



Cambridge Police Department BridgeStat

March, 2011



Cambridge Part I Crimes

CRIME INDEX: MARCH - 2011



Part I Stats: Violent Crime

Crime	January 1 – March 27				4 Week Snapshot		
	2010	Avg	YTD	Change	1/31-2/27	2/28-3/27	Change
Murder	0	0	1	N/A	0	1	N/A
Rape	5	6	7	17%	1	1	0%
Robbery	26	34	21	-38%	11	7	-36%
-Commercial Robbery	2	6	1	-83%	1	0	-100%
-Street Robbery	24	28	20	-29%	10	7	-30%
Aggravated Assault	48	51	49	-4%	19	15	-21%



Part I Stats: Property Crime

Cambridge Police Bridgestat

Crime	January 1 – March 27				4 Week Snapshot		
	2010	Avg	YTD	Change	1/31-2/27	2/28-3/27	Change
Burglary	67	103	95	-8%	22	30	36%
-Housebreaks	56	83	74	-11%	18	25	39%
-Commercial Breaks	11	20	21	5%	4	5	25%
Larceny	481	526	403	-23%	119	151	27%
-Larceny from Building	77	88	93	6%	32	34	6%
-Larceny from MV	148	190	91	-52%	22	32	45%
-Larceny from Person	92	78	53	-32%	21	21	0%
-Larceny from Residence	38	36	47	31%	17	10	-41%
-Larceny of Bicycle	24	16	18	13%	3	12	300%
-Shoplifting	89	95	73	-23%	16	30	88%
-Miscellaneous Larceny	13	20	28	40%	8	12	50%
Auto Theft	23	38	23	-39%	7	9	29%



Part I Stats: Totals

Cambridge Police Bridgestat

	January 1 – March 27			Change
	2010	5-Year Avg	2011 YTD	
Violent Crime Total	79	91	78	-14%
Property Crime Total	571	667	521	-22%
Total Part 1 Crimes	650	758	599	-21%



Crime in Cambridge: 1/1/11 to 3/27/11

- **Serious crime fell 8% when compared with the first twelve weeks of 2010, and an impressive 21% below the 5-year weighted average this same time period.** The majority of the decrease can be attributed to the overall decline in the index crime of Larceny with 78 fewer thefts recorded in 2011. The surge in property crimes over the last 4 weeks can be traced to improving weather conditions.
- Overall, there were 52 fewer **property crimes over the first quarter of 2011** to register a **9% decrease** when compared with last year. **Violent incidents** are down **1% (one less incident)** when measured with the 2010 figures. Both violent and property crime registered significant declines (-14% and -22%, respectively) when measured against the 5-year weighted average for the first twelve weeks of the year.
- The decline of **larceny from motor vehicles expanded to 52%** below the 5 –year weighted average for this target crime between 1.1.11 and 3.27.11. There were **99 fewer thefts** from vehicles over the first twelve weeks of 2011 than last year. **Larceny from persons** were also **down 32%** when compared with 2010 figures.
- The **first murder in Cambridge in over 20 months was recorded** on the night of 3.12.11. A Cambridge resident was shot to death in Cambridgeport.



MURDER

Change from 2010

N/A

Change from 5 yr Average

N/A

- At approximately 12:15AM on the night of 3.12.11, Cambridge Police responded to a double shooting that occurred in Cambridgeport. Officers located three individuals in a car, two suffering from gunshot wounds. The two victims were transported to area hospitals where one of the victims, James Lauture, 30, of Cambridge, was pronounced dead. The other victim survived. While no arrests have been made, authorities do not believe the shooting was a random incident. The investigation remains ongoing. This was the first murder recorded in Cambridge in over 20 months (Jason Ellcock – June 09).
- For only the fourth time in the last 50 years, there were no murders recorded in Cambridge in 2010. Prior years without a homicide being reported in Cambridge were 1985, 2004 and 2007.
- Monday, April 4th, is the 20th anniversary of the unsolved murder of Mary Joe Frug.





RAPE

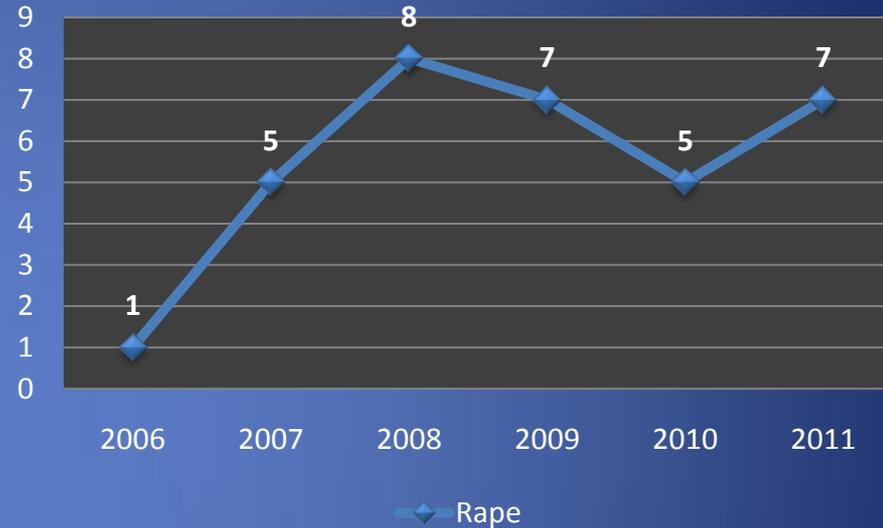
Change from 2010

40%

Change from 5 yr Average

-38%

- There have been 7 sexual assaults reported between 1.1.11 and 3.27.11. Four of these incidents (including the most recent incident reported on 3.1.11) occurred prior to this year. One is a past incident from the mid 1990s.
- There have been no stranger to stranger rapes registered in 2011. Six of the incidents involved acquaintances, the other was a domestic situation.
- Recent increases in the reporting of rapes over the past three years in Cambridge can partly be attributed to a surge in domestic and acquaintance incidents where a minor has been involved. That trend continues over the first three months of 2011.





RAPE

- The increases in the reporting of rapes over the past 3 years can partly be attributed to a surge in domestic and acquaintance incidents where a minor has been involved. The FBI reports that the rate for forcible rapes on the National level was estimated at 59.1 offenses per 100,000 female inhabitants.
- The Cambridge Police Department cautions that a significant portion of rapes go unrecorded, making the validity of statistics uncertain.
- The Cambridge Police Department takes reports of rapes very seriously and encourages all victims to report these crimes to police by calling **9-1-1** or speaking with investigators at **617-349-3370** or by e-mail at Lclarke@CambridgePolice.org.



Rape

What can we do?

Police Response Strategy:

- When stranger to stranger rapes occur, CPD will send out alerts to affected neighborhoods via our Citizen Observer Service.
 - People can sign up to receive alerts via email and/or text message
- **The Boston Area Rape Crisis Center is available at (617) 492-8306.**
 - The Rape Crisis Center supports a 24-hour hotline, support groups, one-on-one counseling, and community education programs. All its services are free.
- **The Cambridge Police Department offers a *Rape Aggression Defense (R.A.D.)* course** for women seeking to learn how to physically protect themselves against rape and other forms of violence.
 - The course is free and is taught by a certified R.A.D. instructor. For more information, call the Cambridge Police Department's Community Relations Department at **(617) 349-3236**.

Citizen Response Strategy:

- **Be aware of your surroundings when walking down the street. Walk briskly and confidently.**
- **At night, try to avoid walking alone, particularly after 9:00 p.m. Stick to main streets** with as much car and foot traffic as possible.
 - Avoid public parks, areas with excessive trees and bushes, dark streets and alleys, and other "shortcuts."
- **Keep an arm's length away from strangers.**
 - If you think someone suspicious is approaching you or following you, cross to the other side of the street and head for the nearest public place.
- **Know which stores and other public places are open along your route and try to vary your route frequently.**
- **Know the full name of each person you date,** his/her occupation, and where he/she lives.
- **Never invite a person whom you have met on the street,** in a bar, or in another public place to be alone with you.
- **If you are a victim of rape, report the crime.**
 - Counseling, shelters, and other services are available for you, and you may prevent another person from being victimized.



ROBBERY

Change from 2010

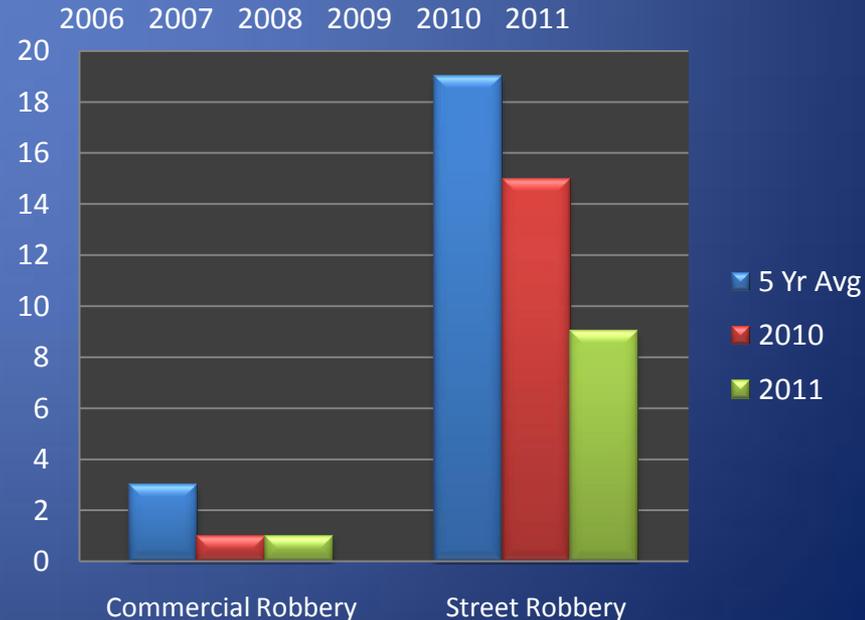
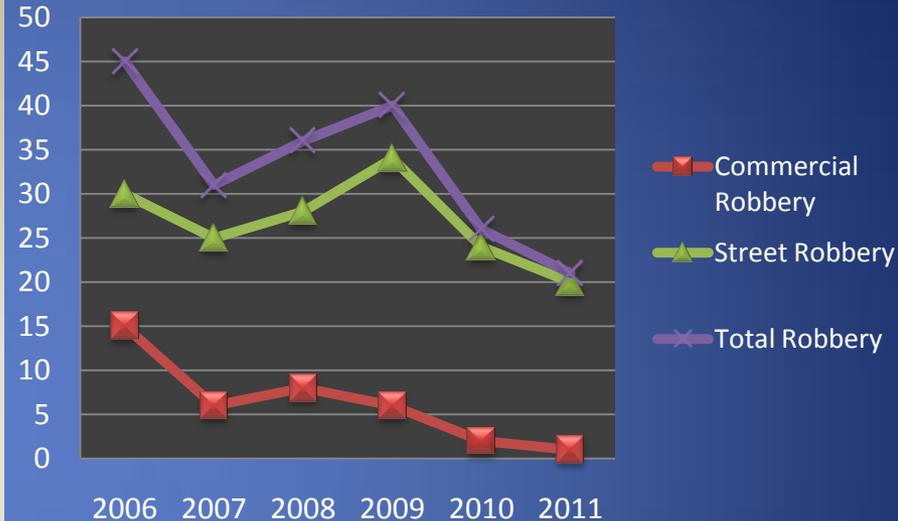
-19%

Change from 5 yr Average

-38%

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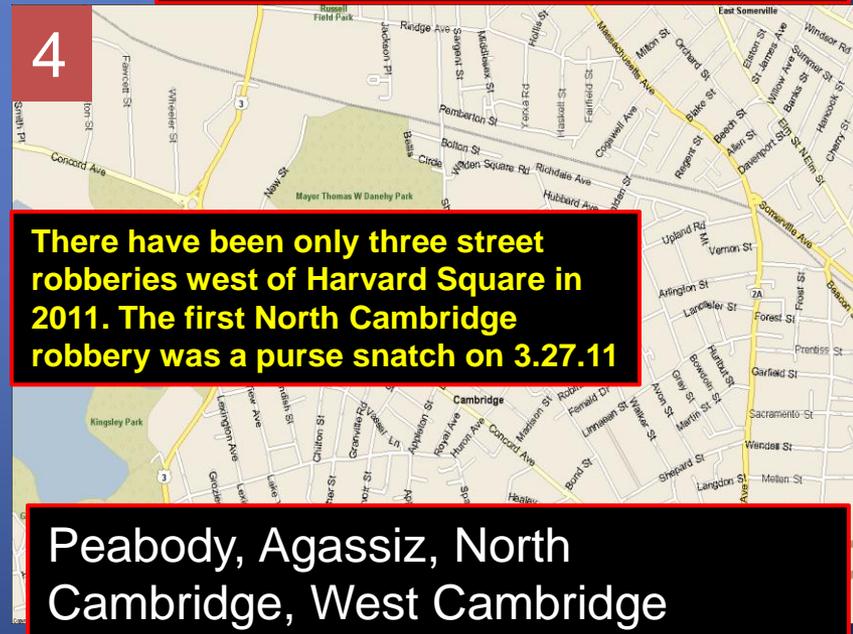
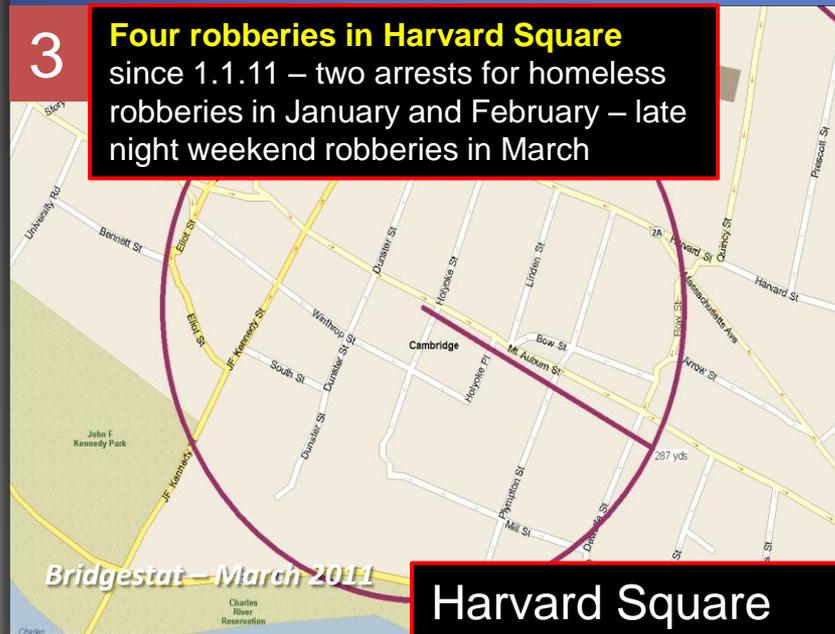
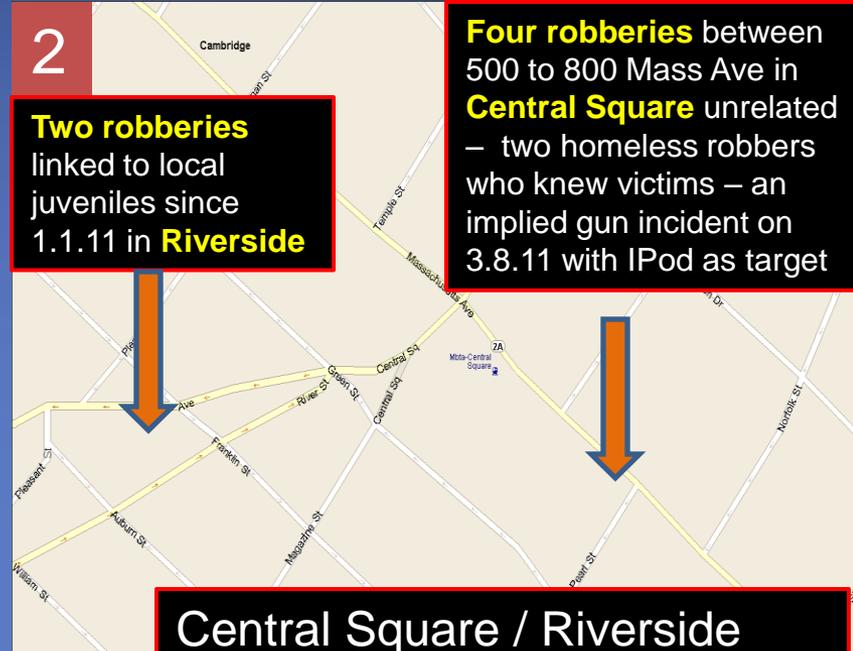
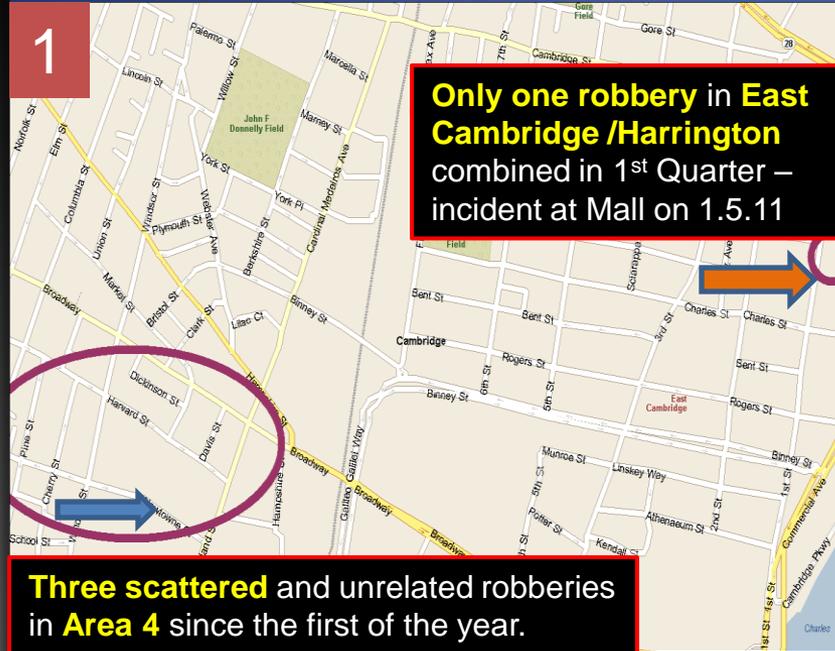
- **Total Robbery** dropped from a 5-year average of 34 incidents YTD to 21 incidents through 3.27.11, which translates to a **36% decrease**. The total of only three robberies in January was the lowest monthly total for this crime in recent memory.
- **While major commercial robbery patterns were identified in Boston and in Eastern Mass in January, there has been only one incident in Cambridge since the last week in December.**
- **Street Robbery** has recorded a **30% decline** from the 5-year average. Nine street robberies between Christmas and the middle of February, was a remarkably low number for Cambridge when placed in context with previous years.
- **There has been a slight incline since 2.15.11 with eight scattered street robberies reported. There are no identifiable street robbery patterns, series or trends at the present time.**





Street Robbery Review: 1.1.11 to 3.28.11

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AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

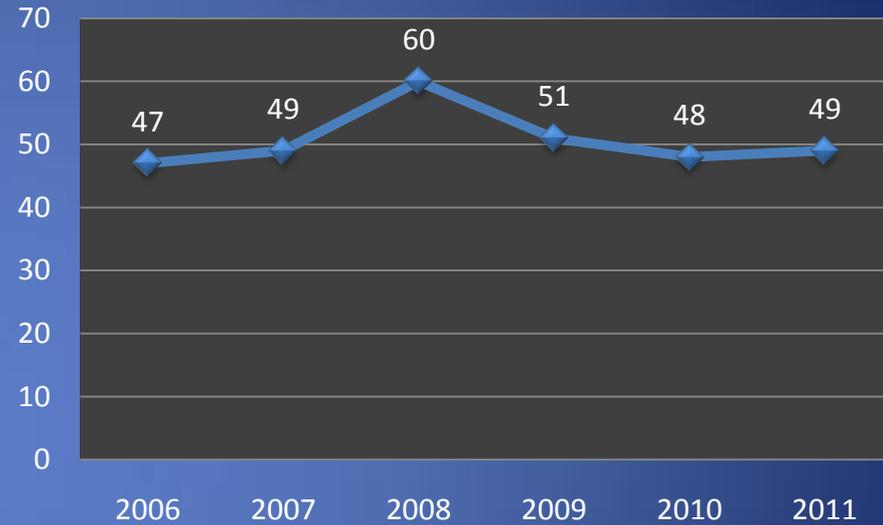
Change from 2010

2%

Change from 5 yr Average

-4%

- There has been one additional aggravated assault reported over the first twelve weeks of 2011 when compared with the same time frame in 2010. A measurement against the 5-year average for this violent crime translates to a 4% decline.
- Thirty – five percent of the assaults for the first three months of 2011 have been classified as domestic in nature. ***(this number falls within our usual parameters)***
- The two most serious Aggravated Assaults to occur in Cambridge so far in 2011 was an exchange of gunfire near Clifton and Dudley St on the night of 1/27/11 at 8:00PM. A shooting that may be related occurred on Pine Street on 2.19.11.
- There have been three stabbings and a total of eight aggravated assaults in Harvard Square in 2011. The majority of these incidents have occurred on weekend nights after the bars close. The police and license commission are working together to address this issue.





BURGLARY

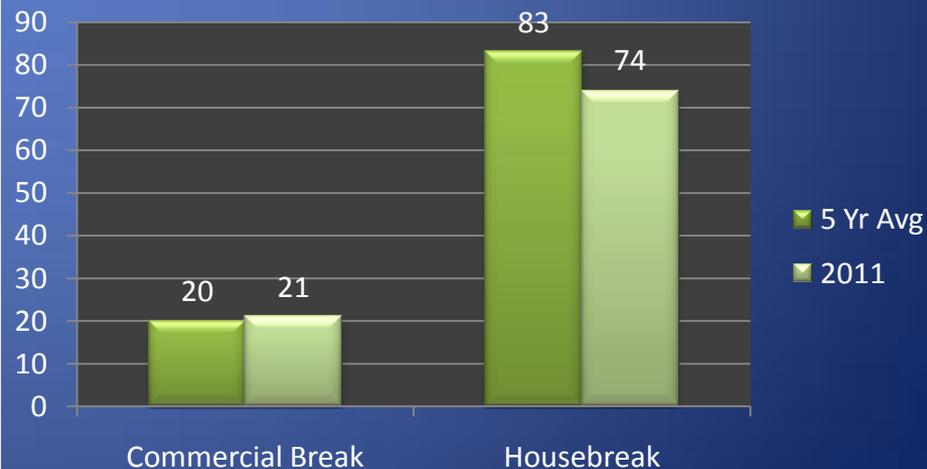
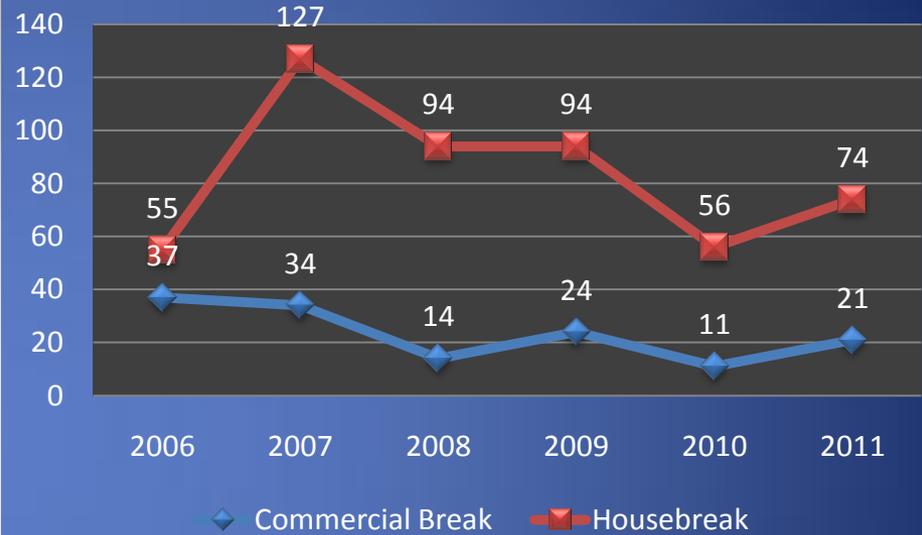
Change from 2010

42%

Change from 5 yr Average

-8%

- **Total Burglary**, the combination of residential and commercial burglary, decreased by 8 % when compared to the 5-year average.
- **Housebreaks** have recorded a significant increase from 56 incidents over the first twelve weeks of last year to 74 breaks during the same time frame for 2011. Further analysis reveals that last years total was uncharacteristically low due to the factor that all housebreak activity was confined to Somerville for the first quarter of the year.
- **Despite the fact that Commercial Breaks increased by ten incidents compared to the first twelve weeks of 2010, the incidents are sporadic and scattered geographically around the City. There are no identifiable patterns for this crime at the present time.**





Housebreaks

What can we do?

Police Response Strategy:

- We are monitoring a series of 5 late night housebreaks that span the neighborhoods of East Cambridge, Area 4, Inman /Harrington and MidCambridge.
- This series of breaks has yet to have been designated as a pattern . There are a number of matching similarities to these incidents but it is entirely possible that these events are not related and nothing but a statistical blip .
- Our initial response will be to saturate the area during the identified time frame that these crimes are occurring with both patrol and investigative units as a deterrent with the ultimate goal of apprehending these late night prowlers.

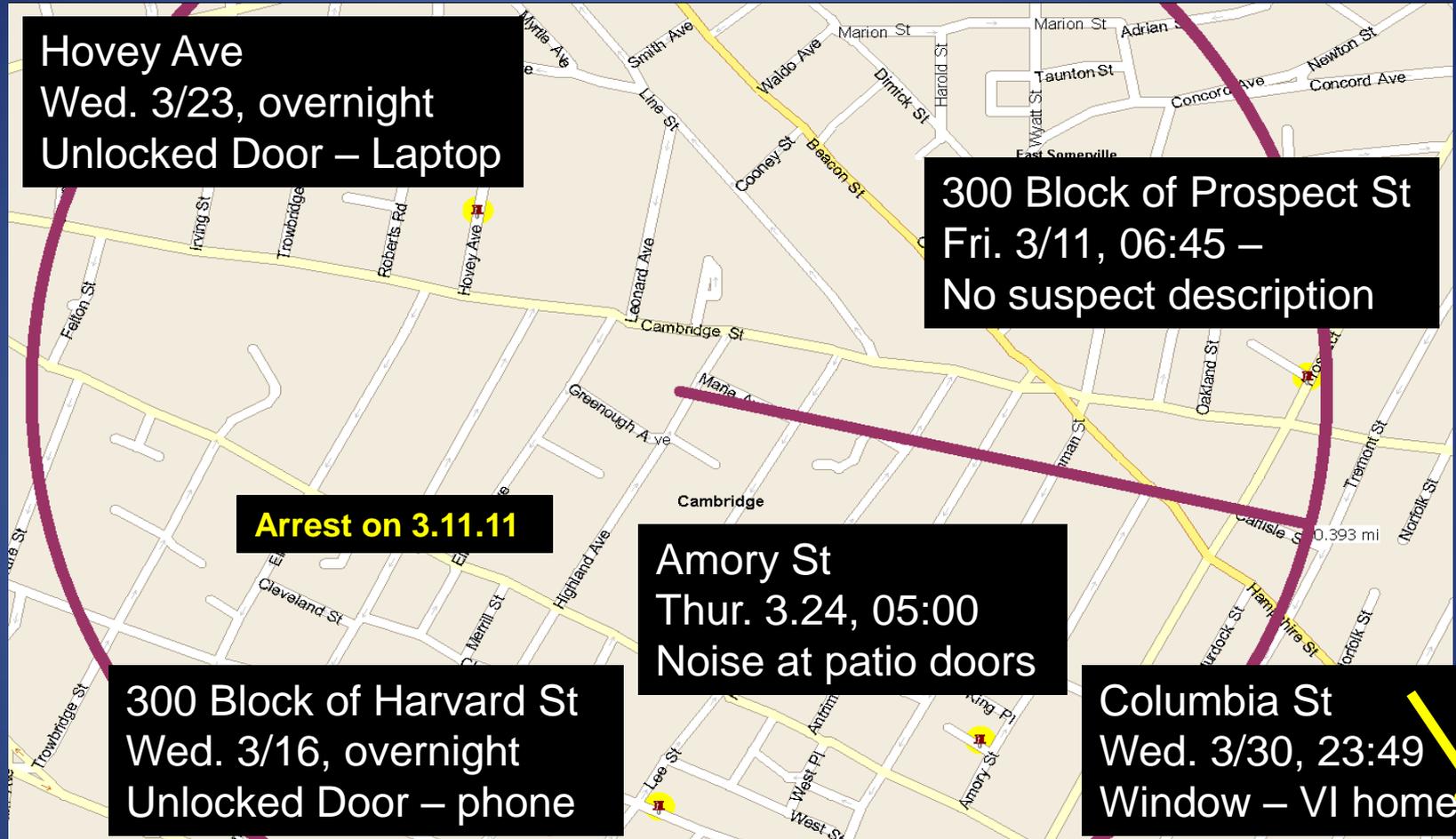
Citizen Response Strategy:

- Citizens are asked to take the following precautions to protect themselves, their homes, and their belongings from burglaries:
 - Try **“casing”** your own home,
 - ALWAYS lock your doors and windows.** Many housebreaks have occurred through open windows or unlocked doors.
 - Leave a light on** when you leave.
 - Install motion sensor lights.
 - NEVER** prop open the door or let someone in behind you
 - Be vigilant.** If you suspect suspicious activity, please report it to the police immediately by calling **617-349-3300.**
 - Document serial numbers** of all electronics and take pictures of all valuables.
 - Request a Residential Security Survey** from the Cambridge Police Department. For more info, please call **(617) 349-3236.**
- For more info on how to protect yourself from housebreaks, visit <http://bit.ly/biEdvk>



Late Night Housebreaks

Cambridge Police BridgeStat



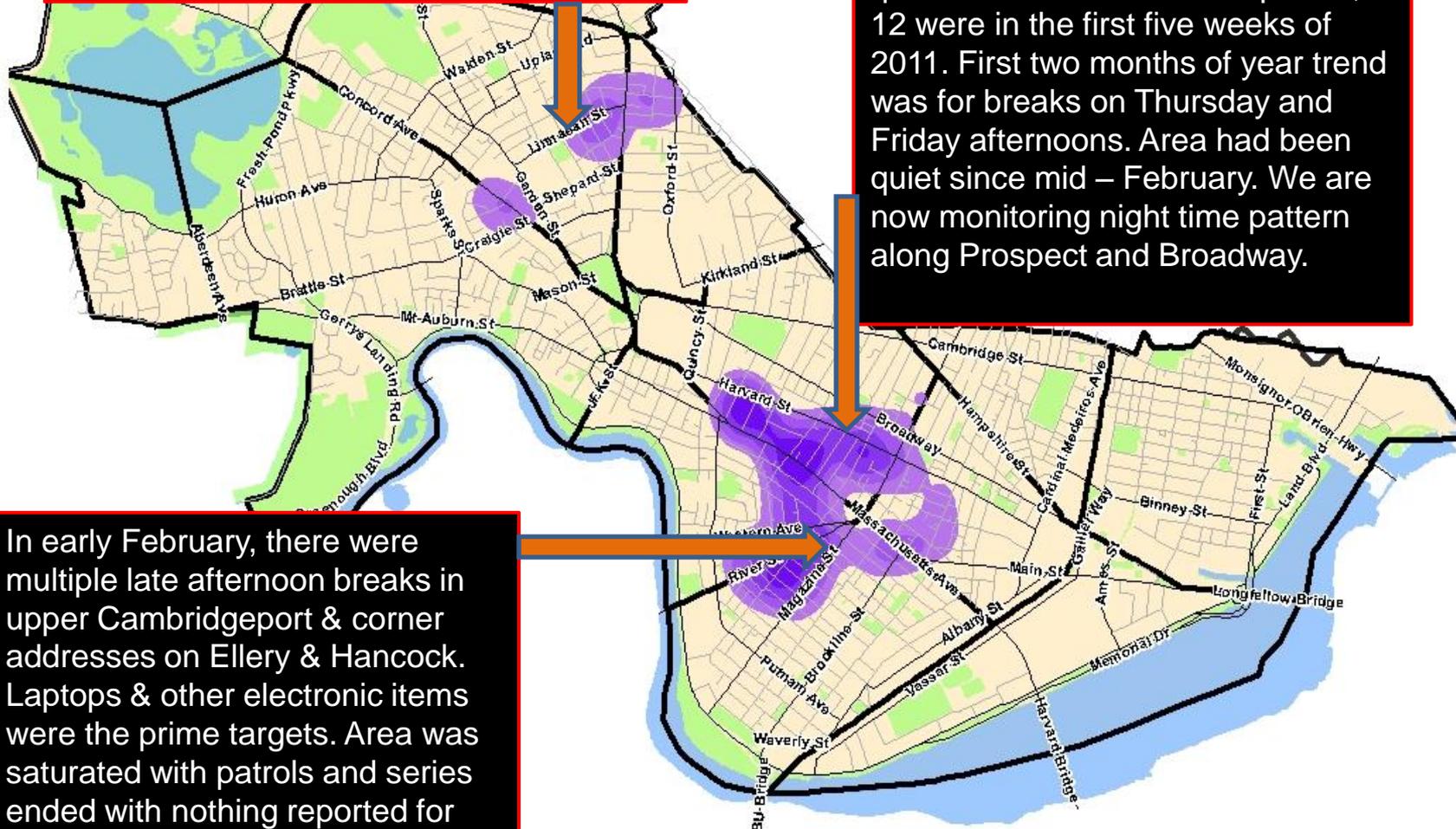
The area within the **radius of the circle above is being monitored for a possible emerging housebreak pattern occurring between midnight and 5 am.** Police made an arrest at the scene of a housebreak on Broadway on 3.11.11, but it is unknown at this time if any of these housebreaks are related. Future activity in the area will be watched.



Sporadic cluster on the border of Agassiz (5 breaks) and Peabody (8 breaks)
Majority of breaks were mid-day late week
Housebreaks with entry by prying of rear and side windows. Evidence points to arrest of habitual offender for forced entry on Hammond Street on 3.24.11 as possible conclusion to this series.

Housebreak Hotspots 1st Quarter 2011

Mid-Cambridge has been a hotspot for housebreaks during the first quarter with 18 incidents reported, 12 were in the first five weeks of 2011. First two months of year trend was for breaks on Thursday and Friday afternoons. Area had been quiet since mid – February. We are now monitoring night time pattern along Prospect and Broadway.



In early February, there were multiple late afternoon breaks in upper Cambridgeport & corner addresses on Ellery & Hancock. Laptops & other electronic items were the prime targets. Area was saturated with patrols and series ended with nothing reported for over a month.



LARCENY

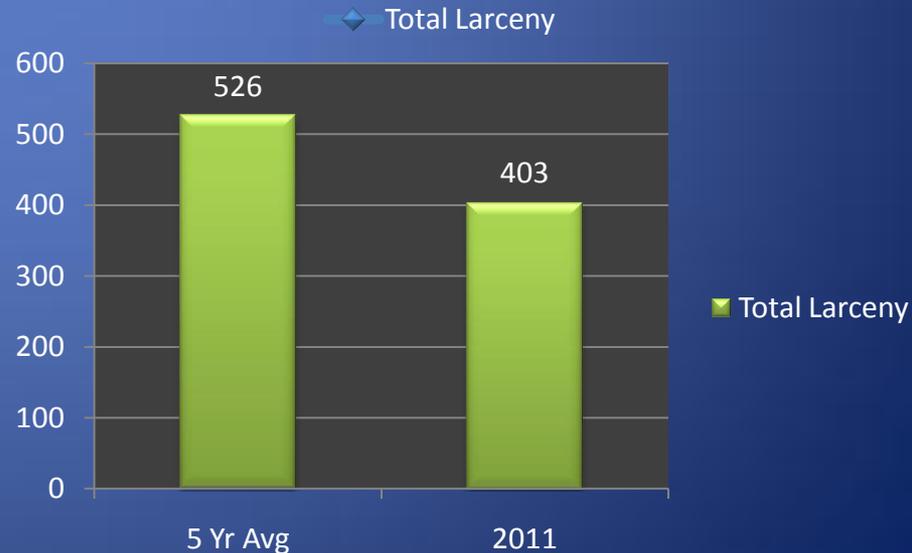
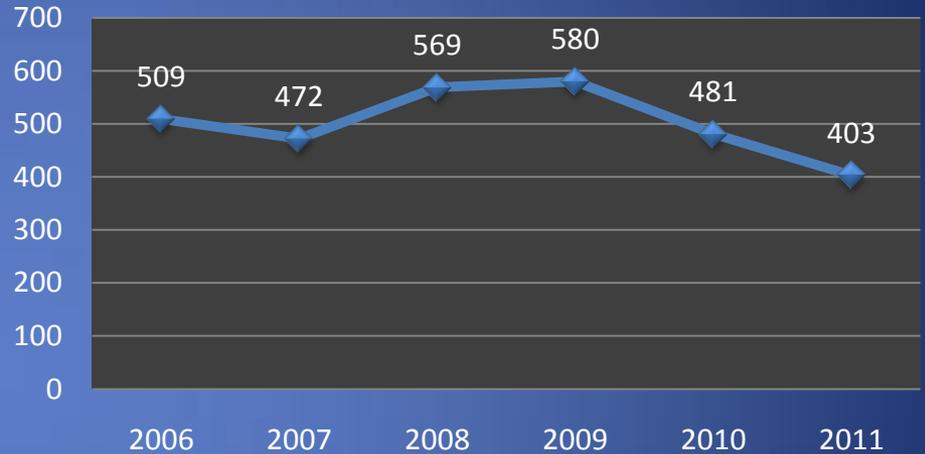
Change from 2010

-16%

Change from 5 yr Average

-23%

- Overall, larceny decreased by 16 % when compared with the first twelve weeks of 2010 and 23% when measured against the 5-year weighted average of the time frame between the first of the year and March 27th. There were over 120 fewer larcenies counted than the average for this time frame since 2006.
- The decline of larceny from motor vehicles expanded to 52% below the 5 – year weighted average for this target crime between 1.1.11 and 3.27.11. There were 99 fewer thefts from vehicles over the first twelve weeks of 2011 than last year. Larceny from persons were also down 32% when compared with 2010 figures.
- The only identifiable pattern for a larceny type at the present time is a thief who is targeting laptops in office buildings near Kendall Squares.
- The 31% increase in larceny from residence can be attributed to a rise in the theft of copper drain pipes, package deliveries, and thefts by acquaintances and house guests.





LARCENY: *from MV*

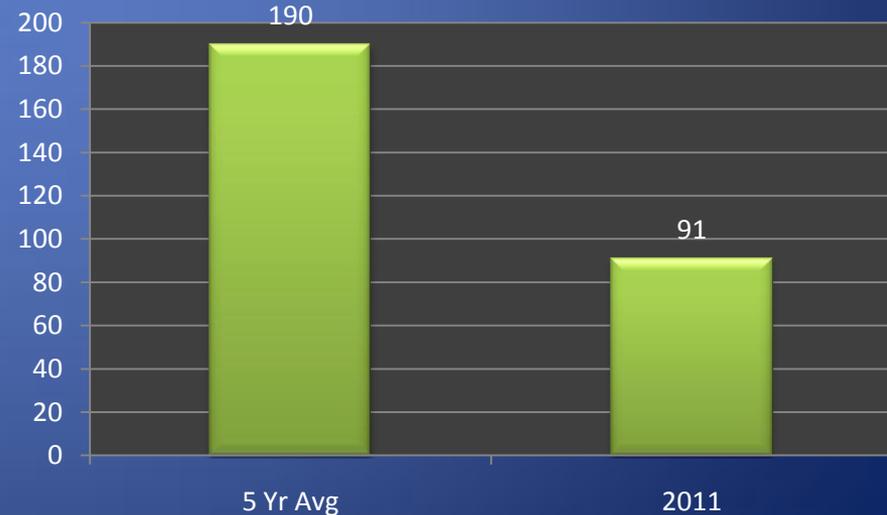
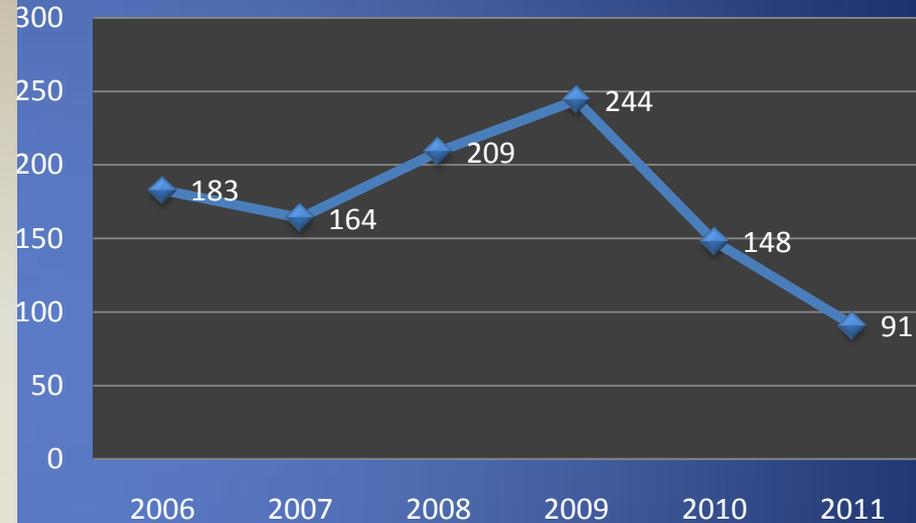
Change from 2010

-39%

Change from 5 yr Average

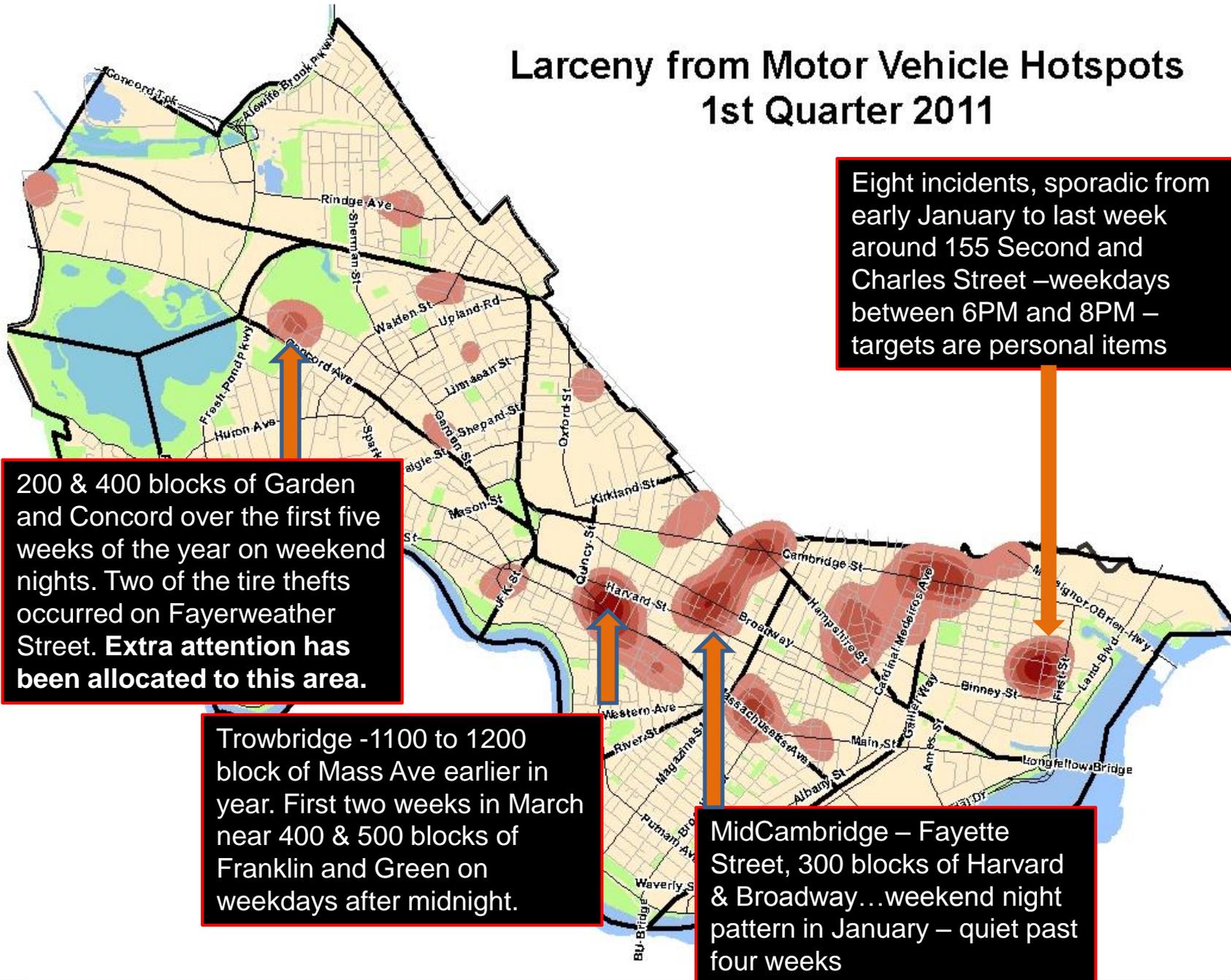
-52%

- Larceny from MVs are **down 52%** when compared with the 5-year average with over **99 fewer incidents** than the norm for this time period.
- There have been two series identified so far in 2011. #1: a series of sporadic incidents in Mid Cambridge on weekend nights in the pre-dawn hours with clusters around Dana, Broadway and Trowbridge Streets. This area is being monitored closely for further activity. #2: a set of tire thefts scattered around the city during the second week of March on weekday nights between the hours of 2AM and 4AM. New incident of 3.27.11.
- With only ten breaks recorded, the paucity of activity for this crime around the usual hot spot of Central Square, remains a pleasant surprise.





Larceny from Motor Vehicle Hotspots 1st Quarter 2011



Eight incidents, sporadic from early January to last week around 155 Second and Charles Street –weekdays between 6PM and 8PM – targets are personal items

200 & 400 blocks of Garden and Concord over the first five weeks of the year on weekend nights. Two of the tire thefts occurred on Fayerweather Street. **Extra attention has been allocated to this area.**

Trowbridge -1100 to 1200 block of Mass Ave earlier in year. First two weeks in March near 400 & 500 blocks of Franklin and Green on weekdays after midnight.

MidCambridge – Fayette Street, 300 blocks of Harvard & Broadway...weekend night pattern in January – quiet past four weeks



Six tire thefts have been reported citywide since the beginning of March, after 6 weeks without a single incident reported. Unknown if any are related at this time.

Best time frame: weekday nights, 2:00am-4:00am.

Date/Time	Location	Car Type
3/9 03:18	Homer Ave (Strawberry Hill)	Honda Accord
3/10 23:30 – 3/11 09:30	Raymond St (Peabody)	Infiniti G35
3/15 19:00 – 3/16 07:00	Washington Ave (Peabody)	Toyota Highlander
3/15 -20:00	Fayerweather (Peabody)	Lincoln
3/16 00:00–19:00	Henry St (Cambridgeport)	Mini Cooper
3/27 -overnight	Fayerweather (Peabody)	Honda Accord



LARCENY: *from Person*

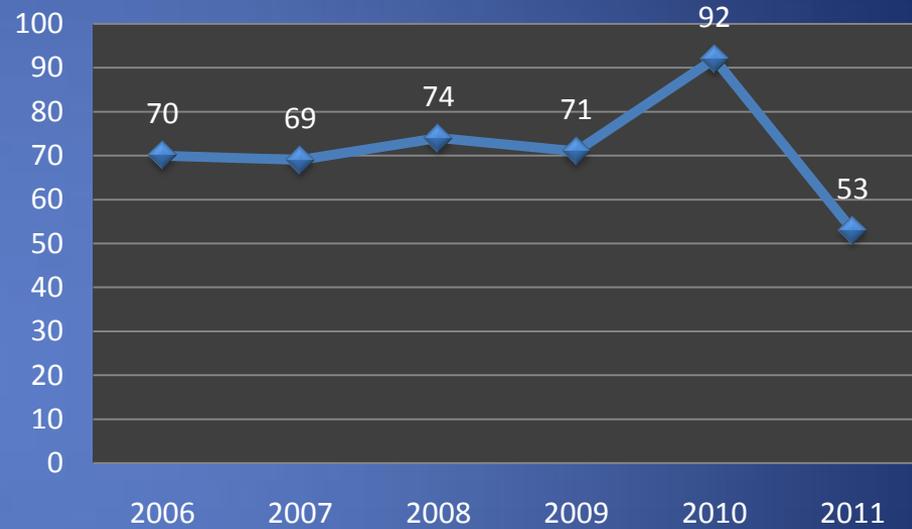
Change from 2010

-42%

Change from 5 yr Average

-32%

- Larcenies from persons increased dramatically early in the Summer of 2010 (up 17% at that time), but quieted down substantially after Compstat directed strategies to address the problem. Brief upticks were reported sporadically during the second half of the year, but no defined patterns emerged.
- So far in 2011, the results of the above mentioned selected enforcement strategies continue to be effective in combating this target crime. Larcenies from persons were down 42% from the first twelve weeks of 2010 and 32% under the 5-year average.
- **Pickpocket activity has increased since the beginning of March in Harvard Square on weekends – recent incidents have been in bars late on Saturday nights.**





AUTO THEFT

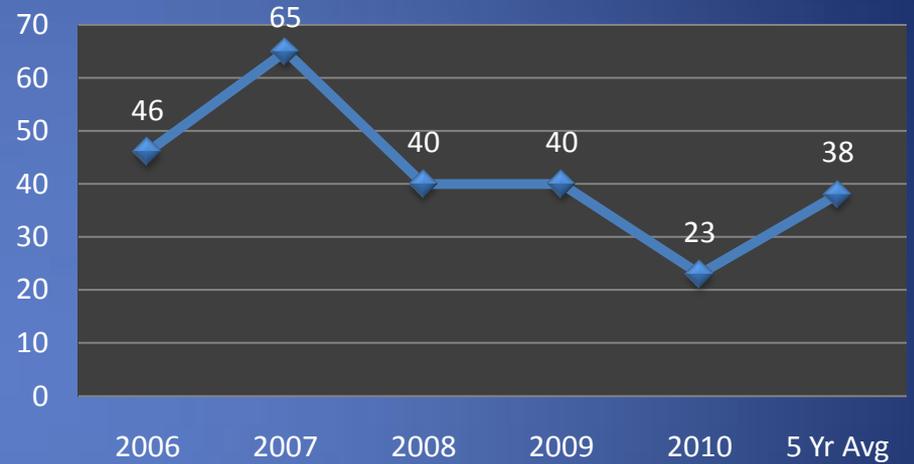
Change from 2010

0%

Change from 5 yr Average

-39%

- The five –year weighted average for auto theft for the first twelve weeks of the year is 38 incidents, there were 23 reported in Cambridge for this time period in 2011, which translates to a 39% decline.
- There are no identifiable auto theft patterns at the present time.
- There has been one car stolen in Riverside and one in Agassiz so far in 2011.
- The Auto Theft total in Cambridge in 2010 was at a 60-year nadir.





National & Regional Crime Patterns & Trends:

Cambridge Police Bridgestat

Eastern Mass.

Arrest in ATM Burglary Pattern – 2 year Series – 16 arrested



The state attorney general's office has indicted 16 people from six Massachusetts counties, including men and women from Lowell, Pepperell and Concord, alleging they were part of a conspiracy that began in 2007 to commit a number of burglaries and ATM break-ins across the state that netted more than \$340,000 in cash. There were over 30 incidents in this pattern. Major players in this crew were a group of players from Lowell and Haverhill. **Cambridge was unscathed.**

Eastern Mass.

Regional ATM Skimming Operation



Several agencies have taken reports from VIs whose ATM Debit Cards were skimmed from area bank kiosks starting in mid-February. Many of those skimmed numbers and PINs are being accessed at area bank ATMs in Downtown Boston, Cambridge, and Malden. Most photos show the WM SP wearing a gray hooded sweatshirt under a leather jacket and a pullover hat with a snowflake decoration. He is wearing sunglasses in most of the photos as well. Contact the Crime Analysis Unit with any similar incidents. **One incident took place in Cambridge.**