



# REPORT TO CALGARY POLICE COMMISSION



## CPS Monthly Chief's Reports: Crime Update – Bureau of Community Policing – May 2023

### Date

2023.05.23

### 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 Bureau of Community Policing 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 and is intended to supplement the update provided by the Bureau of Investigative Support.

### Key Messages

- CPS continues to focus on the impact of violent crime, especially shootings, guns, and drug-related crime.
- In April, there was a slight uptick in violent (non-domestic) incidents primarily driven by assaults and personal robberies. There continued to be notable decreases in Commercial Robberies, Domestic Violence, Residential and Commercial Break and Enters, Vehicle Thefts and Car-prowling's.
- Shootings to May 4, 2023 (37) are continuing to trend below 2022 numbers (55) demonstrating a 33% decrease year over year.
- Disorder trended down in April and year-to-date as compared to the five-year average.
- The CPS has established the Safe Public Spaces Action Plan with a framework to address crime and social disorder occurring across the City. Phase 1 has emphasized addressing safety concerns on Transit. This Action Plan involves coordination of internal and external resources. Operation CREST has also been supporting this action plan.

- Traffic enforcement has continued in accordance with the Provincial Traffic Safety Calendar. To the end of April, there have been seven traffic fatalities which is slightly higher than the five-year average. Concerted efforts have been placed on addressing speeding and street racing.

## 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 were identified as part of the 2023 Annual Policing Plan including:

- Establish city-wide and district specific priorities via the monthly Crime Reduction Strategy
- Reducing violent crime through investigation, enforcement, and offender management
- Reducing crime and disorder in the downtown with partners and support agencies
- Improve traffic safety through education, partnership, and enforcement efforts
- Decreasing property crime by targeting break and enters and auto theft
- Support vulnerable persons and improve call diversion (this includes Downtown safety)
- Prepare safety plans for events, protests, and parades and support the WPC safety plan

Some of the highlights since our last crime update include:

### Crime trending for April 2023 based on the 5-year average (Citywide)

#### Month of April 2023 only:

Citywide	Apr 2023	Non-Domestic Violence	Domestic Violence	Domestic Reporting	Residential B&E	Commercial B&E	Vehicle Theft	Carprowl	Disorder
	DIFF AVG (%)		17%	-23%	6%	-27%	-33%	-25%	-24%
Significance									
DIFF AVG (N)		84	-79	86	-83	-123	-108	-238	-317

#### 2023 YTD:

Citywide	YTD	Non-Domestic Violence	Domestic Violence	Domestic Reporting	Residential B&E	Commercial B&E	Vehicle Theft	Carprowl	Disorder
	DIFF AVG (%)		10%	-18%	4%	-32%	-24%	-16%	-15%
Significance									
DIFF AVG (N)		223	-253	204	-393	-378	-308	-590	-1302

**Note:** The statistics reported within are excerpts from the Volume Crime and Disorder Monthly Report which is strategic operational decision-making informing report used to understand crime trending in the city and are based at an occurrence level count for all portfolios. As such, some differences may be noted with other crime statistical reporting.

#### 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
- Car prowling:** 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.

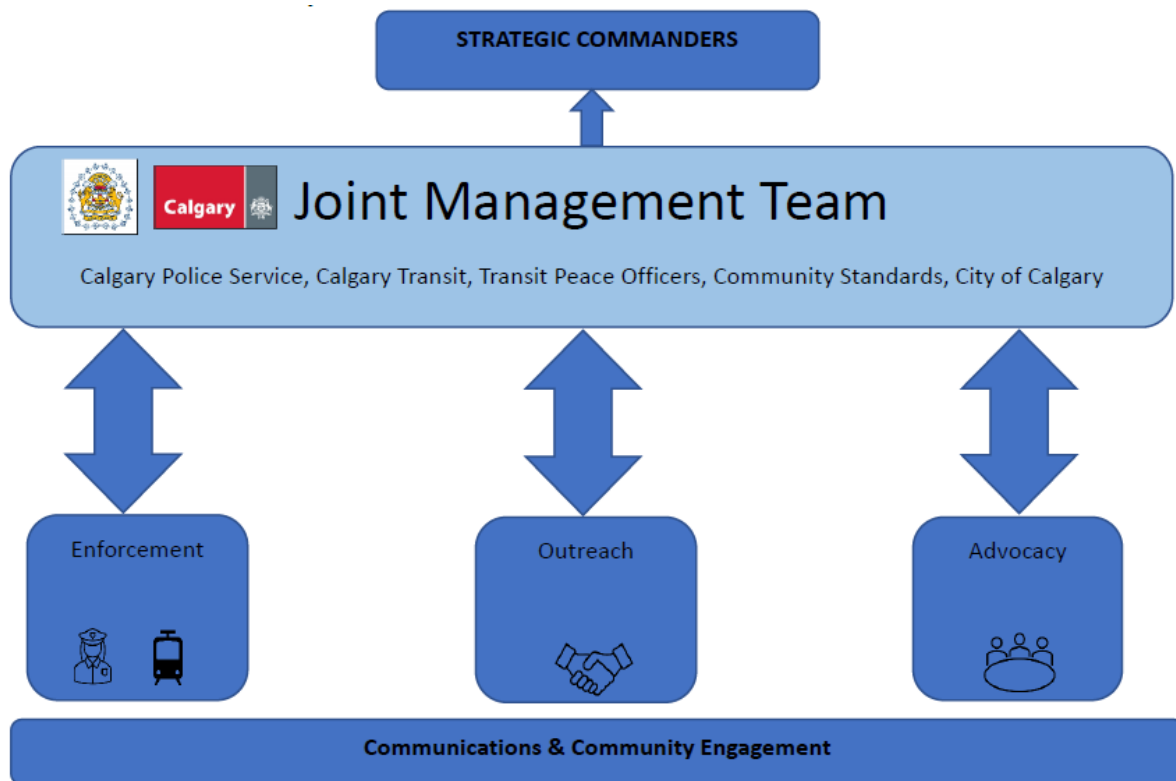
### Summary of selected highlights and insights:

- Violent incidents (non-domestic) in Calgary saw an uptick in April. Assaults saw a notable increase while other violence had a mild decrease. Personal robberies saw an increase as compared to April of 2022.
- For the month of February, Commercial Robberies were down two occurrences or 11.2% from the five-year average and down 15 as compared to April of 2022.
- In April, the citywide number of reported domestic violence incidents was neutral compared to the average. The year-to-date domestic violence incidents was 23% lower than the 5-year average. Domestic reporting on the other hand, experienced a mild increase when compared to the five-year average (1,521 vs. 1,435) which is important in assessing what we see with reported domestic violence. This trend has continued relative to the totals year to date.
- As of May 4, 2023, there had been 37 shooting incidents that had occurred in Calgary. This is a 33% decrease compared to the same date in 2022 (55 incidents). In April, there were 5 less shootings as compared to 2022. Of the 37 incidents, the Bureau of Community Policing have been assigned 28 and the Bureau of Investigative Support has been assigned 9 as holding the responsibility as primary on the investigations. Gun related violence continues to be a high priority for the entire organization.
- There were 484 break and enter occurrences recorded for April which was down 30% from the five-year average and 13% from April 2022. Year to date break and enter incidents were 38% lower than the five-year average.
- Residential break and enter activity dropped slightly again this month. The 230 residential break and enters was the lowest volume recorded in April in the past five years and was comprised of 130 house and 100 “other” incidents. The numbers could partially be impacted by the timeline in processing online reporting for “other” category break and enters. The 254 incidents of reported commercial break and enters was 33% lower than the 5-year average for April and April of 2022 (Avg.: 377 & 383 in April 2022).
- There were 1098 reported incidents of vehicle crime recorded in April, a notable decrease of 24% from the 5-year average (363 fewer incidents). The year-to-date vehicle crime related incidents also showed a noticeable decrease (16%) compared to the previous five-year average. The 1098 total vehicle related crimes consisted of 331 vehicle thefts and 767 car prowling’s. Vehicle theft incidents decreased by 25% compared to the five-year average (331 vs 437) and car prowling related incidents decreased by 24% compared to the five-year average (767 vs. 1005). Again, it should be noted that some of these numbers are subject to change (likely to increase) due to timelines in online reporting through Cop Logic.
- April 2023 saw 7,824 disorder incidents (317 fewer calls than the five-year average of 8,141). This reduction was mostly driven by a reduction in social disorder. In comparison to April of 2022, a mild 4% increase was noted (292 calls). Unwanted guests and disturbances account for almost half of all disorder calls and continue to be the most significant. Year to date, volume of disorder incidents is notably below the five-year average (27,717 vs. 29,019).

**Property Crime Operations, Investigations, and Other Initiatives**

**Safe Public Spaces Action Plan**

Through the month of April, the CPS has continued to focus on the establishment of the Safe Public Spaces Action Plan. This plan has a mission of “creating safe public spaces by taking action to reduce crime and social disorder through focused collaborative enforcement and compassionate supports.” This aligns with our strategy and organizational mission, specifically focused on the strategic goals of increasing community safety, increasing public trust and confidence, and increasing efficiency and effectiveness. Through oversight of an established Joint Management Team involving representation from the CPS, Calgary Transit, Community Standards, and other representatives from within the City of Calgary. For the CPS, the Safe Public Spaces Action Plan is not solely a District resourcing plan to address crime and disorder on transit, but one in which includes all public spaces. Three distinct, yet inter-related pieces of work, would run in tandem. They are Enforcement, Outreach, and Advocacy. Underpinning this work is ongoing communications and community engagement to be responsive to internal and external needs.



Given public concerns regarding safety on transit, as well as key data indicators suggests that violence has increased month over month since January 2023, Phase 1 of the Action Plan has focused on addressing transit safety. This is not a unique issue to Calgary, but one that is echoed across the country in larger municipal areas, where community holds a perception of being unsafe in public areas. Our organization has heard from community, and we will continue to assist by addressing social disorder and criminality, and work alongside our community partners to fill in the gaps of service for the vulnerable population experiencing mental health and/or addictions

issues that are non-criminal. This is also the time to lay the foundations through advocacy to address the challenges that law enforcement and social serving agencies face in their attempts to achieve sustainable safe public spaces. Part of the Safe Public Spaces Action Plan includes working on outreach with our partners among social serving agencies who will be engaged as participants in the JMT based upon existing and emerging issues.

Phase I has included high visibility focus on transit locations citywide. Emphasizing the communication aspect, CPS has utilized social media to communicate activities and results to the public. See the examples below:

**Calgary Police** @CalgaryPolice

Over the past three weeks, our officers have stepped up proactive enforcement along transit and in public spaces. Follow along this morning as we head out with patrol officers from District 4 on their regular morning patrols on transit to see how public safety has progressed and what our officers are doing to ensure public spaces remain safe for all Calgarians.

6:57 AM · May 3, 2023 · 48.3K Views

**Calgary Police** @CalgaryPolice

We are fortunate to have many resources and services available in our city to help those who truly need it and we continue to be committed to connecting those who need assistance with those who can provide it.

CPS and @calgarytransit officers referred this individual to @TheAlexChC.

**Calgary Police** @CalgaryPolice · Apr 26

The man was escorted from the station and the @alphahouseyyyc DOAP Team is on their way to transport him to a support agency.

1 4 50 14.2K

**Calgary Police** @CalgaryPolice

Since April 10, officers have dealt with more than 1,900 calls for service on transit, 70% of which are officer on-view situations and 81 are weapons-related incidents. They have affected 65 arrest warrants and laid 443 Criminal Code charges.

#CPStweetalong

6:57 AM · May 3, 2023 · 3,872 Views

Results of the efforts are being captured and communicated with our partners in the form of the Safe Public Spaces Weekly Snapshot which includes a variety of quantitative and qualitative metrics. The Safe Public Spaces Action Plan includes District responses to identified hotspots for crime and social disorder recognizing that displacement may occur. An example of the District responsiveness in this regard was the addressing of encampments within District 1 which occurred in partnership with the Joint Encampment Team.

The CPS will continue to work at the strategic level to identify opportunities for public safety integration as identified in the 2023 Annual Policing Plan. Advocacy opportunities specific to potential recommendations for legislative changes, social support opportunities, and system efficiencies through government and other agencies will continue throughout and are planned to be raised through various channels via the Joint Management Team and Strategic Command.



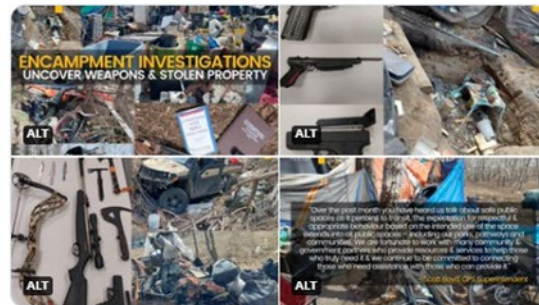
On separate occasions over the past 2 weeks, officers uncovered dozens of weapons & thousands of dollars' worth of stolen property at significantly entrenched encampments in the city's southeast. Officers located:

- Encampment Investigation #1:
  - ◆ John Deere Gator, worth approximately \$45,000
  - ◆ John Deere Blower, worth approximately \$85,000
  - ◆ Cervelo S5 Bike
  - ◆ Airsoft handgun
  - ◆ Backpacker Airsoft handgun
  - ◆ Stoeger Airsoft rifle with scope
- Encampment Investigation #2:
  - ◆ 2 Airsoft guns
  - ◆ 1 replica Glock handgun
  - ◆ 1 rifle with scope
  - ◆ 7 knives
  - ◆ 5 throwing axes that were laying near a practice target

We are committed to creating safe public spaces by taking action to reduce crime & social disorder through focused collaborative enforcement & compassionate supports. The encampments were investigated for illegal activity & we are currently working with our partners at the Joint Encampment Team to connect those residing in them with services & issue notices of removal, allowing for alternative living arrangements to be established prior to removal of debris by city crews.

Case #: 23161552 | 23170696

[newsroom.calgary.ca/investigations...](https://newsroom.calgary.ca/investigations...)



Last edited 2:34 PM · May 1, 2023 · 44K Views

### Operation CREST - Downtown Safety Initiative – Partnership with D1 Beats and Alberta Sheriffs

The Calgary Police Service District 1 Beat Teams partnership with twelve members of the Alberta Sheriffs under Operation CREST has continued for the 12-week period between February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

The primary objective of these efforts is to deliver a coordinated highly visible police presence and direct law enforcement response to areas of community concern in the core. The deployment direction will be fluid and based on identified areas of criminality, social disorder and specific to community concerns driven by analytical support. To that end, we have engaged partners in the downtown community to inform their focus areas.

This initiative provided additional capacity aimed at addressing crime and disorder within the Core and cumulatively to the month of April, they have addressed close to two thousand calls with the majority being officer-initiated events. They have addressed 920 outstanding arrest warrants and have been responsive to numerous calls pertaining to violence and social disorder.

**Traffic Safety Highlights:**

Efforts continued throughout April to address Traffic Safety through prevention and enforcement initiatives. The Alberta Traffic Safety Calendar focus for the month of April was speeding which was promoted internally and externally.

April 2023 included two reportable fatal collisions bumping the YTD total to seven. The current count ranks higher than the five-year average which is 4.6. Three out of the seven fatal collisions in 2023 have involved vulnerable road users (pedestrian and two motorcyclists).

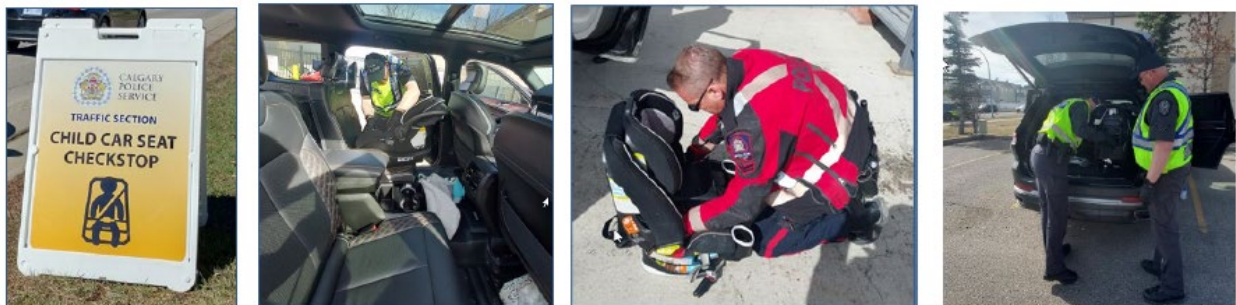
Year to date monthly traffic investigation totals (for serious-injury or fatal collisions) continues to register slightly above 2022 (20 vs. 17). April 2023 registered slightly higher than 2022 (6 vs. 4).

**Traffic Service Requests:**

In April, 160 Traffic Service Requests (TSR's) were submitted which is a 20% increase from March and a 30% increase from April 2022. Year to date, 2023 totals registers the highest volume of TSRs in recent years. Our Traffic Section addressed 157 of the requests and the other three were assigned to the related districts. The Residential Traffic Safety Unit continues to follow through and attend community association meetings, having attended ten in February with eleven scheduled for March.

TSR Count	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	119	71	74	59	123
Feb	85	93	105	88	110
March	96	66	171	122	134
April	149	141	143	121	160
<b>YTD Total</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>527</b>

This month, RTSU also re-started the Child Seat Safety Blitz (in collaboration with CRU) and conducted 131 seat checks across four locations: Saddletowne Ci NE, Shouldice Park NW, Elbow Dr & 86 Av SW, Sunvalley Bv & Sunpark Dr SE. This blitz resulted in fifty-four seats or 41% of the child restraints identified as incorrectly installed. In addition, RTSU identified two car seats in vehicles belonging to new Canadians that were borrowed and inadequate for the need. Both were referred to the "Gift of Safety Program" (sponsored through the Calgary Police Youth Foundation) and were approved to be provided new complimentary car seats.



**April's Traffic Safety Enforcement Focus was Speeding**

In conjunction with the provincial traffic safety enforcement calendar, April's focus was speeding. As such, Traffic Section has been working with Patrol Districts to focus on education and enforcement as it pertains to speeding with the key message being that speeding increases the risk of a collision occurring and the higher the speed, the more severe that collision will be. When

road and weather conditions are unfavourable, drivers should remember to adjust their speed accordingly. Driving at a safe speed, whatever the conditions, increases the safety of everyone on the road.

**Calgary Police** @CalgaryPolice  
 On Sunday, April 9, 2023, at approximately 10:30 p.m., a Kia Soul was travelling east on Crowchild Trail near Nose Hill Drive N.W., at an excessive speed.

Our officers determined the vehicle was driving 194 km/h in an 80 km/h zone, and subsequently pulled the driver over. As a result, an 18-year-old man was arrested and charged with dangerous driving under the Criminal Code & must attend a mandatory court appearance next month.

During April, the Alberta Traffic Safety Calendar focus is on speed. Stats reveal 1 in 4 drivers involved in fatal collisions were travelling at an unsafe speed.

@ABTransComm



4:10 PM · Apr 22, 2023 · 145.8K Views

**Calgary Police** @CalgaryPolice

Over the weekend, police targeted illegal street racing that occurred in the southeast industrial area of Foothills.

Several resources from across the service, including HAWCS, the Traffic Section & patrol, were targeting drivers involved in street racing. Our officers set up roadblocks & barricades on select streets, were monitoring parking lots & traffic in the area & identified many unsafe vehicles & hazardous driving offences. Results:

- ◆ 90 tickets – including speeding, racing, driving and equipment violations
- ◆ 51 warnings – for various traffic offences
- ◆ 7 compliance direction notices – directing drivers to correct safety issues with their vehicles
- ◆ 2 outstanding warrants
- ◆ 1 Criminal Code charge of dangerous operation of a motor vehicle – for driving more than 100 km/hr over the speed limit
- ◆ 1 racing charge with a 24-hour vehicle seizure

Street racing is illegal & can have severe consequences which can include injury or death.

We continue to patrol & target areas known for street racing & ask citizens aware of street racing or other dangerous driving activities to report:

☎ 403-266-1234

🌐 Traffic Service Request: [calgary.ca/cps/traffic/tr...](https://calgary.ca/cps/traffic/tr...)



7:13 PM · May 16, 2023 · 31.1K Views

We have continued to leverage social media to emphasize the dangers associated with excessive speed as well as the consequences of these types of violations.

As we have moved into May, the concerns with street racing have risen and as a result, the CPS have responded by addressing this high-risk behaviour. In addition to following through with enforcement and an operational plan involving various areas of the Service, the CPS conducted a media availability on May 16, 2023, to raise the awareness of the risks and consequences of engaging in street racing. The efforts to prevent this type of activity will continue and the Service will be monitoring and responding to these problems if/when they arise.

**Attachments (if any)**

Nil.



**Approval signatures**

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Bureau of Community Policing Analytical Unit

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**EXECUTIVE SPONSOR signature:**



2023.05.23

Chad Tawfik, Deputy Chief Date

Bureau of Community Policing

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**CHIEF OF POLICE signature:**

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Mark Neufeld, Chief of Police Date

Office of the Chief

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