



**Community Safety Committee
Electronic Meeting**

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

**Tuesday, September 12, 2023
Immediately following the closed meeting**

Pg. # ITEM

MINUTES

CS-5 *Motion to adopt the **minutes** of the meeting of the Community Safety Committee held on July 11, 2023.*



NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

October 11, 2023, (tentative date) at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION

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

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

CS-10

See Page CS-10 for full report

Designated Speaker: Mark Corrado

Community Safety Committee Agenda – Tuesday, September 12, 2023

Pg. # ITEM

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

☐

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

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

CS-18

See Page CS-18 for full report

Designated Speaker: Geoffrey Bramhill

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

☐

3. **BUSINESS LICENSE ACTIVITY REPORT – SECOND QUARTER 2023**

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

CS-23

See Page CS-23 for full report

Designated Speaker: Mark Corrado

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

☐

Community Safety Committee Agenda – Tuesday, September 12, 2023

Pg. # ITEM

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

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

CS-27

See Page CS-27 for full report

Designated Speaker: Fire Chief Jim Wishlove

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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



5. **FIRE CHIEF BRIEFING**

(Verbal Report)

Designated Speaker: Fire Chief Jim Wishlove

Items for discussion: None.

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

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

CS-45

See Page CS-45 for full report

Designated Speaker: Chief Supt. Dave Chauhan

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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



7. **RCMP/OIC BRIEFING**

(Verbal Report)

Designated Speaker: Chief Supt. Dave Chauhan

Item for discussion:

Update on Deployment for BC Fires

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Pg. # ITEM

8. **MANAGER'S REPORT**

ADJOURNMENT





Community Safety Committee

Date: Tuesday, July 11, 2023

Place: Council Chambers
Richmond City Hall

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

Also Present: Councillor Chak Au
Councillor Carol Day (by teleconference)
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 June 13, 2023, be adopted.

CARRIED

AGENDA ADDITIONS

The Chair advised that Safety Concerns Around Alternative Modes of Transportation in Richmond will be considered as Item No. 6A and Project Iris will be considered as Item No. 6B.

Community Safety Committee
Tuesday, July 11, 2023

COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION

1. ANIMAL PROTECTION SERVICES MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – MAY 2023

(File Ref. No. 12-8375-01) (REDMS No. 7227296)

It was moved and seconded

That the staff report titled “Animal Protection Services Monthly Activity Report – May 2023”, dated June 16, 2023, from the General Manager, Community Safety, be received for information.

CARRIED

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

(File Ref. No. 12-8375-01) (REDMS No. 7264017)

In reply to queries from Committee, staff advised that (i) major drivers for unsightly premises calls for service in the city’s downtown core were vegetation such as tall grass and overgrown shrubs on public property, (ii) studies have indicated that there has been some correlation between signs of unsightliness, overall decay and graffiti being attractants to other types of crimes, (iii) in advance to the growing season staff can be more pro active with messaging around overgrown vegetation and unsightly premises, (iv) staff will provide a memorandum with some initiatives that will be put in place to deal with the unsightly premises calls, (v) the biggest driver for the increase in short term rental is the lifting of Covid-19 related restrictions, (vi) staff have seen a increase in short term rental violations by people who are staying in Richmond temporarily for tourism purposes, (vii) staff have not seen a pattern in the type of housing and area associated with short term rentals, and (viii) the requirement for short terms rentals is that the owner or occupier has to be living in the dwelling.

It was moved and seconded

That the staff report titled “Property Use and Parking Enforcement Monthly Activity Report – May 2023”, dated June 16, 2023, from the Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing, be received for information.

CARRIED

3. RICHMOND FIRE-RESCUE MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – MAY 2023

(File Ref. No. 99-Fire Rescue) (REDMS No. 7248698)

In response to queries from Committee, staff advised that they will provide Committee with a memorandum with respect to an increase in the number of strokes from last year.

2.

Community Safety Committee
Tuesday, July 11, 2023

It was moved and seconded

That the staff report titled "Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – May 2023", dated June 9, 2023, from the Fire Chief, be received for information.

CARRIED

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

Items for discussion: None.

5. **RICHMOND RCMP MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT - MAY 2023**
(File Ref. No. 09-5000-01) (REDMS No. 7243162)

In response to queries from Committee, Chief Supt. Dave Chauhan advised that (i) Chief Constable Alexander Main was recognized with a plaque on the Wall of Honour in Ottawa, (ii) additional information on the percentage of cases of domestic violence involving alcohol will be provided to Committee, (iii) members from the special victims unit work closely and provide support to victims and families of domestic assault, (iv) pepper spray assault is classified as assault with a weapon and there has been some recent incidents involving youths with pepper spray, (v) recovery of auto theft vehicles is tracked by the RCMP, including where the vehicles were recovered, and (vi) there has been no indication of organized shoplifting crime groups, however the Richmond RCMP is aware of individual prolific offenders.

It was moved and seconded

That the report titled "RCMP Monthly Activity Report- May 2023", dated June 13, 2023, from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment, be received for information.

CARRIED

Community Safety Committee
Tuesday, July 11, 2023

6. RCMP/OIC BRIEFING

(Verbal Report)

Chief Supt. Dave Chauhan shared stories recognizing work that members of the RCMP, staff and members of the public have done. He acknowledged their hard work and dedication and what steps were taken to commemorate them.

Discussion ensued with respect to (i) exploring bringing back the annual fire fighter/police officer/citizen of the year awards, (ii) recognizing the hard work of all first responders, and (iii) the possibility of resuming the 911 awards.

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

It was moved and seconded

That staff explore options to recognize first responders in Richmond, including funding and partnership opportunities, and report back.

CARRIED

6A. SAFETY CONCERNS AROUND ALTERNATIVE MODES OF TRANSPORTATION IN RICHMOND

Discussion ensued with respect to (i) the potential conflicts between e-scooters and e-bikes and other users of multi-use pathways, (ii) encouraging helmet use and education being a critical piece for helmet safety and e-bikes, (iii) reviewing the maximum permitted speeds of e-scooters e-bikes and e-scooters, (iv) RCMP's proactive messaging and education efforts to educate public on bike and scooter safety through various forms of engagement, (v) the creation by the RCMP of an educational video of the rules of using e-scooters on shared pathways not on sidewalks, (vi) enforcement, education and engineering being key pieces to address traffic safety, (vii) traffic congestion and increased use of alternative modes of transportation having a potential negative effect on traffic safety, (viii) partnering with other groups such as BC Medical Association, Richmond Fire-Rescue, BC Ambulance Service, BC Chiefs of Police, and various staff working together to explore education options promoting helmet and traffic safety.

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

It was moved and seconded

That staff coordinate with the Richmond RCMP, Communications, Transportation and City Bylaws departments to explore all issues with respect to safety concerns around alternative modes of transportation and report back.

CARRIED

Community Safety Committee
Tuesday, July 11, 2023

6B. PROJECT IRIS

A brief summary of the Project Iris program was provided, noting that the residents with existing private home security systems can register their camera and footage can be used by law enforcement to investigate incidents in the area. It was added that the program is voluntary and is currently being used in other municipalities.

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

It was moved and seconded

That staff :

- (1) examine the use of Project Iris in other municipalities; and*
- (2) review the viability of Project Iris for the City of Richmond; and report back.*

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded

That the meeting adjourn (5:33 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, July 11, 2023.

Councillor Alexa Loo
Chair

Raman Grewal
Legislative Services Associate



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** August 21, 2023
From: Mark Corrado **File:** 12-8375-01/2023-Vol
Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing 01
Re: **Property Use and Parking Enforcement Monthly Activity Report – June & July 2023**

Staff Recommendation

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

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

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

Staff Report

Origin

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

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

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

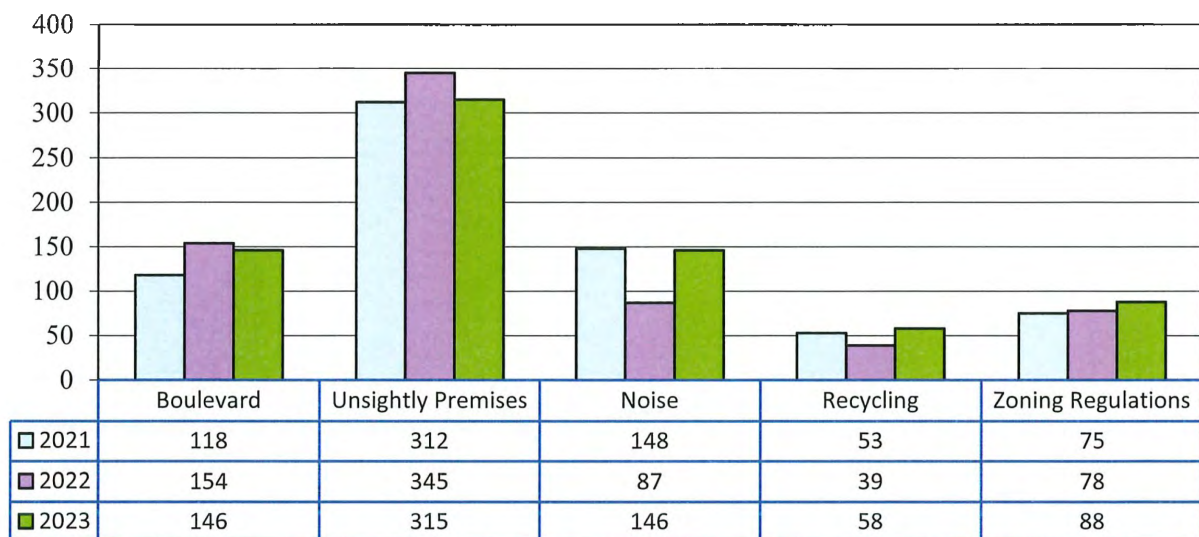
3.4 Ensure civic infrastructure, assets and resources are effectively maintained and continue to meet the needs of the community as it grows.

Analysis

Property Use Calls for Service

For both June and July 2023, a collective 587 calls for service files were opened for investigation, which is a 38 per cent increase (425) from the same time last year. Depending on the nature of the investigation, staff must often liaise with multiple departments and other government agencies to conduct a fulsome review of a given complaint. Among 21 potential calls for service categories, Figure 1 highlights the most common calls for service received for Property Use officers to follow up on and investigate.

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



Staff seek to obtain compliance through proactive education, voluntary adherence, or, when necessary, formal legal proceedings.

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

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

Other Community Bylaws Calls for Service

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

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

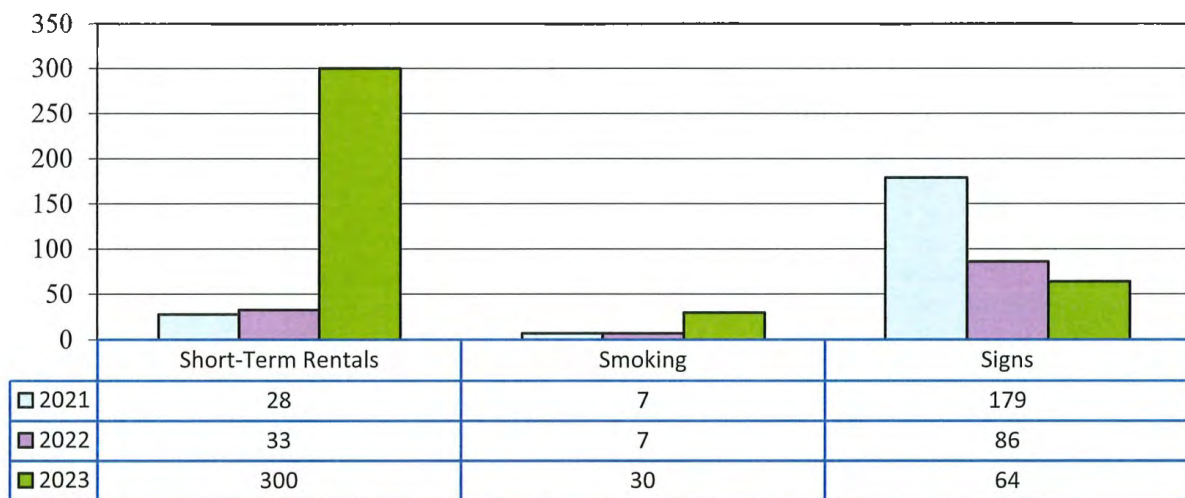


Table 1: Pre-pandemic Short-Term Rental Calls for Service*

Year	Calls for Service
2018	186
2019	104
2020	37

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

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

Signage related calls for services remain low and the spike in calls in 2021 is attributed to the City of Richmond By-election. Smoking related calls have increased but are not indicative of a trend. The majority of smoking related calls were regarding purported smoking on private residential properties or strata lots.

Tow Permit Applications

A year-to-date total of 232 tow permit applications have been reviewed and issued.

Grease Inspections

For both June and July, staff conducted 110 grease trap inspections. These inspections are primarily proactive and serve to ensure the safe handling of grease products and that no product is being deposited in an unsafe manner. A total of 303 inspections have taken place year-to-date.

Administration Activity

Collectively in June and July, staff received 2,201 calls from the public for a variety of subject areas. Property use and parking related calls for service accounted for 1,220 of these calls with the remaining 981 calls related to parking permit issuance, ticket disputes and general inquiries.

Soil Activity

Staff are responsible for responding to public complaints and issues of non-compliance related to unauthorized filling; monitoring permitted soil deposits and removal sites; and inspecting properties that are undergoing remediation to come into compliance with applicable City bylaws. Staff conducted 139 site inspections in the months of June and July.

Stop Work/Removal Orders issued for the following properties:

- 18620 River Road
- 18680 River Road
- 9240 No. 6 Road
- 8191 No. 6 Road
- 6200 No. 5 Road
- 19080 River Road
- 12060 No. 2 Road
- 10211 Sidaway Road
- 18300 River Road
- 14420 Cambie Road
- 6120 No. 4 Road
- 6660 Sidaway Road

The following properties are now in compliance:

- 6100 No. 4 Road
- 11580 Mitchell Road
- 6720 No. 5 Road
- 6080 No. 4 Road
- 12760 Westminster Highway
- 13140 Westminster Highway
- 11991 Mitchell Road
- 11060 Horseshoe Way

There are 18 soil deposit proposals under various stages of the application process. Staff are monitoring 13 approved sites and are currently addressing 35 properties that are considered non-compliant.

Bylaw Prosecutions

No new bylaws charges were sworn in June or July.

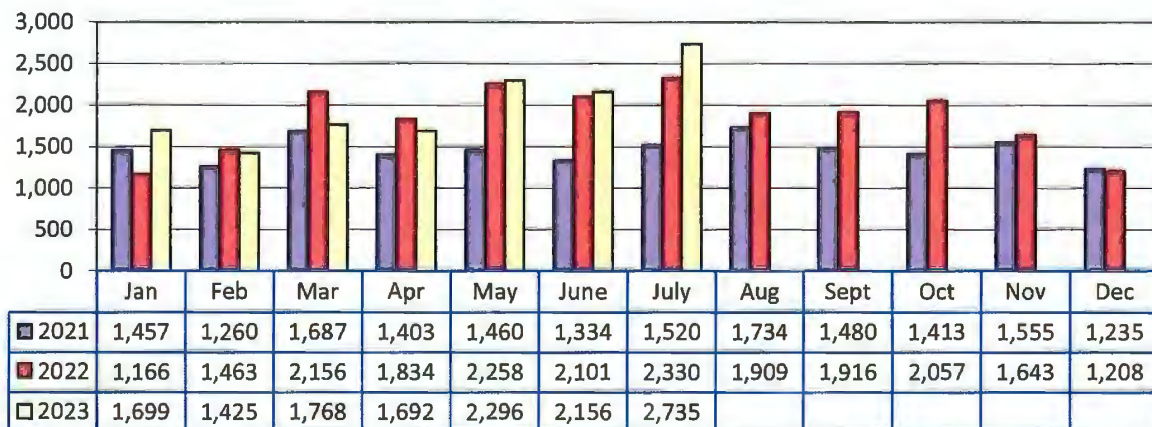
Parking Enforcement

Staff responded to collective 633 calls for service for June and July. This is a 19 per cent increase (534) from the same month last year. When contrasted with 2022 data from the same period, parking enforcement revenue has increased by 15 per cent, with parking violation issuance up by 17 per cent, however, this is not indicative of a trend. This contrast between parking revenue and violation issuance can be attributed to increased use of City parking meters and monthly parking permit issuance.

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



Figure 4: Parking Violation Issuance Comparison



Ticketing

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

Table 2: Community Bylaw Offences

Ticket Issuance (BVN's & MTI's)	July	YTD
Short-Term Rental Offences	86	402
Soil Deposit and Removal Offences	9	39
Watercourse Protection Offences	0	1
Unightly Premises Offences	0	8
Noise Offences	3	12
Solid Waste and Recycling Offences	0	0
Parks Offences	0	1
Sign Offences	7	36
Watering Offences	0	0
Totals	105	499

Short-term rental offences are up due to dedicated staffing resources and the development of new technologies for identifying and monitoring advertised short-term rental properties.

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

Bylaw Adjudication

An adjudication session will be held on August 23, 2023.

Revenue and Expenses

Revenue in the Property Use section is primarily derived from permits, tickets and court fines related to bylaw prosecutions. Soil permit applications and volume fees follow a seasonal trend and tend to pick up after the winter season. The collection of revenue in other Bylaw fines can be primarily attributed to fines issued for the operation of unpermitted short-term rentals. These results are shown in Table 3.

Parking enforcement generates much of its revenue from meters, permits and fines. Parking typically sees receivable income as a result of the Richmond Night Market, which opened in late April. As this event is seasonal, the revenue in this budget line comes in later in the year. Table 4 outlines individual revenue sources within parking enforcement. Table 5 outlines the net revenue and expenses for both property use and parking.

Table 3: Property Use Revenue by Source

Program Revenue	Budget July 2023	Actual July 2023	YTD Budget July 2023	YTD Actual July 2023
False Alarm	4,750	128	33,250	18,120
Towing Permits	2,920	4,225	11,964	15,847
Newspaper Box Permits	0	0	7,362	5,616
Soil Permit Application and Volume Fees	18,235	18,101	67,356	34,606
Other Bylaw Fines	13,374	19,625	54,804	103,302
Total Revenue	39,279	42,079	174,736	177,491

Table 4: Parking Revenue by Source

Program Revenue	Budget July 2023	Actual July 2023	YTD Budget July 2023	YTD Actual July 2023
Contract Revenue ¹	5,000	5,000	35,000	35,000
Filming Revenue	0	763	0	12,335
Parking Revenue ²	170,675	178,063	1,194,725	1,057,251
Receivable Income ³	12,500	7,721	62,500	17,885
Total Revenue	188,175	191,547	1,292,225	1,122,471

Table 5: Property Use and Parking Revenue and Expenses

		YTD Budget July 2023	YTD Actual July 2023
Property Use	Revenue	174,736	177,491
	Expenses	869,791	711,407
	Net Revenue (Expense)	(695,055)	(533,916)
Parking	Revenue	1,292,225	1,122,471
	Expenses	950,333	970,405
	Net Revenue (Expense)	341,892	152,066

Financial Impact

None.

¹ City Towing Contract with Rusty's towing

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

³ Receivable Income consists of Night Market Recoveries

Conclusion

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



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



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** August 21, 2023
From: Cecilia Achiam **File:** 12-8375-01/2023-Vol
General Manager, Community Safety 01
Re: **Animal Protection Services Monthly Activity Report – June and July 2023**

Staff Recommendation

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

Cecilia Achiam
General Manager, Community Safety
(604-276-4122)

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

Staff Report

Origin

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

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

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

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

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

Analysis

Animal Protection Services

Collectively in June and July 2023, a total of 292 dog licenses were issued. Among these, there were 180 new dog license applications and 14 renewals for existing licenses. The cumulative count of licensed dogs for the current year now stands at 7,428.

During this same period, BC SPCA Officers responded to 427 service calls pertaining to a range of animal control and dog licensing violations. These officers also engaged in proactive patrols, covering a total of 64 parks, dikes, and schools.

Both in June and July, City Staff utilized the City's social media channels to share valuable information with pet owners. In June, the focus was on creating Pet First Aid Kits, emphasizing the inclusion of household items for building emergency kits to ensure animal care both at home and while on the go. In July, the emphasis shifted to educating pet owners about identifying signs of pet heat exhaustion and dehydration. The shared content highlighted various symptoms to watch for and provided guidance on how to care for pets during such situations.

Throughout the months of June and July, a total of 212 bylaw violation notices were issued by BC SPCA Officers. These violations were primarily identified through foot patrols carried out by these officers in non-permitted off-leash parks, City dikes, and school grounds. In addition to enforcement actions, these patrols also serve an educational purpose, contributing to increased compliance awareness.

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

Violation issuance dropped slightly in July, however this is not indicative of trend. Rather the prior month's larger issuance numbers can be attributed to the proactive efforts of staff in conducting audits of the existing dog license accounts with the City. Accounts that were discovered to be outdated or in arrears for their license fee were issued violation notices, paid their outstanding fee, or closed. This housekeeping endeavor led to a significant reduction in the number of outstanding dog accounts, bringing the count as for July to fewer than 100.

Figure 1: Animal Protection Services Violation Issuance Comparison

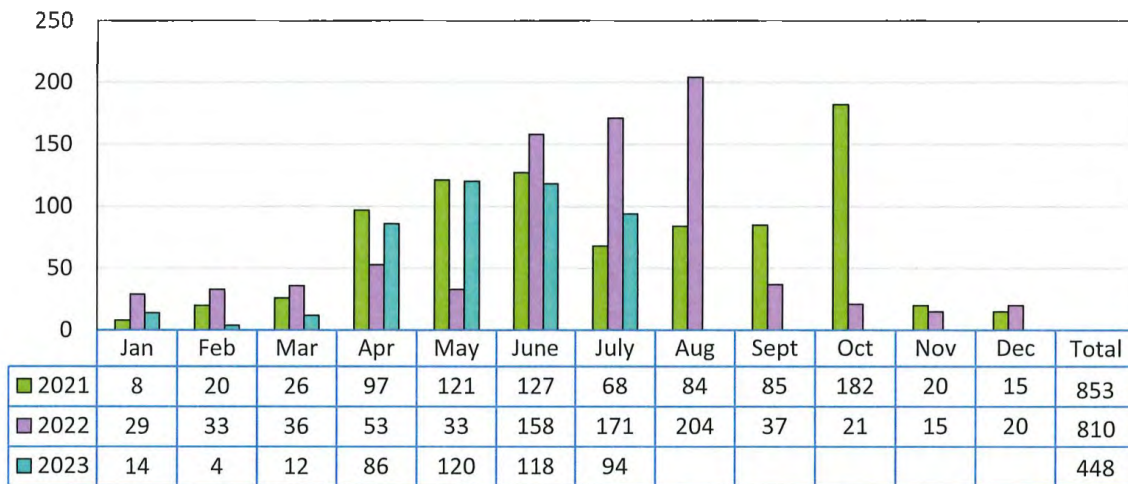
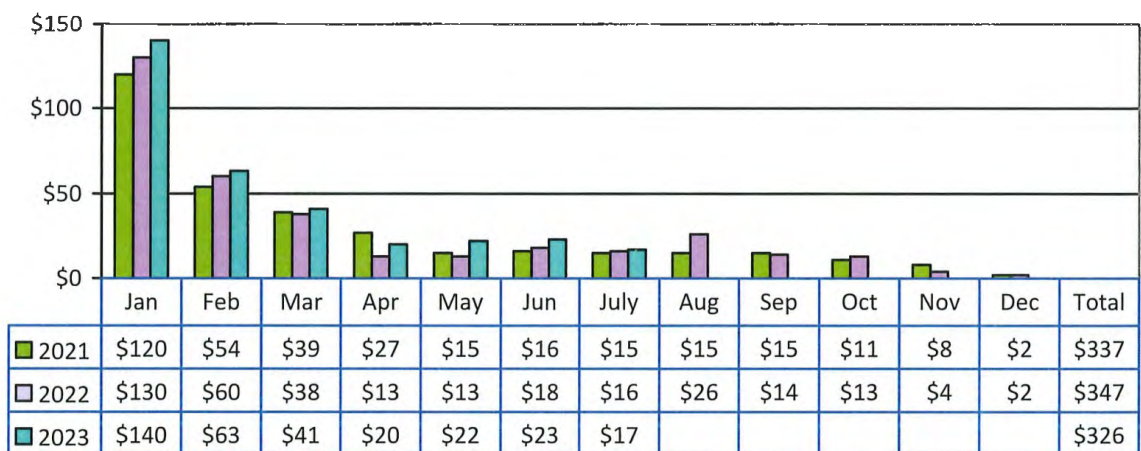


Figure 2: Animal Protection Services Revenue Comparison (000's)



Administrative Staff Activity

In June and July, staff received 586 calls from the public related to animal services. The calls consist of a variety of subject matters related to dog licences, bylaw infractions, off-leash dog parks, adjudication process and general inquiries. The total number of calls to-date for 2023 is 2,677.

Animal Protection Services Bylaw Adjudication

The next adjudication session is scheduled early Q4, 2023.

Revenue and Expenses

The Animal Protection Services department derives its revenue from dog licences and fines. Table 1 outlines their individual revenue, while Table 2 highlights Animal Protection Services revenue and expenses within the Community Safety division.

Table 1: Animal Protection Services Revenue by Source

Program Revenue	Budget July 2023	Actual July 2023	YTD Budget July 2023	YTD Actual July 2023
Dog Licences	9,816	8,174	233,620	285,572
Fines	1,170	8,550	4,015	40,065
Total Revenue	10,986	16,724	237,635	325,637

Table 2: Animal Protection Services Revenue and Expenses

	YTD Budget July 2023	YTD Actual July 2023
Revenue	237,635	325,637
Expenses	943,250	980,991
Net Revenue (Expense)	(705,615)	(655,354)

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Bramhill', with a stylized, cursive script.

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



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** July 11, 2023
From: Mark Corrado **File:** 12-8375-01/2023-Vol
Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing 01
Re: **Business Licence Activity Report – Second Quarter 2023**

Staff Recommendation

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

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

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

Staff Report

Origin

This report provides an update of business licence activity for the second quarter of 2023.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #2 Strategic and Sustainable Community Growth:

2.5 Work collaboratively and proactively to attract and retain businesses to support a diversified economic base.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #4 Responsible Financial Management and Governance:

4.2 Seek improvements and efficiencies in all aspects of City business.

Analysis

Business Licence Revenue

The total revenue collected in the second quarter of 2023 was \$1,190,664 which represents a seven per cent increase when compared with the same quarter in 2022. Business Licence revenue is one of multiple indicators of overall economic health in Richmond. Table 1 shows the Business Licence for Revenue for the second quarters of 2020 to 2023.

Table 1: Business Licence Revenue for the Second Quarters of 2020 to 2023

	2020	2021	2022	2023
Revenue	\$1,403,197	\$1,143,737	\$1,107,373	1,190,664

Application Processing

The licensing application process is a crucial step since it confirms whether the businesses have the required approvals from agencies that regulate health, safety and other municipal, provincial or federal requirements. Staff oversees this process for thoroughness and efficiency. Staff use the following measures of performance:

- **“Valid Licences”** are the number of businesses with valid licences.
- **“Expired Licences”** are the number of businesses that have not paid to renew their licence from a previous year. Staff follow up with these businesses regarding the outstanding licencing fees and confirm whether they are permanently closed.
- **“Pending/Change Applications”** are businesses that have applied for a new licence or a change request of an existing licence, but are waiting for their applications to be processed. Staff work to keep this number low by prioritizing these applications.
- **“Total Licences”** are the total number of business licences that are valid, expired (and being checked) and under application review.

Table 2 shows the total number of business licences and their status for 2022 and the second quarter of 2023. These statistics are measured quarterly, as opposed to annually, as the numbers fluctuate throughout the year due to a variety of factors, including shifting numbers of daily application submissions, premise alteration requisitions and businesses permanently closing.

Table 2: Number and Status of Business Licences in 2022 and 2023

	2022 Q1	2022 Q2	2022 Q3	2022 Q4	2023 Q1	2023 Q2
Valid Licences	13,662	13,848	13,340	13,574	13,164	13,212
Expired Licences	1,034	1,313	2,281	2,139	2,340	2,687
Pending/Change Applications	741	685	771	575	1,040	950
Total Licences	15,437	15,846	16,392	16,288	16,544	16,849

In the second quarter of 2023, total licences demonstrate a positive growth. There is a slight increase in the total number of valid licences compared to the first quarter of 2023. The decrease in pending/change applications can be attributed to various factors such as changes in a business footprint and staffing size or incomplete contact information. Staff continue to work diligently to address the pending/change applications on an on-going basis when they are received by the City in-person or via MyBusiness portal. Progress has been made in reducing this figure and re-categorizing licences to their appropriate status.

Expired licences remain a key focus area for staff. In the second quarter of 2023 a temporary dedicated staff member was recruited to specifically follow-up with businesses regarding their expired licences and to determine appropriate status for these licences. Table 3 shows the number of new business licences issued in the second quarters of 2020 to 2023.

Table 3: New Business Licences Issued in the Second Quarters of 2020 to 2023

	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Issued	246	304	471	489

The number of new business licences issued in the second quarter of 2023 has increased slightly by four per cent (18 new licences) when compared to the same quarter in 2022. This is one positive indicator of economic health, especially as businesses continue to face inflationary pressures and other economic challenges.

Business Licence Enforcement

In the second quarter of 2023, a total of 112 tickets were issued by staff. Businesses operating without a valid licence are initially given a warning and provided with steps to achieve compliance. If a follow-up inspection reveals continued non-compliance, a bylaw violation notice is issued. Also include in the ticket figure noted above are offences relating to the Sign Regulation Bylaw 9700.

The increase in fine revenue is the result of staff following up with businesses that continue to operate while being non-compliant, along with any offences in contravention of Sign Bylaw 9700. Table 4 shows the second quarter revenue collected from bylaw violation notices.

Table 4: Business Licence Enforcement Revenue for the Second Quarter of 2021 to 2023

	2021	2022	2023
Revenue from Tickets	\$ 12,975	\$ 8,550	\$ 19,450

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

This report provides an update to the Community Safety Committee on the number of business licences and revenue collected by the Business Licencing Department for the second quarter of 2023. Revenues in this quarter have increased, when compared to the same quarter in 2022, but are not yet indicative of a trend in 2023. The increased number of new licences in the second quarter of 2023 is a positive indicator of overall economic health, given the challenging business climate. A primary focus of staff for 2023 is to concentrate on processing applications and overseeing the expired licences to determine their appropriate status.



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



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee

Date: August 25, 2023

From: Jim Wishlove
Fire Chief

File: 09-5140-01/2023-Vol
01




Re: Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – June and July 2023

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled “Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – June and July 2023”, dated August 25, 2023, 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 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 June and July 2023, staff concluded the following initiatives:

- **Party in a Box.** A partnered project with Canadian Red Cross inclusive resilience initiative to provide funding to community groups and City partners to facilitate their own emergency preparedness information sessions. Over 132 people attended these events.
- **Ferris Elementary Public Education Project.** Staff, in collaboration with City's Public Arts team, Ferris Elementary School and local/regional artists partnered to deliver a creative approach to of emergency management education in schools. For more detail: <https://ferrisresilience.ca/>

In addition to the initiatives above, staff also participated, responded and/or managed many activities throughout the City including:

- In June, 2023, there were two persons displaced during a fire incident who were provided with Emergency Social Support.
- In July 2023, there were five persons displaced during a fire incident who were provided with Emergency Social Support.
- Vancouver Aircraft Fuel Facility Corporation (VAFFC) with Richmond Fire-Rescue (RFR) and Corporate Communications conducted a full scale emergency spill exercise, located at the Jet fuel tank farm hosted by the VAFFC. The RCMP, Public Works, and BC Emergency Health Services were also involved in the planning leading up to this exercise.
- Vancouver International Airport Tailspin Exercise: Staff participated in an airline crash tabletop exercise hosted by the airport. The multi stakeholder event ensured effective responses and reinforced close operational ties between the City and Vancouver International Airport.

- Approximately 80,000 people attended the annual Steveston Salmon Festival on Saturday, July 1. Staff supported the event by contributing to the development, oversight and execution of the event safety and security plan, supplying radio communications platforms, and coordinating emergency service support to the public in the combined City and RCMP command centre.

Public Outreach & Education

In June 2023, staff facilitated outreach events to provide educational opportunities to the community, including fire hall/vehicle tours for Lord Byng Elementary, Mitchell Elementary, Offer Bahn and Errington Elementary. Staff also participated in large community events for the Thompson Community Picnic, the Baptist Church Block Party, and the Burkeville Daze.

Staff also led RFR participation for the City's Doors Open event held at Brighthouse Fire Hall No. 1. This successful event attracted over 3,500 residents/attendees. Interactive displays and activities included an education booth, Turn-Out gear dress-up and photo station, fire truck displays, auto extrication demonstrations, water target games, emergency preparedness resources, a preparedness kit display, various giveaways, and a chance to win a free emergency kit upon successfully signing up with Richmond BC Alert. This event was also attended by partner agencies such as the ICBC Road Safety Unit and the YVR Fire Department.

In July 2023, staff facilitated outreach events and provided educational opportunities to the community including fire hall/vehicle tours for the Richmond Pentecostal Church Community Safety. Staff also participated in many large community events for the Salmon Festival, Thompson Community Picnic, Kidworld and St. Albans and Robinson area Block Watch community event.

Internal Staff Training

In June and July 2023, staff delivered in-house fire training, educational activities and programs including:

- Live Fire training and Fire Prevention Office training/development for 43 Officers for the current acting officer program cohort.
- Recruit firefighters final 12 month examinations/probation completion
- Train-the-trainers Course (Small Engines)
- Ground ladder testing
- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1001 Firefighter Professional evaluations,
- Chainsaw training and safety protocols

Emergency Response

In June 2023, there were 1,080 reported incidents of all types, representing an overall increase of 5 per cent in incidents from June 2022 to June 2023 (Table 1).

Table 1: Total Incidents - June 2023

	Incident Totals June (2023)	Incident Totals June (2022)	Number Change from June 2022 to 2023	Percentage Change from June 2022 to 2023	5 Year Average for June
Alarm Active - No Fire	173	163	+10	+6	144
Explosion	0	0	0	0	0
Fire	65	45	+20	+44	50
Hazardous Materials	12	7	+5	+71	9
Medical	566	556	+10	+2	383
Motor Vehicle Incident	86	93	-7	-8	78
Public Hazard	8	9	-1	-11	10
Public Service	86	92	-6	-7	79
Response Cancelled/Unfounded	80	59	+21	+36	62
Specialized Transport	4	2	+2	+100	2
Technical Rescue	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1,080	1,026	+54	5	817

In July 2023, there were 1,066 reported incidents of all types, representing an overall increase of 5 per cent in incidents from July 2022 to July 2023 (Table 1).

Table 2: Total Incidents - July 2023

	Incident Totals July (2023)	Incident Totals July (2022)	Number Change from July 2022 to 2023	Percentage Change from July 2022 to 2023	5 Year Average for July
Alarm Active - No Fire	173	181	-8	-4	146
Explosion	0	1	-1	-100	0
Fire	87	52	+35	+67	63
Hazardous Materials	3	5	-2	-40	6
Medical	522	512	+10	+2	366
Motor Vehicle Incident	98	76	+22	+29	75
Public Hazard	9	12	-3	-25	13
Public Service	93	109	-16	-15	92
Response Cancelled/Unfounded	77	63	+14	+22	65
Specialized Transport	3	0	+3	+300	2
Technical Rescue	1	0	+1	+100	0
Total	1,066	1,011	+55	+5	828

The average time on scene in June 2023 for emergency response crews was 31 minutes, compared to 35 minutes in 2022.

The average time on scene in July 2023 for emergency response crews was 36 minutes, compared to 33 minutes in 2022.

In June 2023, there were 65 fire incidents reported to the Office of the Fire Commissioner, representing a 44 per cent increase from June 2022. The average number of fires reported each June over the last five years is 50.

In July 2023, there were 87 fire incidents reported to the Office of the Fire Commissioner, representing a 67 per cent increase from July 2022. The average number of fires reported each July over the last five years is 63.

Fire damage and property losses during June 2023 are estimated at \$1,026,930. This total includes \$587,060 for building/asset loss and \$439,870 for content loss. The total building/asset and content value at risk is estimated to be \$231,711,700 and the total value preserved from damage was \$230,684,770. These numbers translate to 99 per cent of value protected (Table 3), which is the same value observed in 2022: 99 per cent.

Table 3: Fire Incidents By Type and Loss Estimates - June 2023	
Incident Type Breakdown	Incident Volume
Residential: Single family	4
Residential: Multi family	10
Commercial/Industrial	2
Outdoor	47
Vehicle/Vessel	2
Totals*	65

Fire damage and property losses during July 2023 are estimated at \$615,060. This total includes \$613,860 for building/asset loss and \$1,200 for content loss. The total building/asset and content value at risk is estimated to be \$332,075,235 and the total value preserved from damage was \$331,460,175. These numbers translate to 99 per cent of value protected (Table 4), which is the same value observed in 2022: 99 per cent.

Table 4: Fire Incidents By Type and Loss Estimates - July 2023	
Incident Type Breakdown	Incident Volume
Residential: Single family	4
Residential: Multi family	1
Commercial/Industrial	5
Outdoor	68
Vehicle/Vessel	9
Totals*	87

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

Significant Events

Emergency response crews minimize harm, limit damage and stop fire spread from the place of origin by performing life-saving interventions as demonstrated by these notable June & July 2023 incidents:

- **June 7, 2023 – Electric Vehicle Battery removal/relocation.** RFR crews completed the removal of an electric vehicle battery from Garden City Road in a coordinated operation involving Transport Canada, Volkswagen Canada, and the City of Richmond. The battery was declared de-energized and safe for transport by experts from Volkswagen Canada and City electrician staff. The battery has been relocated to a holding facility.
- **June 8, 2023 – Residential Fire on No. 3 Road.** Emergency crews responded to a reported apartment bedroom. Upon arrival, crews entered the unit to find a sprinkler had been activated for an electrical fire under a bed. After a thorough overhaul of the room, they found the fire to be fully extinguished from the sprinklers. No injuries to the occupants were reported at the time and Emergency Support Services (ESS) were called to provide support to the displaced occupants. A Fire Investigator attended. No other injuries were reported to the public or RFR personnel.
- **June 10, 2023 – Drowning in Steveston Harbour Marina.** Emergency crews responded to a report of a person floating in the water at the Steveston Harbour Marina. First on scene crews, reported a body floating beside the east end of a dock. On scene BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) staff confirmed the person to be deceased. After arrival of RCMP, RFR personnel lifted the body from the water to the dock and covered with a blanket. Care of the scene was left with RCMP, BCEHS and the coroner. No other injuries were reported to the public or RFR personnel.
- **June 11, 2023 – Residential Fire on Garratt Drive.** Emergency crews responded to a fire in a single family home. The fire had extended into the attic space but was contained. Crews extinguished the fire and checked for hot spots in the attic area. The fire extension had burned through the roof structure causing damage to the home necessitating all of the occupants to be displaced. ESS were called to assist the occupants. Crews remained to ensure the scene was secured before leaving. A Fire Investigator attended. There were no reported injuries to the public or RFR personnel.
- **June 15, 2023 – Residential Fire on King Road.** Emergency crews responded to a house fire. First in apparatus observed smoke coming from the residence. After further investigation crews were able to determine that the fire was in the basement suite of the duplex. The tenant had extinguished the fire with a garden hose prior to their arrival. Fire crews, checked for extension and found no further fire extension. Fire crews, then ventilated the residence. One tenant was displaced temporarily and ESS were notified. A Fire Investigator attended. There were no reported injuries to the public or RFR personnel.

- **June 17, 2023 – Commercial Property Fire on No. 5 Road.** Emergency crews responded to a fire on No. 5 Road. Upon arrival, crews discovered a large plume of smoke and upgraded the incident to a working fire. A large pile of recycled material was on fire at the rear of the property. Multiple crews attended the scene and additional assistance was received with an excavator operated by a property representative. The fire was extinguished and RFR crews demobilized the scene. There were no reported injuries to the public or RFR personnel. A Fire Investigator attended.
- **June 20, 2023 - Gas Leak on Lackner Crescent.** RFR crews responded to a gas leak at a townhouse complex. Upon arrival, flames were observed coming from the gas line, a couple of feet from a garage. Fire crews isolated the gas line and protected exposures with hose lines. Crews also found fuel had collected in the attic space of the garages. The gas combusted rapidly, causing a small explosion and damage to the interior of the garages. Fortis Gas arrived on scene and shut off the gas to the complex. RFR crews ventilated the town homes to remove any remaining gas exposure and risk. Fire Prevention and Richmond City engineers attended for further investigation and to ensure the homes were structurally sound. Fortis Gas crews repaired the damaged line. There were no reported injuries to the public, residents, RFR personnel or onsite workers.
- **June 30, 2023 – Structure Fire on Granville Avenue.** Emergency Crews responded to a report of a structure fire. Upon arrival, crews found a vacant house completely involved in fire. Crews performed a rapid defensive attack with multiple hose lines on all sides of the house. The fire was quickly extinguished. Multiple crews remained on scene to perform salvage, remove boards from windows and check rooms on all levels to confirm extinguishment. RCMP attended the scene to facilitate traffic and pedestrian control. There were no reported injuries to the public or RFR personnel. A security firm was contacted to maintain the scene overnight. A Fire Investigator attended.
- **July 2, 2023 - Wildland Fire on Blundell Road.** Emergency crews responded to a wildland fire on Blundell Road. The fire was located approximately 600 feet south of Blundell Road in a blueberry field. Additional apparatus was requested by the first-in officer, including the RFR Wildland Utility vehicle. RFR crews extinguished the fire and began to examine the area and extinguish any further spot fires. Crews established sprinkler operations to wet the area overnight to ensure there was no subterranean fire extension. The area was re-inspected the following day to ensure full ground saturation before demobilization. There were no reported injuries to the public or RFR personnel. A Fire Investigator attended.
- **July 5, 2023 - Hazardous Materials Leak on Viking Way.** Emergency crews responded to a report of an ammonia leak on Viking Way. Initial command reported full evacuation with alarm activation. RFR crews entered the building with the on-site technician in full Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to isolate the leak. The ammonia leak was mitigated and crews cleared the site. The onsite technician reported when the lines were emptied of ammonia and the system was no longer a hazard. There were no reported injuries to the public or RFR personnel.

- **July 5, 2023 - Residential Fire on River Road.** Emergency crews responded to a report of smoke and fire from a residential house on River Road. Upon arrival, crews reported large volumes of smoke and fire and a working fire was declared. Initial teams performed a quick, high-volume attack and knocked down the majority of the visible flames. Crews doused any hot spots and began an overhaul of the premises. RCMP were on scene to interview the occupants and a security guard was called to preserve the scene. There were no reported injuries to the public or RFR personnel. A Fire Investigator attended.
- **July 9, 2023 - Wildland Fire on Westminster Highway.** Emergency crews responded to a wildland fire approximately 300 feet East of Shell Road trail and approximately halfway between Westminster Highway and Granville Avenue. Both wildland utility vehicles were dispatched to the scene. The fire was contained and crews continued to extinguish hot spots. The railway line was temporarily shut down to allow better access for crews, and to ensure a safe working environment. Once extinguished, large-volume sprinklers were placed to fully saturate the ground. There were no reported injuries to the public or RFR personnel. A Fire Investigator attended.
- **July 14, 2023 - Wildland Fire on Westminster Highway.** Emergency crews responded to Westminster Highway for reports of smoke in the area. First arriving crews located a fire on the east side of Highway 99 in the treed area. Once crews were able to access the site, they located the fire and began extinguishment. The fire was quickly contained. RCMP attended the scene to assist with staff protection and safety. RCMP also provided traffic management on No. 5 Road. RFR maintained apparatus and resources on scene until there were no remaining fires in the area. There were no reported injuries to the public or RFR personnel. A Fire Investigator attended.
- **July 19, 2023 - Technical Rescue on Sidaway Road.** Emergency crews responded to a report of a golf cart that had flipped over with the operator trapped under the cart in a pond at this location. Crews arrived and made contact with the patient, who was partially submerged in water under the golf cart and unable to complete a self rescue. Crews entered the water in water-rescue gear and assisted the extraction of the patient and transferred care to an awaiting BC Emergency Health Services crew. Crews returned to quarters and decontaminated their tools and equipment. There no other reported injuries reported to the public or RFR personnel.
- **July 23, 2023 - Vehicle Fire on Beckwith Road.** Emergency crews responded to a structure fire in a one story commercial building. First-in crews reported the fire appeared to be coming from a motor home in the rear of the property and may have extended to the rear of the building. The building included a number of vehicle repair operations and combustible products. Crews deemed the building unsafe to enter. A defensive fire attack was initiated and the fire was extinguished, during which the building's roof collapsed. One civilian was transported to hospital with burns to their arms and one firefighter suffered a possible shoulder dislocation while attempting to pull off metal clad siding. The firefighter was also transported to hospital. Due to the nature of the scene a fire watch was initiated due to stubborn smoldering hot spots. There were no other reported injuries to the public or RFR personnel. A Fire Investigator attended.

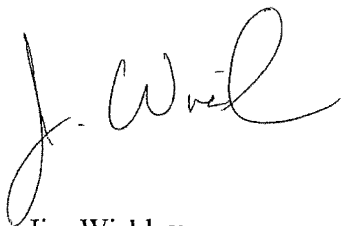
- **July 27, 2023 - Residential Fire on Cambie Road.** Emergency crews responded to a house fire on Cambie Road. Upon arrival, crews noticed heavy smoke coming from the structure. The fire was declared a working fire and it was determined that a defensive attack was appropriate for the unoccupied house. Crews initiated ladder protocols as the fire had broken through the roof. Once extinguished, crews checked for hot spots inside the structure. RCMP were on scene to assist with traffic and transit operations. There were no reported injuries 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 programs to respond to emerging trends.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Wishlove', with a stylized, cursive script.

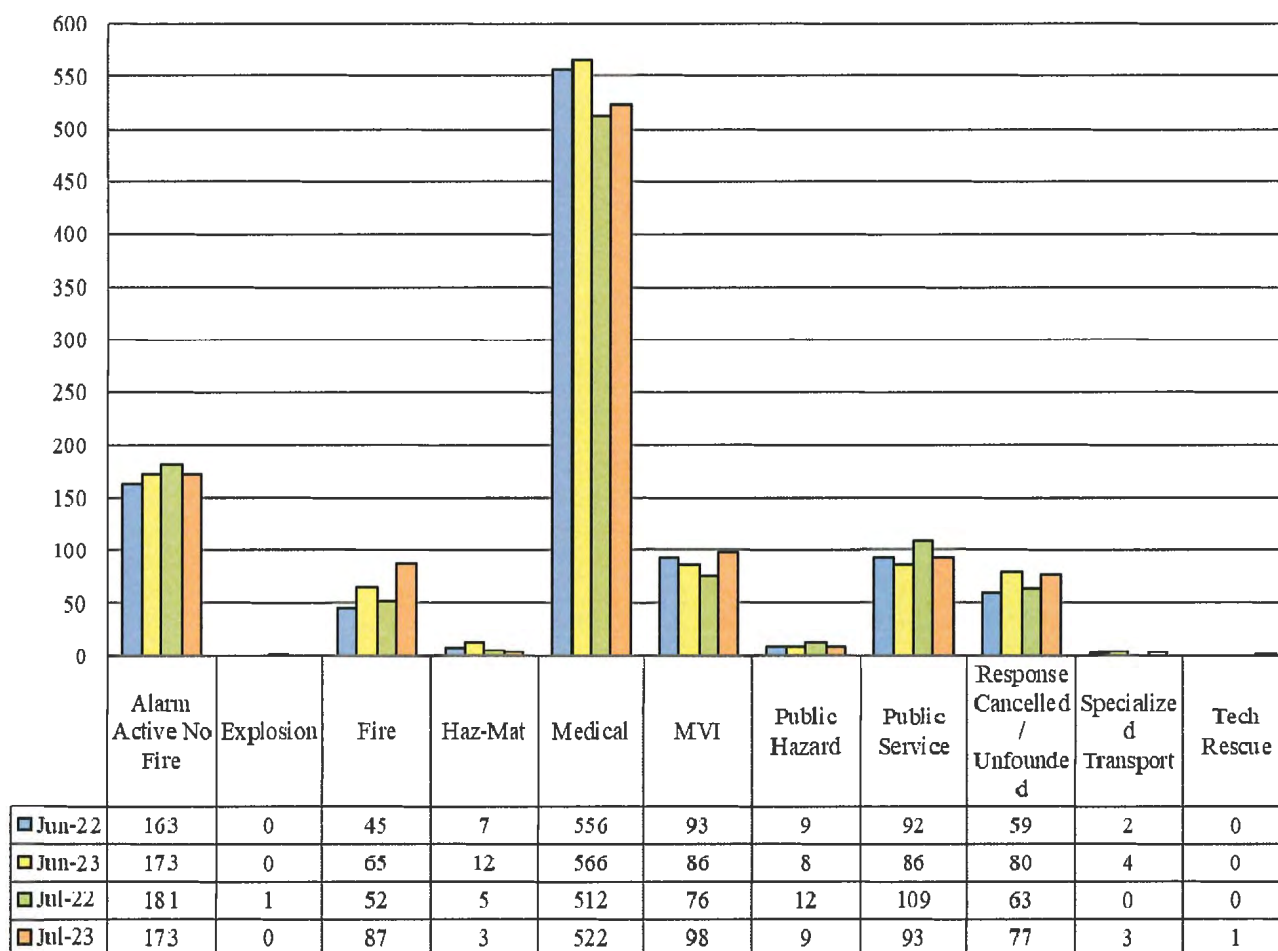
Jim Wishlove
Fire Chief
(604-303-2715)

Att. 1: June and July - Suppression Activity, including location of Fire, Medical and MVIs

Incident Volumes

The following chart provides a month-to-month comparison regarding incidents occurring in June 2022/2023 and July 2022/2023. In June 2023, there were 1,080 incidents, compared to 1,026 in June 2022. This represents an overall increase of 5 per cent. In July 2023, there were 1,066 incidents, compared to 1,011 in July 2022. This represents an overall increase of 5 per cent.

Table 5: June 2022/2023 and July 2022/2023 Incident Volumes



Incident Type Legend:

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

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

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

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

First Responder Totals

In June 2023 Medical first responder incidents comprised 52 per cent of the total emergency responses for RFR during the month of June 2023. A detailed breakdown of the medical incidents for June 2022 and 2023 is set out in the following table by sub-type. There were 566 medical incidents in June 2023 compared to 556 in June 2022, an increase of 2 per cent.

In July 2023 Medical first responder incidents comprised 49 per cent of the total emergency responses for RFR during the month of July 2023. A detailed breakdown of the medical incidents for July 2022 and 2023 is set out in the following table by sub-type. There were 522 medical incidents in July 2023 compared to 512 in July 2022, an increase of 2 per cent.

Table 6a: June 2022/2023 and July 2022/2023 Medical Calls by Type

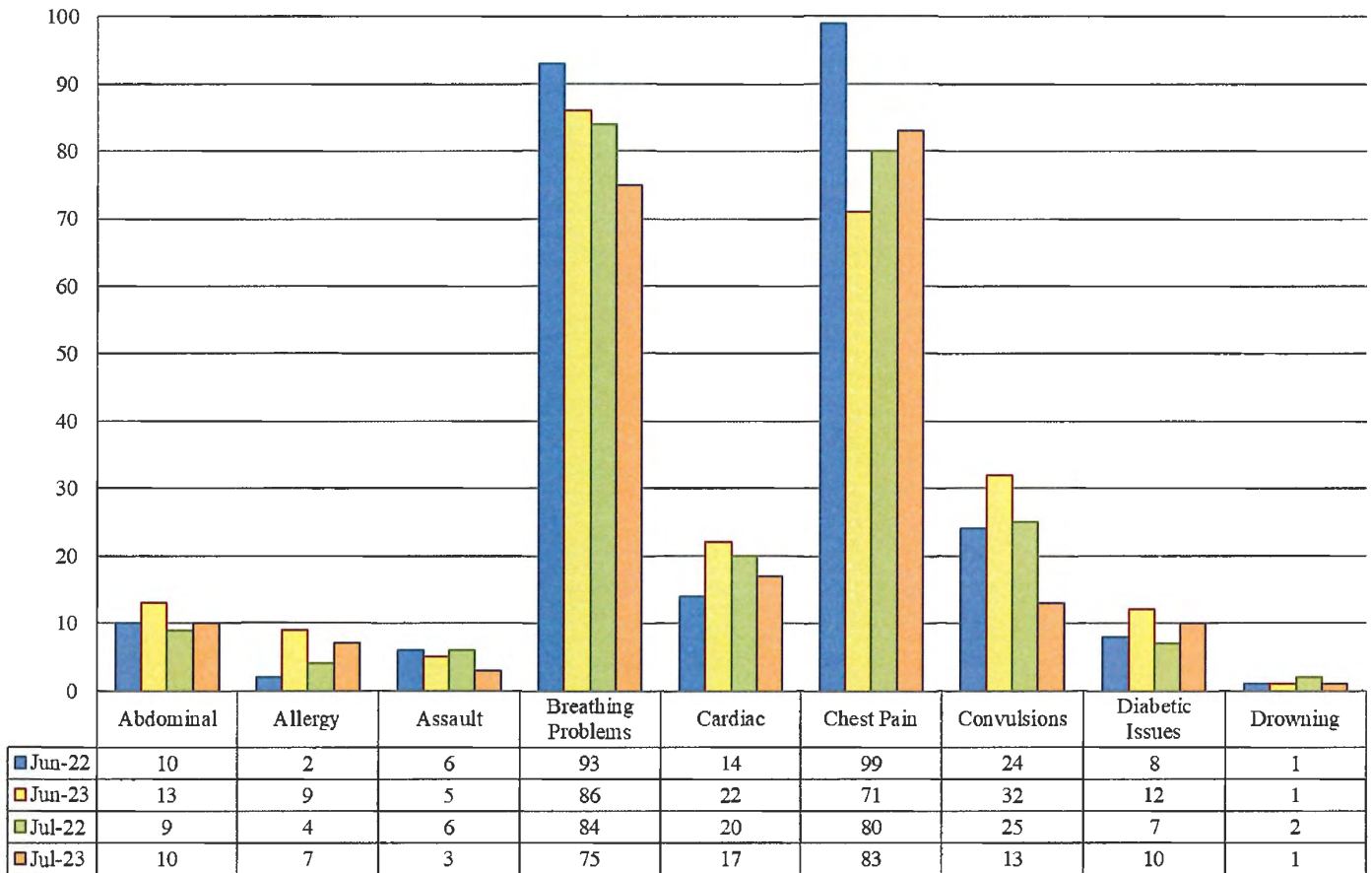
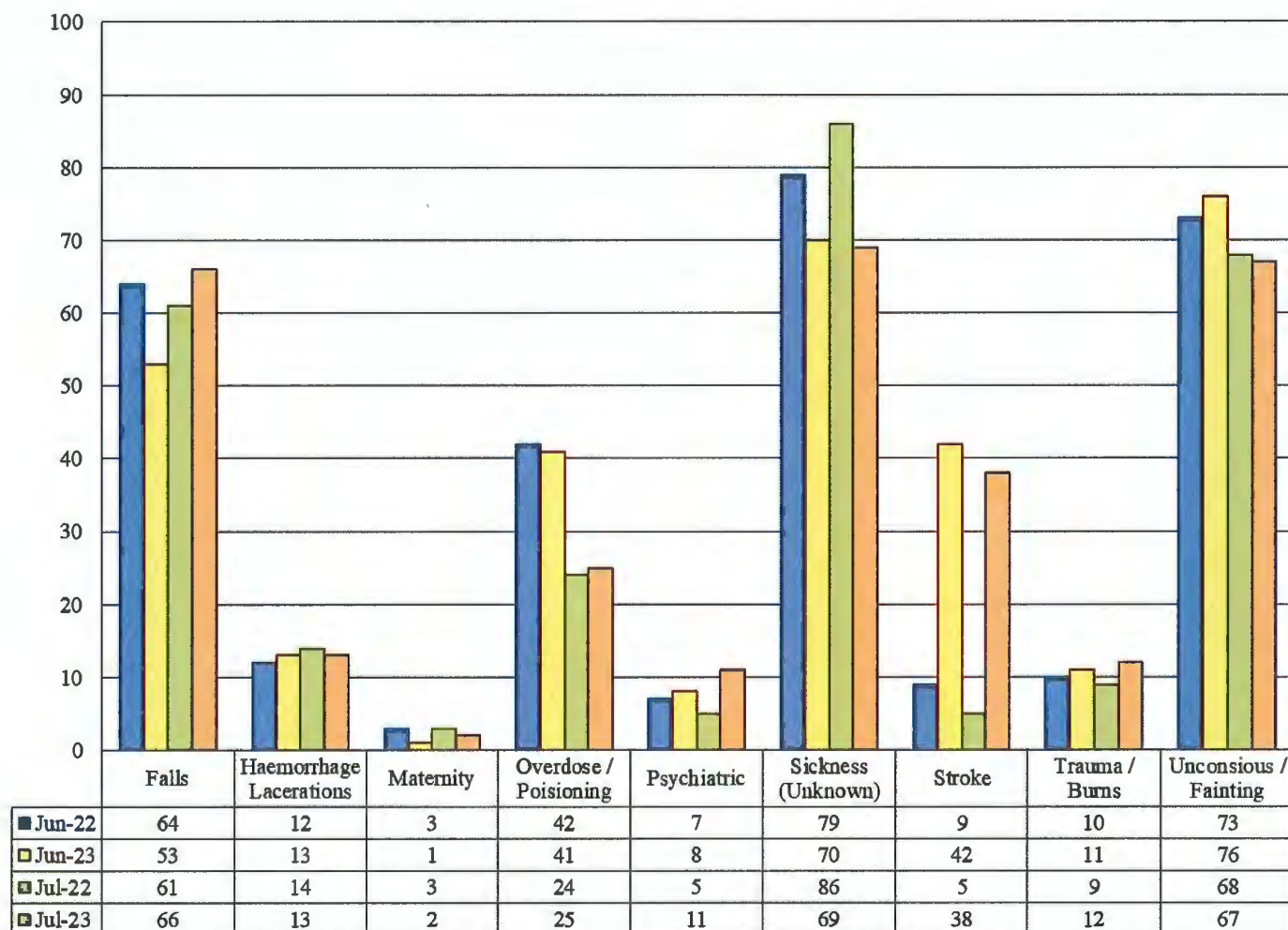


Table 6b: June 2022/2023 and July 2022/2023 Medical Calls by Type



The following chart provides the overdose / poisoning incident volume breakdown for June and July 2023.

Table 6c: Overdose / Poisoning Incidents By Type – June and July 2023	June 2023 Details	July 2023 Details
Opioids	11	7
Other Miscellaneous Drugs	9	5
Alcohol	3	2
Unknown (No patient contact / BC Emergency Health Services staff on scene)	18	11
Totals	41	25

In June, out of 41 total overdose / poisoning calls, 28 were located outdoors and 13 were located in a commercial property or residence. In July, out of 25 total overdose / poisoning calls, 17 were located outdoors and 8 were located in a commercial property or residence.

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

Table 6d: Total Fire Calls Fore Service In June from 2014 to 2023

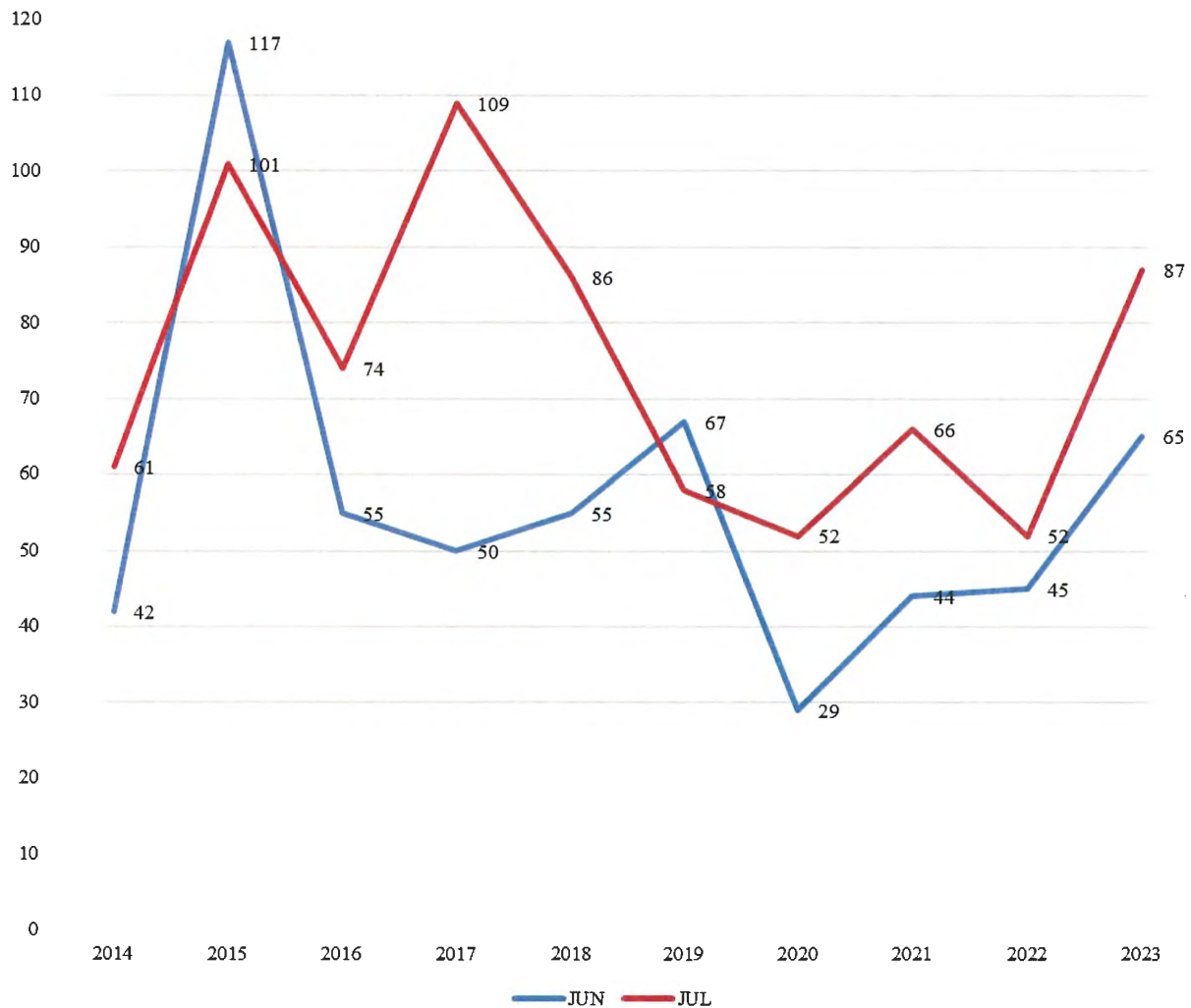
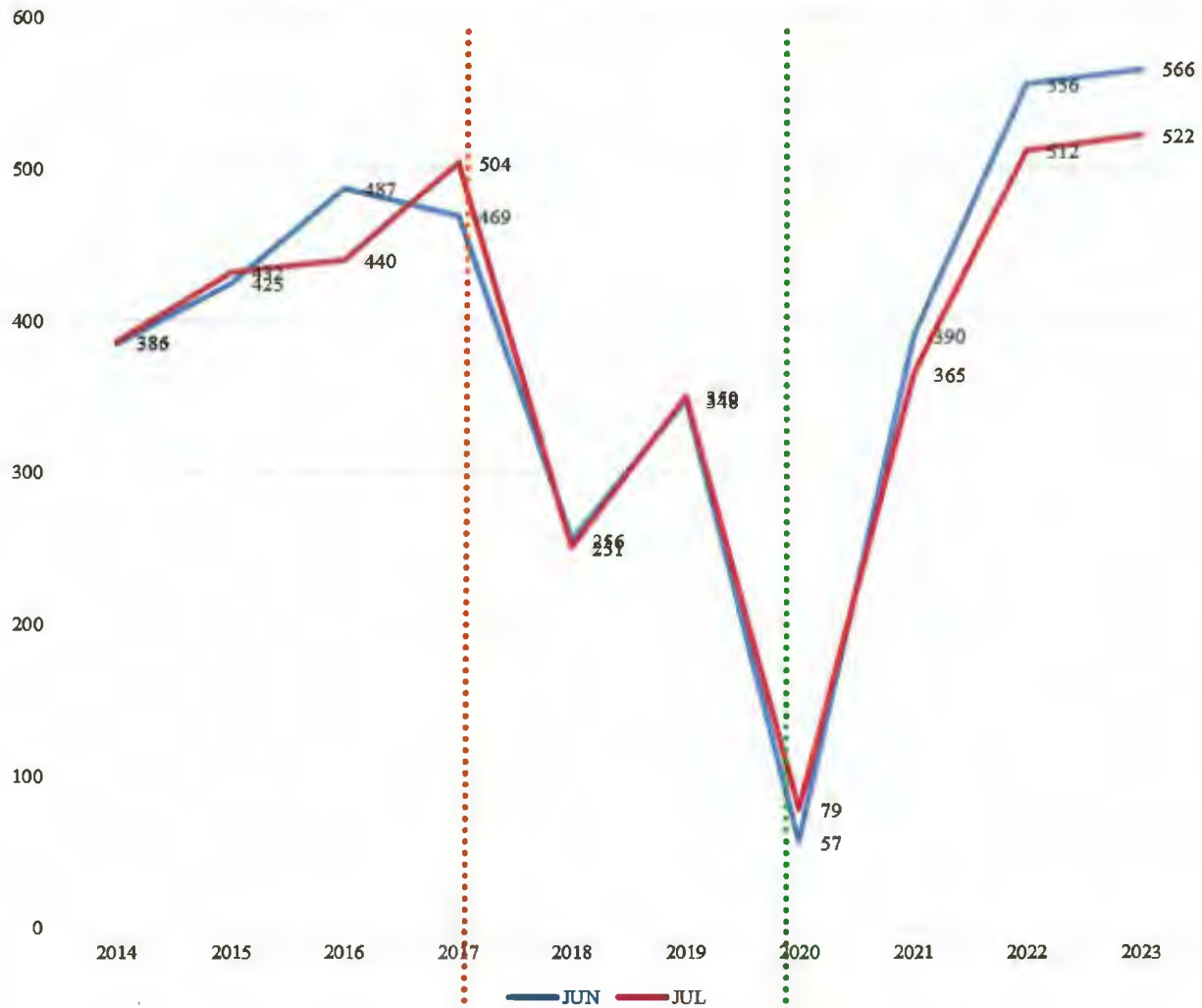


Table 6e: Total Medical Calls Fore Service In June from 2014 to 2023



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

Start of pandemic

Fire Investigations

The fire investigation statistics for June 2023 are listed below:

Table 7: Total Fire Investigation Statistics – June and July 2023						
	June 2023			July 2023		
	Suspicious	Accidental	Undetermined	Suspicious	Accidental	Undetermined
Residential:						
Single-family	-	2	2	1	2	1
Multi-family	-	7	3	0	1	0
Commercial/Industrial	1	1	-	0	3	2
Outdoor	5	37	5	15	42	11
Vehicle	-	1	1	1	6	2
Totals	6	48	11	17	54	16

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

Hazardous Materials

Table 8: Hazardous Materials Incidents By Type – June and July 2023		
	June 2023 Details	July 2023 Details
Flammable / Combustible Liquids	1	0
Gasses (Natural / Propane)	10	2
Unclassified	1	1
Totals	12	3

Figure 1: Location of reportable fires attended in June 2023 and July 2023 (Combined total 152)

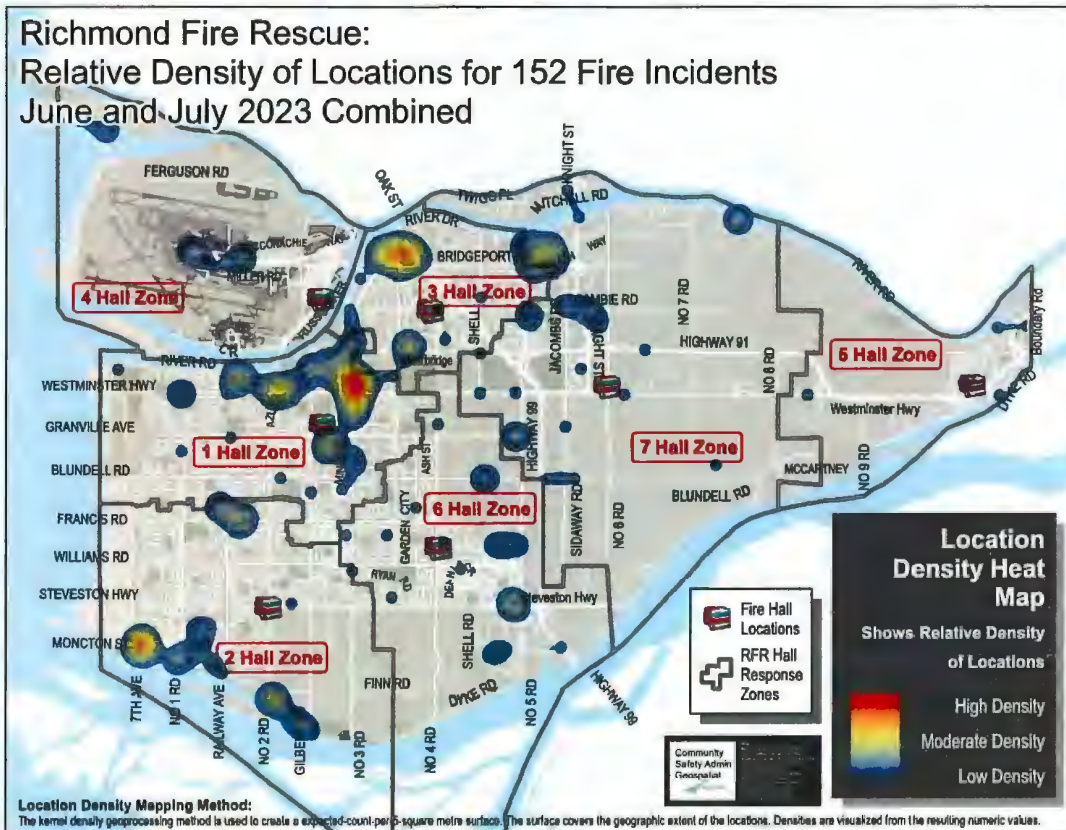
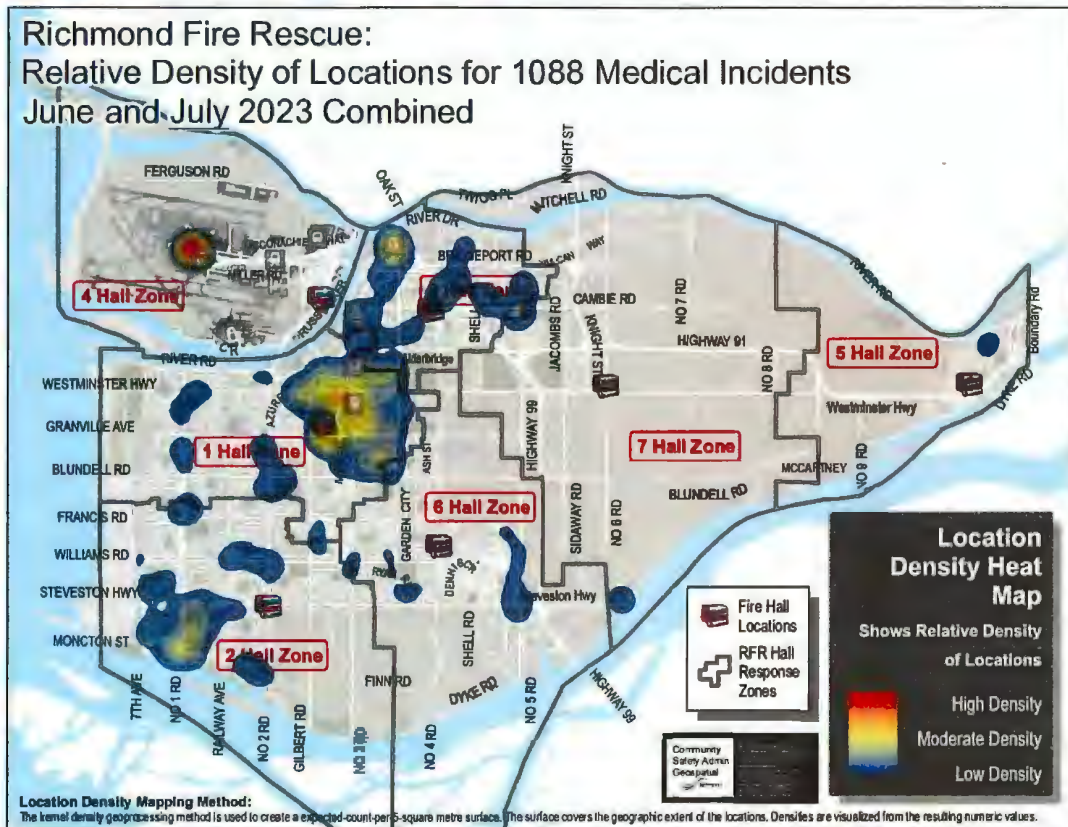
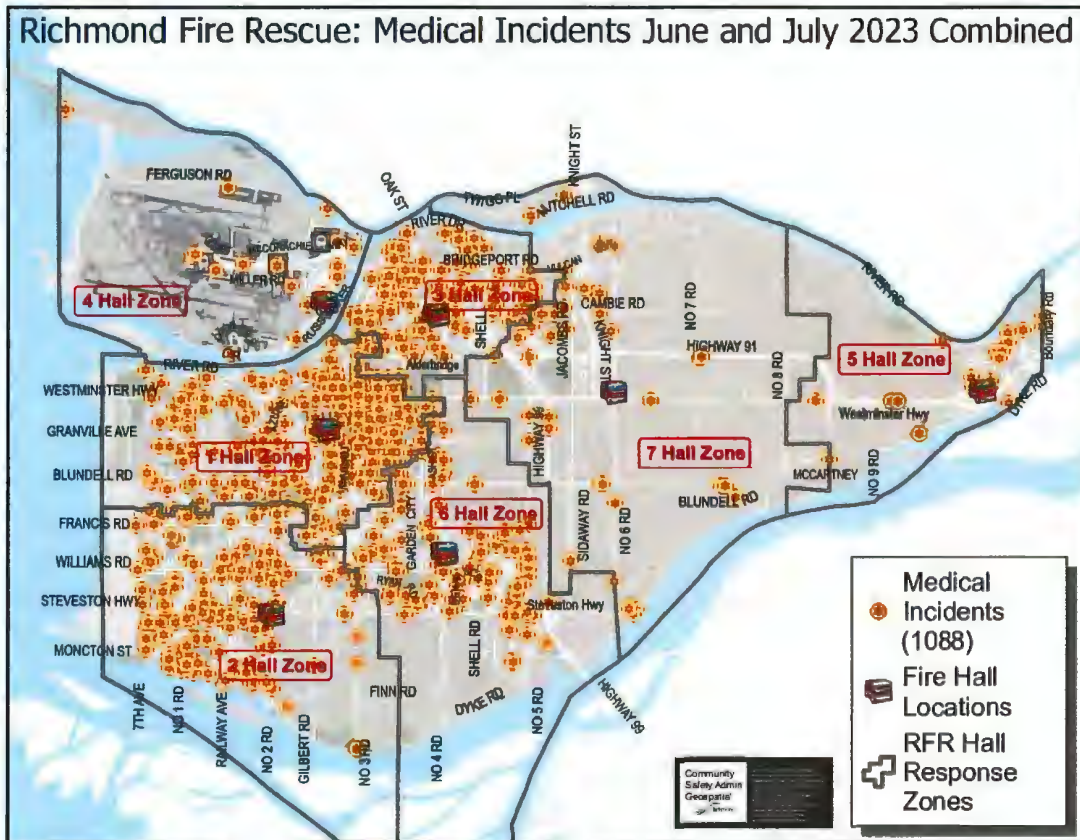
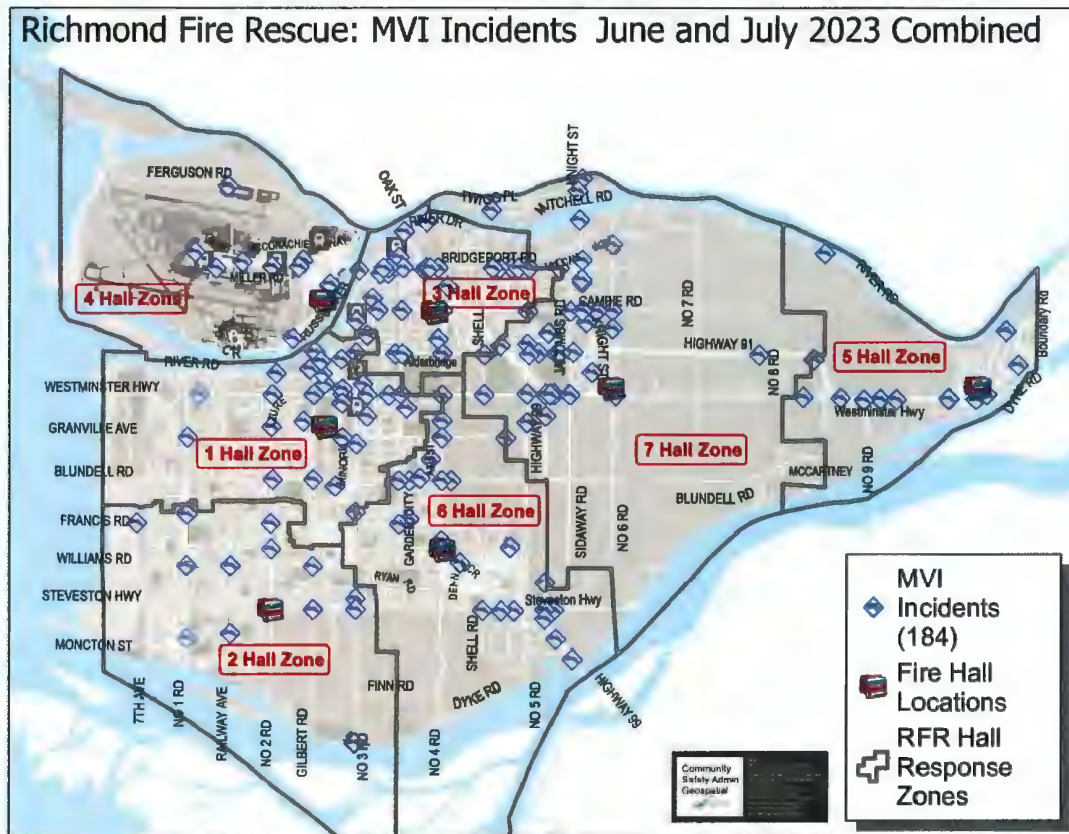


Figure 2: Location of Medical Incidents in June 2023 and July 2023 (Combined total 1,088)

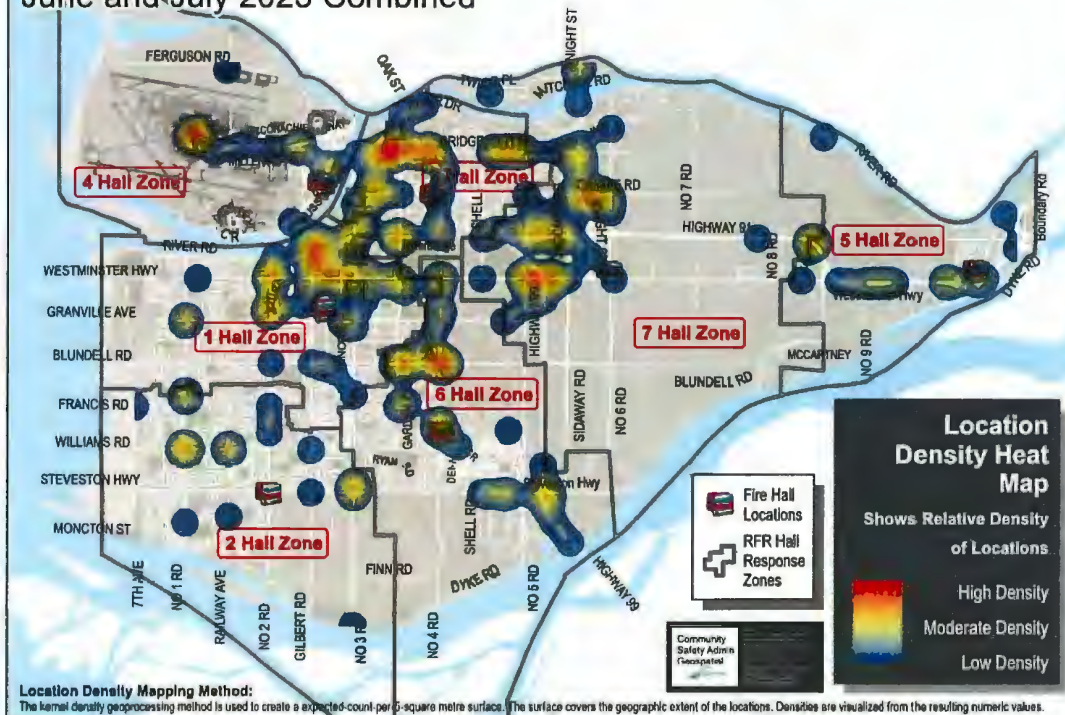


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Figure 3: Location of MVI Incidents in June 2023 and July 2023 (Combined total 184)



**Richmond Fire Rescue:
Relative Density of Locations for 184 MVI Incidents
June and July 2023 Combined**





City of Richmond

Report to Committee




To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** August 14, 2023
From: Dave Chauhan **File:** 09-5000-01/2023-Vol
Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge 01
Re: Richmond RCMP Monthly Activity Report – June and July 2023

Recommendation from the OIC

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

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 	

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 activity report for the RCMP provides information on each of the following areas:

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

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

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

1.4 Leverage a variety of approaches to make civic engagement and participation easy and accessible.

Analysis

Activities and Noteworthy Files

Doors Open Richmond

On June 3, 2023, the Richmond RCMP hosted a Doors Open Richmond event at the City Centre Community Police Office. Approximately 2,000 people were in attendance for the event, which featured opportunities to engage with police and volunteers, and a variety of police vehicles, including the "Fraser Guardian" boat, were on display.

Assault

On June 7, 2023, the Richmond RCMP received a report of an assault with a weapon in the area of Seacote Road and King Road. A female victim was grabbed from behind by a male suspect who brandished a knife. A driver who witnessed the ensuing struggle stopped to provide assistance, and the suspect fled the scene. The incident remains under investigation.

Fraud

On June 20, 2023, the Richmond RCMP issued a media release providing information and prevention tips concerning a fraud trend targeting seniors. The “grandparent scam” includes high-pressure tactics to trick victims into sending money to help a family member in trouble. Recently, digital manipulation has been used to improve the authenticity of the voice on the phone.

Unfounded Animal Cruelty

On June 23, 2023, the Richmond RCMP issued a media release advising of mischief to a residence following unfounded animal cruelty complaints. Due to ongoing harassment faced by the resident, the Richmond RCMP placed officers outside of the home to preserve public safety and inform the public that no animal abuse had occurred.

OIC Commendations

In June 2023, an OIC Certificate of Recognition was issued to a local taxi driver who assisted in locating a high-risk, missing elderly female. After reading a fan-out about the missing person, the man realized he had driven past her near a river. The man quickly notified police at the Vancouver International Airport (YVR), who located the missing person.

Canada Day

On July 1, 2023, the Richmond RCMP participated in Canada Day celebrations at the Steveston Salmon Festival. In addition to conducting proactive patrols at the event, police officers participated in the parade and provided photo opportunities while dressed in Red Serge. The event also featured crime prevention and diversity and inclusion resources.

Yankee 30 Youth Partnership Car

On July 6, 2023, the Richmond RCMP, in collaboration with the Ministry of Children and Family Development, officially launched the Yankee 30 Youth Partnership Car. This joint initiative involves police officers from Richmond RCMP’s Youth Section working alongside youth probation officers and social workers to support at-risk youth.

Cryptocurrency-related Robberies

On July 19, 2023, the Richmond RCMP and Delta Police issued a public warning following a multi-jurisdictional robbery trend. High-value cryptocurrency investors have been robbed in their homes after suspects gained access by posing as delivery personnel or persons of authority. The media release also featured crime prevention information.

Homicide

On July 27, 2023, the Richmond RCMP officers responded to the 8000 block of Minler Road for reports of a shooting. Upon attendance, police located a critically injured man, pronounced

deceased, at the scene. Police believe the incident was targeted and connected to the BC Gang Conflict. The Integrated Homicide Investigation Team is investigating.

Analysis of Police Statistics

Arson

In June 2023, there were three reported arsons, which is an increase of one incident from the previous month and a decrease of two incidents from June 2022. No patterns or trends were identified. The number of arsons in June 2023 was within the average range.

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

Assault Serious (Assault with a Weapon)

There were 23 serious assault events in June 2023, which is a five per cent increase from the previous month and is more than double the number of incidents reported in June 2022. No patterns or trends were identified. The number of serious assaults in June 2023 was above the average range.

Approximately one-quarter of assaults in June 2023 were domestic in nature. There were three stranger assaults in June 2023, including the incident discussed in the Activities and Noteworthy Files section of this report. The other two incidents involved youth suspects and the use of bear spray.

There were 21 serious assault events in July 2023, which is a nine per cent decrease from the previous month and a nine per cent decrease from July 2022. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of serious assaults this month is within the average range.

Approximately one-quarter of assaults in July 2023 were domestic in nature. There were two stranger assaults this month, including one incident where a suspect male was apprehended under the *Mental Health Act*. The other incident involved a victim who was bear-sprayed while walking his dog.

Auto Theft

In June 2023, there were 15 auto theft incidents, which is a 29 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 17 per cent decrease from June 2022. No patterns or trends were identified. The number of auto thefts in June 2023 was within the average range.

In July 2023, there were 28 auto theft incidents, which is an 88 per cent increase from the previous month and a 75 per cent increase from July 2022. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of auto thefts this month is within the average range.

Drugs

In June 2023, there were 70 drug files, which more than double the number of incidents reported the previous month and is a 37 per cent increase from June 2022. No patterns or trends were identified. The number of drug incidents in June 2023 was above the average range.

In July 2023, there were 69 drug offences, which is a one per cent decrease from the previous month and more than double the number of incidents reported in July 2022. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of drug incidents this month is above the average range.

Approximately 77 per cent of the files in June 2023 and 81 per cent of the files in July 2023 occurred at YVR. These increases in drug incidents have been attributed to processing a backlog of drug exhibits originating as Canada Customs seizures at YVR.

Mental Health

There were 238 mental health-related incidents in June 2023, which is a 20 per cent increase from the previous month and a three per cent decrease from June 2022. No patterns or trends were identified. The number of mental health-related incidents in June 2023 was within the average range.

There were 233 mental health-related incidents in July 2023, which is a two per cent decrease from the previous month and a two per cent increase from July 2022. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of mental health-related incidents this month is below the average range.

In June 2023, there were 68 police apprehensions, and the average hospital wait time was 93 minutes; these statistics were within the average ranges. There were 87 police apprehensions in July 2023, which is within the average range. The average hospital wait time increased 116 minutes, which is a 25 per cent increase from the previous month and is the longest wait time recorded this year. This increase has been attributed to six files with exceptionally long wait times.

Residential Break and Enter

There were 30 break and enters to residences in June 2023, which is a 43 per cent increase from the previous month and a 30 per cent increase from June 2022. No patterns or trends were identified. The number of residential break and enters in June 2023 was within the average range.

There were 38 break and enters to residences in July 2023, which is a 27 per cent increase from the previous month and more than double the number of incidents reported in July 2022. 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 June 2023, there were 25 break and enters to businesses, representing a 32 per cent increase from the previous month and a 17 per cent decrease from June 2022. No patterns or trends were identified. The number of commercial break and enters in June 2023 was within the average range.

In July 2023, there were 24 break and enters to businesses, representing a four per cent decrease from the previous month and an 11 per cent decrease from July 2022. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of commercial break and enters this month is below the average range.

Robbery

There were three robberies in June 2023, which is a decrease of six incidents from the previous month and represents no change from June 2022. No patterns or trends were identified. The number of robberies in June 2023 was within the average range.

There were six robberies in July 2023, which is double the number of incidents reported the previous month and represents no change from July 2022. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of robberies this month is within the average range.

Suspects have been identified in two-thirds of the incidents reported in June and July. A handgun was used in two of the robberies reported in June 2023, and bear/pepper spray was used in half of the robberies reported in July 2023.

Sexual Offences

In June 2023, there were 21 sexual offence files, which is a 13 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 19 per cent decrease from June 2022.¹ No patterns or trends were identified. The number of sexual offences in June 2023 was within the average range.

In July 2023, there were 25 sexual offence files, which is a 19 per cent increase from the previous month and a 39 per cent increase from July 2022. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of sexual offences this month is above the average range.

Suspects were identified in 57 per cent of the offences reported in June 2023. One-third of the incidents were related to indecent acts/individuals exposing themselves. Suspects have been identified in 64 per cent of the offences reported in July 2023. Approximately one-third of the incidents were sexual assaults.

¹ The Sexual Offences category comprises a range of offences including: sexual assault, sexual interference, making and distributing child pornography, possessing and accessing child pornography and indecent acts/exposing.

Shoplifting

There were 131 reported shoplifting thefts in June 2023, which is a 79 per cent increase from the previous month and is more than double the number reported in June 2022. No patterns or trends were identified. The number of shoplifting thefts in June 2023 was above the average range.

There were 122 reported shoplifting thefts in July 2023, which is a seven per cent decrease from the previous month and an 88 per cent increase in July 2022. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of shoplifting thefts this month is above the average range.

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

Theft from Automobile

There were 116 thefts from automobile incidents in June 2023, which is a 17 per cent decrease from the previous month and a five per cent increase from June 2022. No patterns or trends were identified. The number of thefts from automobiles in June 2023 was within the average range.

There were 93 thefts from automobile incidents in July 2023, which is a 20 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 27 per cent increase from July 2022. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of thefts from automobiles this month is within the average range.

Hate Crimes and Incidents

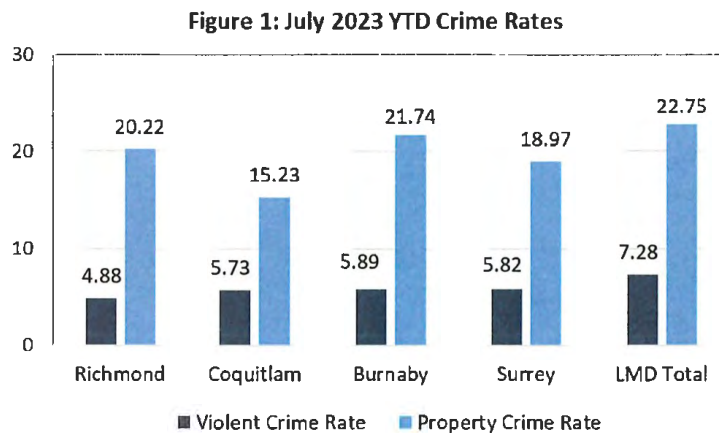
Table 1 presents the number of hate crimes and hate incidents reported between January 1, 2019 and July 31, 2023.² A “hate crime” refers to any criminal offence targeting an identifiable group. The criteria for an offence to be considered a hate crime, as per the *Criminal Code*, carries a higher threshold and usually involves one or more criminal offences. A “hate incident” may be motivated by the same factors as a hate crime but does not reach the threshold of being a criminal offence. There were three incidents reported in June 2023; one involved racist graffiti, and the other two were related to the use of derogatory racial comments. Two events were reported in July 2023; one involved racist and homophobic graffiti and the other was related to online threats against the LGBTQ+ community.

Table 1 – Hate Crimes and Hate Incidents			
Year	Hate Crime Files	Hate Incident Files	Total
2019	11	9	20
2020	21	13	34
2021	21	24	45
2022	8	26	34
2023 (YTD)	1	13	14

² The BC Hate Crimes Unit uses the terms hate-motivated crime and hate-motivated incident.

Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions

Data on crime rates is presented in Figure 1.³ In July 2023, out of the four largest municipalities policed by the RCMP in the Lower Mainland District (LMD), Richmond had the lowest violent crime rate. The property crime rate for Richmond was below the LMD average.



Block Watch

At the end of June 2023, the Block Watch program had 305 groups and 443 captains and co-captains, totalling 7,069 participants. In June 2023, there were two new group training sessions, which were attended by a total of 17 new participants.

At the end of July 2023, the Block Watch program had 306 groups, totalling 7,079 participants. Currently, the program includes 442 captains and co-captains. This month, there was one new group training session.

Community Police Station Programs

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

During the month of June, volunteer highlights included:

- The deployment of two volunteer bike patrols, totalling 10 hours and three volunteer foot/van patrols, totalling six hours.

³ Crime rate is year to date (YTD) and calculated per 1,000 people.

- A total of 18 Fail to Stop deployments took place, resulting in 670 information letters issued.
- There were 31 Lock Out Auto Crime deployments, resulting in 744 information letters issued.
- Speed Watch was conducted on 1,885 vehicles, resulting in 85 information letters issued.
- June 2 – Volunteers participated in “Go by Bike Week” hosted by HUB Cycling and promoted the Project 529 Bike Registry. A total of 17 bikes were registered at the event.
- June 3 – Volunteers participated in Doors Open Richmond events at the City Centre Community Police Office and Brighthouse Fire Hall. In addition to assisting with ICBC’s road safety booth, volunteers shared crime prevention resources and information on the Community Safety Mobile App.
- June 7 – Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a Coffee with a Cop Event at the McDonalds on Alderbridge Way.
- June 15 – Volunteers assisted police officers with the South Arm Community Block Party. The event featured the Spot the Target initiative and Mountie cut-outs for photos.
- June 21 – Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a Coffee with a Cop Event at the McDonalds in Ironwood.
- June 25 – Volunteers and RCMP officers participated in the annual Burkeville Daze event and showcased police vehicles and ATVs. Crime prevention programs were also featured, including the Project 529 Bike Registry.

During the month of July, volunteer highlights included:

- The deployment of two volunteer bike patrols, totalling 20 hours and two volunteer foot/van patrols, totalling five hours.
- A total of 17 Fail to Stop deployments took place, resulting in 701 information letters issued.
- There were 19 Lock Out Auto Crime deployments, resulting in 453 information letters issued.
- Speed Watch was conducted on 2,131 vehicles, resulting in 136 information letters issued.
- July 1 – A total of 43 volunteers participated in the 76th anniversary of the Steveston Salmon Festival. In addition to conducting foot and bike patrols, volunteers assisted at the crime prevention booth and promoted the Community Safety App and Hate Has No Place campaign. The event also raised approximately \$2,000 for “Cops for Cancer.”
- July 19 – Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with the Richmond Pentecostal First Responders Youth Camp, which featured making cards for the “Think of Me Campaign” and presentations to attendees.⁴
- July 21 – Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with the Garratt Neighborhood Party, which included a crime prevention booth and the Spot the Target initiative.

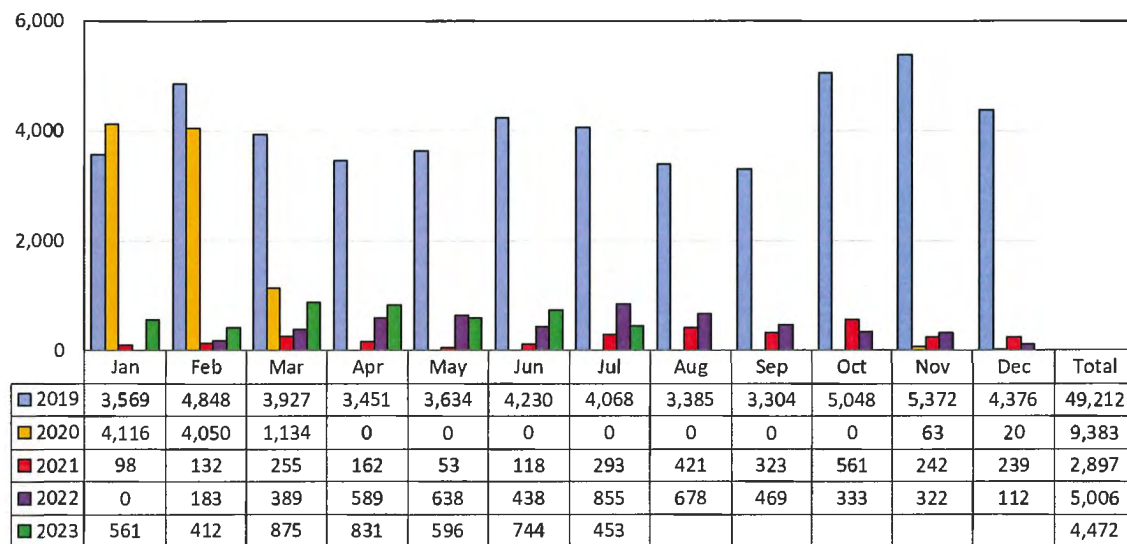
⁴ The Think of Me Campaign uses cards illustrated by children, which contain depictions of what children would like drivers to think about when they are driving in school zones and in the community.

- July 23 – The “Cops for Cancer” charity car wash was cancelled to prevent water use during water restrictions; however, police and volunteers still conducted community outreach at Lansdowne Mall. Tours of police vehicles were provided, and volunteers provided demonstrations of Fatal Vision goggles.⁵
- July 26 –Volunteers provided a car seat safety clinic at Touchstone Family Services, which included the participation of 13 attendees.

Lock Out Auto Crime

Figure 2 provides a yearly comparison of the number of vehicle notices issued.⁶

Figure 2: Lock Out Auto Crime Vehicles Issued a Notice



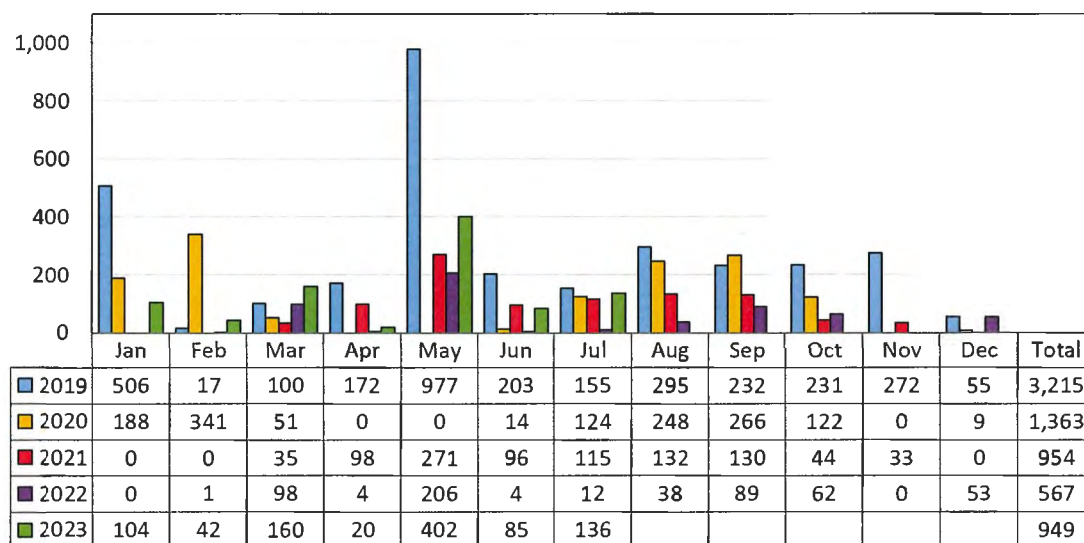
⁵ Fatal Vision Goggles simulate the effects of alcohol impairment and help increase awareness of the dangers of impaired driving.

⁶ Beginning in November 2020, Lock Out Auto Crime letters were issued in place of notices. Letters are only issued to vehicles displaying security vulnerabilities; whereas previously, notices were issued to all vehicles. This has resulted in a significant reduction in the number of letters issued.

Speed Watch

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

Figure 3: Speed Watch Letters Sent



Crime Prevention Unit

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

- Business Outreach
- Canada Day
- Coffee with a Cop
- Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives
- Doors Open Richmond
- Dolphin Classic Basketball Tournament
- Place of Worship
- Project 529
- Pride Walk

Road Safety Unit

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

Table 2: Violation Tickets Issued

Infraction	May 2023	June 2023	July 2023
Distracted Driving	104	130	106
Driver License	186	210	226

Infraction	May 2023	June 2023	July 2023
Impaired	22	36	41
Intersection Offences	51	55	45
Moving Infractions ⁷	93	75	105
Speeding	339	167	198
Seatbelts	21	20	21
Vehicle-Related ⁸	153	133	132
Other ⁹	9	10	27
Total	978	836	901

Victim Services

In June 2023, Richmond RCMP Victim Services met with 59 new clients and attended seven crime/trauma scenes after hours. The unit maintained an active caseload of 83 files.

In July 2023, Richmond RCMP Victim Services met with 62 new clients and attended three crime/trauma scenes after hours. The unit currently maintains an active caseload of 93 files. In June and July, Victim Services responded to several cases involving medical-related sudden deaths, property crimes and family conflicts.

Youth Section

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

- RCMP officers in the Youth Section conducted 55 proactive school visits at secondary schools and 74 visits at elementary schools, including visits at schools which were in session for summer school.
- DARE concluded the final term of the 2022-2023 school year, with classes delivered to elementary school students in 14 classes. Police officers presented certificates at six DARE graduations.
- RCMP officers in the Youth Section attended multiple summer camps throughout the city and engaged with youth attendees. This included the First Responder Youth Camp at Richmond Pentecostal Church, where police presented on various topics, including internet safety.

⁷ Moving infractions refers to unsafe lane change and unsafe passing.

⁸ Vehicle related refers to vehicle defects, for example no lights and no insurance.

⁹ Other refers to miscellaneous charges including failing to remain at the scene of an accident and failing to stop for police.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

In June and July 2023, the Richmond RCMP conducted several noteworthy investigations and activities, including a stranger assault, Canada Day events and the launching of the Yankee 30 Youth Partnership Car. Police statistics for June and July indicate that most crime types were within the average ranges, except for serious assaults, shoplifting thefts and drug offences, which were elevated in June 2023, and sexual assaults, shoplifting thefts and drug offences were elevated in July 2023. Commercial break and enters and mental health-related incidents were notably below the average ranges in July 2023.

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



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

- Att. 1: Community Policing Programs
2: Crime Statistics
3: Crime Maps
4: 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.

JUNE 2023 STATISTICS

RICHMOND RCMP

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

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

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

	Month	5-Yr Avg	5-Yr Range	Year to Date Totals			
	June - 23	June		2022	2023	% Change	# Change
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	176	137.0	119-155	801	935	17%	134
Robbery UCR 1610 (1-3)	3	4.8	2-8	31	22	-29%	-9
Assault Common UCR 1430	49	48.8	39-58	280	299	7%	19
Assault Serious UCR 1420	23	14.4	11-18	98	125	28%	27
Sexual Offences UCR 1510	21	16.4	10-23	102	117	15%	15
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	666	536.8	507-566	3333	3867	16%	534
Business B&E UCR 1210	25	26.2	20-33	201	155	-23%	-46
Residential B&E UCR 120-2	30	23.6	18-29	180	136	-24%	-44
Auto Theft UCR 135 1-10	15	19.6	16-23	129	129	0%	0
Theft from Auto UCR 21 2142	116	133.6	115-152	736	823	12%	87
Theft UCR 1110	107	78.0	66-90	488	669	37%	181
Shoplifting UCR 1120	131	67.4	43-92	386	582	51%	196
Fraud UCR 1220	83	68.2	60-76	406	490	21%	84
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	269	215.4	175-255	1309	1568	20%	259
Arson UCR 3020	3	5.2	3-7	33	32	-3%	-1
SUBTOTAL CC OFFENCES (UCR 1000 to 3000 Series)	1111	917.8	880-956	5448	6370	17%	922
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	70	48.2	40-56	306	261	-15%	-45
MHA RELATED CALLS (MHA files or Mental Health flag)	238	252.6	224-282	1418	1441	2%	23

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JULY 2023 STATISTICS

RICHMOND RCMP

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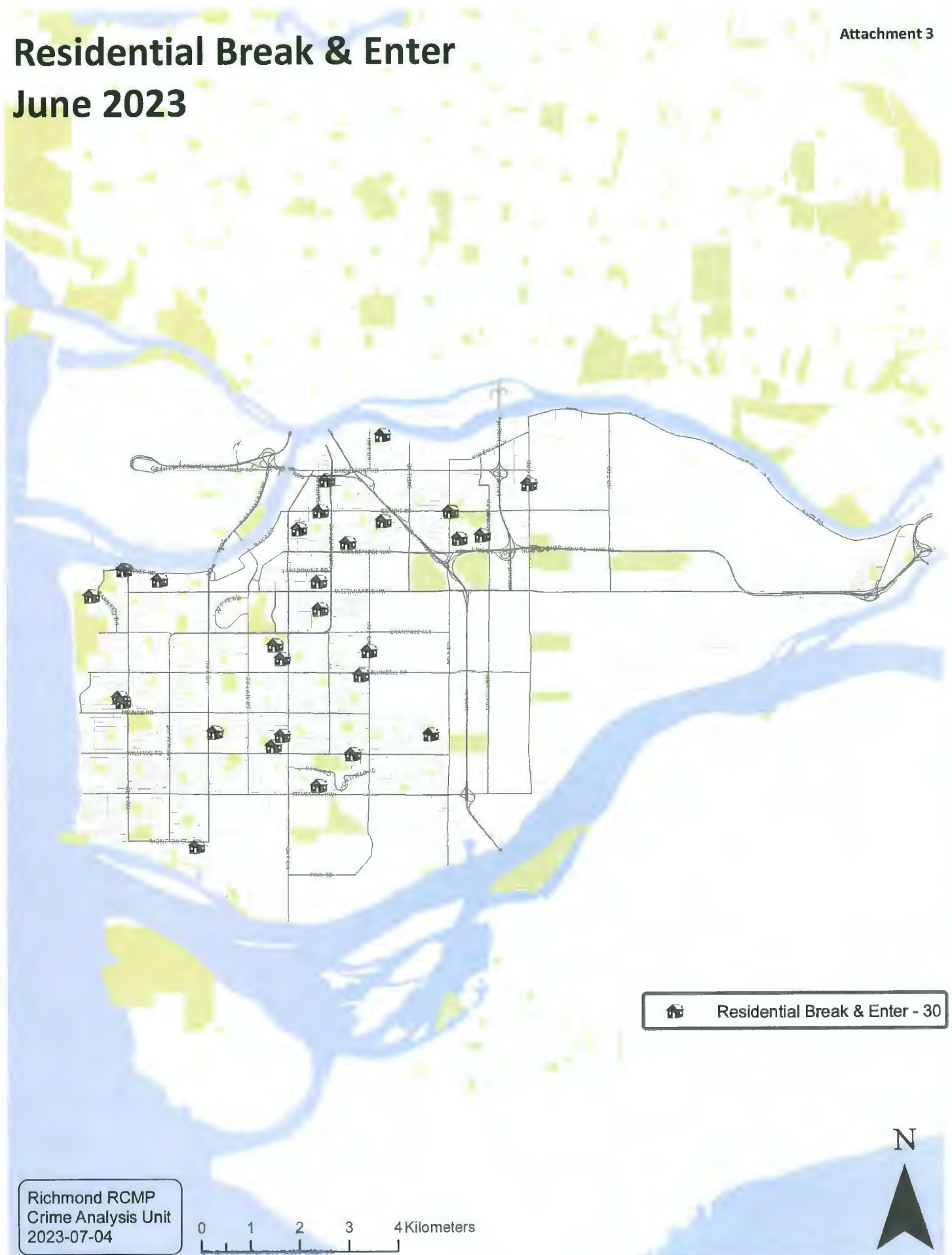
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The 5 year average is based on activity within a single month over the past 5 years. If the current monthly total for an offence falls outside the 5 year range (using one standard deviation) due to crime trends, patterns, or spikes, it will be noted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

	Month	5-Yr Avg	5-Yr Range	Year to Date Totals			
	July - 23	July		2022	2023	% Change	# Change
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	157	146.6	130-163	953	1092	15%	139
Robbery	6	7.4	5-10	37	28	-24%	-9
Assault Common	49	48.8	43-54	335	348	4%	13
Assault Serious	21	20.2	15-25	121	146	21%	25
Sexual Offences	25	18.6	12-25	120	142	18%	22
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	699	580.6	531-630	3886	4566	17%	680
Business B&E	24	28.8	25-32	228	179	-21%	-49
Residential B&E	38	33.0	15-51	197	174	-12%	-23
Auto Theft	28	22.6	18-28	145	157	8%	12
Theft from Auto	93	119.4	92-147	809	916	13%	107
Theft	134	83.8	56-112	589	803	36%	214
Shoplifting	122	64.2	50-79	451	704	56%	253
Fraud	79	77.8	73-83	475	569	20%	94
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	273	241.2	196-286	1612	1841	14%	229
Arson	8	6.4	4-9	43	40	-7%	-3
SUBTOTAL CC OFFENCES (UCR 1000 to 3000 Series)	1133	968.8	910-1028	6457	7503	16%	1046
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	69	41.4	27-56	339	330	-3%	-9
MHA RELATED CALLS (MHA files or Mental Health flag)	233	261.4	244-279	1646	1674	2%	28

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Residential Break & Enter June 2023

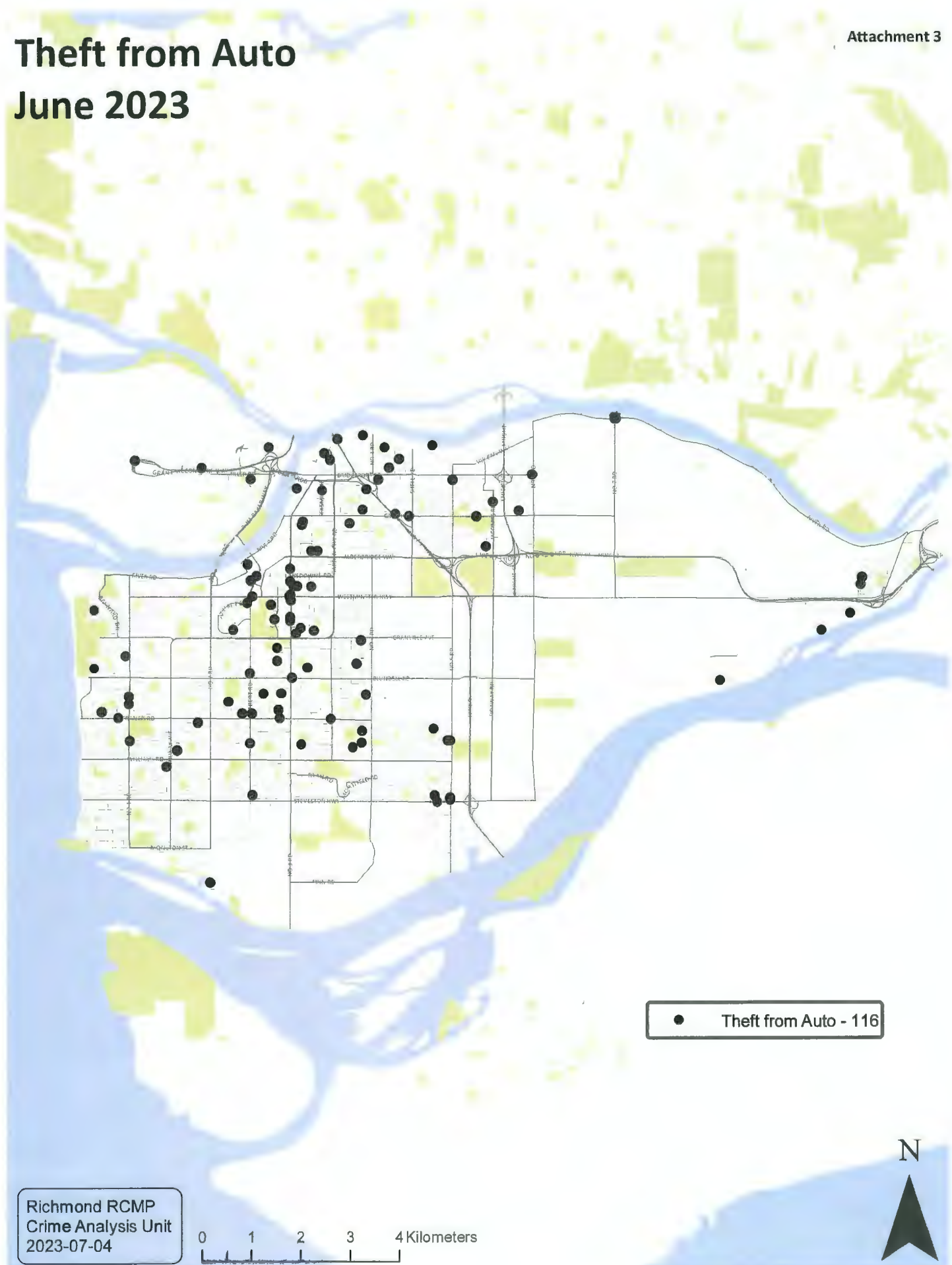


Business Break & Enter June 2023

Attachment 3



Theft from Auto June 2023



Auto Theft June 2023

Attachment 3



CS - 65

Residential Break & Enter July 2023

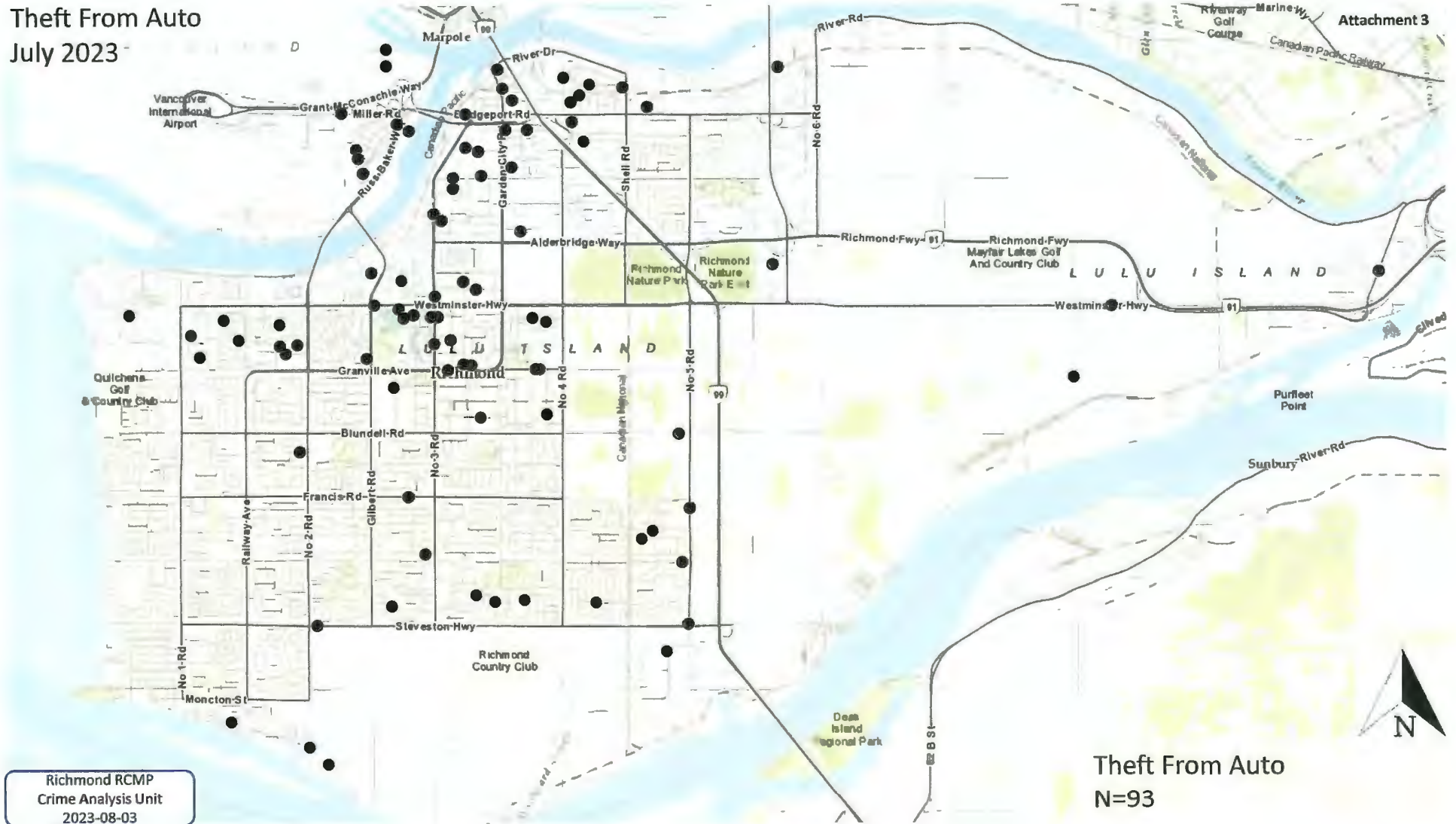
Attachment 3



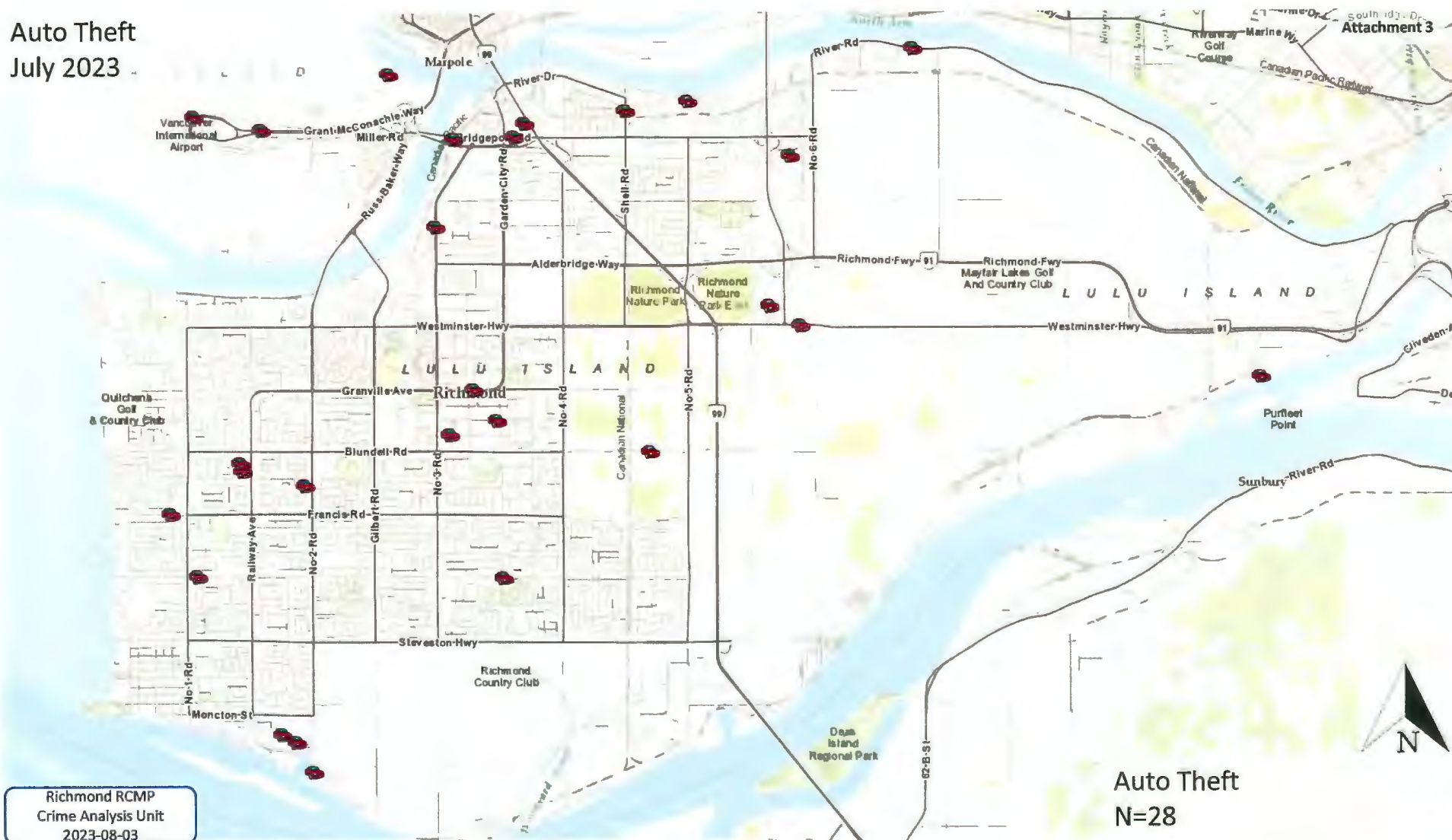
Business Break & Enter July 2023



Theft From Auto July 2023



Auto Theft July 2023



CRIME PREVENTION

WORKING TOGETHER TO PREVENT CRIME

NEWSLETTER

Online Travel Fraud Prevention

Planning for a trip and booking through an online travel agency? Thanks to the internet and online booking technology, you now have the option to take control and handle all the logistics of your trip. Before booking online, make sure you know what the advantages and disadvantages of booking online.

Advantages:

- Instant access to competitive prices for airline and hotel comparisons to find one that best suits your needs and wants.
- Have full control of your travel that matches your preferences and budget.
- Flexibility to make last minute changes should you wish to leave earlier or stay longer at one place.

Disadvantages:

- Could be a big hassle to deal with any issues that may arise during your trip, e.g. flight cancellations.
- Possible hidden fees required on top of booking fees.
- Reliability and accuracy of information online can sometimes be questionable which leads to disappointment and dissatisfaction.

Things to Consider when Booking Online:

- Make sure to read the fine print so you're clear about what you're actually getting. Read the refund or exchange policy carefully to avoid being stuck paying a significant fee for changes or cancellation.
- Be aware of travel phishing scams. If the price is too good to be true, it probably is a scam and they are going after your money as well as your personal and financial information. Do not fall for scam sites that lures you in with crazy deals.
- After booking on a third-party site, be sure to check with the hotel or airline directly to ensure there is a record of your online booking.
- Be mindful of currency exchange rates when booking online.

Online booking not only changed the travel agents landscape, travel-related cybercrime also increased immensely. Many rogue websites and apps trick people into thinking they are booking directly with the hotel or airline of choice. Instead, victims are entering all their personal, financial and travel documents information on a phony website where criminals collect their information for other fraud purposes.

Watch out for fake or deceptive ads, or fraudulent websites that look legitimate. When in doubt, do not book online and contact the company directly on the phone to check if the website is legit or book over the phone.



CITY OF RICHMOND CRIME PREVENTION NEWSLETTER

Home Security Checklist for the Summer

For many people, summer is the time to go on vacation. Whether you are leaving the house for a short or long period of time, preparing your home for vacation is a must-do to protect your home and valuables. When you go on vacation, the last thing you want to hear is someone telling you your house was broken into or discovering your home was broken into when you return. Ask yourself these questions to secure your home for summer vacation.



Are your points of entry secured?

- Before you leave, check **ALL** doors and windows to make sure everything is closed and locked, including the ones on the second floor.
- Make sure all keys are accounted for. Do not leave out any spare or hidden keys, put them in a secure location inside your home.

Is someone watching over your home?

- Ask a trusted friend, neighbour, or family member to look after your home. Have them pick up the newspaper and mail. They can also move the car once in awhile to make it look like someone is home.
- Look to join or create a Block Watch group in your neighbourhood! You can find a trusted neighbour to help with house sitting. They are also the closest people to your home so they may see or hear things, alert you, and the police.

Did you set up your home security system?

- Double check your cameras, alarms, and home security systems to see that they are working and you are able to access them.
- Install security cameras around your home. Security cameras alert you when someone is in the frame. If something were to happen, the camera gathers evidence and provides details to the police to use in their investigations.
- Set timers for your lights and have them turn on at times when you are usually home.

Did you take inventory of your household items and valuables?

- Vacation time is a perfect time to remind yourself to do an updated inventory on household items, valuables, bikes, appliances, jewellery, or valued items. Look for serial numbers and identifying features on items.
- Put away any tools or items that are left outside. Thieves can use these tools or items to break into your home. Put away any objects they may use as a surface to climb onto your home.

Are you ready for vacation?

Checking off all these different things will give you the peace of mind that your house is secured. Enjoy your summer knowing you have made adjustments to your home to make it harder for thieves to break in.



Eventful Season

The warm weather has been eventful for us because we were able to organize and attend a few community events. We went out to a few communities in Richmond and set up pop-up detachments for people to learn more about Block Watch and crime prevention. We hosted our first Shred-a-Thon event! We partnered with Richmond Centre for Disability to raise awareness for their program and ways to prevent identity and mail theft. We provided valuable crime prevention tips against identity theft and mail theft to people who came to check out our booth.

We also attended two neighbourhood parties at Richmond Baptist Church. Richmond RCMP's Community Engagement Team were invited to deliver a safety talk to the neighbourhood. Many kids and adults got a chance to spin Safety Bear's safety wheel to win prizes! In addition, people participated in Spot the Target and learned more about how to prevent theft from auto.

Our own Block Watch groups are also hosting parties for their groups and neighbourhoods this summer. These parties are strongly encouraged as they bring the neighbourhood closer together. It allows neighbours to talk to those that live around them, learn more about their community, and crime prevention. We want to thank all the volunteers and the public for their help and participation.



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 communities 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 must submit an application and complete a Police Information Check

Recruit and build your group

- ◇ Recruit homes that are near to you. To build an effective Block Watch, try to involve 50-75% of households in your area. We will provide you with recruitment packages.

Complete activation of your team

1. **Complete** Block Watch Captain/Participant training - Register as many of your groups as you can for a virtual training session.
2. **Submit** your participating household list.
3. **Qualify** for Block Watch street signs once 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


Shoplifting Prevention

Summer time is a season for businesses to hire seasonal staff to help with the growing demand of customers and back to school sales. Seasonal staff will not have the same knowledge as the regular staff so it is important to train them to know how to handle shoplifting and what to do when they see the crime happening. Below are some training material to be aware of when training seasonal staff to better prepare them against shoplifters.

A basic but effective crime prevention tactic is to instruct all employees to greet the customers as they walk into the store. By engaging with the customers, it shows that the staff acknowledges their presence and it sends a message to the customer that the employees are watching them. Regularly check in with the customers and ask if they need help. If shoplifters feel they're being watched, it's less likely they will try to steal.

Recognizing the signs of a shoplifter is another skill owners and managers should teach their employees. People will not tell you they are thieves verbally but through body language you can make an educated guess that the person is a shoplifter. Thieves avoid eye contact, appear nervous, and look at the staff instead of the products. They pick up random items and wear bulky clothing to conceal any items they pick up. These signs suggests that the person is waiting for an opportunity to commit a crime. Shoplifters may also work in pairs or groups. One person acts as a distraction so another person can escape. Shoplifters take advantage of the lack of supervision around the store. Thus, it is important for owners and managers to have the right amount of people working. When possible, schedule the right amount of staff so that there are enough eyes and ears in the business.

Lastly, it is important for managers and owners to educate their employees on what to do when they see someone shoplift. Educate staff to know the policies of the company on how staff are expected and not expected to act when faced with shoplifters. Another important part of education is to have emergency contact numbers visible and available for all staff to see. Knowing what to do and who to call allows staff to be comfortable dealing with shoplifters.



Please help by reporting any suspicious behaviour: RCMP

Non-Emergency line **604-278-1212**.

If you witness a crime in progress, dial **9-1-1**.

Email Break & Enter Alerts

To receive email alerts of neighbourhood commercial break and enters, register your business name and street address at: RCMP_Business_Link@richmond.ca