been Bylaw Violation Notices (BVNs), with no Municipal Ticket Information (MTIs) issued.

Table 1: Community Bylaw Offences

Ticket Issuance (BVN's & MTI's)	April	YTD
Animal/Dog Licencing Offences	14	58
Building Regulation Offences	7	31
Sign Offences	2	19
Soil Deposit and Removal Offences	2	42
Unsightly Premises Offences	1	19
Noise Offences	1	1
Watercourse Protection Offences	1	1
Demolition Waste and Recyclable Materials Offences	0	2
Parks Offences	0	0
Solid Waste and Recycling Offences	0	0
Watering Offences	0	0
Totals	28	173

Bylaw Adjudication

No adjudication hearings were held in the month of April and the next hearing will be held on June 18, 2025.

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 increase in Q2 and Q3. Revenue collected in "Other Bylaw Fines" is primarily attributed to infractions such as unsightly premises and building-related violations. These results are shown in Table 2.

Parking enforcement generates a significant portion of its revenue from meters, permits and fines. Table 3 identifies the individual revenue sources within parking enforcement. Table 4 highlights the funds collected from dog licencing and fines. The overall increase in licencing revenue can be attributed to proactive work done by staff in previous years to ensure accuracy in

dog licencing accounts and to conduct canvassing efforts for compliance. Table 5 outlines the net revenue and expenses for property use, parking enforcement and animal protection services.

Table 2: Property Use Revenue by Source

Program Revenue	Budget Apr 2025	Actual Apr 2025	YTD Budget Apr 2025	YTD Actual Apr 2025
Soil Permit Application and Volume Fees	\$20,628	\$7,402	\$51,474	\$18,076
Other Bylaw Fines	\$25,438	\$14,832	\$109,364	\$58,458
Total Revenue	\$46,066	\$22,234	\$160,838	\$76,534

Table 3: Parking Revenue by Source

Program Revenue	Budget Apr 2025	Actual Apr 2025	YTD Budget Apr 2025	YTD Actual Apr 2025
Contract Revenue ¹	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
Filming Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$736
Parking Revenue ²	\$179,600	\$222,706	\$718,400	\$827,812
Total Revenue	\$184,600	\$227,706	\$738,400	\$848,548

Table 4: Animal Protection Services Revenue by Source

Program Revenue	Budget Apr 2025	Actual Apr 2025	YTD Budget Apr 2025	YTD Actual Apr 2025
Dog Licences	\$15,000	\$16,169	\$222,000	\$229,776
Fines	\$520	\$825	\$1,700	\$3,800
Total Revenue	\$15,520	\$16,994	\$223,700	\$233,576

Table 5: Property Use, Parking and Animal Protection Services Revenue and Expenses

		YTD Budget Apr 2025	YTD Actual Apr 2025
Property Use	Revenue	\$160,838	\$76,534
	Expenses	\$626,500	\$404,232
	Net Revenue (Expense)	(\$465,662)	(\$327,698)
Parking	Revenue	\$738,400	\$848,548
	Expenses	\$675,867	\$626,265
	Net Revenue (Expense)	\$62,533	\$222,283
Animal Protection	Revenue	\$223,700	\$233,576
	Expenses	\$493,867	\$468,086
	Net Revenue (Expense)	(\$270,167)	(\$234,510)

¹ City Towing Contract with Rusty's Towing

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

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

Staff and contracted service providers administer and enforce 41 unique bylaws, covering a diverse range of various regulated community activities and service use, notably land use, noise, soil deposit/removal, short-term rentals, parking permits and enforcement, unsightly premises and animal protection services. This report provides a summary of departmental activity in April.



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

Att. 1: Tree Island – Unpermitted Dock Removal

Attachment 1

Tree Island - Unpermitted Dock Removal. April 24, 2025







City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee

Date: May 23, 2025

From: Jim Wishlove
Fire Chief

File 09-5140-01/2025-Vol
01

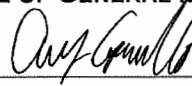


Re: Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – April 2025

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled “Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – April 2025”, dated May 23, 2025, from the Fire Chief, be received for information.

Jim Wishlove
Fire Chief
(604-303-2715)

Att. 1

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

Staff Report

Origin

This report highlights activities, information, and statistics related to calls for service by Richmond Fire-Rescue in April 2025.

This monthly 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 the month of April, the following engagement activities took place:

- Worked with representatives from a local food and community gardens to discuss a partnership on a series of presentations on heat safety to the seniors that work in community gardens.
- Provided presentations on personal / household emergency preparedness including the five steps to emergency preparedness and earthquake safety to:
 - a business with approximately 80 employees who attended the presentation, followed by an earthquake drill; and
 - a seniors' independent living residence with over 40 attendees, which also included information on staying safe in the heat.
- Participated in two table-top exercises: one that simulated a propane leak at an airport gas bar, and one that simulated an earthquake with infrastructure impacts at a nearby industrial gas facility.
- Presented to the Richmond Accessibility Advisory Committee (RAAC) on information regarding emergency preparedness and the support that can be provided to people with disabilities in emergency planning.

Public Outreach & Education

During the month of April, the following public outreach and education activities took place:

- Facilitated outreach events to provide educational opportunities to the community, including Fire Hall and vehicle tours for five organizations, with over 100 attendees.

- Hosted the Burning of Chametz with Chabad Richmond, a family friendly community and outreach event. Emergency preparedness information was also provided for those who attended.
- Provided information on the Online Fire & Life Safety Education Program to three schools with over 130 attendees.
- Co-hosted a Kids Safety Day event highlighting prevention education and awareness for local retail staff and visitors.
- Through RFR, the City continues to protect our Community from the growing threat of wildfires, particularly in urban-interface zones where homes and woodlands intersect. RFR Outreach recently attended the BC Wildfire Resiliency and Training Summit which brought together wildfire practitioners from across the Province, Canada and internationally. This summit included speakers and workshops presenting current strategies to make homes, communities, and the landscape more wildfire resilient. The costs of the summit were supported through grant funding that RFR is managing in support of the FireSmart program being developed in Richmond.
- Continued with life safety educational social media videos and posts, including the launch of the 2025 firefighter recruitment process.

Internal Training

In April 2025, staff organized in-house training events including; Fire Service Leadership, Auto-Accident Patient Extrication, wildland firefighting, and ongoing firefighter recruit training and evaluations.

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 preventing further 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 April 2025, there were 1,050 reported incidents of all types, representing an overall increase of 4 per cent in incidents between April 2024 and April 2025 (Table 1).

Table 1: Total Incidents - April 2025					
	Incident Totals April (2025)	Incident Totals April (2024)	Number Change from April 2024 to 2025	Percentage Change from April 2024 to 2025	5 Year Average for April
Active Alarm	156	149	+7	+5	139
Explosion	0	0	0	0	0
Fire	45	46	-1	-2	42
Hazardous Materials	10	7	+3	+43	6
Medical	573	530	+43	+8	484
Motor Vehicle Incident	84	89	-5	-6	73
Public Hazard	8	8	0	0	8
Public Service	86	89	-3	-3	78
Response Cancelled/Unfounded	85	87	-2	-2	65
Specialized Transport	3	3	0	0	2
Technical Rescue	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1,050	1,008	+42	+4	896

The average time on scene in April 2025 for emergency response crews was 29 minutes per event, which is lower than the number recorded in April 2024 (34 minutes). The time spent on scene can vary due to the nature and severity of each incident.

In April 2025, there were 45 fire incidents reported to the BC Office of the Fire Commissioner. This is 2 per cent lower than the number reported in April 2024 (46). The average number of fires reported each April over the last five years is 42.

Fire damage and property losses during April 2025 is estimated at \$6,344,809. The total building/asset and content value at risk is estimated to be \$98,710,441 and the total value preserved from damage was \$92,365,632. These numbers translate to 93 per cent of value protected (Table 2), which is lower than the value observed in 2024: 99 per cent.

Table 2: Fire Incidents By Type and Loss Estimates - April 2025						
Incident Type Breakdown	Incident Volume	Estimated Building/Asset Value (\$)	Estimated Building/Asset Loss (\$)	Estimated Content Value (\$)	Estimated Content Loss (\$)	Estimated Total Value Preserved (\$)
Single Family Residence	7	1,848,700	128,500	642,900	56,000	2,307,100
Multi Family Residence	2	35,000	-	-	-	35,000
Commercial/Industrial	8	56,741,846	3,662,470	39,426,795	2,492,139	90,014,032
Outdoor	25	10,200	700	-	-	9,500
Vehicle/Vessel	3	5,000	5,000	-	-	-
Totals*	45	58,640,746	3,796,670	40,069,695	2,548,139	92,365,632

* 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). Values under a threshold limit of \$1,000 will not be noted in the table.

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 April 2025 incidents:

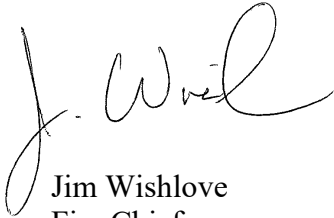
- **April 1, 2025 – Structure Fire on Emerald Place.** RFR emergency crews responded to a report of a fire in an attic. Upon investigation, emergency crews found a significant fire hidden in the attic of a home. After locating the fire, crews were able to confine and extinguish the fire. Crews were able to contain the fire to the attic area and stop the spread to other areas of the home. There were no reports of injury to the public or RFR personnel. A Fire Investigator attended.
- **April 15, 2025 – Structure Fire on Cambie Road.** Emergency crews responded to reports of smoke from a commercial storage facility on Cambie Road. On arrival, crews began to quickly attack the fire, but due to safety concerns with the structure of the building, had to withdraw and continue with exterior firefighting operations. There were no reports of injury to the public or RFR personnel. A Fire Investigator attended. During overhaul and site cleanup the following day, a small areas of fire was found and crews were dispatched to the same location to extinguish the small fire. In order to fully extinguish all fire, RFR engaged a contractor excavator to assist.
- **April 16, 2025 – Structure Fire on Granville Avenue.** Emergency crews were dispatched to a report of a residential home with flames showing. On arrival crews saw flames through the roof of the house. Crews attacked the fire defensively, while also protecting exposures. Crews checked for hot spots and prevented any spread of fire. The fire was extinguished. There were no reports of injury to the public or RFR personnel. A Fire Investigator attended.
- **April 22, 2025 – Structure Fire on Amethyst Avenue.** Emergency crews responded to a structure fire on Amethyst Drive. On arrival, crews saw light smoke coming from a house. All occupants had exited the residence and reported that there had been an oven fire. Fire staff inspected the kitchen before ventilating the house. BC Emergency Health Services were dispatched to the scene to evaluate some of the family members who had inhaled smoke, and two were sent to hospital. The fire was contained to the room of origin. There were no other reports of injury to the public or RFR personnel. A Fire Investigator attended.
- **April 28, 2025 – Vehicle fire under Knight Street Bridge.** Emergency crews responded to a vehicle fire under the Knight Street Bridge. On arrival the vehicle was fully engulfed and crews quickly attacked and extinguished the fire. RCMP were also on scene who took over custody of the vehicle as it had been involved in an incident earlier that day. There were no reports of injury to the public or RFR personnel. A Fire Investigator attended.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

Richmond Fire-Rescue continues to monitor activities to identify and create public outreach programs to respond to emerging trends and to promote effective prevention behaviours.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Wishlove". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "J." and the last name "Wishlove" clearly distinguishable.

Jim Wishlove
Fire Chief
(604-303-2715)

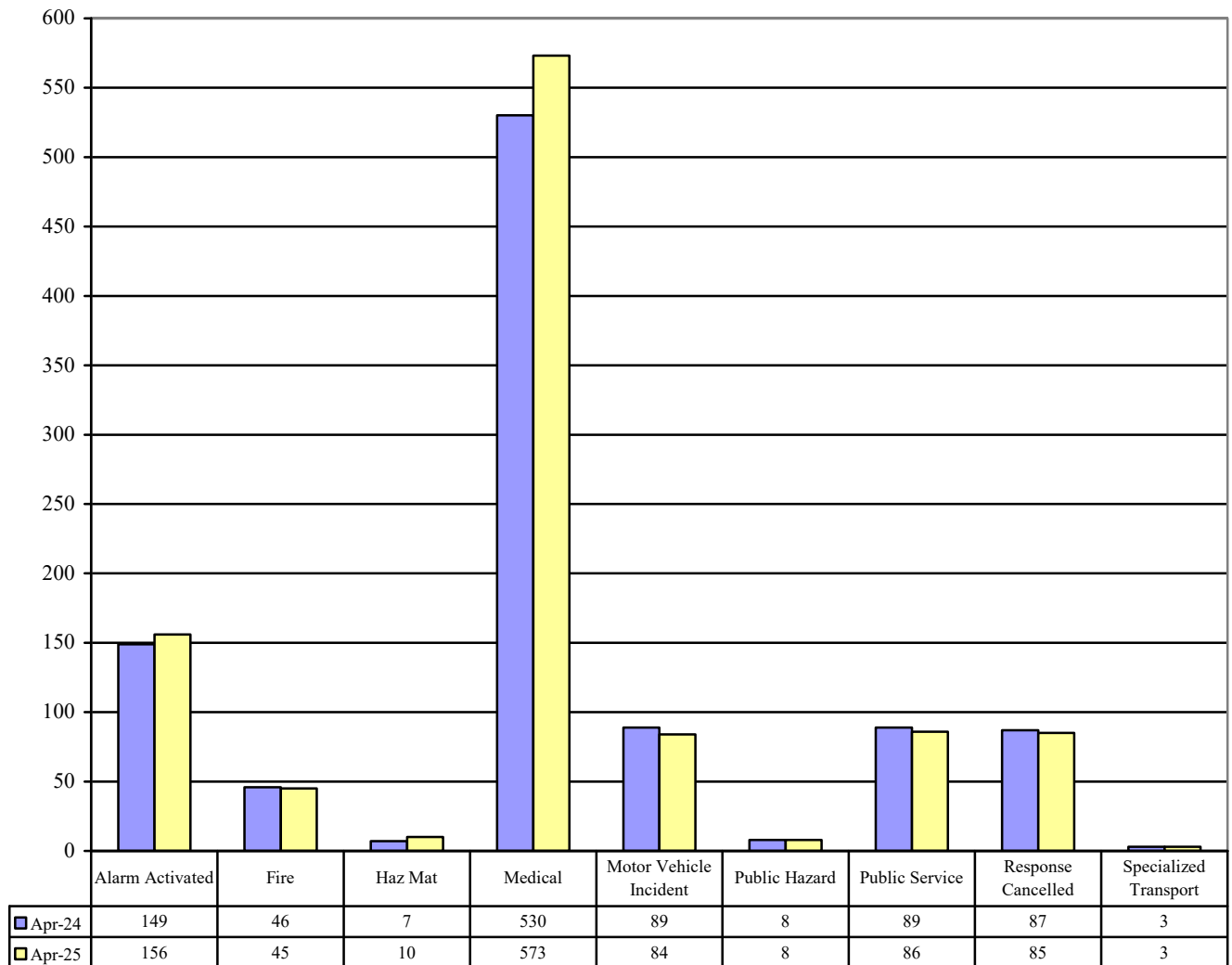
Att. 1: Emergency Response Activity for April 2025.

Emergency Response Activity for April 2025

Incident Volumes

The following chart provides a month-to-month comparison of incidents occurring in April 2024 and 2025. In April 2025, there were 1,050 total incidents, compared to 1,008 in April 2024. This represents an overall increase of 4 per cent between last year and 2025.

Table 3: April 2024 & April 2025 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: 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 55 per cent of the total emergency responses for RFR during the month of April 2025. A detailed breakdown of the medical incidents for April 2024 and 2025 is set out in the following table by sub-type. There were 573 medical incidents in April 2025 compared to 530 in April 2024, an increase of 8 per cent.

Table 4a: April 2024 & April 2025 Medical Calls by Type

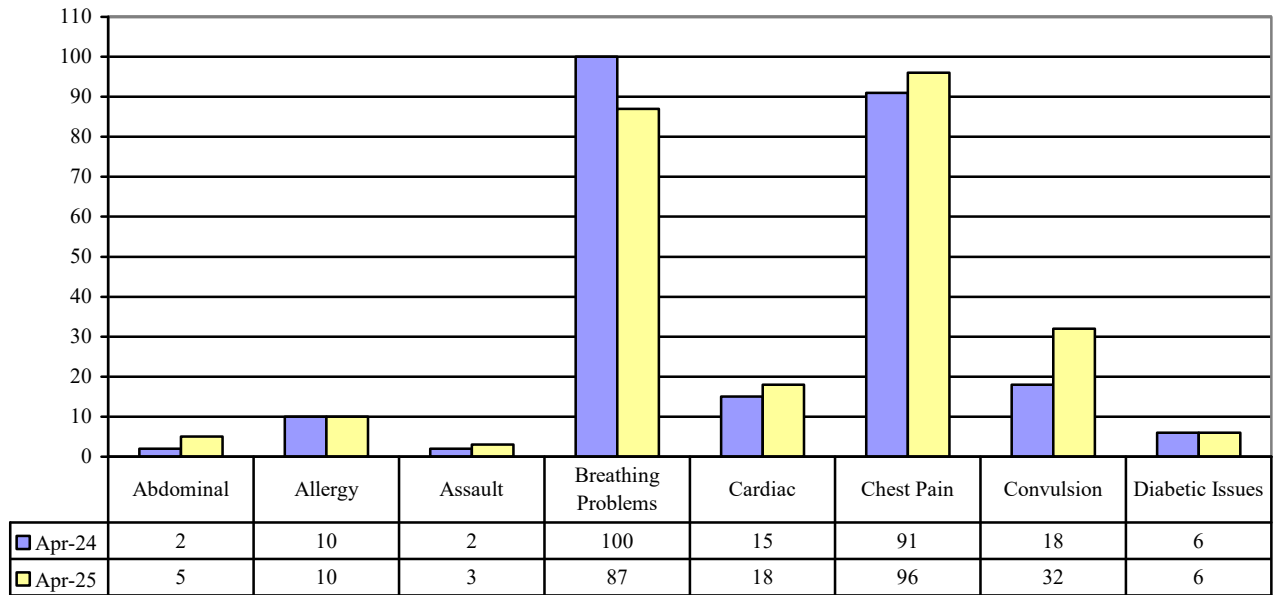
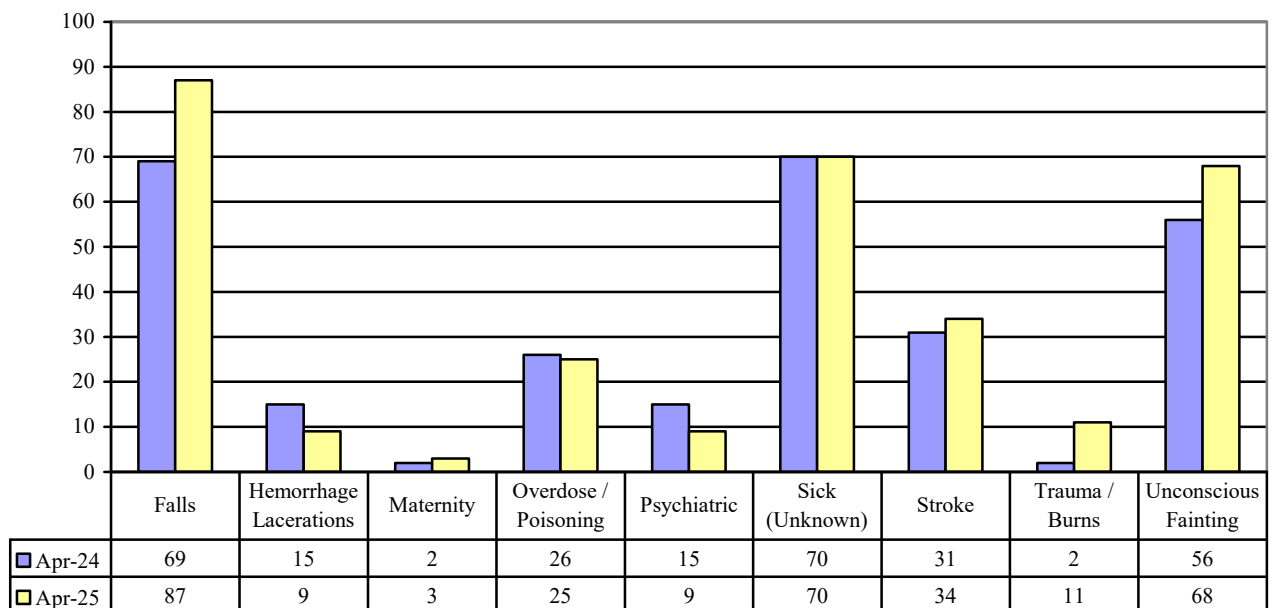


Table 4b: April 2024 & April 2025 Medical Calls by Type



The following chart provides the overdose/poisoning incident volume breakdown for April 2025. During April 2025, RFR staff did not administer Naloxone, in the month of April.

Table 4c: Overdose / Poisoning Incidents By Type – April 2025	
Opioid overdose incidents that RFR attended located in an OUTDOOR environment.	4
Opioid overdose incidents that RFR attended located in an INDOOR environment.	2
All other OD / Poisoning Incidents	19
Totals	25

Fire Investigations

The fire investigation statistics for April 2025 are listed below:

Table 5: Total Fire Investigation Statistics – April 2025			
	Suspicious	Accidental	Undetermined
Residential - Single-family	-	5	2
Residential - Multi-family	-	2	-
Commercial/Industrial	1	3	4
Outdoor	6	17	2
Vehicle	1	1	1
Totals	8	28	9

Richmond Fire-Rescue investigators report all suspicious fires to the RCMP, while working alongside RCMP to address potential risks to the community and coordinate appropriate fire investigations.

Hazardous Materials

Table 6: Hazardous Materials Incidents By Type – April 2025	
	Details
Gasses (Natural / Propane)	8
Unclassified	1
Vapour Leac (Misc)	1
Totals	10

The following charts provide total incident volumes for fires and medical incidents on a year-to-year comparison in April from 2016 to 2025.

Table 7a: Total Fire Calls for Service in April 2016 to 2025

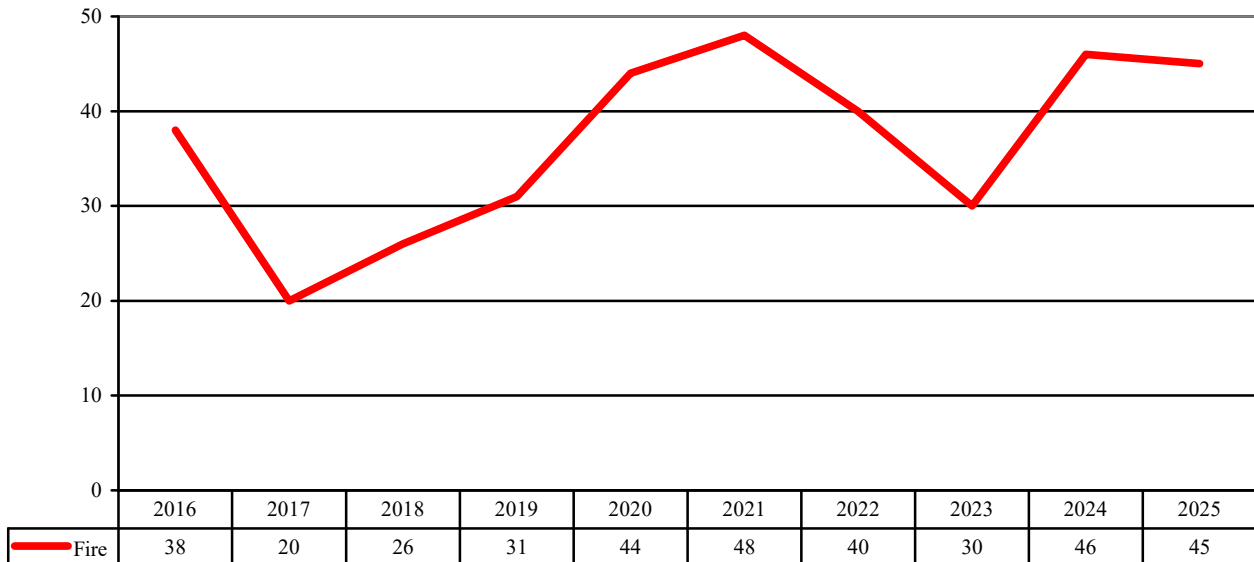
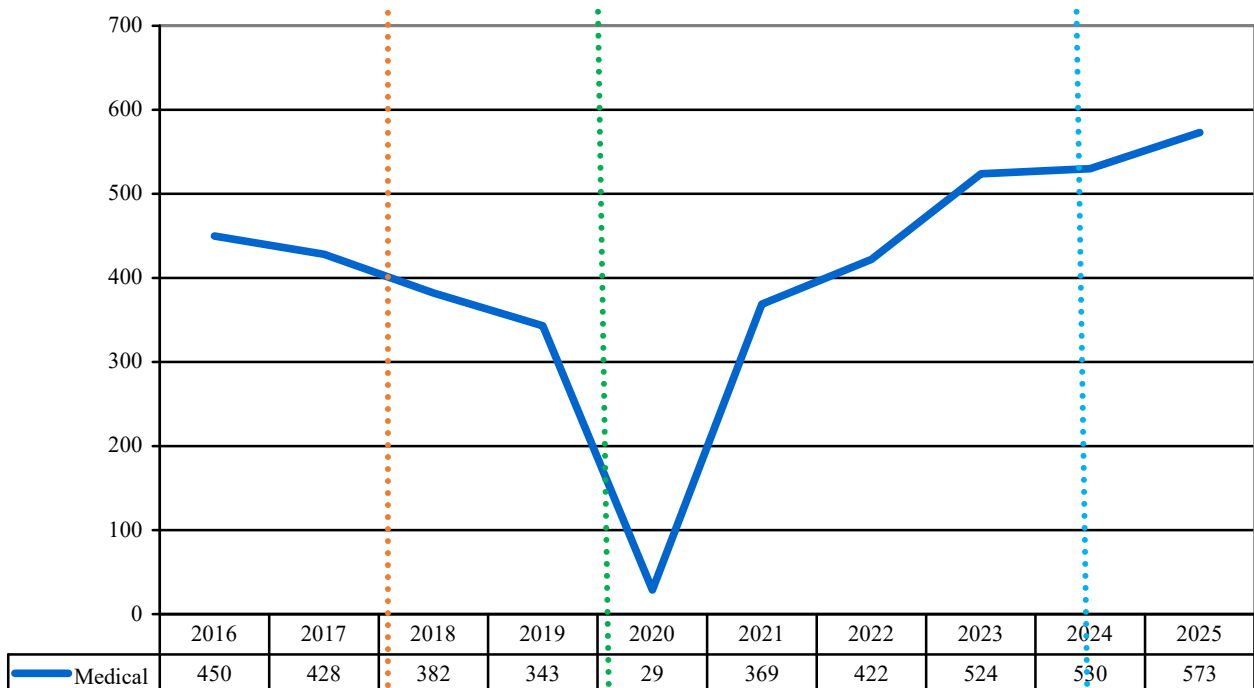


Table 7b: Total Medical Calls for Service in April from 2016 to 2025



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

Start of COVID-19
Pandemic

July 26, 2024 - Provincial Health
Officer ended public health
emergency for COVID-19

Figure 1: Location of reportable fire incidents attended in April 2025 (total 45)

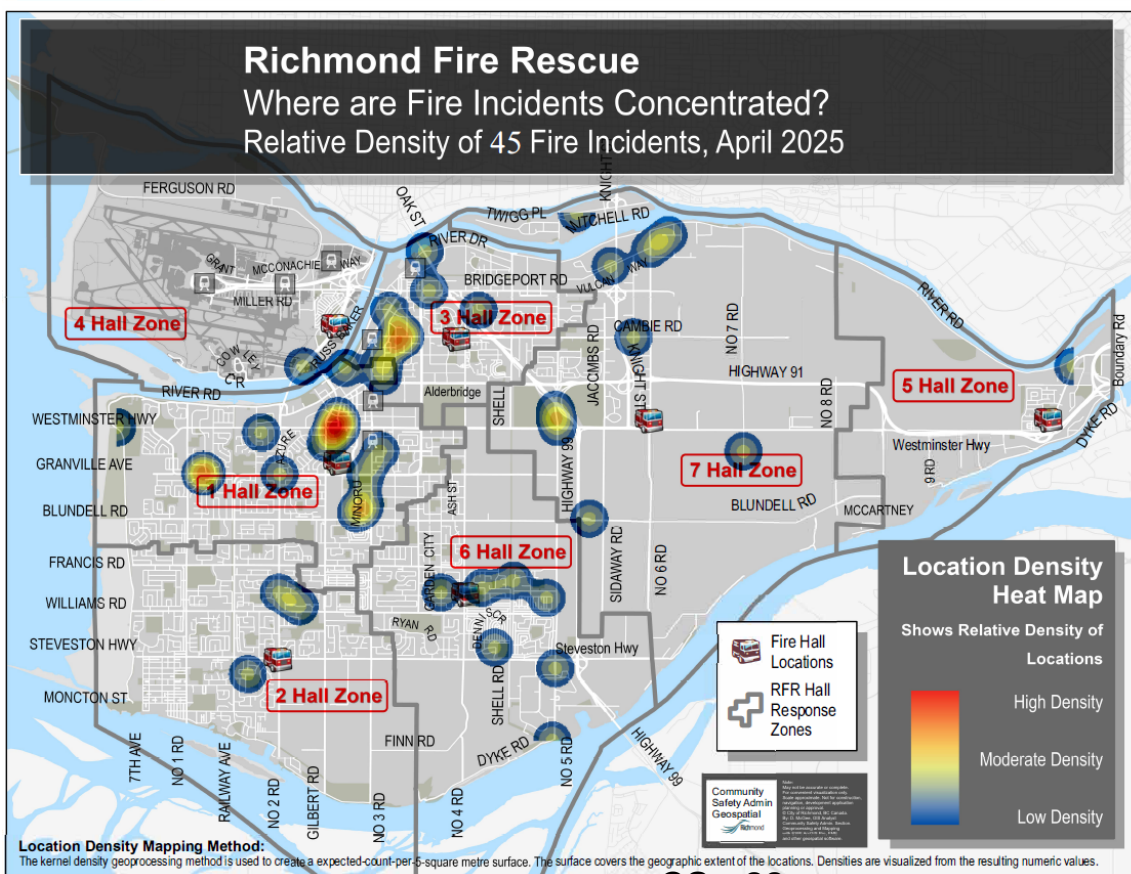
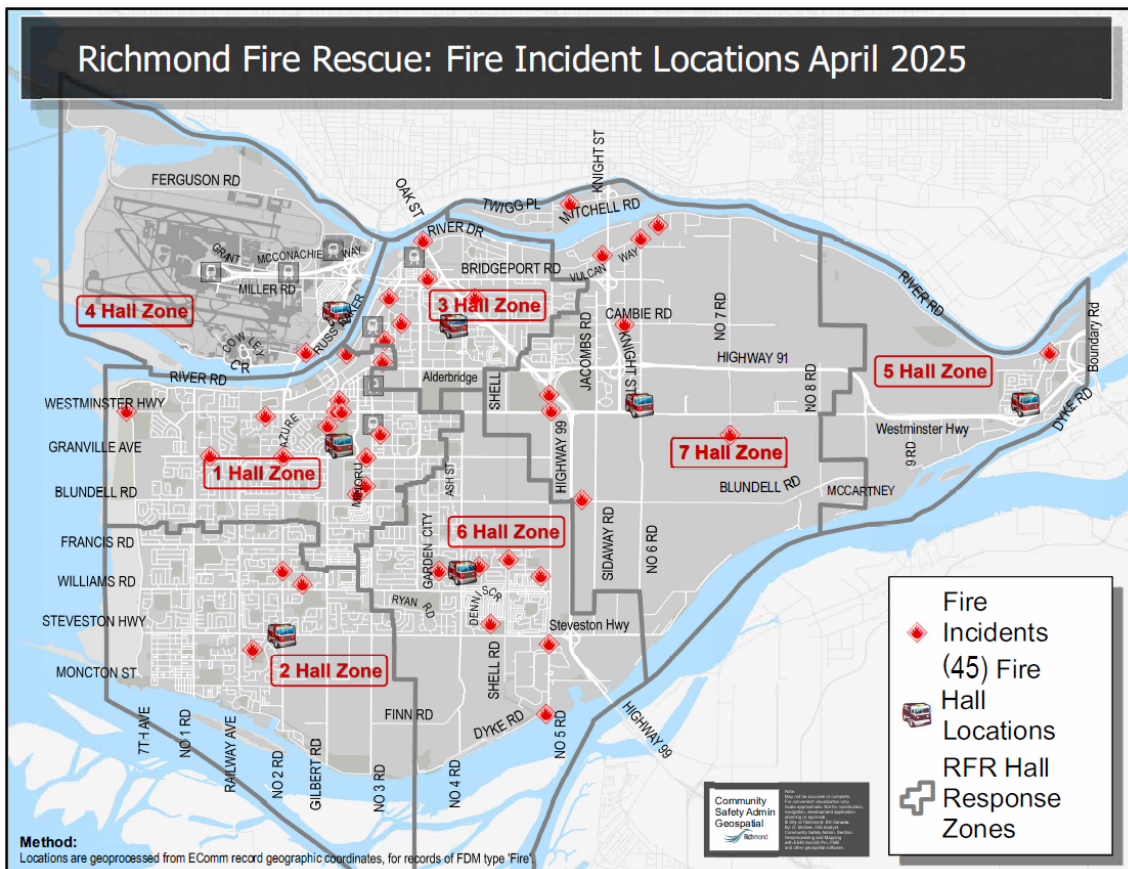


Figure 2: Location of reportable medical incidents attended in April 2025 (total 573)

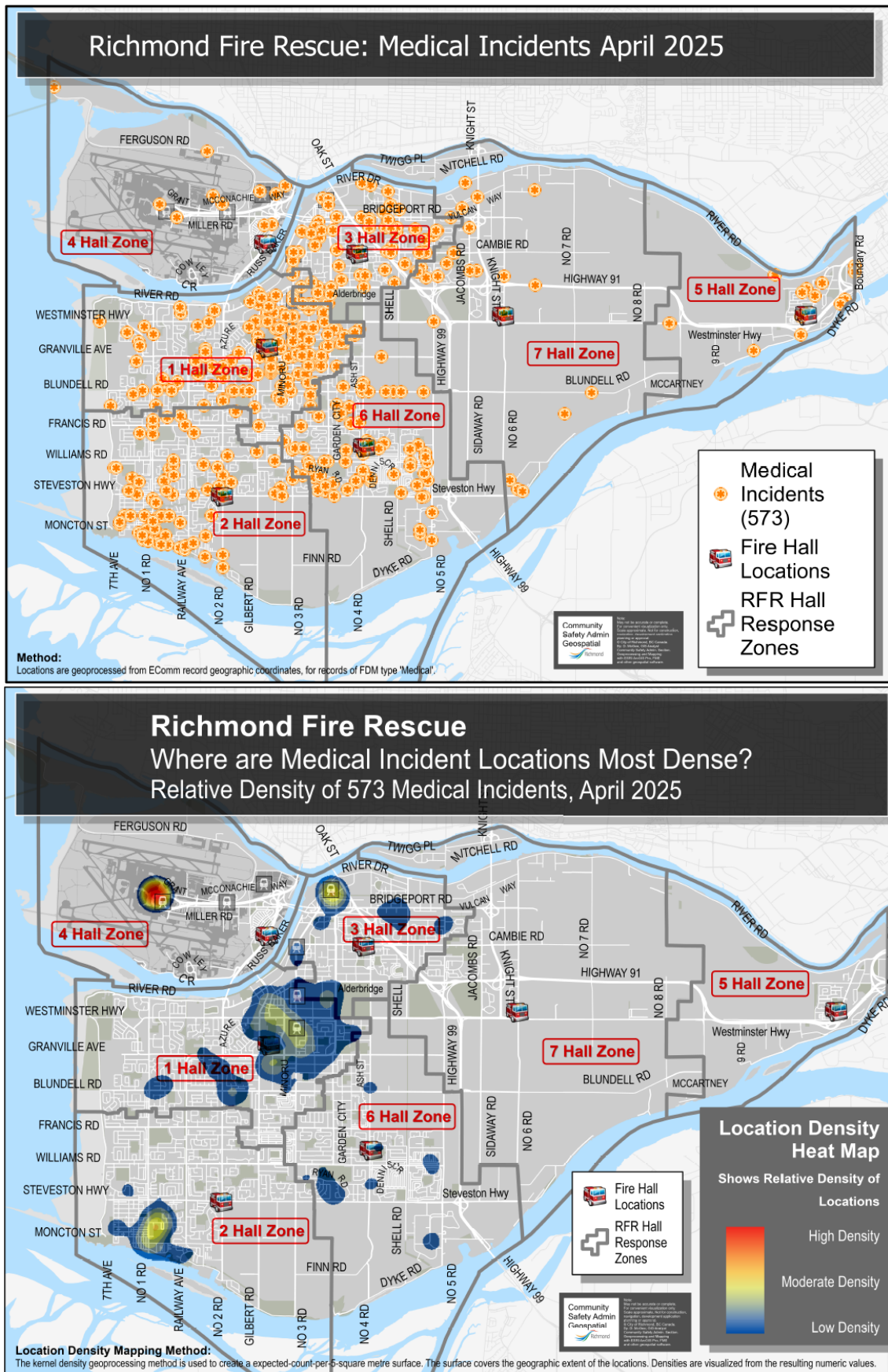


Figure 3: Location of reportable motor vehicle incidents (MVIs) attended in April 2025 (total 84)

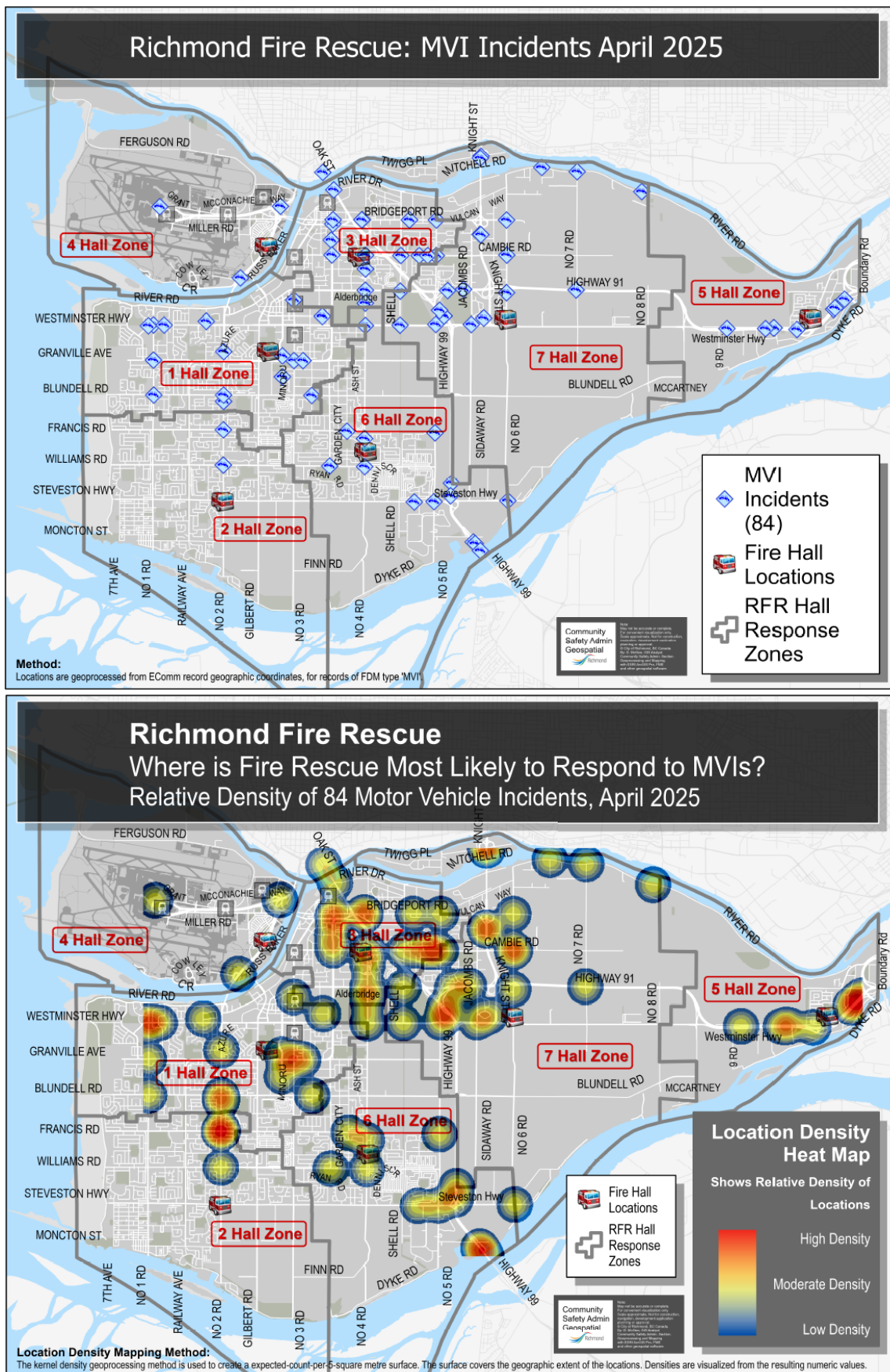
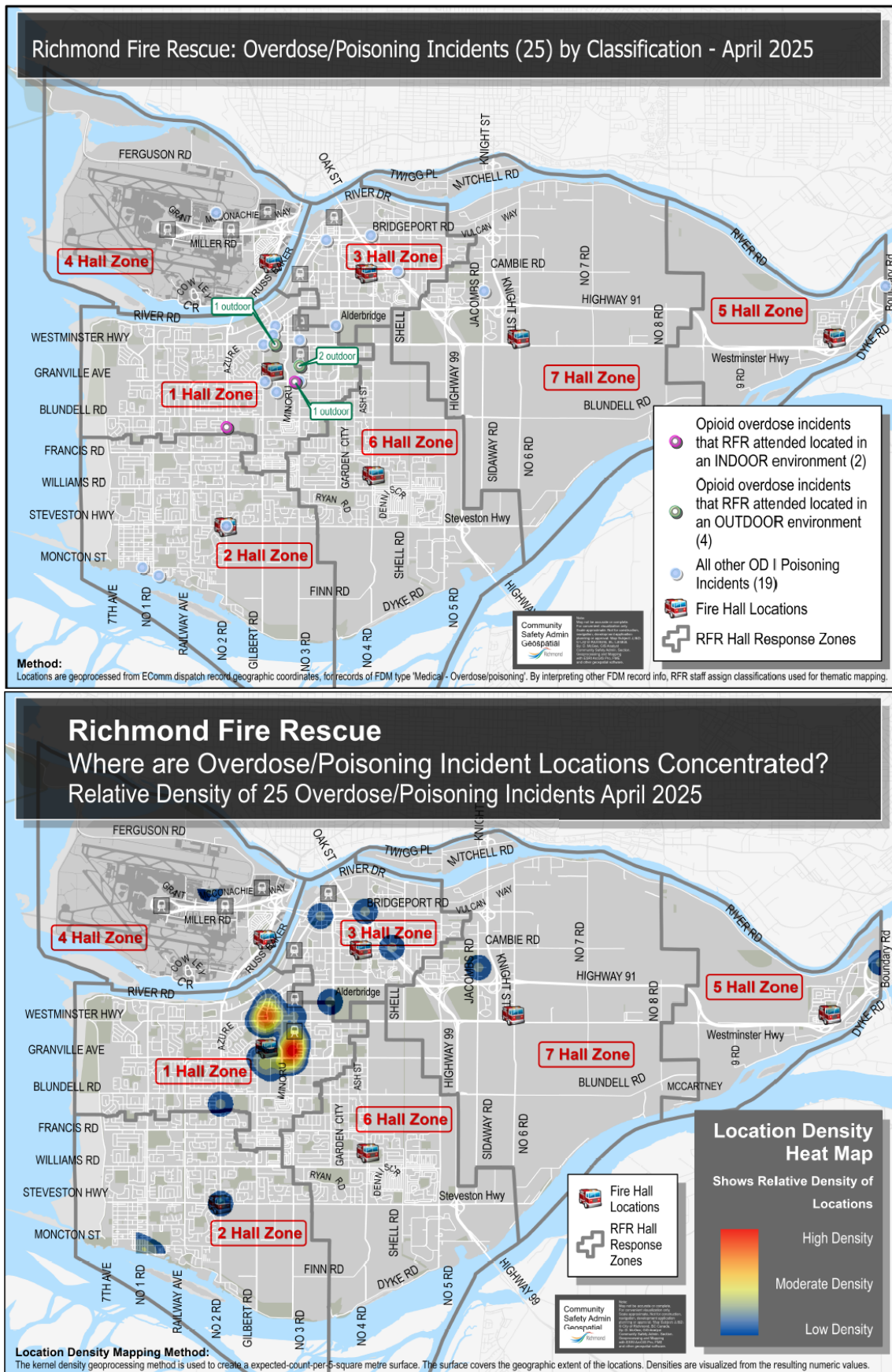


Figure 4: Location of reportable overdose / poisoning incidents attended in April 2025 (total 25)





City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** May 14, 2025

From: Dave Chauhan **File:** 09-5350-01/2025-Vol
Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge 01

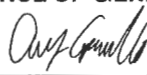

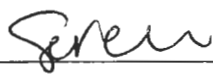
Re: RCMP Monthly Activity Report – April 2025

Staff Recommendation

That the report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – April 2025”, dated May 14, 2025, from the Officer in Charge, be received for information.

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

Att. 4

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

Staff Report

Origin

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

1. Activities and Noteworthy Files
2. Analysis of Police Statistics
3. Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions
4. Block Watch
5. Communications Unit
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 2022-2026 Focus Area #3: A Safe and Prepared Community:

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

Analysis

Activities and Noteworthy Files

Auto Crime Awareness

The Richmond RCMP highlighted Auto Crime Enforcement Month in April by providing residents with prevention tips for securing their vehicles and protecting valuables from theft. As part of this province-wide initiative, the Richmond RCMP increased community engagement and patrols, with a focus on reducing auto thefts and theft from vehicles, including increased Lock Out Auto Crime deployments.

Constable Jimmy Ng Street Naming

On April 10, 2025, the Richmond RCMP hosted the official unveiling of two streets named in honour of Constable Jimmy Ng, who was killed in the line of duty while serving the City of Richmond on September 15, 2002. The event was attended by numerous RCMP colleagues and troopmates of Constable Ng, as well as government representatives.



Figure 1: Cst. Jimmy Ng Street Signs

Theft in Progress

On April 4, 2025, two Richmond RCMP officers on patrol responded to a report of a retail theft in progress. The two male suspects fled the business; however, police were able to apprehend one of the suspects. The second suspect was later identified, and both men have been charged with multiple offences. Over \$7,400 in stolen merchandise was recovered.

E-Scooter Safety

On April 12 and 13, 2025, Richmond RCMP officers conducted an e-scooter enforcement operation, stopping 27 individuals for riding e-scooters or bicycles on the sidewalk. Police issued written warnings for 13 offences and laid 17 charges for riding on the sidewalk, as well as five charges for failing to wear a helmet. On April 17, 2025, the Richmond RCMP issued a public reminder that e-scooters and bicycles are not permitted to operate on sidewalks.

Attempted Kidnapping

On April 28, 2025, the Richmond RCMP responded to a report of an attempted kidnapping. The victim was in the 4300 block of No. 3 Road when she was approached by three men, one of whom was wearing an item with police markings and carrying a portable radio. The victim was able to break free following a struggle. The suspects fled in a vehicle, which was located on fire in the 13000 block of Vulcan Way several hours later. The incident is under investigation.

Analysis of Police Statistics¹

Arson

There were seven reported arsons in April 2025, which is up four incidents from the previous month. Year to date, arsons are down 25 per cent compared to the same period in 2024.²

Assault Serious (Assault with a Weapon)

There were 19 serious assaults in April 2025, representing a 73 per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, the number of serious assaults is down nine per cent from the same period in 2024. The number of serious assaults this month is within the average range.

There were two unprovoked stranger assaults this month. A suspect has been identified in one of the incidents; both assaults remain under investigation. Forty-two per cent of serious assaults reported in April 2025 were domestic incidents.

¹ Unless otherwise noted, no patterns or trends have been identified in this month's statistics.

² In January 2024, a new Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR) code was introduced for intentionally set fires that do not meet the *Criminal Code* definition of Arson. This new UCR code prevents comparison to multi-year arson counts and averages.

Auto Theft

There were 20 auto thefts in April 2025, representing a 67 per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, auto thefts are down 23 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of auto thefts this month is within the average range.

Mental Health

There were 272 mental health-related incidents in April 2025, representing a three per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, mental health-related incidents are up 12 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of mental health-related incidents this month is above the average range.

There were 48 police apprehensions in April 2025, and the average hospital wait time was 97 minutes; both statistics are below average. Twenty-four individuals were responsible for two or more calls in April, with one caller generating 34 incidents.

Residential Break and Enter

There were 10 break and enters to residences in April 2025, representing a 41 per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, residential break and enters are down 35 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of residential break and enters this month is below the average range.

Commercial Break and Enter

In April 2025, there were 20 break and enters to businesses, which is a 33 per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, commercial break and enters are up 18 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of commercial break and enters this month is within the average range.

Robbery

There were 10 robberies reported in April 2025, which is an increase of three incidents from the previous month. Year to date, robberies are down 19 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of robberies this month is above the average range.

None of the incidents reported this month involved the use of a weapon. One robbery involved the assault of a security guard at a retail location.

Sexual Offences

In April 2025, there were 17 sexual offence files, representing an 11 per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, sexual offences are down five per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of sexual offences this month is within the average range.

Seventy-one per cent of the offences reported in April 2025 were sexual assaults.

Shoplifting

There were 125 reported shoplifting thefts in April 2025, which is a seven per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, shoplifting thefts are down 25 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of shoplifting thefts this month is within the average range.

Theft from Automobile

There were 76 thefts from automobiles in April 2025, which is a six per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, thefts from automobiles are down five per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of thefts from automobiles is below the average range.

Drugs

In April 2025, there were 19 drug offences, which is a 32 per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, drug offences are up 52 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of drug incidents this month is below the average range.

Drug-Related "Social Disorder" Calls

Public complaints related to drug use fall under call categories such as nuisance, cause disturbance, mischief, unwanted person, suspicious person, and check well-being. Table 1 presents the number of police calls for service related to a public complaint of suspected drug use.

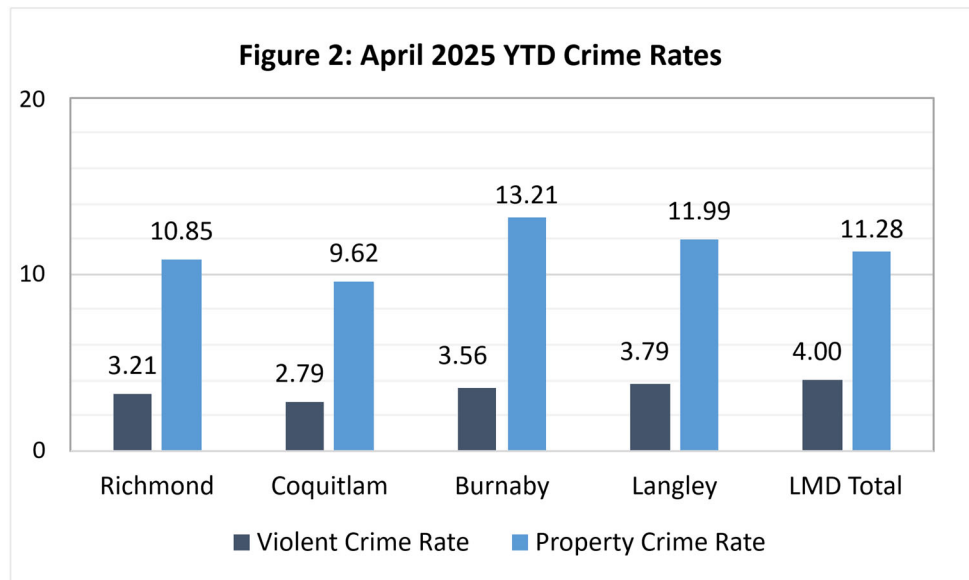
Table 1: Drug-Related Calls for Service

Month	Total Number of Drug-Related Calls	Suspected	Confirmed
January	71	42	29
February	38	23	15
March	49	31	18
April	58	41	17

Confirmed incidents refer to files where direct observation of drug use or apparent signs of intoxication is noted. Most calls involved incidents where drug use was suspected, including reports of unwanted persons who were possibly under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions

Figure 2 presents crime rates in April 2025 for the four largest municipalities in the Lower Mainland District (LMD), which are policed by the RCMP.³ The property and violent crime rates in Richmond were below the LMD average.



Block Watch

At the end of April 2025, the Block Watch program had 301 groups, totalling 6,724 participants. Currently, the program includes 423 captains and co-captains. On April 1, the Second Quarter Crime Prevention Newsletter was published. On April 2, 2025, Block Watch staff delivered training to 13 participants in a new group, covering topics such as how to spot suspicious activity and target hardening.

Communications Unit

The Communications Unit provides public safety and crime prevention messaging to enhance community awareness of various policing-related issues. During April, the Communications Unit conducted the following:

- An education campaign for Auto Crime Enforcement Month was launched, including media releases and social media posts featuring prevention information for auto thefts and thefts from vehicles.
- 15 media releases were issued, including three related to missing persons.
- 50 social media posts were made on X, including road safety messaging about traffic enforcement and distracted driving.
- The Richmond RCMP partnered with E-Comm 9-1-1 to produce a video aimed at raising awareness of the 9-1-1 call-taking process.

³ Based on PRIME query by Richmond Crime Analysis Unit on May 6, 2025

Community Police Office Programs

Community police offices 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 reduce anxiety and fear related to crime. The program activities vary from month to month, reflecting weather conditions, seasonal initiatives and the availability of volunteers.

During April, volunteer highlights included:

- The deployment of two bike patrols, totalling 35 hours.
- A total of 11 Fail to Stop deployments took place, resulting in 367 information letters issued.
- There were 60 Lock Out Auto Crime deployments, resulting in 1,748 information letters issued.
- During daily deployments in April, volunteers distributed e-scooter safety cards highlighting rules, regulations, and precautions pertaining to the safe use of e-scooters and e-bikes.
- Speed Watch was conducted on 2,118 vehicles, resulting in 14 information letters issued.
- April 5 – 13, volunteers participated in the first Crime Watch “restart” shift since 2020. Crime Watch volunteers serve in an “observe and report” capacity while on patrol.
- April 6 – Volunteers attended the Cherry Blossom Festival in Steveston and conducted outreach for Auto Crime Enforcement month.
- April 10 – Volunteers assisted with the Constable Jimmy Ng sign ceremony, including setup and takedown of chairs and tents, logistics, and audio.
- April 11 – New volunteers received Speed Watch training, which included an overview of the program, equipment, and safe deployment procedures.
- April 26 – Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a catalytic converter etching event at the Canadian Tire in Ironwood Plaza.
- April 30 – 41 volunteers attended the “Volunteer Make Waves” appreciation event, held during National Volunteer Week. In 2024, 86 Richmond RCMP volunteers contributed 5,256 hours of service to the community, participating in over 16,500 community contacts across 782 shifts.



Figure 2: Speed Watch Training

Crime Prevention Unit

The Crime Prevention Unit reduces crime and enhances community engagement through public awareness and education initiatives. During April, the Crime Prevention Unit participated in various activities, including diversity and inclusion initiatives, road safety deployments and the following events:

- A total of 146 Place of Worship patrols were conducted.
- On April 16, 2025, Richmond RCMP officers provided a personal safety presentation to staff at the Minoru Centre for Active Living.
- On April 26, 2025, the Richmond RCMP hosted a free catalytic converter etching event at the Canadian Tire in Ironwood. This event allowed the public to attend on a first-come, first-served basis, without the need to book an appointment. A total of 56 vehicles were etched at the event.



Figure 4: Catalytic Converter Theft Awareness

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. A total of 791 violation tickets were issued in April 2025. Figure 5 provides statistics for the top five infractions for which violation tickets were issued in April:

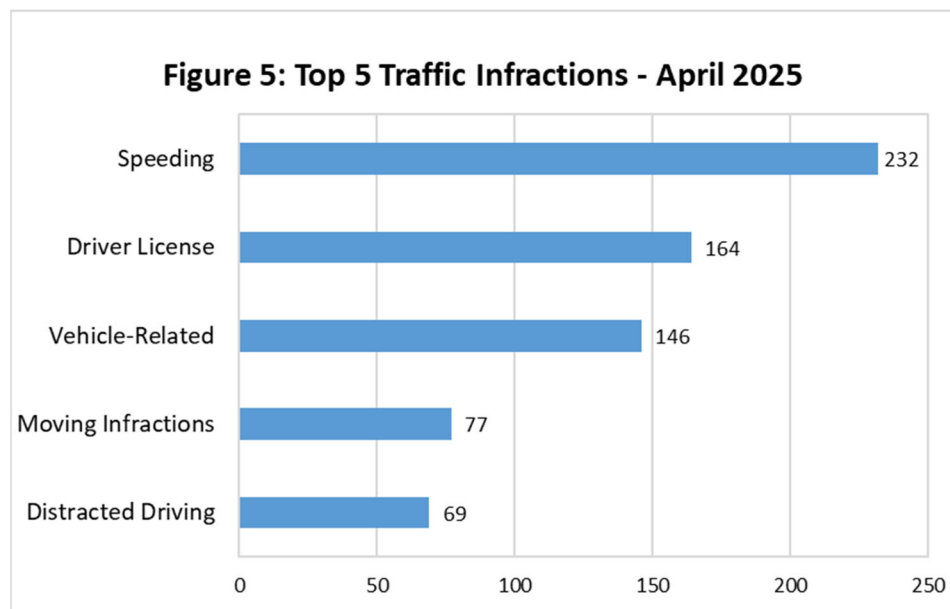


Table 2 presents the number of motor vehicle collisions involving injuries and fatalities reported between January 1, 2021, and April 30, 2025.

Table 2 – Motor Vehicle Collisions		
Year	Collisions with Non-Fatal Injuries	Fatalities
2021 ⁴	355	4
2022	406	1
2023	436	3
2024 ⁵	455	2
2025 (YTD)	133	0

Victim Services

In April 2025, Richmond RCMP Victim Services met with 79 new clients and attended five crime/trauma scenes after hours. The unit currently maintains an active caseload of 91 files. In April, Victim Services responded to several cases involving medical-related sudden deaths, mental health-related issues, and witnesses to the Lapu Lapu mass casualty event in Vancouver.

Youth Section

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

- RCMP officers in the Youth Section conducted 78 proactive school visits at secondary schools and 141 visits at elementary schools. Police officers engaged with students during recess, lunch and morning and afternoon supervision.
- DARE classes launched for the third term of the 2024-2025 school year. A total of 495 students in 17 classes participated in the program.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

In April 2025, the Richmond RCMP conducted several notable investigations, including an attempted kidnapping and a theft in progress. Police statistics for this month indicate that most crime types were within the average range, except for residential break and enters, drug offences, and thefts from vehicles, which were below average. Robberies and mental-health-related incidents were elevated.

⁴ Motor Vehicle collisions decreased during the pandemic due to changes in behaviour patterns and fewer vehicles on the roads.

⁵ The last fatal collision occurred on October 12, 2024.

In April, the Richmond RCMP and volunteers continued to promote crime prevention and road safety initiatives, including auto crime awareness. The Officer in Charge of the Richmond RCMP Detachment will continue to ensure that Richmond remains a safe and desirable community.



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

- Att. 1: Community Policing Programs
2: Crime Statistics
3: Crime Maps
4: Second Quarter Crime Prevention Newsletter

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.

April 2025 STATISTICS - RICHMOND RCMP

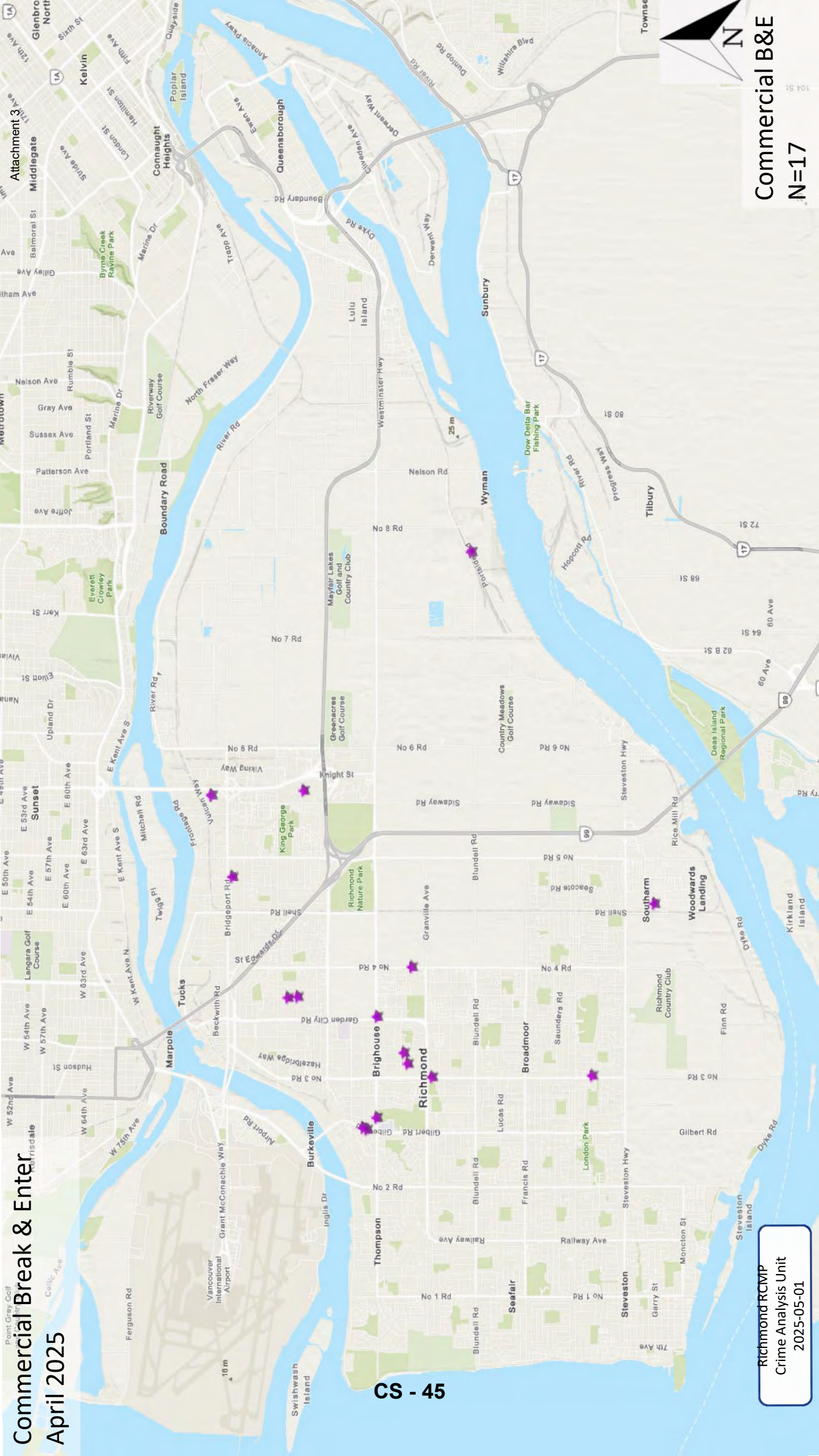
The following information is a limited list of select crime-type samples, which does not comprise the entirety or assortment of all crimes captured by the RCMP. The statistics in this chart should be considered independently of the analysis provided as the data is unrelated to the research provided earlier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

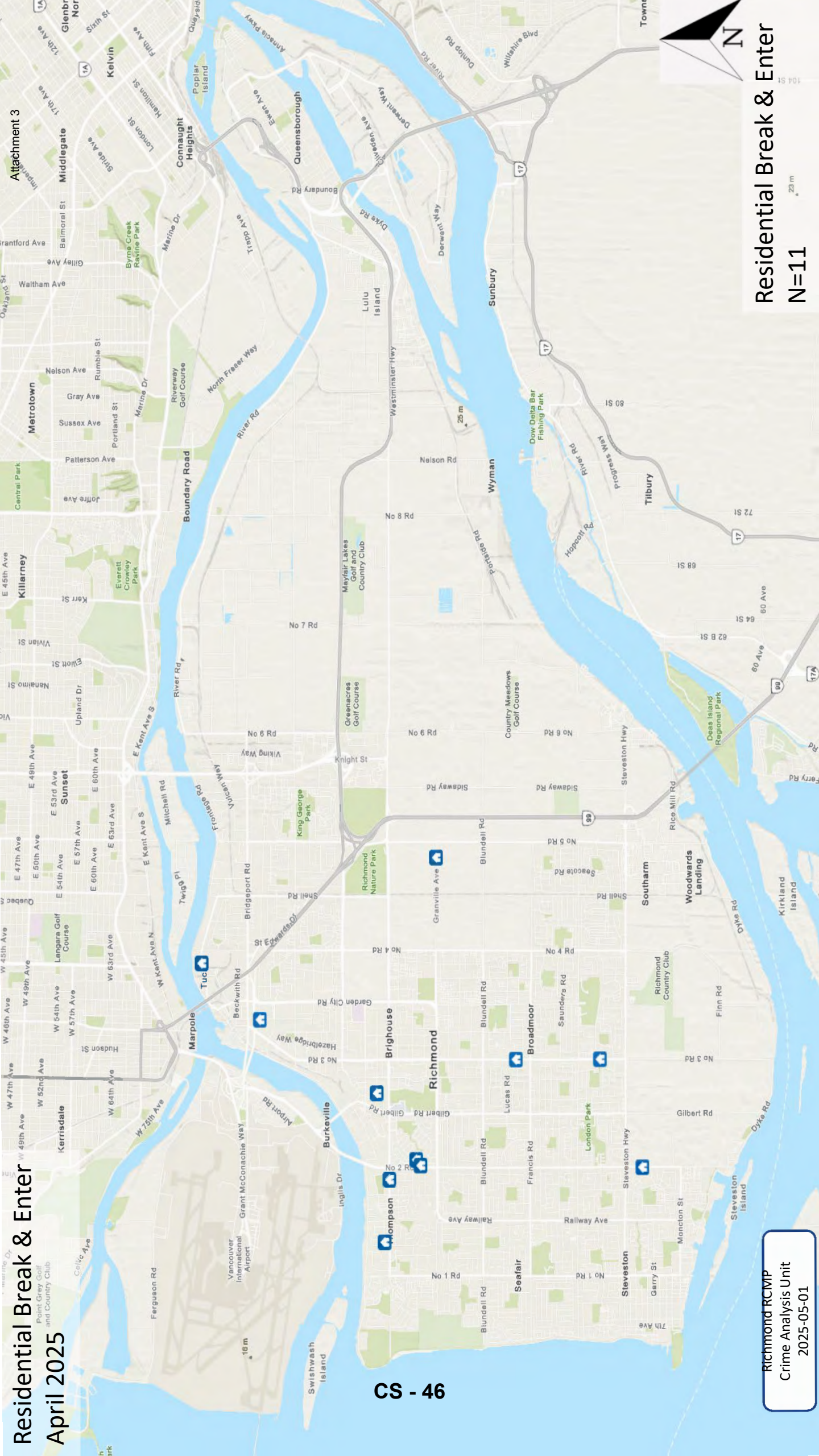
	Month	5-Yr Avg	5-Yr Range	Year to Date Totals			
	Apr - 25	April		2024	2025	% Change	# Change
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	183	136.8	123-150	625	694	11%	69
Robbery UCR 1610 (1-3)	10	3.2	2-4	27	22	-19%	-5
Assault Common UCR 1430	58	44.0	35-53	197	241	22%	44
Assault Serious UCR 1410, 1420	19	16.4	14-19	67	61	-9%	-6
Sexual Offences UCR 1345, 1330, 1356, 1310, 3450/55/56	17	17.2	14-20	77	73	-5%	-4
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	609	574.8	482-668	2488	2370	-5%	-118
Business B&E UCR 2120-1	20	23.2	17-30	65	77	18%	12
Residential B&E UCR 2120-2	10	28.4	22-35	103	67	-35%	-36
Auto Theft UCR 2135 (1-10), 2178	20	19.8	14-26	83	64	-23%	-19
Theft from Auto UCR 2132, 2142	76	112.6	84-141	279	264	-5%	-15
Theft UCR 2130, 2140	105	88.6	50-127	438	477	9%	39
Shoplifting UCR 2133, 2143	125	88.2	38-139	626	469	-25%	-157
Fraud UCR 2160 (all), 2165, 2166	89	80.8	58-104	400	400	0%	0
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	287	230.0	182-278	1144	1122	-2%	-22
Arson UCR 1629, 2110	7	8.8	6-12	20	15	-25%	-5
Cause Disturbance UCR 3430	211	166.8	139-195	856	818	-4%	-38
Collisions - all	143	116.8	81-152	673	648	-4%	-25
SUBTOTAL CC OFFENCES (UCR 1000 to 3000 Series)	1079	947.0	798-1096	4301	4186	-3%	-115
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	19	37.0	20-54	65	99	52%	34
MHA RELATED CALLS (MHA files or Mental Health flag)	272	226.0	207-245	938	1049	12%	111

Prepared by Richmond RCMP CAU. Data collected from PRIME on 2025-05-06. Published 2025-05-07. Data subject to change. This document is not to be copied, reproduced, used in whole or part or disseminated to any other person or agency without the consent of the originator(s). 2024 YTD counts are based on the Month End reports on the date of original collection period (2024 data is not re-run)



CS - 45

CS - 46



Auto Theft
March 2025

Attachment 3

CS - 47

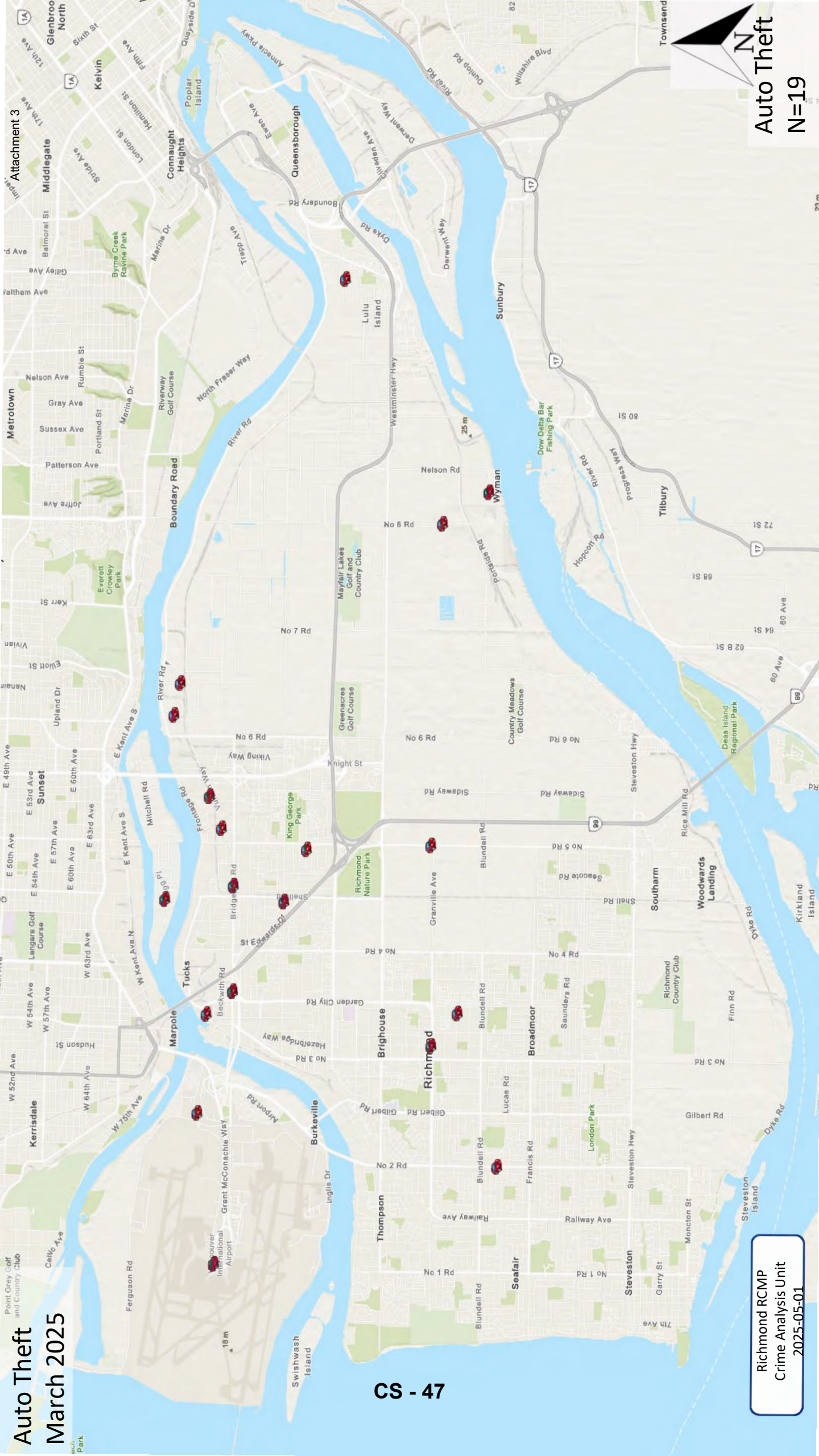
Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2025-05-01



N

Auto Theft

N=19

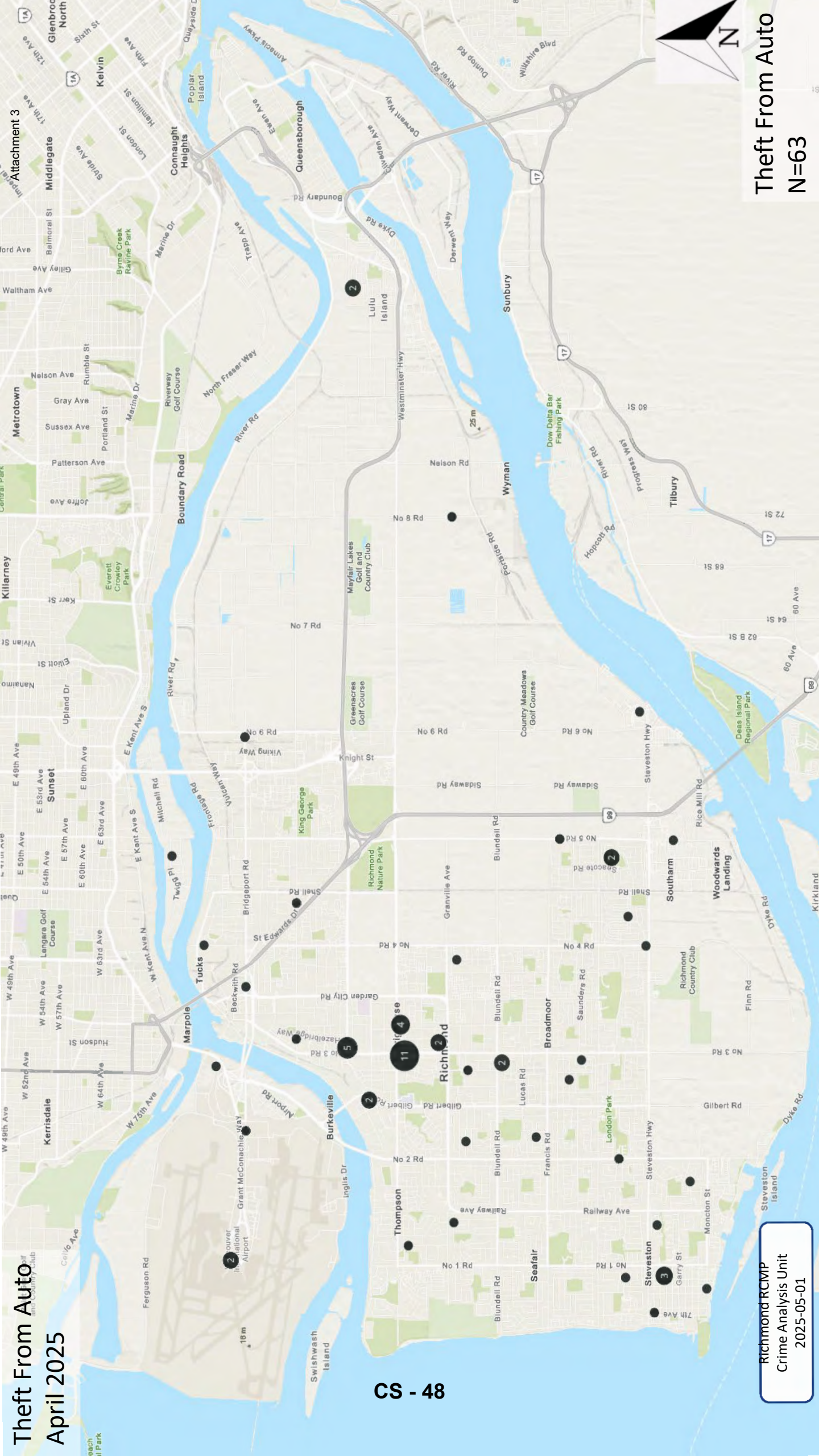


Theft From Auto

CS - 48

Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2025-05-01

Theft From Auto
N=63



CRIME PREVENTION

WORKING TOGETHER TO PREVENT CRIME

NEWSLETTER

Canada Revenue Agency or an Imposter?

In some cases, the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) will contact you for legitimate concerns or questions. They may call you by phone, email, or send a letter to verify information and notify you of any changes to your tax information. CRA will only text you if you enrolled in multi-factor authentication. However, legitimate communications are sometimes mistaken for scams because people are unsure whether the information they received is a scam or a legitimate communication. This confusion adds stress during tax season as scammers pretend to be the CRA in order to trick people into giving away their financial and personal information.



An example of a scam could be the following: You receive a phone call with the caller ID showing it's CRA. The caller demands immediate payment or you will be arrested by the police. They transfer you to an "officer" who instructs you to purchase cryptocurrency. If you refuse, you will be arrested. The scammer aims to pressure and confuse you. Stay calm, watch for red flags, and hang up.

- **Receiving an email asking you to enter your personal info or make a payment through a link** – CRA will not send an email with a link asking you to enter personal or financial information. The email will not come from a generic email domain or ask you to reply. CRA will only send you emails if you registered for email notifications and have a new message to view in your CRA online account, or if you requested the CRA agent to send you something during a meeting or call.
- **Government messages through social media or text message** – The CRA will never use social media or third-party apps, to contact you. They will only send you a text message if you enrolled in multi-factor authentication for the purpose of logging in.
- **Demanding payment through e-transfers, prepaid gift cards, or cryptocurrencies** – Legitimate government agencies will not demand or use unconventional payment options. In most fraud cases, scammers ask for these types of payments because they are difficult to track and recover.
- **Threats to arrest, deport, or imprisonment** – Scammers use threatening language to scare you into not thinking clearly. They may threaten you if they are not paid immediately. Do not give in to their demands and hang up. Verify the caller is from the CRA by using their online tool or calling them yourself after verifying the phone number. Do not return the call from the number on your caller ID, as the phone number could be spoofed. You can contact the CRA by calling 1-800-959-8281 as an individual or 1-800-959-5525 as a business.

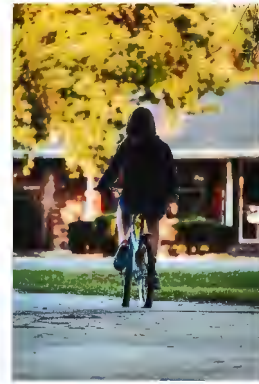
Reporting a Potential Scam

Report the scam if you have been a victim of fraud or if a scammer has tricked you into giving away personal or financial information. Report this to your local police, the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre, your financial institution, and credit reporting agencies such as Equifax and TransUnion.

CITY OF RICHMOND CRIME PREVENTION NEWSLETTER

Knowing your Baseline

Last year, in our newsletter, we wrote about starting a New Year's goal to learn about your neighbourhood baseline. Have you built an understanding of your neighbourhood? To review, a baseline is defined as a starting point used for comparisons. Everyone's baseline will be different, depending on the details of the area they live. Simply paying attention will help you notice the norms in your community. Strengthening your baseline can increase your situational awareness and help prevent future crimes.



What You Know vs What You See

If something happens in your neighbourhood, your baseline can come in handy because it helps you determine if what you see is suspicious or normal. Imagine this scenario: your neighbour and his wife are going on a trip for the long weekend. He informs you they are taking their white SUV with them and asks you to watch over their home. While they are away, you notice a black truck parked in their driveway. Someone is seen moving a TV from the house to the truck. You know that something is wrong in this situation because the facts don't match your baseline. In fact, calling 911 would be the appropriate response, as a break-in is probably happening in this example.

An effective way to build your baseline is to join a Block Watch group. Block Watch is a crime prevention program designed to bring neighbours together for the common goal of crime prevention. Neighbours make a commitment to help one another and be the eyes and ears of the neighbourhood. Your neighbourhood baseline can evolve every year as neighbours move in and out. Thus, it is important to keep yourself informed through observations and connections within a Block Watch group. With knowledge of your neighbourhood and a connection with your community, you can make a better judgement about what you see.

If You See Something Suspicious, Say Something!

When you see suspicious activity or a crime, report it! Never assume someone else will call the police. You may have seen details that others missed, or you may be the only one who witnessed the situation. Reporting also shows potential thieves that there are watchful eyes in the neighbourhood.

To report suspicious activity in Richmond, call 604-278-1212. Ensure that you are in a safe place and pay attention to the details that help you answer the **4 Ws** (who, what, when, and where). These details will help the call taker gather accurate information about the person, vehicle, or event to pass on to the police. In some cases, a suspicious activity can escalate into a crime. If you believe a crime is about to happen or someone's health, safety, or property is in jeopardy, please call 911. For example, suspicious activity might involve someone looking into vehicles on your street, warranting a call to the non-emergency line. However, if the person starts trying each door handle, it could suggest they are attempting a break-in, which would escalate the call to 911.



Spring Into Crime Prevention Action

As the weather gets warmer, people will be out more often to enjoy the sunshine. Take steps to ensure that your spring is crime-free.

Your Home – Trim back trees and bushes around your windows and doors. Large trees and bushes can block the view from the outside, providing concealment for thieves. After working in your yard, remember to put your tools away inside so they cannot be used to break into your home. Lastly, close and lock all windows and doors before leaving the house, even those on the second floor.



Long Weekends or Vacation Plans – Plan ahead. Ask a trusted person to pick up your mail or have it held by Canada Post. Make sure all electronic crime prevention tools are working properly, such as alarms, cameras, timers, and lights so you can monitor your home while you are away.

Personal Belongings – Carry only essential items and keep them with you at all times. If you need to put something aside, such as a bag or sporting equipment, ask a trusted individual to watch over them while you are busy. Plan ahead and put items in the trunk of your car before heading to your destination.

To Start a Block Watch Group

Interested in starting a Block Watch group? Let us tell you a little about Block Watch! Block Watch is a program that brings the police and the community together. This program helps you build connections and relationships with people in your neighbourhood and the police while striving for the common goal of crime prevention.

Select a Captain/Co-Captain

- ◇ Each Captain/Co-Captain has to submit an application and will be contacted for a suitability interview. Candidates will then need to complete a free Police Information Check.

Recruit and build your group

- ◇ Upon confirmation from the Block Watch office on completing and passing all required steps in becoming a Captain/Co-Captain, you may begin to recruit homes that are near to you with the provided recruiting materials from the Block Watch office. To build an effective Block Watch, try to involve 50-75% of households in your area.

Complete activation of your team

1. **Complete** Block Watch Captain/Participant training – invite everyone in your group to participate in a virtual/in-person training session.
2. **Submit** your participating household list.
3. **Qualify** for Block Watch street signs once the above steps are completed.

If you are interested in creating a Block Watch group in your area, email us your name and address at blockwatch@richmond.ca or call 604-207-4829.

BUSINESS LINK

WORKING TOGETHER TO PREVENT CRIME

NEWSLETTER

Theft From Auto for Commercial Vehicles

Business vehicles are prime targets for thieves, especially when left unattended with valuable tools, equipment or merchandise inside. Theft can result in financial loss and operational delays. Whether you have a fleet or a single vehicle, it is important to educate employees on how to prevent auto theft. Commercial vehicles are targeted for their valuable tools, electronics, and work gear. Moreover, employee habits can create opportunities for theft. For example, a common habit is leaving the keys in the vehicle or keeping the vehicle unlocked, which allow others with easy access. This practice presents a prime opportunity for thieves to gain entry because the vehicle is unlocked. Businesses can prevent theft from vehicles by educating staff on the following:



- **Lock it up** – Teach employees to lock their unsupervised vehicle during work and after hours. Locking the vehicle prevents opportunistic thieves who are looking for a quick theft.
- **Remove keys** – Remove keys from the ignition whenever you leave the vehicle, even for a short time. A common trend is leaving keys in unlocked vehicles at the end of the day, which gives thieves an opportunity to steal items or, in some cases, the vehicle itself. Keep all spare keys in a secure location inside the business.
- **Record identifiers** – Mark tools and equipment with unique identifiers. Write down serial numbers to keep a record of equipment. Serial numbers and identifiers can help police recover and return stolen items by tracing them back to your business.

To conclude, proper training and guidelines can remove conveniences that cause opportunistic crimes. Remind employees of the tips above to significantly decrease the likelihood of theft from auto.

Please report all suspicious or criminal activity to the police.

Richmond RCMP Non-Emergency line [604-278-1212](tel:604-278-1212). If you witness a crime in progress, dial **9-1-1**.

Online reporting available at bc.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/richmond/report for the following:

- Damage/mischief to property under \$5,000
- Damage/mischief to a vehicle under \$5,000
- Hit and run to an unoccupied vehicle or property
- Theft of bicycle under \$5,000
- Theft under \$5,000
- Theft from vehicle under \$5,000
- Lost property

