



# REPORT TO CALGARY POLICE COMMISSION



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

### Date

2023.06.16

### 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 May, there was an 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-prowlings.
- Shootings to Monday, June 5, 2023, (44) are continuing to trend below 2022 numbers (62) demonstrating a 33% decrease year-over-year.
- Disorder continued to trend down year-to-date as compared to the five-year average however was higher in May 2023, than 2022.
- The CPS continues to focus on 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. Operation CREST involving CPS with the Provincial Sheriffs concluded on May 31, 2023, and an evaluation is being conducted.

- Traffic enforcement has continued in accordance with the Provincial Traffic Safety Calendar. To the end of May, there have been seven traffic fatalities which is close to the five-year average (six). Concerted efforts have been placed on addressing traffic safety concerns including 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 May 2023 based on the 5-year average (Citywide)

#### Month of May 2023 only:

Citywide	May 2023	Non-Domestic Violence	Domestic Violence	Domestic Reporting	Residential B&E	Commercial B&E	Vehicle Theft	Carprowing	Disorder
	DIFF AVG (%)	22%	-22%	12%	-32%	-34%	-7%	-30%	-5%
	Significance	↗	↘	↗	↘	↘	→	↘	↘
	DIFF AVG (N)	130	-84	177	-103	-126	-29	-317	-436

#### 2023 YTD:

Citywide	YTD	Non-Domestic Violence	Domestic Violence	Domestic Reporting	Residential B&E	Commercial B&E	Vehicle Theft	Carprowing	Disorder
	DIFF AVG (%)	15%	-16%	5%	-32%	-25%	-16%	-14%	-5%
	Significance	↗	↘	↗	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘
	DIFF AVG (N)	408	-281	386	-486	-483	-302	-535	-1737

**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 continued to see an uptick in May (N=706, 5 yr. avg=576). Assaults saw a notable increase while other violence had a mild decrease. Personal robberies saw an increase as well.
- For the month of May, commercial robberies continue to be down as compared to 2022 (-45%) and the five-year average (-20.4%).
- In May, the citywide number of reported domestic violence incidents was neutral compared to the average. The year-to-date domestic violence incidents was 16% lower than the five-year average. The 289 domestic violence incidents in May was the lowest volume recorded in May in the past five years. Domestic reporting on the other hand, experienced a mild increase when compared to the five-year average (1,715 vs. 1,538) 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 Monday, June 5, 2023, there have been 44 shooting incidents that have occurred in Calgary. This is a 29% decrease as compared to the same date in 2022 (62). For May specifically, we had eight shooting events which was one more than 2022 (7). The service continues to investigate these shootings seeking to hold the offenders accountable. In May 2023, the CPS issued nine media releases related to gun violence in Calgary. This included five for investigative purposes and four sharing the successes of seized firearms/charges laid. Many of these are also posted on our Twitter account highlighting gun related seizures and charges - [@YYCseized](#).
- The five-year average for Break and Enters is 692. In May 2023, there were 463 recorded which is down 33% from average and 9% from the previous month. The 223 residential break and enters was the lowest volume recorded in May in the past five years. The 240 Commercial break and enter incidents were also 34% lower than the five-year average for May (Avg=366, 2022=365).
- There were 1,097 reported incidents of vehicle crime recorded in May, a notable decrease of 24% from the five-year average (1,097 vs. 1,443). The year-to-date vehicle crime related incidents also showed a noticeable decrease (16%) compared to the previous five-year average. The 1,097 total vehicle related crimes consisted of 373 vehicle thefts and 724 car prowlings. Car prowling related incidents for May decreased by 30% compared to the previous five-year average and 33% decrease compared to May 2022. Vehicle theft-related incidents decreased by 7% compared to the previous five-year average and 21% decrease compared to May of 2022.
- There were 436 fewer reported disorder incidents in May in comparison to the average (8,551 vs. 8,987) however this number is 206 incidents higher than May 2023. Slight reductions of both social and physical disorder were noted this month. Unwanted guests and disturbances saw the largest increases from average while suspicious persons, suspicious vehicles and noise complaints saw the most noteworthy declines. Year to date, the volume of reported calls is notably below average (36268 vs. 38005).

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

**Safe Public Spaces Action Plan**

Through the month of May, the CPS has continued to work with partners to implement 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. Efforts in Phase I of the action plan have focused on Transit Safety and since January 2023, CPS members have initiated 8,122 on-view calls for service and attended 5,525 calls for service. As well, we continue to work with Calgary Transit in supporting public safety initiatives. Information on these activities have continued to be communicated through the City of Calgary website through their Transit Safety Snapshots: <https://www.calgary.ca/safety/transit-safety.html?redirect=/transitsafety> .



The CPS has furthered the efforts to address safe public spaces by addressing encampments that have continued to be a concern for residents and businesses in a variety of the districts.

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

The Calgary Police Service District 1 Beat Teams partnership with twelve members of the Alberta Sheriffs under Operation CREST was completed on May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023. As the CPS committed at the outset, evaluation of the effectiveness of this deployment is now underway which will include both a quantitative and qualitative analysis. To that end, surveys are planned for the business partners in the Core as well as the members both with the Sheriffs and the CPS who were involved. We seek to identify lessons learned and opportunities from this unique deployment.

To the end of May, the CREST members responded to 2,594 calls for service (a large proportion which were officer-generated), cleared over 2,500 arrest warrants, issued close to 800 summonses, and laid 157 fresh criminal charges. In addition, they made numerous referrals to social support agencies for those in need.

**Online Marketplace Theft Series**

Between April 23 and May 29, 15 personal robberies and thefts occurred across the city after multiple sellers posted iPhones for sale online. The cross-district investigation resulted in three individuals being charged and held accountable for these crimes. The service also provided a link to safety tips for those engaging in buy-sell transactions. <https://www.calgary.ca/cps/public-services/buy-and-sell-zones.html>



## Break and Enter Series Arrest

In line with the previous data on reductions in residential and commercial break and enters, the Service continues to focus on this crime as a key concern for Calgarians. To this end, through some excellent collaborative work across districts, members were able to charge a Calgary man in relation not several commercial break and enters that occurred throughout Southeast Calgary. Between June 9th and June 13th, officers investigated 15 break and enters that occurred in the communities of Willow Park, Acadia, and Fairview. After examining CCTV footage and witness statements, investigators were able to identify the suspect, who is known to police. He was arrested and faces 19 charges for various break and enter and property related offences. Timely intervention on these types of offenders makes a significant impact in preventing further offending and victimization.

## Traffic Safety Highlights:

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

May observed no reportable fatal collisions keeping the YTD totals unchanged from last month (7). As compared to prior years, the totals rank on par with the five-year average for this time period (Avg=6). Three out of the seven fatal collisions in 2023 have involved vulnerable road users (pedestrian and two motorcyclists).

For May of 2023, the monthly traffic investigation totals (for serious-injury or fatal collisions) were 38% below the five-year average for May however our YTD totals are still higher than recent years.

## Traffic Service Requests:

In May, 216 Traffic Service Requests (TSR's) were submitted which is a 35% increase from April and a 20% increase from May 2022. Year to date, 2023 requests are 30% higher. Our Traffic Section addressed 214 of the requests and the other two were assigned to the related districts. May was a busy month with concerns submitted regarding speed, U-turns, and crosswalk issues. Street racing and noise concerns were elevated in the first half of the month and returned to average levels for the last two weeks. This may have reduced partly due to the focused attention of Traffic and the Districts to address street racing. To the end of May, this effort has resulted in 153 summonses and 112 warnings were issued as well as criminal code charges for dangerous driving.

TSR Count	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Q1	300	230	350	269	367
April	149	141	143	121	160
May	167	191	161	180	216
YTD Total	616	562	654	570	743

## June's Traffic Safety Enforcement Focus is Commercial Vehicle Safety

In conjunction with the provincial traffic safety enforcement calendar, law enforcement agencies are focusing on the safety associated with commercial vehicles. As such, Traffic Section has been working with partner agencies to focus on education and enforcement as it pertains to the maintenance and operation of commercial vehicles. A media availability was held on Wednesday, June 7, 2023, about the commercial vehicle safety check stops and planned enforcement.

Although this work happens year-round, this month additional focus was put to raising awareness about the most common issues that commercial vehicle inspectors find while conducting their inspections. The importance of this focus is very apparent based on the information provided by Alberta Transportation:

- In 2020, truck-tractors made up 1.9 per cent of the total vehicles involved in casualty collisions, but 10.2 per cent of the vehicles in fatal collisions.
- 57.3 per cent of drivers of other vehicles involved in fatal collisions with truck tractors and 40.0 per cent in injury collisions committed a driving error. The most common errors of these drivers were following too closely, violating a stop sign, or being left of centre (2016 - 2020).
- The most common driving errors on the part of the truck tractor driver in casualty collisions were running off the road and following too closely (2016 -2020).
- Truck-tractor drivers are more likely than other drivers in casualty collisions to be fatigued or asleep at the time of the collision (2016 - 2020).

### Attachments (if any)

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Nil.

### Approval signatures

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#### CONTRIBUTING AUTHOR

signature:

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2023.06.16

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