



REPORT TO CALGARY POLICE COMMISSION



CPS Monthly Chief's Reports: Crime Update – Bureau of Community Policing – October 2022

Date

2022.10.19

Commission Role

Information only Approval

Type of Meeting

- Full Commission meeting
 Governance and Personnel (G&P) Sub-Committee
 Finance and Audit (F&A) Sub-Committee
 Complaint Oversight (COC) Sub-Committee
 Anti-Racism Committee

Purpose

As part of the Chief's Report at the monthly Calgary Police Commission meeting, the Crime Update is intended to provide the members of the CPC with insights related to the ongoing crime trending as well as some of the efforts being made that could be shared publicly. This is not intended to replace the quarterly crime reporting and update as received through regularly scheduled reporting to the CPC as required.

Key Messages

- Crime trends continue to evolve given the impacts on crime in conjunction with the pandemic. Changes have been observed to continue to trend across a variety of crime types as noted.
- CPS focus on the impact of violent crime, especially shootings, gun and drug-related crime are ongoing.
- Specific to September, there were some declines in reported domestic violence, residential and commercial break and enters, and vehicle crime. Increases in domestic reporting was a continued trend.
- Year to date, we are experiences movement toward 5-year trending across a variety of crime categories.
- The fatal collision count to the end of September increased to 14 resulting from 5 fatal collisions. Driving the spike in fatal collisions this month were collisions involving vulnerable road users (pedestrians and motorcycles) which accounted for four out of five collisions. Efforts are ongoing to address a variety of traffic related concerns and for the month of September, there was a focus on addressing back to school and pedestrian related concerns.

- Major crimes updates will be covered off by the Bureau of Investigative Support Crime Update.

Summary of Issues and Trends

The CPS focus on addressing crime is a critical part of our overall strategy and falls in line with the strategic goal of increased community safety and wellbeing. Several key strategic initiatives have been identified as part of the 2022 Annual Policing Plan including:

- Decreasing violent crime by targeting firearm related violence and robberies
- Decreasing property crime by targeting break and enters and auto theft
- Support vulnerable persons and improve call diversion (this includes Downtown safety)
- Increase road safety
- Increase capacity to support major events

The CPS will also be responsive to these priorities as well as new and ongoing crime trends that emerge. Some of the highlights since our last crime update include:

Crime trending for September 2022 and YTD based on the 5-year average (Citywide)

Month of September 2022 Only:

Citywide	Sep 2022	Non-Domestic Violence	Domestic Violence	Domestic Reporting	Residential B&E	Commercial B&E	Vehicle Theft	Carprowing	Disorder
DIFF AVG (%)		-4%	-38%	11%	-36%	-37%	-25%	-27%	0%
Significance		→	↓	↑	↓	↓	↓	↓	→
DIFF AVG (N)		-23	-141	132	-154	-154	-123	-343	-20

Year to Date (to September 30, 2022):

Citywide	YTD	Non-Domestic Violence	Domestic Violence	Domestic Reporting	Residential B&E	Commercial B&E	Vehicle Theft	Carprowing	Disorder
DIFF AVG (%)		7%	-21%	9%	-14%	-4%	2%	1%	-2%
Significance		↑	↓	↑	↓	→	→	→	↓
DIFF AVG (N)		332	-724	995	-472	-130	92	102	-1678

Legend:

- Non-domestic violence:** All levels of assaults, robberies (personal and commercial), extortion, etc.
- Domestic violence:** Family violence and violence involving domestic partners.
- Domestic reporting:** Reported occurrences in domestic situations that did not escalate to the point of violence
- Residential B&E:** Break and enters to residential properties and outbuildings.
- Commercial B&E:** Break and enters to commercial properties including premises, storage facilities, yards, etc.
- Vehicle Theft:** Theft of automobile
- Carprowing:** Entering of vehicles which may include theft of property from within
- Disorder:** A variety of occurrence types that impact on people's perceptions of safety including unwanted guests, suspicious persons, disturbances, etc.

Summary of selected highlights:

- Continued decrease in reported domestic violence however domestic reporting has continued to be higher than the 5-year average. In September, citywide domestic

reporting (information and standby to prevent breach of the peace) incidents were notably higher as compared to the 5-year average. This increased reporting has been notably trending since July of 2022.

- Non-domestic violent crime was at anticipated levels for September with 577 incidents with the most significant category being assaults which were at average levels. Compared with September of last year, reported violence was significantly lower in volume (577 in 2022 vs. 682 in 2021). Given the downward trend in September, year to date numbers are in line with the 5-year average.
- Shootings and gun violence continue to be a priority for prevention and investigative efforts.
- Commercial robberies continue to be trending higher than the 5-year average.
- Residential and commercial Break & Enters have declined as compared to 2021 by just over 9% per category in September and are both below 5-year average on the YTD numbers. Residential break and enter activity dropped notably in September. The 264 incidents of Commercial Break and Enter reported in September was 37% lower than the 5-year average and 13% lower than 2021 placing September 2022 among the lowest recorded months of any month across the previous 6 years.
- There were 1276 incidents of vehicle crime recorded in September, a decrease of 27% from the 5-year average (466 fewer incidents) and is on par for 2021 numbers. Both carprowlings and vehicle thefts dropped notably. Year to date, vehicle crime is within the expected range for the 5-year average.
- In September, citywide disorder activity was comparable to the 5-year average (20 fewer calls). Year to date, disorder activity is slightly lower than the 5-year average (1678 fewer calls). Unwanted guests, suspicious persons, and disturbances accounted for 62% of disorder related calls for service in September. Increases in calls for service continue to be observed in mental health related concerns (482 vs. the average of 365). Year to date, mental health concerns have increased 40% compared to the 5-year average (4640 vs. 3300). Social disorder and crime related to the LRT has continued to be an area of concern and focus. Efforts are being made to address this in partnership with Calgary Transit.

Shootings:

As per the presentation at the September meeting of the Calgary Police Commission, the Service continues to focus efforts to address gun-related violence and shootings. Up to October 17th, the City of Calgary has experienced 113 shootings YTD. These files continue to be investigated either by our District General Investigations Units or the Organized Crime and Offender Management (OCOM) Section aiming to hold offenders accountable. File ownership is determined based upon identified connections to organized crime. The CPS has continued to publish public communications specific to cases that have been concluded by charges, as well as those that we are seeking public assistance in the effort to gain tips to further investigations. Additional perspective will be provided by the Bureau of Investigative Support relative to crime guns and related investigations.

Drug & Gun-related Investigations:

The districts across the city continue to prioritize drug and gun related investigations to curb violence and ongoing criminal activity. As one example, in early October, five people from Calgary were charged with multiple counts of possessing imitation firearms, edged weapons, drugs, and stolen property after a complex investigation arising out of District 2. During search warrants involved with this investigation, police recovered 130 grams of a combination of methamphetamine, fentanyl, and crack cocaine, 11 firearms and imitation firearms, 100 edged weapons including knives and machetes, three batons, three cans of bear spray, stolen property, and identification documents. This operation required the coordinated efforts of Community Resource Officers, Prolific Offender Engagement Team (POET), District Patrol Officers, Tactical Unit, as well as members of the Alberta Sheriff Safer Communities and Neighborhoods (SCAN) Team.

CPS & Business Advisory Townhall:

On October 12, 2022, the Calgary Police Service in partnership with Councillor Sonya Sharp (Chair of the City Business Advisory Committee) and Councillor Evan Spencer, facilitated a Business Community Townhall focused on crime facing the business community. This session was planned and advertised with open invitation for representatives from the business community and related business associations to come together to discuss crime trending, ongoing experiences, and opportunities to work together towards crime reduction. Approximately 50 business representatives attended along with leadership from across the various districts within the Community Policing Bureau. As well, a panel of subject matter experts from across the Service inclusive of Community Resource Officers, Crime Prevention, Crime Analysis, and Offender Management was made available for a facilitated question-and-answer session. Overall, the feedback on this event was positive with relationships strengthened and opportunities to work together emphasized.



Grandparent Scam/Senior Frauds:



GRANDPARENT SCAM ALERT

WHAT IS THE SCAM?
Scammers are calling seniors claiming to be family members in need of immediate money for bail or hospital expenses.
The scammer will often send someone to the door to pick up payment.

BAIL FACTS:

- Police, lawyers, judges or jails do not call people to get money.
- Bail/fines are typically paid at a courthouse, police station or jail.
- Bail in Alberta is typically \$10-\$500.
- Bail can't be paid using gift cards.

Red arrow pointing to the first icon:

-  "Court appointed" couriers don't exist. If someone asks to come to your home to pick up payment, it's a scam.
-  If it has to be now, it has to be no. Using fear or high-pressure tactics are usually a red flag.
-  Always ask for proof of identification and call-back numbers. Talk to family, friends or other people you trust to help verify claims or requests.

 **If you have lost money or the scam is in progress, contact the Calgary Police Service at [403-266-1234](tel:403-266-1234)**

To report a scam in general, contact the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at [1-888-495-8501](tel:1-888-495-8501)

The CPS continues to address issues pertaining to fraud related offences aimed at seniors. District 6 General Investigations Unit has been coordinating the investigations. The "grandparent scam" refers to scammers posing as grandchildren of elderly people claiming they have been arrested and are in urgent need of money to secure bail. In other cases, the scammers have been known to pose as government or law enforcement officials looking to collect bail payments. A variety of offenders have been identified and recently two more suspects have been charged with these offences (see media release on Sept. 29, 2022). Given the vulnerability of the people subject to this type of crime, efforts are expanding to include public communication and educational materials to be utilized by Community Resource Officers and to be circulated to related senior distribution groups, newsletters, and other supporting agencies. A member from

each of the Districts' General Investigative Units have been identified and are assigned to coordinate on investigative response. To date, we have seen 233 incidents of these scams with 6 occurring in October (which has reduced significantly given additional focus on prevention, education, and enforcement).

Traffic Safety:

In September, the fatal collision count increased to 14 resulting from 5 fatal collisions. The current total now surpasses 2021 (3 collisions) but continues to remain below 2020 numbers by -30%. Pedestrian collisions continue same trend as in past months registering well below 2021 and observing same total as 2020. Driving up the spike in fatal collisions this month were collisions involving vulnerable road users (pedestrians and motorcycles) which accounted for four out of five collisions. Three fatalities were motorcyclists. 9 out of 14 fatal collisions are being investigated for unsafe or excessive speeds. Our Traffic Section has taken steps to work with Crown Prosecutors to pursue criminal code charges for Dangerous Operation of a Motor Vehicle in situations with excessive speeds where appropriate. The CPS is collaborating with other police agencies across Alberta, through the Alberta Association of Chiefs of Police (AACP) Traffic Sub-committee to explore legislative options to address excessive speed issues, as this has been an ongoing and escalating experience across Alberta law enforcement agencies.

Citywide Collisions: To the end of September, total citywide collisions are also on the rise from pandemic levels experienced in 2020/2021 - approximately +20%. As compared to pre-covid average (2017-2019), the 2022 YTD total registers a decrease of 24%.

Traffic Safety Requests:

To the end of September, the CPS has addressed 1269 Traffic Safety Requests (TSRs) submitted by the public (96% completed by our Traffic Section). The September TSRs volume increased due to a rise in “Back-to-School” related complaints, specific issues including jaywalking, unsafe U-turns, parking, and crosswalk concerns. Also driving up numbers were the increased awareness by school administrators and management staff about Residential Traffic Safety Unit (RTSU) and information on how to access the TSR webpage. Information is consistently shared with District Leadership teams to support focused education and enforcement, both with respect to high collision locations and ongoing community issues.

Fall Commercial Vehicle Services Association (CVSA) Multi-Agency Blitz:

As part of the regularly planned commercial vehicle enforcement efforts, the CPS fall multi-agency commercial vehicle check was conducted Sept 20th-22nd 2022 at three locations known to have high commercial vehicle traffic (Glenmore Tr & 52 St SE / Stoney Tr between Peigan Trail and 17 Av SE / Glenmore Tr & 37 St SW). Several law enforcement agencies took part in the three-day check including CPS, CN Police, Sheriffs Highway Patrol, members from Alberta Transportation Vehicle Safety Branch and Alberta Treasury Board (Fuel Tax).

Over the three days of the check, a total of 224 vehicles were inspected with the following results:

- 136 vehicles were found to have critical defects that placed them out of service (61%)
- 54 vehicles were found to have major defect that required attention (24%)
- 34 vehicles pass with no critical defects. 15%)

A total of 182 violation tickets were issued.

Additional highlights:

- Apprehension of a suspended driver who also blew a Fail under MAS and issued an Immediate Roadside Sanction (IRS): FAIL contravention – seven warrants also executed during the check
- Revocation and seizure of Annual Commercial Vehicle Inspection Program certificates and decals on two commercial vehicles by Alberta Transportation, with one of these vehicles being classified as ‘unsafe’ due to major defects identified under the Commercial Vehicle Inspection Standards.

Attachments (if any)

Nil.

