



**Community Safety Committee
Electronic Meeting**

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

**Tuesday, June 11, 2024
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 14, 2024.*



NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

July 9, 2024, (tentative date) at 4:00 p.m. in the Anderson Room.

COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION

1. **COMMUNITY BYLAWS MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – APRIL 2024**

(File Ref. No. 12-8375-02) (REDMS No. 7674325)

CS-9

See Page CS-9 for full report

Designated Speaker: Mark Corrado

Pg. # ITEM

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the staff report titled “Community Bylaws Monthly Activity Report – April 2024”, dated May 9, 2024, from the Director, Community Bylaws & Business Licencing, be received for information.

2. **REVIEW OF HOURS OF OPERATION OF KARAOKE CLUBS AND NIGHT CLUBS**

(File Ref. No. 09-5355-00) (REDMS No. 7671706)

CS-17

See Page CS-17 for full report

Designated Speaker: Mark Corrado

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the permitted hours of operation of Karaoke Clubs and Night Clubs remain unchanged as outlined in the staff report titled “Review of Hours of Operation of Karaoke Clubs and Night Clubs”, dated May 14, 2024, from the Director, Community Bylaws and Licencing.

3. **RICHMOND FIRE-RESCUE MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – APRIL 2024**

(File Ref. No. 09-5140-01) (REDMS No. 7672426)

CS-25

See Page CS-25 for full report

Designated Speaker: Fire Chief Jim Wishlove

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the staff report titled “Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – April 2024”, dated May 13, 2024, from the Fire Chief, be received for information.

4. **FIRE CHIEF BRIEFING**

(Verbal Report)

Designated Speaker: Fire Chief Jim Wishlove

Items for discussion: None.

Community Safety Committee Agenda – Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Pg. # ITEM

5. **RCMP MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – APRIL 2024**
(File Ref. No. 09-5000-01) (REDMS No. 7658574)

CS-39

See Page CS-39 for full report

Designated Speaker: Chief Supt. Dave Chauhan

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – April 2024”, dated May 10, 2024, from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment, be received for information.

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

Designated Speaker: Chief Supt. Dave Chauhan

Items for discussion: None.

7. **MANAGER’S REPORT**

ADJOURNMENT



Community Safety Committee

Date: Tuesday, May 14, 2024
Place: Council Chambers
Richmond City Hall
Present: Councillor Alexa Loo, Chair
Councillor Andy Hobbs
Councillor Laura Gillanders
Councillor Kash Heed
Councillor Bill McNulty
Also Present: Councillor Michael Wolfe (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 April 9, 2024, be adopted.

CARRIED

AGENDA ADDITIONS & DELETIONS

It was moved and seconded
(1) That a presentation from Constable Tammy-Lyn Walker regarding the D.A.R.E. program be added to the agenda; and
(2) That Police Amendment Act Discussion be added to the agenda as Item 6A.

CARRIED

Community Safety Committee

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

PRESENTATION

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file, City Clerk's Office) Constable Tammy-Lyn Walker, RCMP, D.A.R.E. Coordinator, presented on the D.A.R.E. program highlighting that (i) the program started as a drug prevention initiative that has transformed into a comprehensive education program that addresses a range of behaviours, including peer pressure, self pressure, bullying and online safety as well as making healthy safe choices, (ii) D.A.R.E. is the only proactive drug education program Richmond RCMP has for its youth section, (iii) the 10-week program is delivered to grades four to six and takes place one hour each week, (iv) at the end of the program each student receives a certificate and a t-shirt, and (v) the cost of the program materials is fully covered by D.A.R.E. BC.

Discussion ensued with respect to (i) D.A.R.E. presentations for school PAC members and parents of elementary and high school students, (ii) D.A.R.E. trained RCMP officers, and (iii) partnerships with secondary schools to provide proactive presentations on issues concerning youth.

COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION

1. **COMMUNITY BYLAWS MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – MARCH 2024**

(File Ref. No. 12-8375-02) (REDMS No. 7648264)

Staff provided Committee updates advising that (i) two properties with large on-site storage containers are now compliant and two more are working towards compliance, (ii) parking related tickets were issued in the neighbourhood surrounding Spires Road, and (iii) Bylaws staff have issued signage related tickets to a business who had non-compliant signage.

In response to queries from Committee, staff advised that (i) Provincial legislation is more restrictive than the City's bylaws for short term rentals, (ii) usually the zoning bylaw has a grandfathering provision, but the Provincial government has waived that provision within the *Community Charter* as well as the *Vancouver Charter*, (iii) the Provincial government has created a new short-term rental data portal to support local governments with monitoring and enforcement of short-term rental, (iv) there has been no noticeable trend in dumping on ALR land, which is attributed to patrolling and pro active education by Bylaws staff, and (v) there were 38 park patrols conducted by SPCA animal controls officers, which resulted in 13 tickets, predominantly for dogs off leash.

2.

Community Safety Committee
Tuesday, May 14, 2024

It was moved and seconded

That the staff report titled “Community Bylaws Monthly Activity Report – March 2024”, dated April 19, 2024, from the Director, Community Bylaws & Business Licencing, be received for information.

CARRIED

2. **BUSINESS LICENCE ACTIVITY REPORT – FIRST QUARTER 2024**
(File Ref. No. 12-8375-02) (REDMS No. 7648265)

In response to queries from Committee staff advised that a business licence must articulate the actual business being conducted.

It was moved and seconded

That the staff report titled “Business Licence Activity Report – First Quarter 2024”, dated April 19, 2024, from the Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing, be received for information.

CARRIED

3. **RICHMOND FIRE-RESCUE MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – MARCH 2024**
(File Ref. No. 09-5140-01) (REDMS No. 7634927)

In response to queries from Committee, Fire Chief Jim Wishlove noted that (i) all other overdose/poisoning incidents breakdown captures incidents such as alcohol poisoning, accidental or international prescription drug overdoses, and poisoning from household cleaning products, (ii) staff will report back to Committee on the actual breakdown of overdose/poisoning incidents, and staff do not have information if any of the incidents were fatal, (iii) overdose symptoms may not be obvious in some cases as a person overdosing can still be breathing, speaking and walking, (iv) administering naloxone depends on a variety of factors and first responders make the evaluation to deploy on-scene, (v) Richmond Fire-Rescue routinely participates in table top exercises with large industrial organizations to be proactive and strength the ability of the City to collaborate and facilitate an effective response to an emergency.

It was moved and seconded

That the staff report titled “Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – March 2024”, dated April 12, 2024, from the Fire Chief, be received for information.



4. **FIRE CHIEF BRIEFING**
(Verbal Report)

None.

3.

Community Safety Committee
Tuesday, May 14, 2024

5. **RCMP MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – MARCH 2024**
(File Ref. No. 09-5000-01) (REDMS No. 7630280)

In response to queries from Committee, Chief Supt. Chauhan noted that (i) a significant number of mental health calls can be linked to a few patients, (ii) there have been a number of incidents where RCMP officers at the scene have determined they needed to use naloxone and have saved lives as a result, (iii) staff conducted an investigation resulting from organized retail theft where the amount of goods recovered was substantial, and (iv) since last year there has been a decrease of 56 percent in drug related offences.

It was moved and seconded

That the report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – March 2024”, dated April 16, 2024, from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment, be received for information.

CARRIED

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

None.

6A. **POLICE AMENDMENT ACT DISCUSSION**

Discussion ensued with respect to amendments introduced by the Provincial government authorizing Councils of Municipalities with more than a 5000 population, to appoint safety officers for specified periods and duties.

Staff advised that they are closely monitoring these changes and reaching out to various Provincial bodies as well as UBCM to get more information. Staff will provide more information to Council as it becomes available.

7. **MANAGER’S REPORT**

None.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded

That the meeting adjourn (5:09 p.m.).

CARRIED

Community Safety Committee
Tuesday, May 14, 2024

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 14, 2024.

Councillor Alexa Loo
Chair

Raman Grewal
Legislative Services Associate



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** May 9, 2024
From: Mark Corrado **File:** 12-8375-02/2024-Vol
 Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing 01
Re: Community Bylaws Monthly Activity Report – April 2024

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled “Community Bylaws Monthly Activity Report – April 2024”, dated May 9, 2024, from the Director, Community Bylaws & Business Licencing, be received for information.

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

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
ROUTED TO: Finance Department	CONCURRENCE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
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.

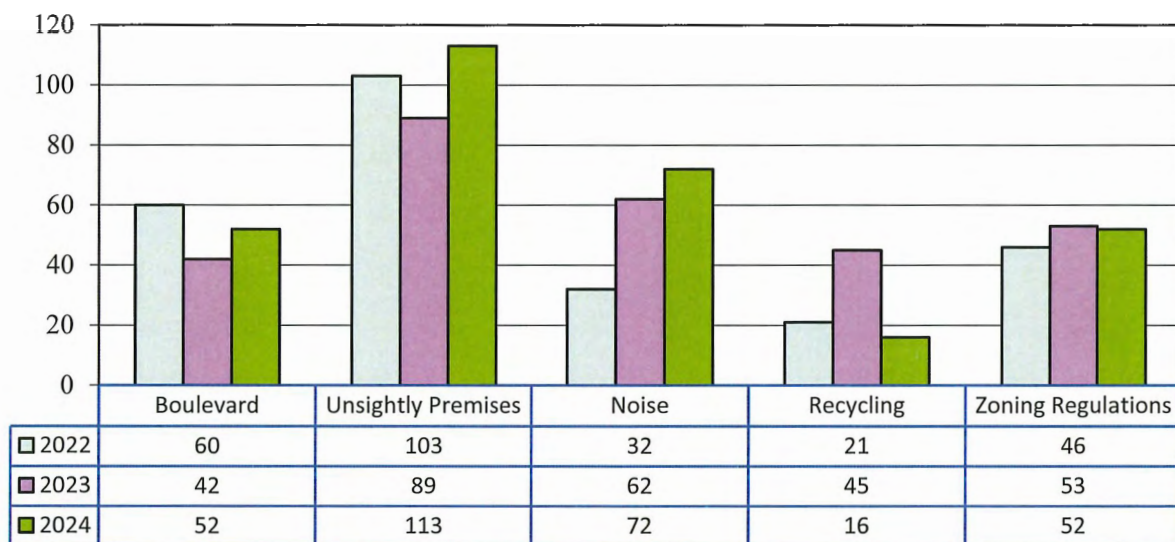
3.4 Ensure civic infrastructure, assets and resources are effectively maintained and continue to meet the needs of the community as it grows.

Analysis

Property Use Calls for Service

In April 2024, a total of 128 calls for service files were received for investigation, which represented a nominal decrease (129) from the same period last year. There is no discernable pattern observed to explain this change. Depending on the nature of the investigation, staff must often liaise with multiple departments and other government agencies to conduct a fulsome review of a received complaint. Among 24 potential calls for service categories, Figure 1 highlights the most common calls for service received for Property Use officers to follow up on and investigate.

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



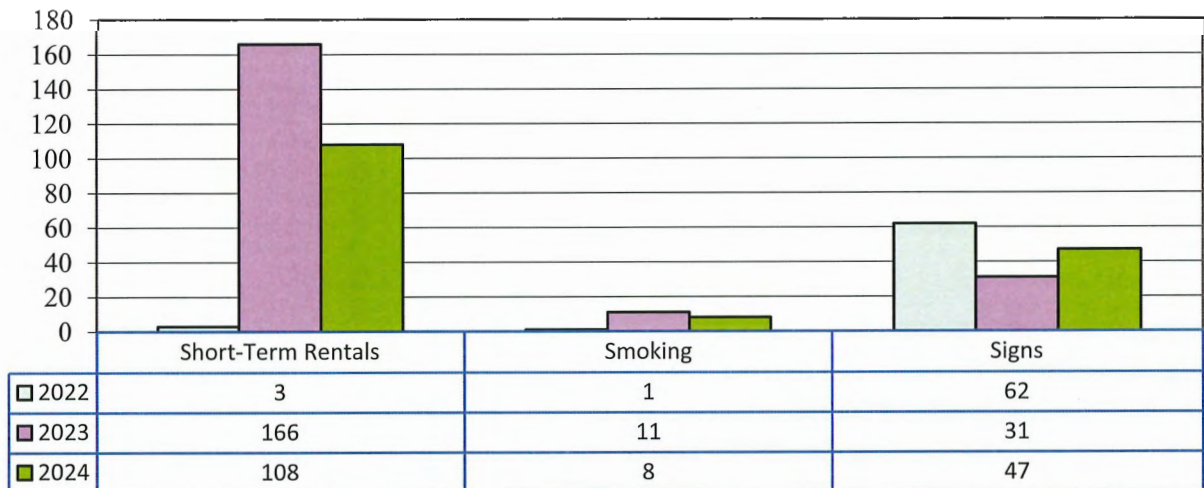
In April, the increase in reports of unsightly premises can be attributed to property garbage related calls. This type of call is made when properties have loose debris, chattel, untidy garbage bins and construction debris strewn across or piled up. In these cases, staff work with the property owner to set a timeline and expectation for cleanup to ensure compliance. In the majority of cases, voluntary compliance is achieved.

There was a slight increase in noise-related calls. No specific trend was observed in the type of noise reported; instead, a variety of calls were received, predominantly concerning mechanical noise and construction activities outside permitted hours.

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



For April, there were 26 calls for service related to short-term rental violations. Dedicated temporary full time officers monitor complaints submitted by the community as well as proactively generating files. In many cases, complaints are resolved by: voluntary removal of the short-term rental listing; obtaining a business licence depending on eligibility; and paying outstanding fines. However, in cases where voluntary compliance is not obtained, a variety of violation notices can be issued for non-compliant operation of a short-term rental.

Often times, a rental operator engaging in illegal practice will receive multiple violation notices upon inspection. Staff continue to monitor properties found to be non-compliant and follow up accordingly should unpermitted operation continue. When there is a repeated and/or significant history of violations, staff will seek a resolution via Long-form Prosecution in Provincial Court.

Signage related calls cover a variety of types. In April, the Sign Inspector attended numerous calls regarding advertising signs placed in a non-compliant manner. In these cases, staff work with the advertisers or agencies to ensure the signage is removed.

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 42 site inspections in the month of April.

Stop Work/Removal Orders issued for the following properties:

- 12060 No. 2 Road
- 17480 River Road
- 2200 No. 6 Road
- 11660 No. 2 Road
- 11891 Blundell Road

The following properties came into compliance:

- 10180 Blundell Road
- 5520 Blundell Road
- 13000 Blundell Road

There are 27 soil deposit proposals under various stages of the application process. Staff are monitoring 12 approved sites and are currently addressing 39 properties that are considered non-compliant.

Bylaw Prosecutions

No new bylaw charges were sworn in April.

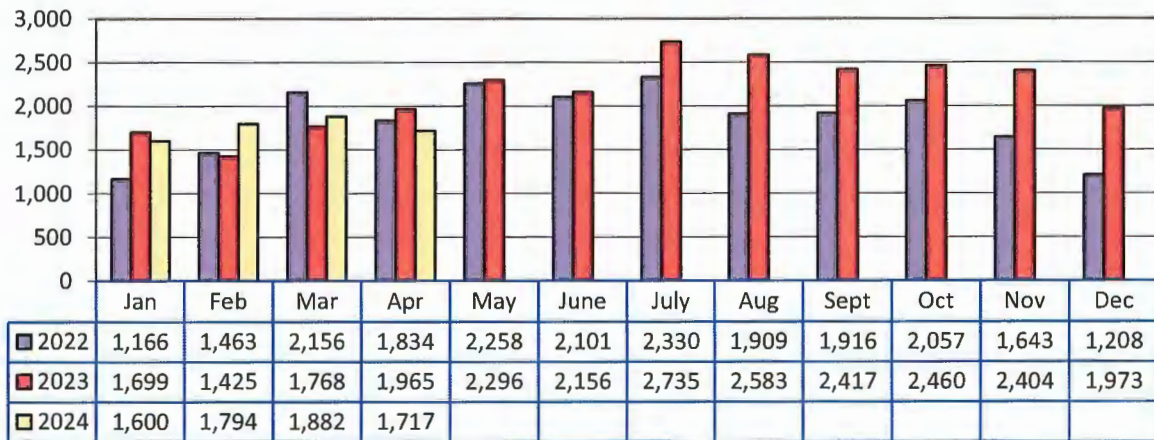
Parking Enforcement

Staff responded to 368 calls for service in April. This is a 33 percent increase (276) from the same period last year. When compared with 2023 data from the same period, parking enforcement revenue has increased by 11 per cent even though parking violation issuance decreased by 13 per cent. The contrast between parking revenue and violation issuance is the result of increased service demand. The rise in revenue can be attributed to increased use of City parking meters, monthly parking permit issuance and increased use of mobile payment applications. Monthly parking enforcement revenue is highlighted in Figure 3. Figure 4 highlights 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 April 30, 2024, approximately 6,658 valid dog licences were issued. This figure represents 89 percent of the 7,500 licences on file as of last year. A total of 436 dog licences were issued in April. Staff are now focusing on dog licence canvassing efforts. Outstanding accounts are called and emailed seeking a renewal or other information to update the account. Dog licences are valid for a calendar year and are not based on the purchase date of the licence.

In April, BC SPCA Officers responded to 1,458 calls for service related to animal control and dog licencing violations. The significant increase can be attributed to April marking the start of dog canvassing, during which staff follow up with outstanding dog licences. Officers also conducted park patrols across various parks, dikes and school grounds, including typical locations such as Garry Point, Terra Nova Rural Park, and sections of the West Dyke Trail.

Patrols were also carried out at AR McNeil Secondary, South Arm Community Park and several school grounds. In addition to enforcement actions, these patrols serve an educational purpose, increasing awareness and compliance. In collaboration with the Parks department, staff are reviewing hotspot parks and school grounds to assess options for improving signage.

Fines issued for Animal Regulation or Dog Licence offences cover various subjects including failure to obtain a valid dog licence, failure to leash a dog where not permitted or permitting a dog to run at large.

Ticketing

Table 1 reflects non-parking related Bylaw ticket issuance for the month of April.

Table 1: Community Bylaw Offences

Ticket Issuance (BVN's & MTL's)	April	YTD
Short-Term Rental Offences	61	181
Soil Deposit and Removal Offences	4	22
Animal Regulation/Dog Licence Offences	28	83
Watercourse Protection Offences	1	1
Unsightly Premises Offences	3	6
Noise Offences	2	9
Building Regulation Offences	0	2
Solid Waste and Recycling Offences	0	0
Parks Offences	0	0
Sign Offences	10	26
Watering Offences	0	0
Totals	109	330

Bylaw Adjudication

The next adjudication session will be held on June 26, 2024.

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. The collection of revenue in other Bylaw fines can be primarily attributed to fines issued for the operation of unpermitted short-term rentals. These results are shown in Table 2.

Parking enforcement generates much of its revenue from meters, permits and fines. Table 3 outlines individual revenue sources within parking enforcement. Table 4 highlights funds collected from dog licencing and fines. The overall increase in licence revenue can be attributed to proactive work done by staff in prior years to ensure accuracy in dog licence accounts and canvassing efforts to ensure compliance.

Table 5 outlines the net revenue and expenses for both property use and parking enforcement and animal protection services.

Table 2: Property Use Revenue by Source

Program Revenue	Budget Apr 2024	Actual Apr 2024	YTD Budget Apr 2024	YTD Actual Apr 2024
False Alarm	4,858	0	19,433	5,940
Towing Permits	876	2,361	6,518	8,145
Newspaper Box Permits	0	0	0	1,024
Soil Permit Application and Volume Fees	6,455	56,489	48,045	69,239
Other Bylaw Fines	13,367	12,425	99,485	49,375
Total Revenue	25,556	71,275	173,481	133,723

Table 3: Parking Revenue by Source

Program Revenue	Budget Apr 2024	Actual Apr 2024	YTD Budget Apr 2024	YTD Actual Apr 2024
Contract Revenue ¹	5,000	5,000	20,000	20,000
Filming Revenue	0	6,558	0	9,770
Parking Revenue ²	174,767	158,447	699,067	634,897
Total Revenue	179,767	170,005	719,067	664,667

Table 4: Animal Protection Services Revenue by Source

Program Revenue	Budget Apr 2024	Actual Apr 2024	YTD Budget Apr 2024	YTD Actual Apr 2024
Dog Licences	12,549	27,260	213,830	242,972
Fines	460	2,350	1,540	7,025
Total Revenue	13,009	29,610	215,370	249,997

¹ City Towing Contract with Rusty's Towing

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

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

		YTD Budget Apr 2024	YTD Actual Apr 2024
Property Use	Revenue	173,481	133,723
	Expenses	640,594	468,623
	Net Revenue (Expense)	(467,113)	(334,900)
Parking	Revenue	719,067	664,667
	Expenses	610,034	505,851
	Net Revenue (Expense)	109,033	158,816
Animal Protection	Revenue	215,370	249,997
	Expenses	499,033	470,549
	Net Revenue (Expense)	(283,663)	(220,552)

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)



To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** May 14, 2024
From: Mark Corrado **File:** 09-5355-00/Vol 01
 Director, Community Bylaws and Licencing

Re: Review of Hours of Operation of Karaoke Clubs and Night Clubs

Staff Recommendation

That the permitted hours of operation of Karaoke Clubs and Night Clubs remain unchanged as outlined in the staff report titled “Review of Hours of Operation of Karaoke Clubs and Night Clubs”, dated May 14, 2024, from the Director, Community Bylaws and Licencing.

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

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

Staff Report

Origin

At the February 26, 2024 Council meeting, the following was resolved:

That staff review the material provided by the delegation and examine the hours of operation of karaoke clubs and night clubs and report back.

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.

Background

There are currently ten licenced Karaoke businesses operating in the City. Karaoke Box Rooms are classified as Commercial Entertainment within the Assembly Use Group 3 category of the Business Licence Bylaw No. 7360. They are further regulated under Business Regulation Bylaw No. 7538 section 10.1 which states:

"Every karaoke box room operator may only permit a karaoke room to be open for business from 8:00 a.m. of any calendar day to 2:30 a.m. of the next calendar day."

Karaokes may also possess a food primary or liquor primary licence, which is issued by the Liquor Cannabis Regulation Branch (LCRB). This liquor licence also states the hours of permissible liquor service. The LCRB has issued a combined 411 food primary and liquor primary licences in the City of Richmond. Any request to the LCRB for a change to a liquor licence, such as an extension of liquor service hours, will trigger an automatic Staff and Council review. While the LCRB is the lead agency for the regulation and enforcement of liquor licencing, its Liquor Inspectors often conduct joint operations with City staff and the RCMP.

Night Clubs are also classified as Commercial Entertainment within the Assembly Use Group 3 category of the Business Licence Bylaw No. 7360. Night Clubs also require a Liquor Primary licence issued by the LCRB. All Liquor Primaries also fall within the purview of Council Policy 9400 which was adopted by Council on July 25, 2016. Council Policy 9400 Section 3(a) stipulates the following:

3. Permanent Changes to Liquor Licences

a. All applicants seeking approval to extend liquor hour service (new or amended) past 2:00 a.m. will not be supported by the City.

Policy 9400 further restricts all rezoning applications new or relocated liquor primary clubs to be at least 500m from a school, park or community centre. The intent of this restriction is to reduce the potential for neighbourhood conflict (noise, disturbing the peace etc).

Analysis

Prior to the introduction of Council Policy 9400, there were previous attempts to extend liquor service hours beyond 2:00 a.m. In the April 13, 2004 open staff report, titled “JP Malone’s Liquor Licence Application”¹, from the Manager of Customer Service, the following issues and risks were cited by neighbourhood residents and key stakeholders such as Vancouver Coastal Health and the RCMP:

Table 1 Summary of Comments Re: JP Malone's Liquor Application

Resident’s Concerns (40 Resident Letters)	Vancouver Coastal Health	RCMP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noise disturbance • Traffic issues • Vandalism • Littering of beer bottles • Negative impact on neighbourhood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to noise concerns extension of liquor service hours not recommended. (at the time VCH conducted noise call response) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seized weapons • Alcohol taken from the pub to the individuals’ cars • Intoxicated people getting into their cars • Yelling and shouting when leaving the pub which led to noise complaints • Patrons urinating in public after closing • Evidence of fights amongst patrons

As noted in the table above, liquor primaries may be subject to community conflict/concerns as well as health and safety issues. Given these issues, it is not surprising that 97% of the local residents surveyed in the JP Malone’s application were opposed to the extension of liquor service.

Vancouver Liquor Policy Changes

In a letter (Attachment 1), the owner of the Zodiac Karaoke and Pub establishment cites the inability to compete with competitors in Vancouver. A further letter from the President and CEO of the British Columbia Restaurants and Food Services Association (Attachment 2) called for balance in the application of liquor policies across the region and again cited Vancouver’s new liquor policies changes.

These letters reference competition pressures in relation to increased recent liquor policy changes passed by Vancouver City Council in December 2023. These changes included:

“removing distance requirements on all liquor establishment licences citywide including lifting the moratorium on new liquor establishments and seat expansions at existing establishments in the Granville Entertainment District [GED]and the Chinatown,

¹ https://citycouncil.richmond.ca/_shared/assets/042604_item123411.pdf

Gastown, Industrial, Thornton Park, and Victory Square areas as defined by the Liquor Policy for the Downtown Eastside.”

In addition to the lifting of a moratorium on liquor distancing policy, Vancouver also aligned operating hours for Liquor Establishments between Drake Street and Georgia Street so that they operate under the same hours.² Select geographic areas such as the GED, allow for extended hours for service that run from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m. seven days a week. While Vancouver staff anticipated a positive impact in the form of ‘business flexibility and innovation’, they also noted the following risks:

“Removal of the moratorium does risk increasing late night disorder, including gender based violence and public health harms from intoxication, all of which are significant concerns in the GED. Expanded opportunities for pubs and nightclubs must be accompanied by new and ongoing measures to protect public health and safety for residents and for visitors. Through the Granville Street Planning process staff will work with stakeholders to develop an equitable approach and recommendations to address public safety in the GED. Early recommendations that are being explored include a sobering space, drop-in service for survivors of gender based violence, and increased funding for evening street outreach.”

However, unlike Vancouver, Richmond does not have designated entertainment zones for liquor primaries. As a result, any general extension of liquor service hours for liquor primaries would have a broader geographical impact and increased likelihood of neighbourhood conflict from the issues described above.

Regional Scan of other Municipalities

Staff conducted a scan of neighboring municipalities regarding their regulations on hours of liquor service operations. In reviewing liquor primary regulations for the cities of New Westminster, Surrey and Burnaby, it was found that the latest a liquor primary license holder may apply for extended hours is 2:00 a.m.

Case Study

The RCMP and Bylaws conducted a case study and determined that a considerable number of investigations occurred between 2022 and the first quarter of 2024 in relation to neighbourhood disturbances and other calls for service in relation to a liquor primary and Karaoke. The majority of these calls for service occurred late in the evening and a significant portion occurred around closing time between 12:00 a.m. and 2:00 a.m. Given the safety issues with persons who may be intoxicated, City Staff conduct their inspections as part of a joint-operation with specialized RCMP units and LCRB.

Community Impact

Given the high number of community safety related issues found in the recent past during their preliminary research and case study, Staff do not recommend extending the hours of operation or

² <https://council.vancouver.ca/20231213/documents/cfsc1.pdf>

liquor service for Karaoke and Night clubs. Many of the calls for service were related to neighbourhood disturbances and it is likely that any proposal to extend hours would be met with significant neighbourhood opposition as shown in the case of JP Malone's. Moreover, as noted in the Vancouver staffing report, a significant service level increase for law enforcement related resources would likely be required.

Financial Impact

No financial impact is anticipated, if the status quo remains. If, however, Liquor Primary service rules and operating times were to change, staff would report back on the service level increase that would likely be required.

Conclusion

This report provides a review of existing bylaws and policies in relation to the hours of operation and liquor service for Karaoke and Night clubs. Given the potential for increased neighbourhood conflict and related community safety issues, no change to the existing bylaws and Council Policies is recommended.



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

MC:mc

Att. 1: Letter from Zodiac Karaoke and Pub Inc.
2: Letter from BCRFA

This is a letter addressing the City of Richmond,

We are a group of Richmond nightlife & pub establishments that are coming together as a community to propose for the city to grant an ongoing operations extension.

In recent announcements, all nightlife establishments within the Vancouver entertainment vicinity have been granted a 4AM licence. This has made it difficult for us Richmond business owners to compete.

We have begun a process with the city of Richmond to extend the business hours for our establishment from 2:00 AM last call to a 3:00 AM last call and 3:30 AM closing.

We are beginning this process for economic reasons. This will also allow us more time with a new liquor extension.

We feel that the entertainment model that most of us operate under is one that begins at a later hour than most other non Karaoke Liquor primary, or Food Primary Karaoke establishments.

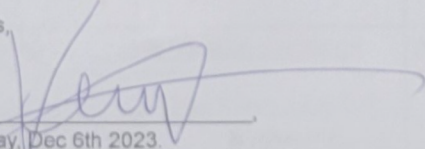
Given the nature of our business and industry, we find that it's also difficult to consider opening at an earlier time and closing up early as we have a late night culture to our industry. Most clients are used to the 3AM end time, now which is being extended in Vancouver till 4AM.

That additional two hours that we as business owners are not operating caused us to not only lose more customers to businesses based in Vancouver but also miss profit that we should be capable of earning, but losing to businesses who are allowed to stay open later than ours.

Please consider this community supported letter from owners within the pub & nightlife space to ask for later operating hours.

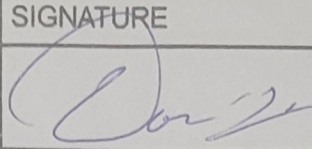
In this climate of high inflation, taxes and wages, we need some help from the City to help us have the same opportunities as everyone else throughout the city.

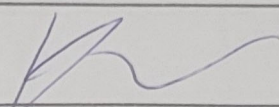
Warmest Regards,



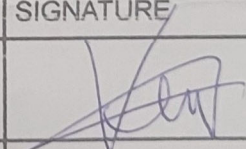
Signed Wednesday, Dec 6th 2023

Jun Gang-Gu,
Zodiac Karaoke & Pub Inc.
8191 Alexandra Road, Richmond B.C V6X 1C9
Supported By:

LEGAL NAME	BUSINESS ROLE	SIGNATURE
Don Lui	owner	
BUSINESS NAME	BUSINESS ADDRESS	DATE
Millennium Karaoke	4451 No. 3 Rd #201 Richmond	Dec. 14/23

LEGAL NAME	BUSINESS ROLE	SIGNATURE
Yunteng Sun	manager	
BUSINESS NAME	BUSINESS ADDRESS	DATE
Free Trues Club	180-8400 Alexandra Road. Richmond	Dec 14. 2023

LEGAL NAME	BUSINESS ROLE	SIGNATURE
Qi Yu zhang ⁽²⁾	owner	赵奇章
BUSINESS NAME	BUSINESS ADDRESS	DATE
No. 88 club	8500 Alexandra Rd Richmond	2023.12.12

LEGAL NAME	BUSINESS ROLE	SIGNATURE
Jun Gang Gu	owner	
BUSINESS NAME	BUSINESS ADDRESS	DATE
Zodiac Karaoke & Pub Inc	8191 Alexandra Rd Richmond	Dec 12, 2023



January 24th. 2024

Re: Zodiac Karaoke Club extended hours request.

To whom it may concern,

Please accept this as our letter of support for the extension of business hours, from 2:00 a.m. until 3:00 am for the Zodiac Karaoke Club, located at 8191 Alexandra Rd, in Richmond, as well as other similar Richmond businesses.

The business of Karaoke Club and Nightclub (stand alone) have clientele that attend at later hours, putting them at an unfair disadvantage over restaurants and liquor primary establishments, which provide a Karaoke platform.

Karaoke and Nightclubs are not able to operate at the same time as restaurants and liquor primary establishments, as their clientele seek out this brand of entertainment at later hours.

With large investments and high overhead, these types of business models, in Richmond, are also adversely impacted by the recent changes to Vancouver's liquor policies.

We believe that liquor policies should be balanced throughout the region so as to not cause adverse effects on competitors in neighboring communities.

Yours truly

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ian Tostenson".

Ian Tostenson
President/CEO

The Voice of BC Restaurants

www.bcrfa.com

600 - 890 West Pender Street, Vancouver, BC V6C 1J9 • T: 604.669.2239 • F: 604.687.1327



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** May 13, 2024
From: Jim Wishlove **File** 09-5140-01/2024-Vol
 Fire Chief 01
Re: **Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – April 2024**

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled “Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – April 2024”, dated May 13, 2024, 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 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 staff engaged in the following activities:

- Hosted a table top exercise with Fortis BC to discuss communication protocols following a gas leak incident from a Fortis BC facility in Delta in January of this year. Following this, staff participated in a full scale exercise with Fortis BC. This exercise supported relationship building and confirmation of emergency contacts and response procedures in the event of an emergency involving Fortis BC.
- Led an introduction to the Incident Command System (ICS) as part of the Public Works (PW) Supervisory Leadership Program. This presentation introduced 18 Public Works staff to the basic theory and implementation of ICS to further enhance the interoperability of RFR and PW personnel when jointly responding to events.
- Participated in a table top exercise hosted by a local large industrial facility. This table top simulated a hazardous materials leak following a seismic event. This exercise provided increased awareness of the capabilities and resources of both the facility and the City, confirmed points of contact and initial response actions leading to better communication, response times and collaboration.
- Met with members of the Canadian Armed Forces, the South West Provincial Emergency Operations Center and an aerial wildfire fighting provider to discuss resources, capabilities, response times and conditions under which the City would provide and access support and resources in the event of a wildfire. This resulted in plans for future collaboration through table top exercises, confirmation of contacts and increased awareness of response capabilities available to the City.
- Met with staff from the Health Protection Team with Vancouver General Health to discuss the preparations for the upcoming heat and wildfire season and learn more about each other's roles and determine the best way to share knowledge and resources.

Public Outreach & Education

During the month of April staff engaged in the following activities:

- Facilitated outreach events to provide educational opportunities to the community, including fire hall and vehicle tours for six organizations.
- Hosted the Burning of Chametz with Chabad Richmond, a family friendly community event and outreach event.
- Participated in the Sky’s No Limit event. A large outreach event to inspire future women leaders in Aviation, Aerospace, Marine and Defence held at Abbotsford International Airport.
- Additionally, staff continued with life safety educational social media videos and posts.

Internal Staff Training

In April 2024, staff organized in-house training events including: Emergency Scene Management, Technical Water Rescue, Fire Service Leadership, Emergency Medical Assistants Change of Scope and ongoing recruit training 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 2024, there were 1,008 reported incidents of all types, representing an overall increase of 10 per cent in incidents between April 2023 and April 2024 (Table 1).

	Incident Totals April (2024)	Incident Totals April (2023)	Number Change from April 2023 to 2024	Percentage Change from April 2023 to 2024	5 Year Average for April
Active Alarm	149	149	0	0	124
Explosion	0	1	-1	-100	0
Fire	46	30	+16	+53	42
Hazardous Materials	7	2	+5	+250	5
Medical	530	524	+6	+1	375
Motor Vehicle Incident	89	80	+9	+11	63
Public Hazard	8	5	+3	+60	8
Public Service	89	59	+30	+51	68
Response Cancelled/Unfounded	87	63	+24	+38	54
Specialized Transport	3	1	+2	+200	2
Technical Rescue	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1,008	914	+94	+10	741

The average time on scene in April 2024 for emergency response crews was 34 minutes per event, which is higher than the number recorded in April 2023: 30 minutes. The time spent on scene can vary due to the nature and severity of each incident.

In April 2024, there were 46 fire incidents reported to the Office of the Fire Commissioner, this is more than the number reported in April 2023. The average number of fires reported each April over the last five years is 42.

Fire damage and property losses during April 2024 are estimated at \$1,170,735. This total includes \$737,640 for building/asset loss and \$433,095 for content loss. The total building/asset and content value at risk is estimated to be \$198,896,667 and the total value preserved from damage was \$197,725,932. These numbers translate to 99 per cent of value protected (Table 3), which is the same as the value observed in 2023: 99 per cent.

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	5	3,062,350	549,700	2,136,645	368,990	4,280,305
Residential: Multi family	6	2,422,250	-	889,950	-	3,312,200
Commercial / Industrial	5	106,750,690	67,200	83,476,487	63,050	190,096,927
Outdoor	24	8,240	8,240	2,555	1,055	1,500
Vehicle/Vessel	6	147,500	112,500	-	-	35,000
Totals*	46	112,391,030	737,640	86,505,637	433,095	197,725,932

* 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 2024 incidents:

- April 5, 2024 – Beach Fire on Iona Beach.** Emergency crews responded to reports of a large fire at the end of Iona Beach. Multiple crews were dispatched, including the Wildland Unit to the scene. Due to the location of the fire, the closest hydrant was approximately three kilometers away. Crews were able to shuttle tanks of water back and forth, as well as drafting water from the nearby river to provide extinguishment. RFR crews were able to extinguish the fire with the aid of an excavator, which attended the scene. RFR crews continued to soak the entire area before beginning the demobilization. Crews liaised with the Port Authority and Metro Vancouver crews at the scene. The scene was made safe for the public using the park area. There were no reports of injury to the public or RFR personnel.

- **April 14, 2024 – Vehicle Fire on Cooney Road.** Emergency crews responded to an electric motorcycle on fire beside a house. The fire had spread up a tree and into a porch area of the building. The fire was extinguished rapidly and did not extend into the interior of the building. A Fire Investigator attended. There were no reports of injury to the public or RFR personnel.
- **April 15, 2024 – Residential Fire on Granville Avenue.** Emergency crews responded to reports of a home under construction with flames showing through the roof of the building. Crews made a quick attack and were able to extinguish the fire. A large hedge had caught fire and was also quickly extinguished. Once crews were able to enter the building they continued to extinguish the fire spread. The scene was secured by a security company. A Fire Investigator attended. There were no reports of injury to the public or RFR personnel.
- **April 16, 2024 – Structure Fire on Wellington Crescent.** Emergency crews responded to a structure fire on Wellington Crescent. On arrival the fire had been partially extinguished by a nearby City Works crew and then was fully extinguished by the first on scene RFR crews. The quick actions by the City Works crew and application of initial firefighting significantly reduced the total amount of damage to the structure while RFR emergency response crews were arriving. A Fire Investigator attended. There were no further reports of injury to the public or RFR personnel.
- **April 24, 2024 – Residential Fire on Easterbrook Road.** Emergency crews responded to a structure fire on Easterbrook Road. First in crews took a defensive position as the home was completely engulfed in flames. Crews worked quickly to protect the neighbouring houses and containing the fire. The fire was extinguished and the scene was secured by a security company. One occupant, who suffered smoke inhalation, was provided treatment by BC Emergency Health Services. A Fire Investigator attended. There were no reports of injury to the public or RFR personnel.
- **April 29, 2024 – Structure Fire on Blundell Road.** Emergency crews responded to a greenhouse fire on Blundell Road. First in crews quickly deployed a hose line to contain the fire and prevent spread to a neighbouring wildland area. The initial fire attack to the greenhouse was difficult due to a significant electrical hazard in the area. Once the power was disconnected by BC Hydro, crews were able to complete the extinguishment of the fire. A Fire Investigator attended. There were no reports of injury to the public or RFR personnel.

Financial Impact

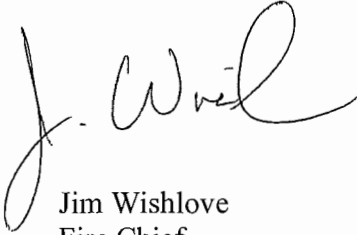
None.

May 13, 2024

- 6 -

Conclusion

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Wishlove". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Jim Wishlove
Fire Chief
(604-303-2715)

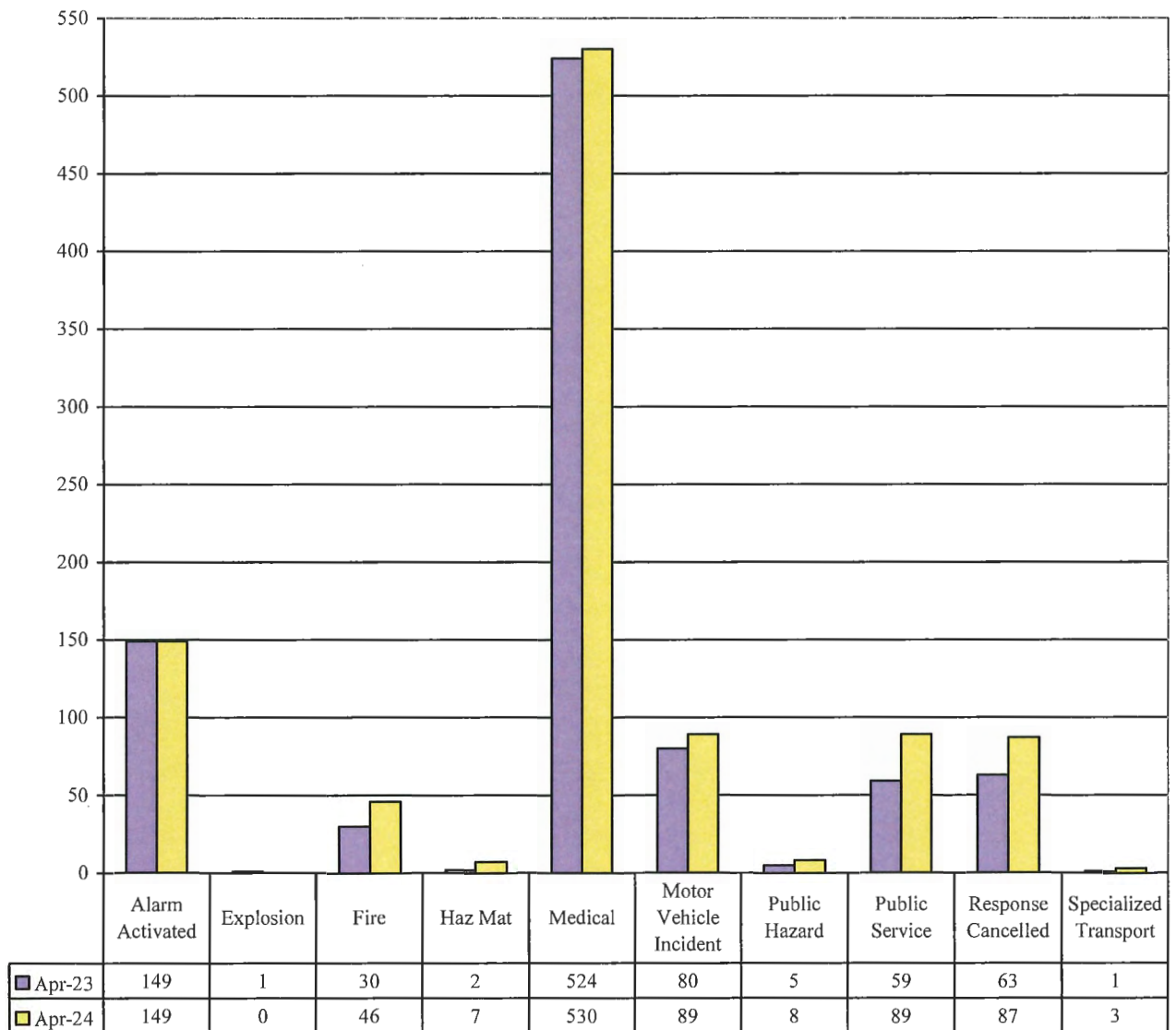
Att. 1: Emergency Response Activity for April 2024.

Emergency Response Activity for April 2024

Incident Volumes

The following chart provides a month-to-month comparison regarding incidents occurring in April 2023 and 2024. In April 2024, there were 1,008 total incidents, compared to 914 in April 2023. This represents an overall increase of 10 per cent between last year and 2024.

Table 3: April 2023 & April 2024 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 53 per cent of the total emergency responses for RFR during the month of April 2024. A detailed breakdown of the medical incidents for April 2023 and 2024 is set out in the following table by sub-type. There were 530 medical incidents in April 2024 compared to 524 in April 2023, an increase of 1 per cent.

Table 4a: April 2023 & April 2024 Medical Calls by Type

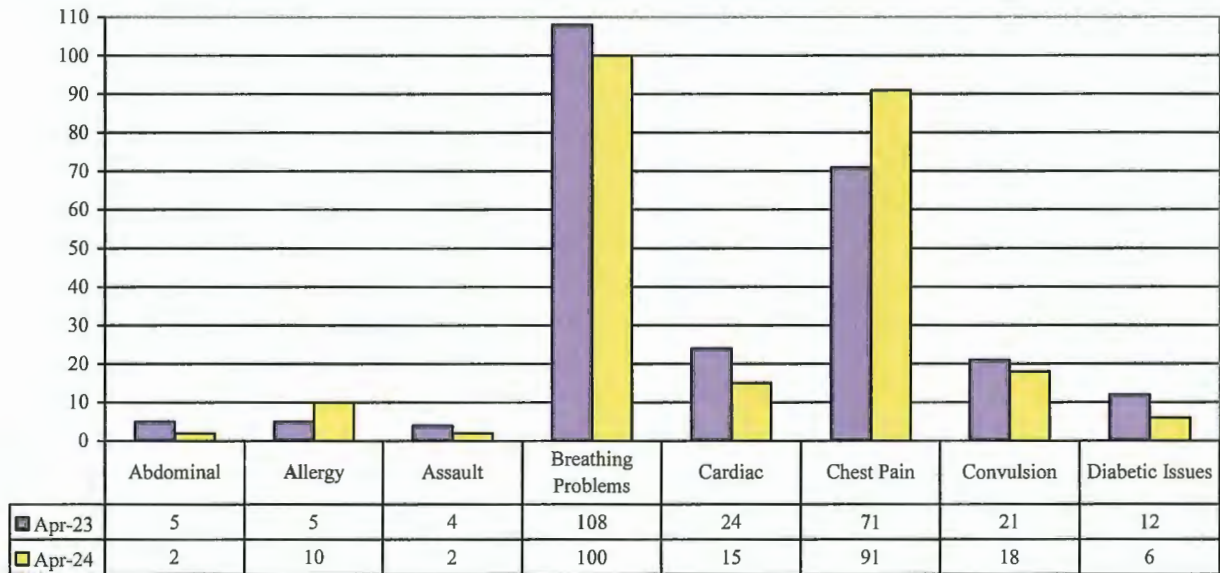
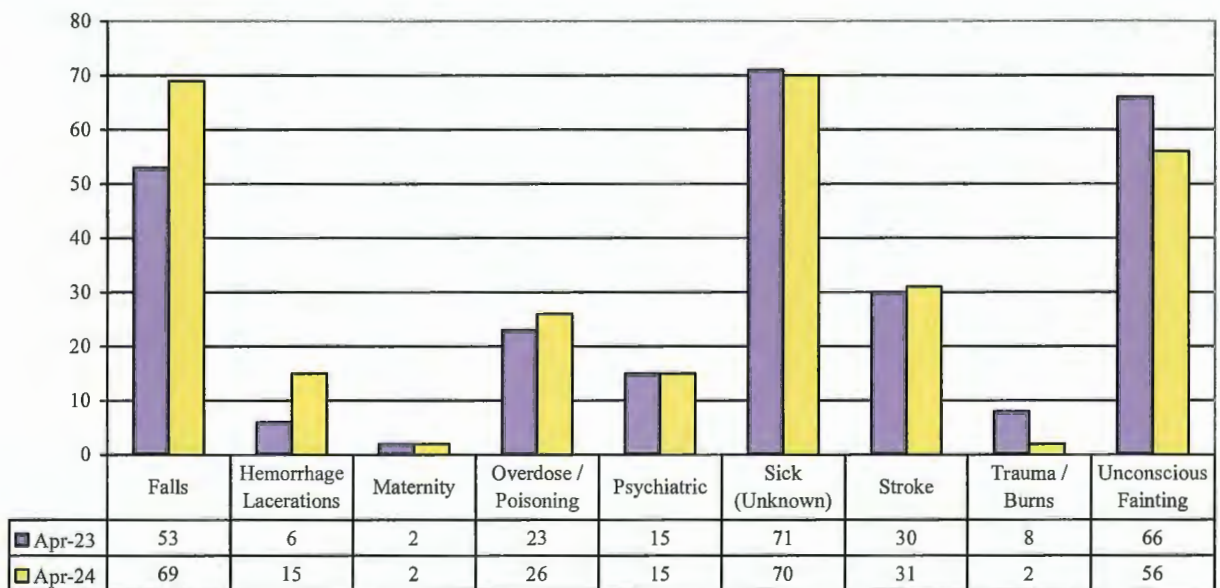


Table 4b: April 2023 & April 2024 Medical Calls by Type



The following chart provides the overdose/poisoning incident volume breakdown for April 2024. During April 2024, Naloxone was not administered (zero doses) by RFR staff.

Table 4c: Overdose / Poisoning Incidents By Type – April 2024	
Opioid overdose incidents that RFR attended located in an OUTDOOR environment.	9
Opioid overdose incidents that RFR attended located in an INDOOR environment.	4
All other OD / Poisoning Incidents	13
Totals	26

Fire Investigations

The fire investigation statistics for April 2024 are listed below:

Table 5: Total Fire Investigation Statistics – April 2024			
	Suspicious	Accidental	Undetermined
Residential - Single-family	-	5	-
Residential - Multi-family	-	5	1
Commercial/Industrial	1	3	1
Outdoor	15	5	4
Vehicle	1	4	1
Totals	17	22	7

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

Hazardous Materials

Table 6: Hazardous Materials Incidents By Type – April 2024	
	Details
Gasses (Natural / Propane)	6
Standby/Support for other agency	1
Totals	7

The following charts provide total incident volumes for fires and medical incidents on a year-to-year comparison in April from 2015 to 2024.

Table 7a: Total Fire Calls for Service in April from 2015 to 2024

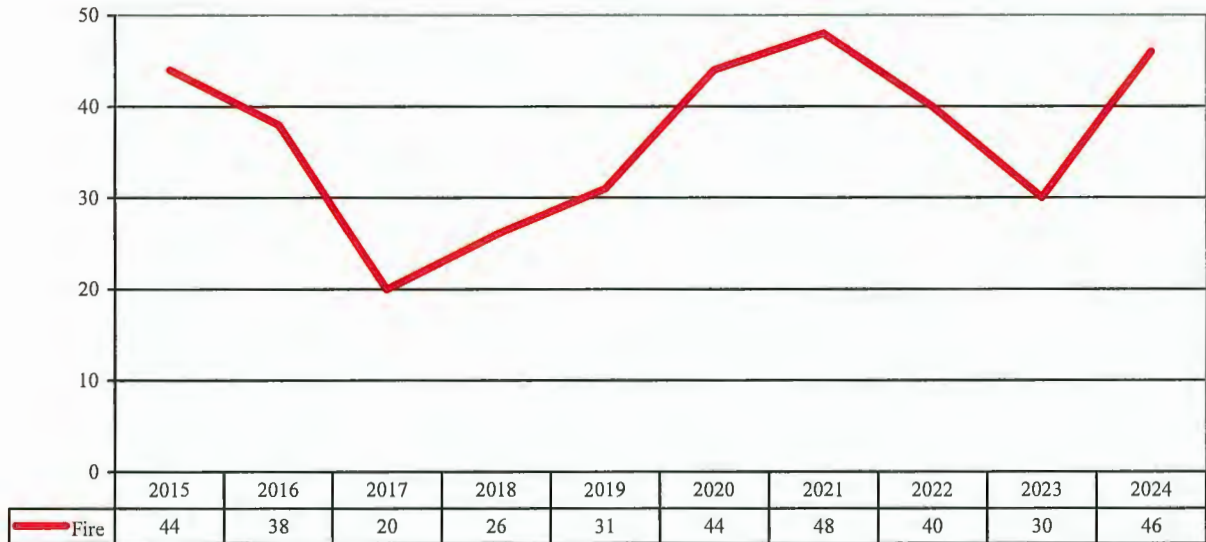


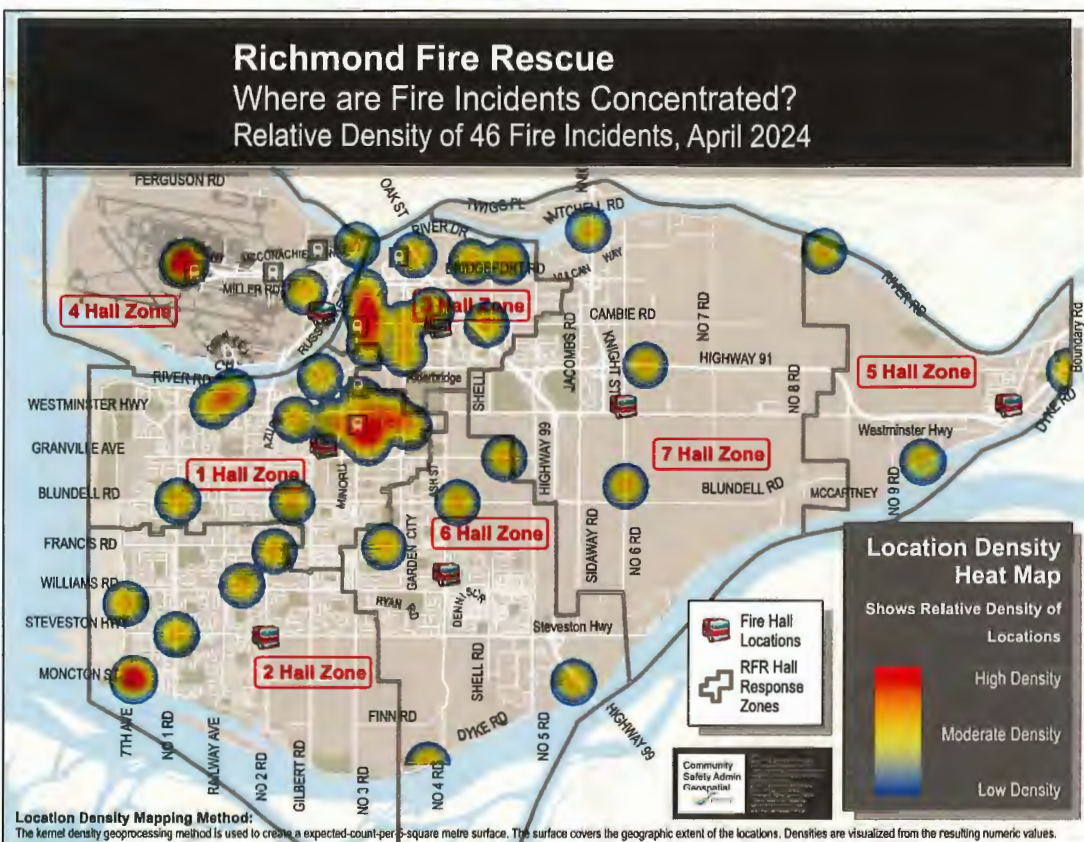
Table 7b: Total Medical Calls for Service in April from 2015 to 2024



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

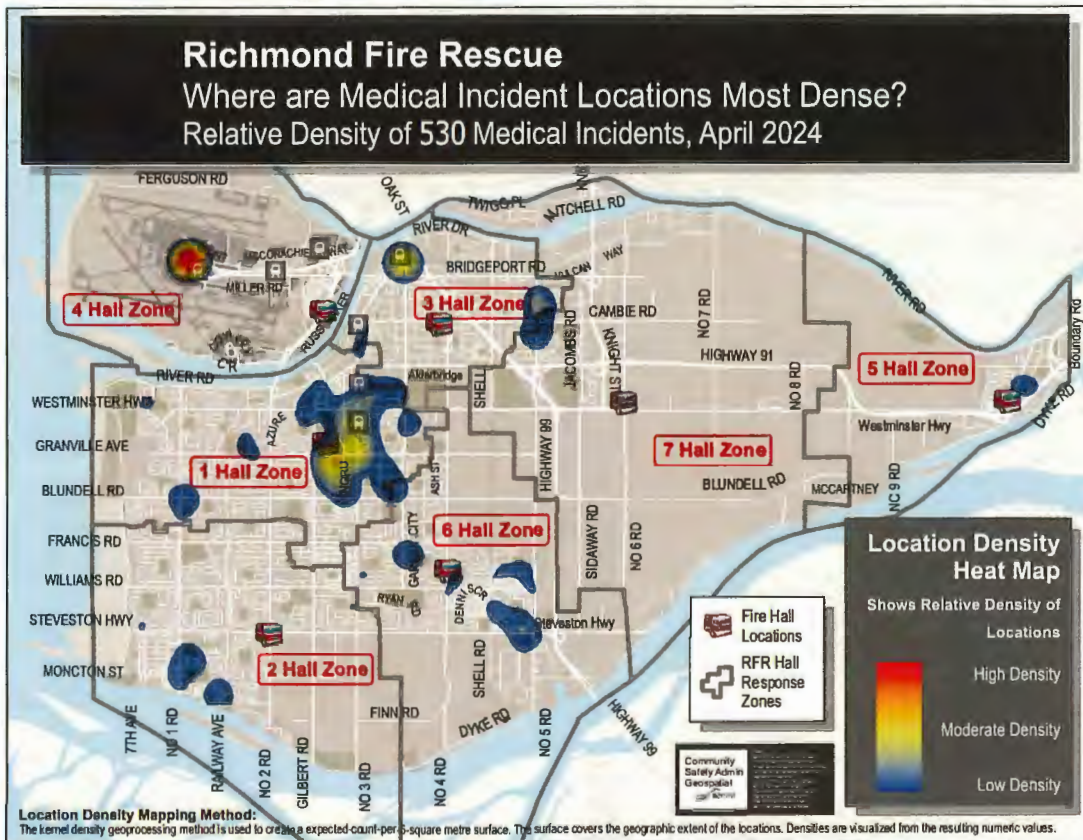
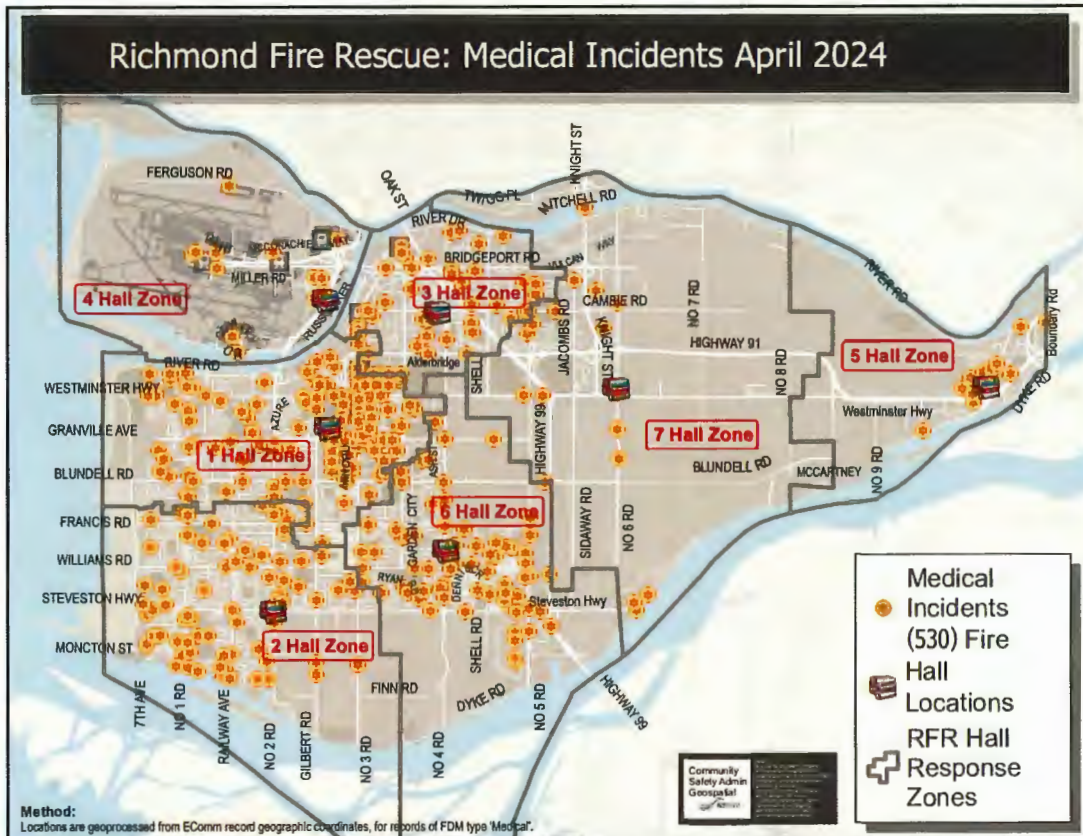
Start of Covid-19 pandemic

Figure 1: Location of reportable fire incidents attended in April 2024 (total 46)



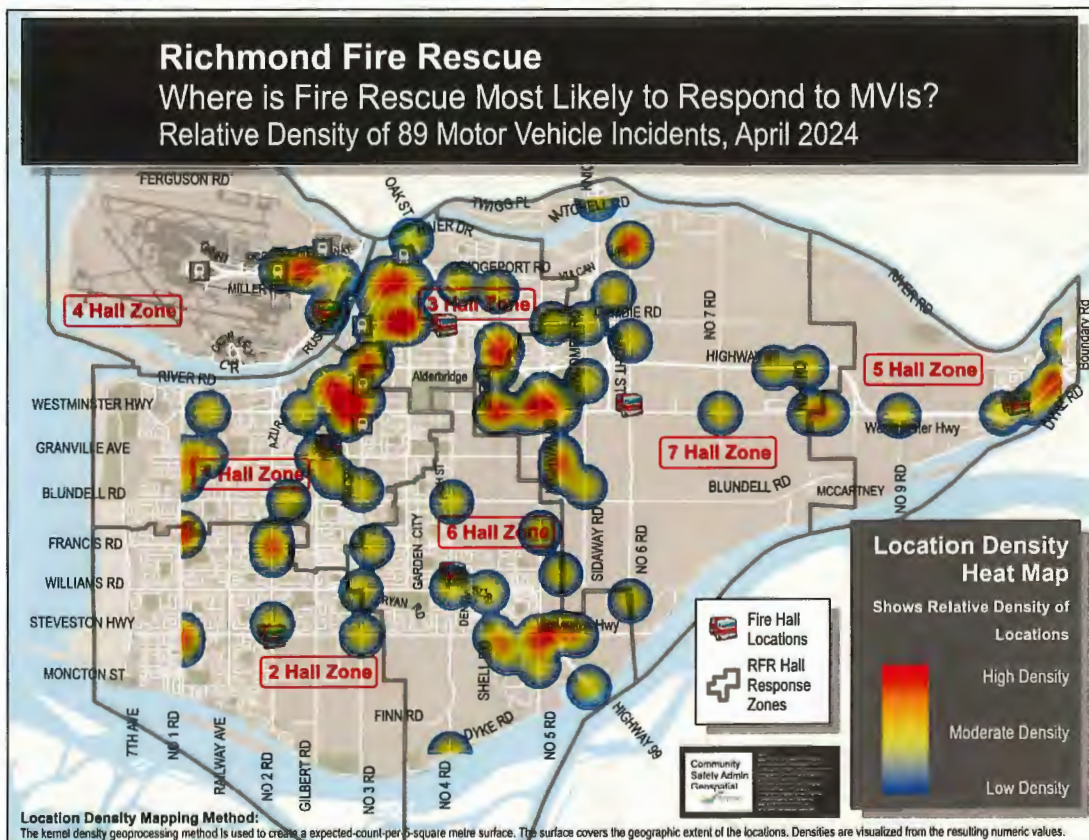
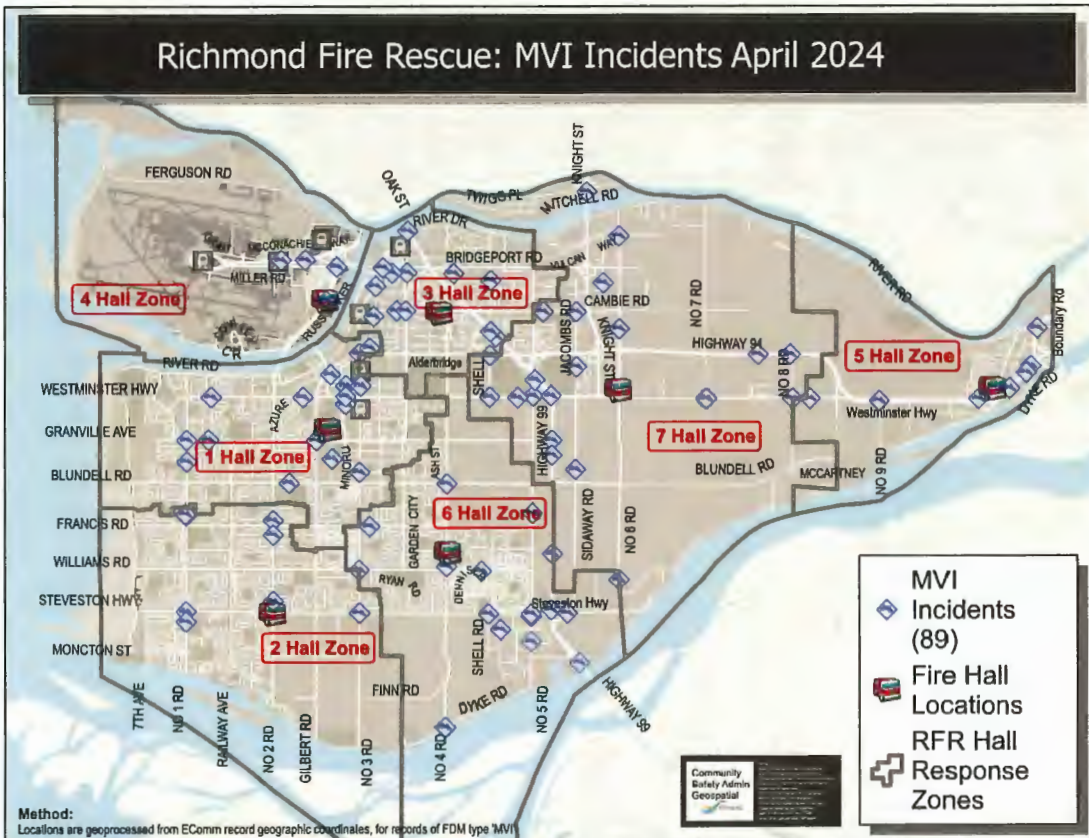
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Figure 2: Location of reportable medical incidents attended in April 2024 (total 530)



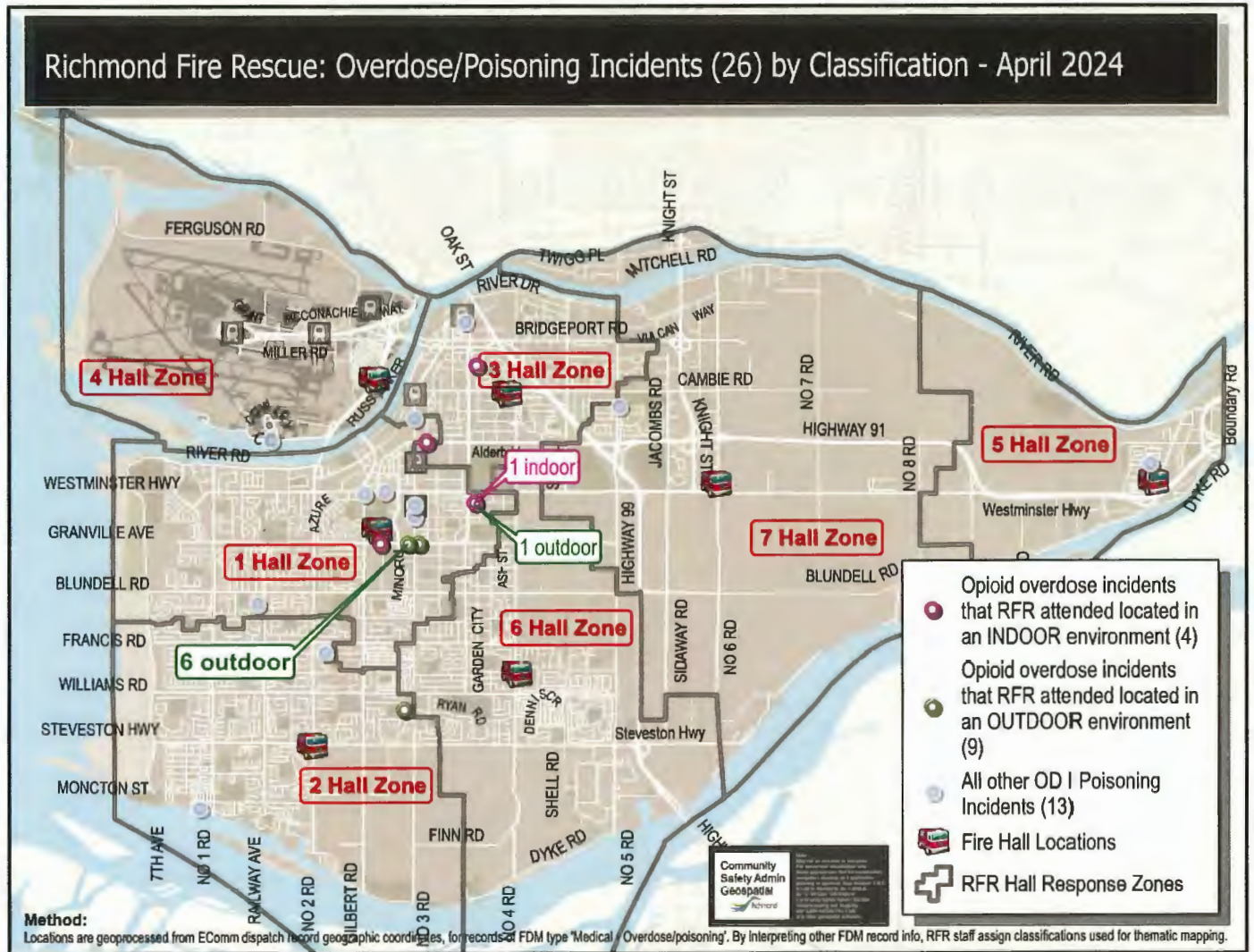
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Figure 3: Location of reportable motor vehicle incidents (MVIs) attended in April 2024 (total 89)



7672426

Figure 4: Location of reportable overdose / poisoning incidents attended in April 2024 (total 26)





City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** May 10, 2024
From: Dave Chauhan **File:** 09-5000-01/2024-Vol
Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge 01
Re: RCMP Monthly Activity Report – April 2024

Recommendation from the Officer in Charge

That the report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – April 2024”, dated May 10, 2024, from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment, be received for information.

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

Att. 3

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

Report

Origin

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

1. Activities and Noteworthy Files
2. Analysis of Police Statistics
3. Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions
4. Block Watch
5. Community Police Station Programs
6. Crime Prevention Unit
7. Road Safety Unit
8. Victim Services
9. Youth Section

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

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

Analysis

Activities and Noteworthy Files

Retail Theft Program

On April 3, 2024, the Richmond RCMP issued a media release highlighting recent crime reduction efforts by the Property Crime Unit to combat retail theft, which has been identified as an increasing trend. Of note, Boost and Bust operations were conducted on March 9 and 21, 2024, resulting in 19 arrests and the recovery of over \$7,000 in stolen goods.

Volunteer Week

Between April 14 and 20, 2024, the Richmond RCMP recognized the valuable contributions of its 131 volunteers, who contributed over 5,300 hours to community safety initiatives in 2023. Volunteers participated in 701 community events and outreach activities, including Bike, Van and Foot Patrols, Car Seat Safety Clinics, Lock Out Auto Crime, Speed Watch, Distracted Driving and Pedestrian Safety events.



Figure 1: Richmond Volunteers

Fraud

Between March 1, 2024, and April 8, 2024, the Richmond RCMP received seven reports of fraudsters posing as Chinese police or government officials. In four instances, victims sent money and lost a combined amount of over \$1.1 million. On April 19, 2024, a media release was issued warning of the trend and fraud prevention information was provided.

Weapons Seizure

On April 24, 2024, Richmond RCMP received a report of a man in possession of firearms in a hotel in the 3000 block of St. Edwards Drive. With the assistance of the Lower Mainland Integrated Emergency Response Team, Richmond RCMP officers arrested the man without incident. A subsequent search warrant yielded the seizure of four assault-style rifles, one loaded handgun, over \$ 2,000 in cash and approximately 800 grams of illicit drugs.

Mail Theft Arrests

Between April 11, 2024, and April 15, 2024, the Richmond RCMP received 12 reports of stolen mail from single-family residences. Police determined the incidents were connected and conducted increased patrols of the targeted area. Property crime investigators identified two suspects and subsequently arrested them. The incidents are under investigation.

Analysis of Police Statistics

Arson

In April 2024, there were five reported arsons, which is an increase of three incidents from the previous month. No patterns or trends have been identified.¹

Assault Serious (Assault with a Weapon)

There were 18 serious assault events in April 2024, representing no change from the previous month and a five per cent decrease from April 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of serious assaults this month is within the average range.

Of the incidents reported in April 2024, 39 per cent were domestic assaults.

Auto Theft

In April 2024, there were 19 auto thefts, representing a 21 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 14 per cent decrease from April 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of auto thefts this month is within the average range.

¹ In January 2024, a new Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR) code was introduced related to intentionally set fires that do not meet the *Criminal Code* definition of Arson. The new UCR code, 8900-25 Fire – Not Arson, will allow for the more accurate capturing of arson incidents. The introduction of this new UCR code currently prevents comparison to prior year arson counts. Staff will resume reporting trend comparison once sufficient statistically significant data is collected under the new UCR system.

Drugs

In April 2024, there were 17 drug offences, which is a 13 per cent increase from the previous month and a 67 per cent decrease from April 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of drug incidents this month is below the average range.

Mental Health

There were 216 mental health-related incidents in April 2024, representing a 21 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 15 per cent decrease from April 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of mental health-related incidents this month is within the average range.

There were 72 police apprehensions this month, representing a seven per cent decrease from the previous month, and the average hospital wait time decreased by five per cent to 146 minutes. The extended wait time has been attributed to four files with exceptionally long wait times.

Residential Break and Enter

There were 24 break and enters to residences in April 2024, representing a four per cent increase from the previous month and a 26 per cent increase from April 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of residential break and enters this month is within the average range.

Commercial Break and Enter

In April 2024, there were 14 break and enters to businesses, which is a 48 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 26 per cent decrease from April 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of commercial break and enters this month is below the average range.

Robbery

There were five robberies in April 2024, which is a decrease of seven incidents from the previous month and an increase of three incidents from April 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of robberies this month is above the average range.

Two of the robberies reported this month involved a knife. In one of these incidents, the suspect was located and arrested shortly after leaving the scene.

Sexual Offences

In April 2024, there were 16 sexual offence files, representing a 14 per cent increase from the previous month and a 20 per cent decrease from April 2023.² No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of sexual offences this month is within the average range.

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

Approximately 31 per cent of the offences reported in April 2024 were indecent acts/exposing and 31 per cent were sexual assaults.

Shoplifting

There were 180 reported shoplifting thefts in April 2024, which is a one per cent decrease from the previous month and more than double the number of incidents reported in April 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of shoplifting thefts this month is above the average range.

The top targeted location remained consistent with previous months, and the most frequently stolen items were clothing and accessories.

Theft from Automobile

There were 63 thefts from automobiles in April 2024, which is a 15 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 45 per cent decrease from April 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of thefts from automobiles this month is below the average range.

Hate Crimes and Incidents

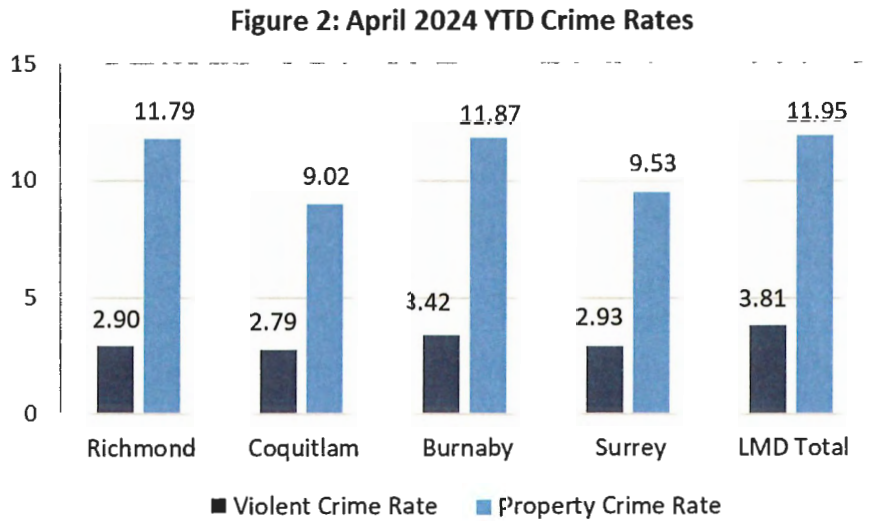
Table 1 presents the number of hate crimes and hate incidents reported between January 1, 2020 and April 30, 2024.³ A “hate crime” refers to any criminal offence targeting an identifiable group. The criteria for an offence to be considered a hate crime, as per the *Criminal Code*, carries a higher threshold and usually involves one or more criminal offences. A “hate incident” may be motivated by the same factors as a hate crime but does not reach the threshold of being a criminal offence. There was one hate incident reported in April 2024, which involved anti-LGBTQS+ comments made by a high school student.

Table 1 – Hate Crimes and Hate Incidents			
Year	Hate Crime Files	Hate Incident Files	Total
2020	21	13	34
2021	21	24	45
2022	8	26	34
2023	6	19	25
2024 (TYD)	0	2	2

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

Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions

Figure 1 presents data on crime rates for the four largest municipalities policed by the RCMP in the Lower Mainland District (LMD) for April 2024.⁴ The property and violent crime rates in Richmond were below the LMD average. Richmond has been experiencing an increase in some property crime types, including shoplifting, which has contributed to a higher property crime rate. Crime reduction efforts are being conducted and additional targeted enforcement projects are being deployed.



Block Watch

At the end of April 2024, the Block Watch program had 306 groups, totalling 7,082 participants. Currently, the program includes 434 captains and co-captains. This month, Block Watch staff conducted outreach to local businesses, resulting in 30 companies signing up for Business Link.

⁴ Based on PRIME query by Richmond Crime Analysis Unit on May 3, 2024

Community Police Station Programs

Community police stations continue to enhance the Richmond Detachment's policing services by providing various crime prevention resources and community safety initiatives. City staff and volunteers pursue safety initiatives to improve crime prevention program awareness, community engagement and police accessibility. These initiatives help 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 2024, volunteer highlights included:

- The deployment of one volunteer foot/van patrol, totalling two hours, and four bike patrols, totalling 12 hours.
- A total of 17 Fail to Stop deployments took place, resulting in 538 information letters issued.
- There were 38 Lock Out Auto Crime deployments, resulting in 566 information letters issued.
- Speed Watch was conducted on 4,576 vehicles, resulting in 274 information letters issued.
- April 2 and 11 – Speed Watch training was delivered to volunteers, which included an overview of the program, safety considerations and the equipment used in deployments.
- April 4 –Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with Lock Out Auto Crime deployments in central Richmond and issued 28 information letters.
- April 9 -Volunteers assisted Block Watch and RCMP officers in outreach to businesses in the area of Viking Way and Cambie Road to increase awareness of cheque fraud.
- April 10 –Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a Coffee with a Cop event at the McDonald's on No. 3 Road. Crime prevention resources, including Community Safety App cards, were also distributed.
- April 20 – Volunteers participated in an Earth Day event at the Cambie Community Centre and assisted with a community information booth. They promoted various crime prevention programs, including Block Watch and the Safe Sale Exchange, which helps prevent online marketplace thefts by providing a secure area inside the main detachment for buyers and sellers.
- April 23 – Volunteers participated in a Lock Out Auto Crime Blitz at the Minoru Centre for Active Living, which featured the “Spot the Target” initiative. Crime prevention resources were also provided.

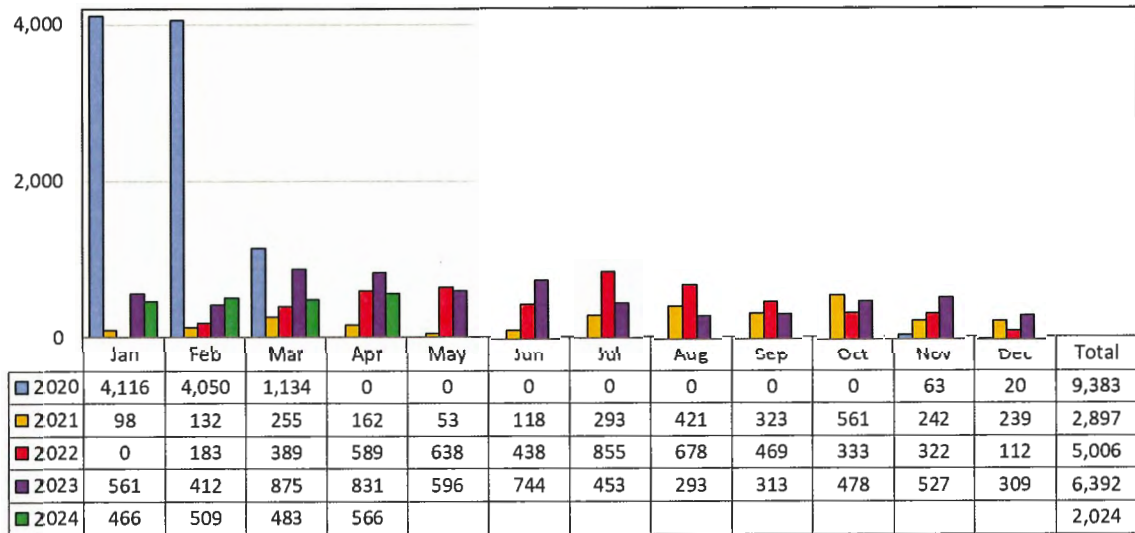


Figure 3: Coffee with a Cop

Lock Out Auto Crime

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

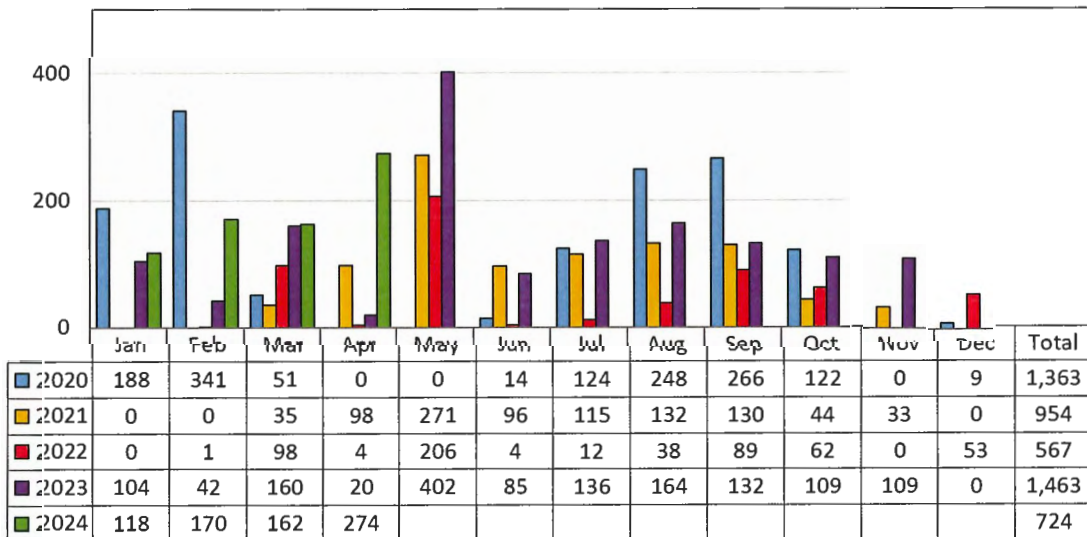
Figure 4: Lock Out Auto Crime Vehicles Issued a Notice



Speed Watch

Figure 3 compares the number of letters sent to registered vehicle owners yearly.

Figure 5: Speed Watch Letters Sent



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

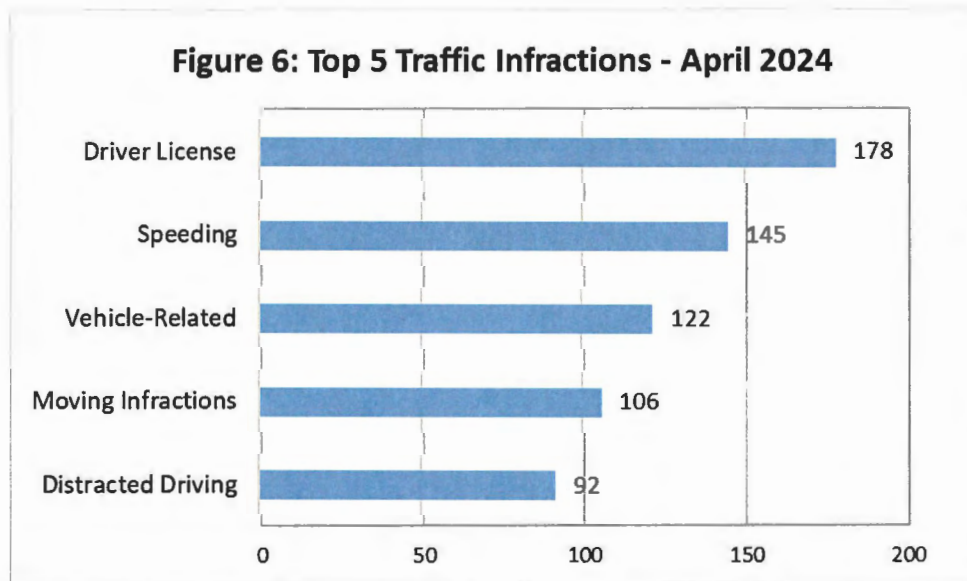
Crime Prevention Unit

The Crime Prevention Unit reduces crime and enhances community engagement through public awareness and education initiatives. During April 2024, the Crime Prevention Unit participated in the following events/activities:

- Business Outreach
- Cheque Fraud Awareness
- Coffee with a Cop
- Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives
- Place of Worship Patrols
- “You Etch It. We Catch It” Program

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 745 violation tickets were issued in April 2024. Figure 4 provides statistics for the top five infractions for which violation tickets were issued in April:



Victim Services

In April 2024, Richmond RCMP Victim Services met with 74 new clients and attended six crime/trauma scenes after hours. The unit currently maintains an active caseload of 105 files. In April 2024, Victim Services responded to several cases involving medical-related sudden deaths, frauds and mental health-related issues.

Youth Section

The Richmond RCMP Detachment's Youth Section focuses on strategies contributing to safe and healthy behaviours essential to developing productive and civic-minded adults. During April 2024, Youth Section highlights included:

- RCMP officers in the Youth Section conducted 27 proactive school visits at secondary schools and 52 visits at elementary schools. Police officers engaged with students during recess, lunch and morning and afternoon supervision.
- DARE classes were delivered to 486 elementary school students in eight schools.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

In April 2024, the Richmond RCMP conducted several noteworthy investigations, including a series of frauds and a weapons seizure. Police statistics for this month indicate that most crime types were within the average ranges, except for robberies and shoplifting incidents which were elevated and commercial break and enters, thefts from vehicles and drug offences, which were below average.

In April 2024, the Community Engagement Team and volunteers continued to promote crime prevention and road safety initiatives. The Officer in Charge of the Richmond RCMP Detachment will continue to ensure that Richmond remains a safe and desirable community.



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

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

Block Watch

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

Distracted Driving Program

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

Fail to Stop

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

Lock Out Auto Crime

- Co-sponsored by the Insurance Corporation of BC (ICBC), volunteers patrol city streets and parking lots looking for automobile security vulnerabilities.
- Notices supplied by ICBC are issued to every vehicle inspected indicating to the owner what issues need to be addressed in order to keep the vehicle and contents secure.
- For more information, visit www.richmond.ca/safety/police/personal/vehicle.htm

Project 529

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

Speed Watch

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

Spot the Target

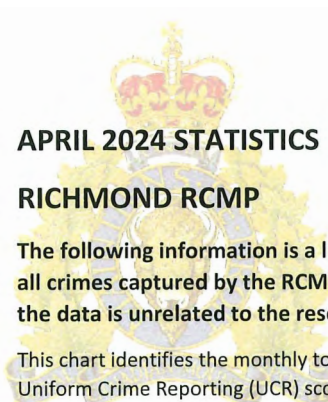
- This initiative consists of frequently stolen items being placed in the volunteer van for participants to identify in order to enhance awareness of thefts from automobiles.

Stolen Auto Recovery

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

Volunteer Bike and Foot Patrol Program

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



APRIL 2024 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.

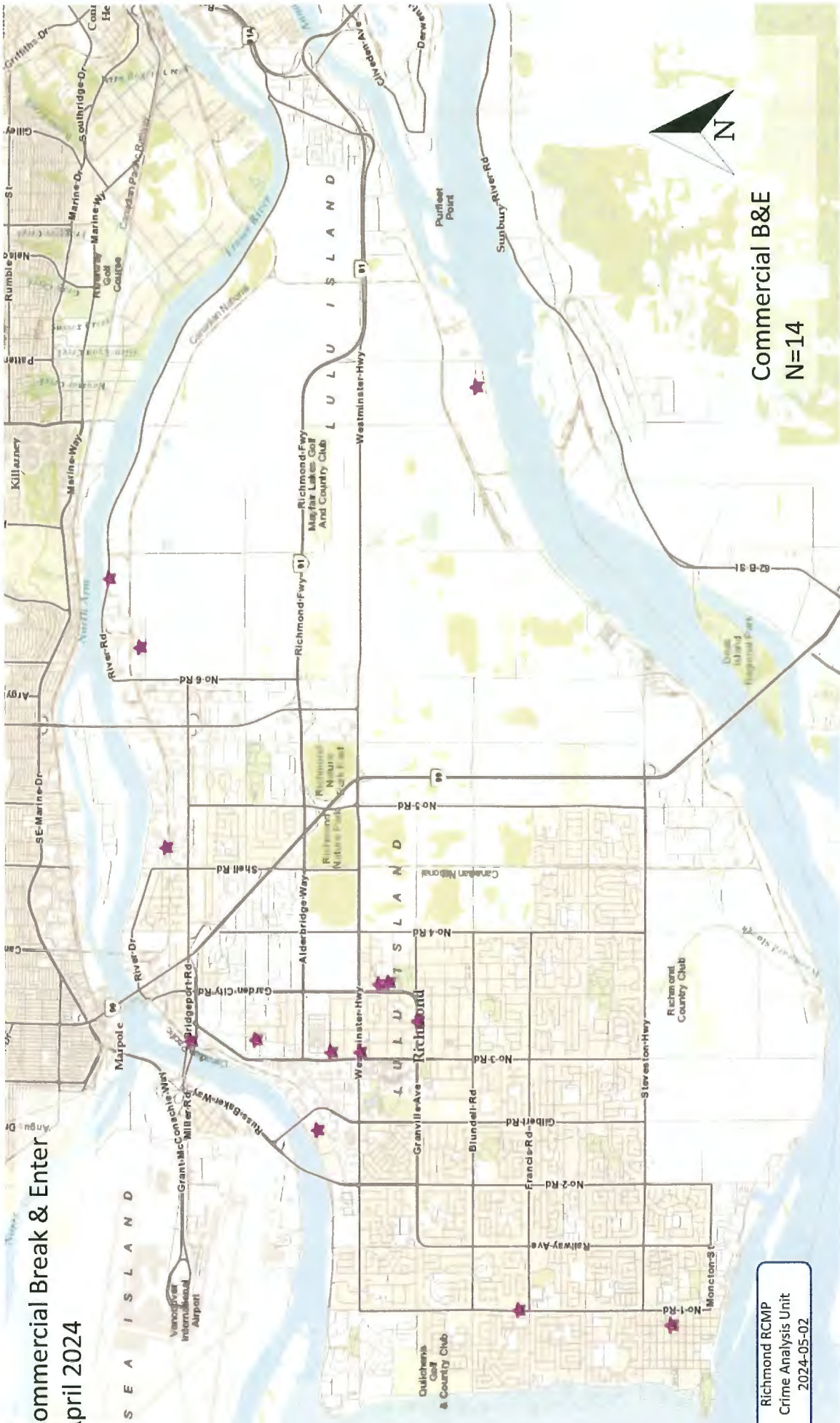
This chart identifies the monthly totals for founded Criminal Code incidents, excluding traffic-related Criminal Code incidents. Based on Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) scoring, there are three categories: (1) Violent Crime, (2) Property Crime, and (3) Other Criminal Code. Within each category, particular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

	Month	5-Yr Avg	5-Yr Range	Year to Date Totals			
	Apr - 24	April		2023	2024	% Change	# Change
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	140	137.0	124-150	592	625	6%	33
Robbery	5	3.2	2-4	10	27	170%	17
Assault Common	39	46.6	38-55	190	197	4%	7
Assault Serious	18	15.4	12-18	80	67	-16%	-13
Sexual Offences	16	19.0	15-23	72	77	7%	5
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	668	553.6	473-634	2571	2488	-3%	-83
Business B&E	14	24.0	19-29	111	65	-41%	-46
Residential B&E	24	32.8	24-42	85	103	21%	18
Auto Theft	19	19.4	13-25	93	83	-11%	-10
Theft from Auto	63	130.4	112-149	567	279	-51%	-288
Theft	134	80.0	48-112	435	438	1%	3
Shoplifting	180	67.8	46-89	378	626	66%	248
Fraud	118	70.0	56-84	322	400	24%	78
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	271	216.0	172-260	1050	1144	9%	94
Arson (UCR 4000-2410)	5	n/c	n/c	n/c	20	n/c	n/c
SUBTOTAL CC OFFENCES (UCR 1000 to 3000 Series)	1104	907.0	780-1034	4213	4301	2%	88
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	17	42.6	29-57	159	65	-59%	-94
MHA RELATED CALLS (MHA files or Mental Health flag)	216	229.6	214-245	1005	938	-7%	-67

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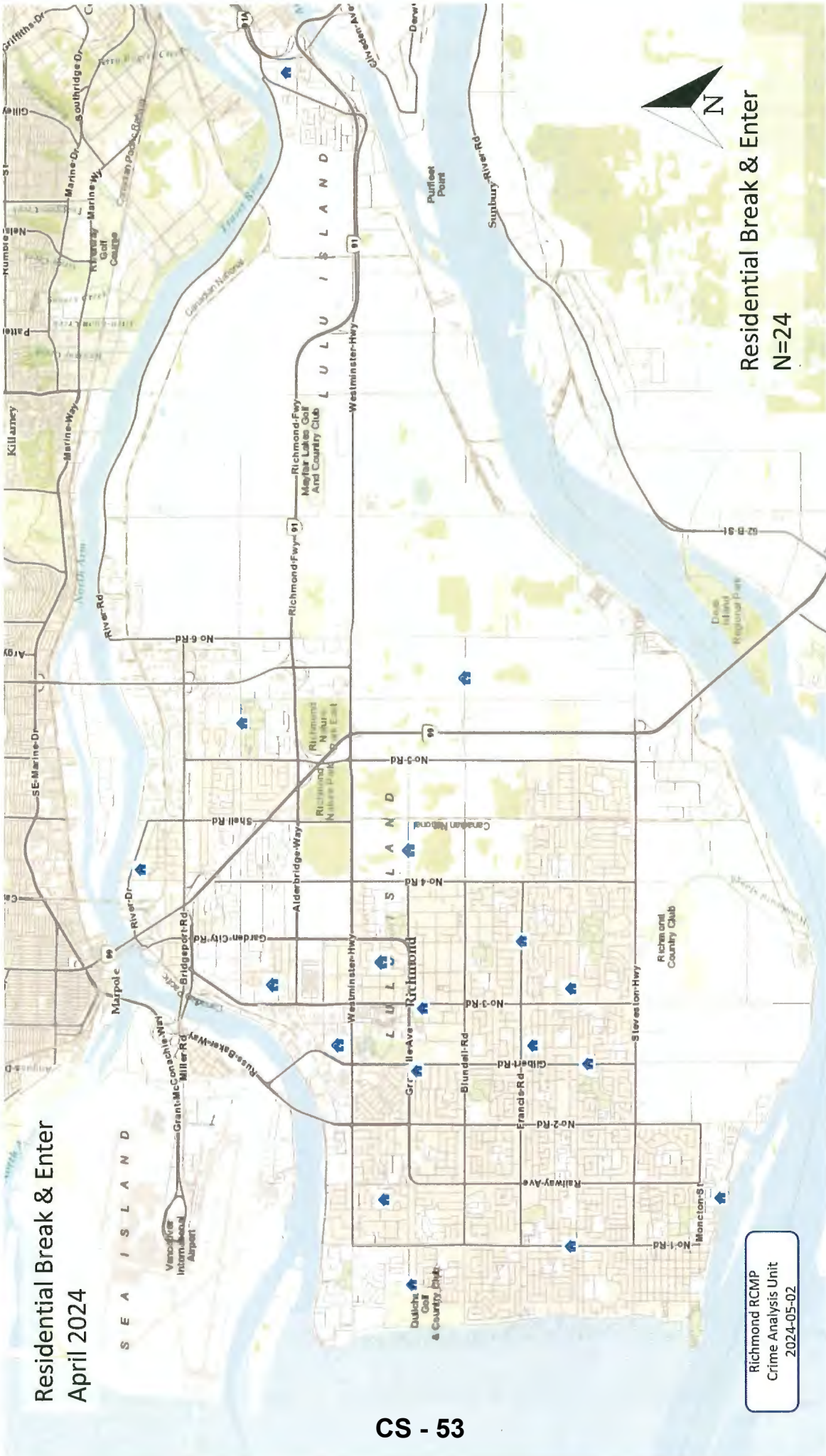
Commercial Break & Enter April 2024



Commercial B&E
N=14

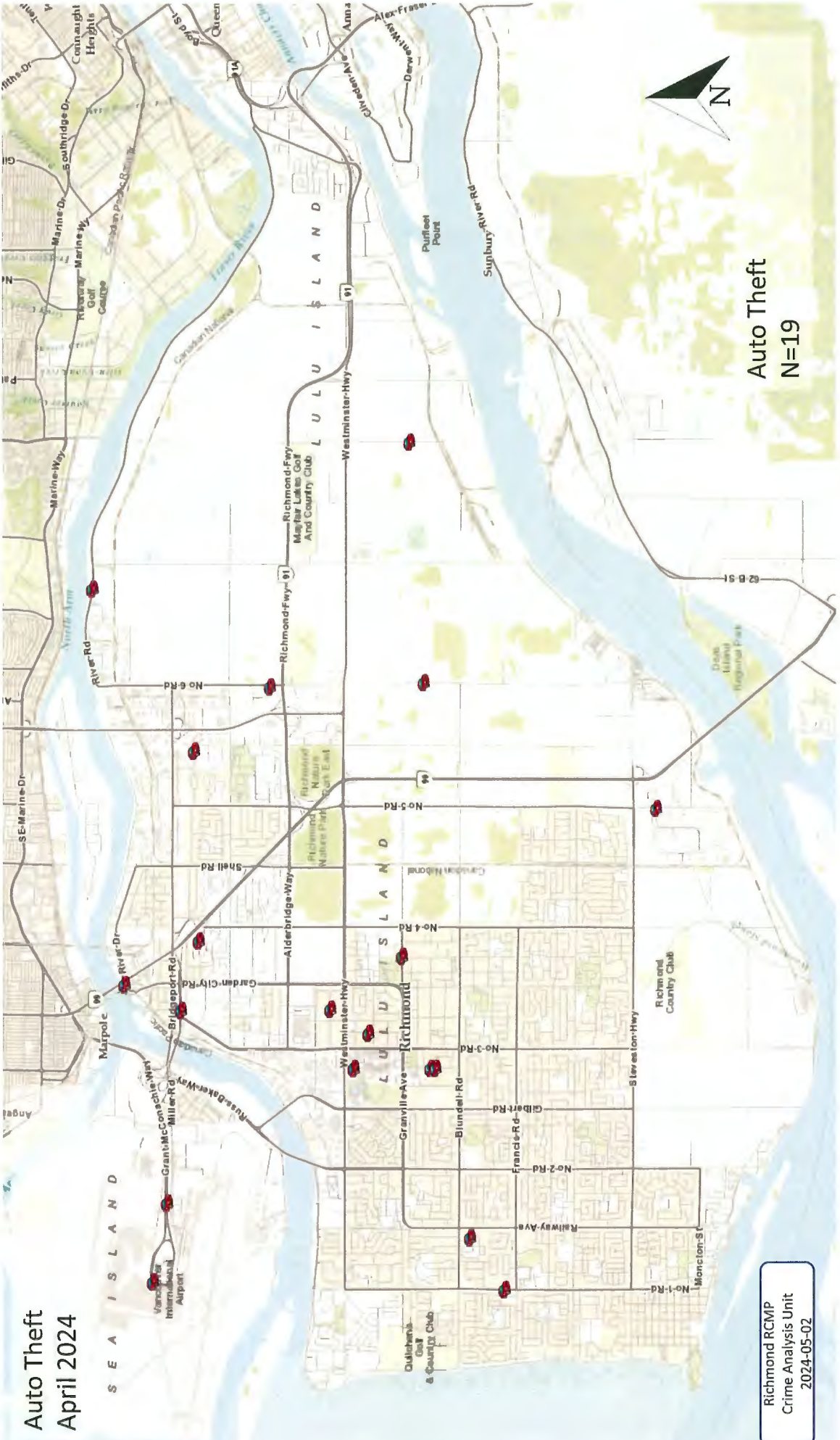
Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2024-05-02

Residential Break & Enter April 2024



Residential Break & Enter
N=24

Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2024-05-02

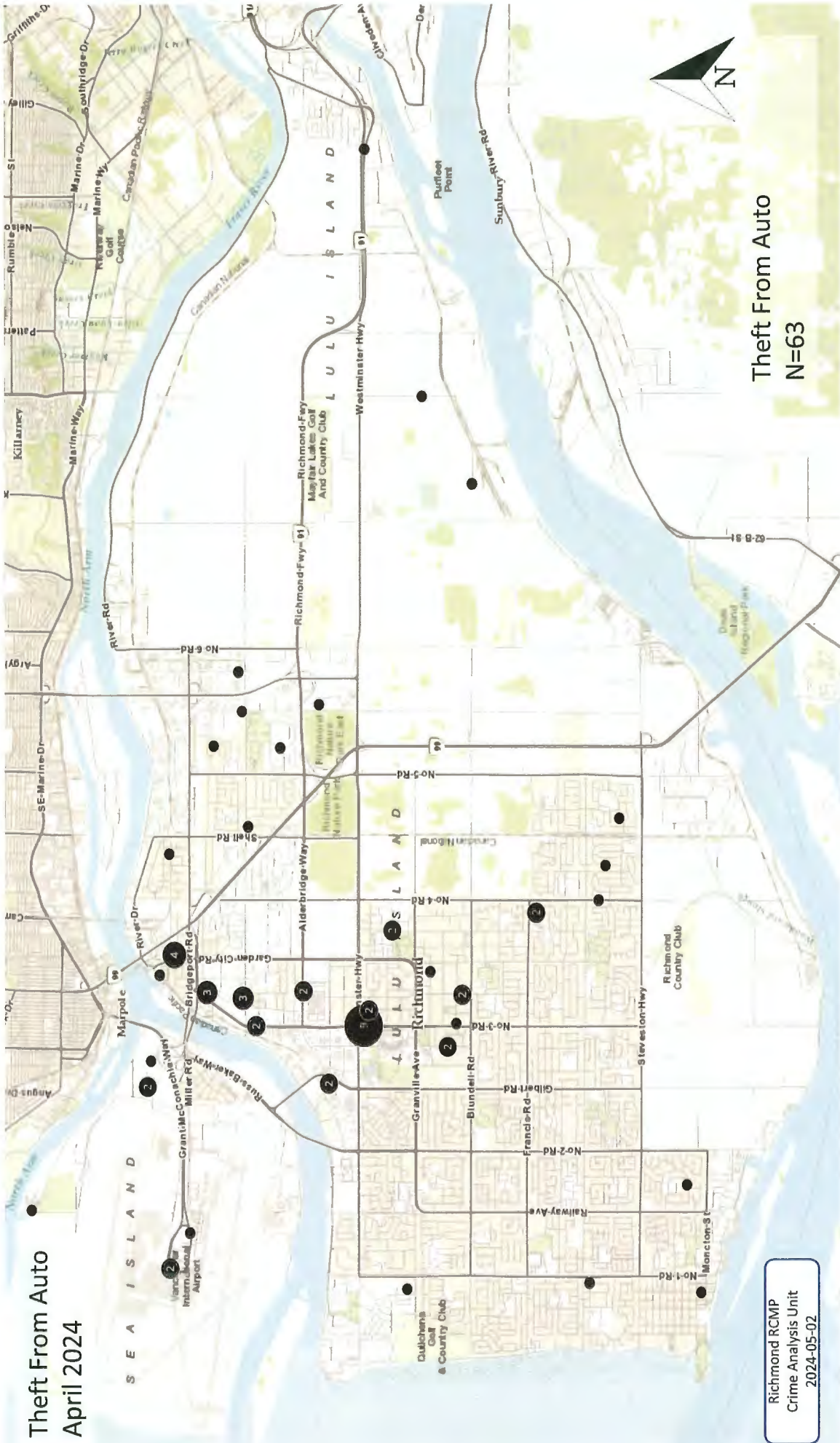


**Auto Theft
April 2024**

**Auto Theft
N=19**

Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2024-05-02

Theft From Auto April 2024



Theft From Auto
N=63

Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2024-05-02