VANCOUVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

GEODASH CRIME MAP

User Guide

Vancouver Police Department
2015

1. Introduction

The Vancouver Police Department's GeoDASH is a crime mapping tool that provides the public access to information about crimes that were reported to VPD. By providing valuable information about crime activity in neighbourhoods, citizens can be more informed and engaged in reducing crime.

GeoDASH stands for Geographic Data Analysis and Statistics Hub.

2. Accessing GeoDASH

GeoDASH is available on the VPD website (www.vpd.ca).

No plug-in or special software is required or necessary to use GeoDASH.

GeoDASH is browser independent and will run using the latest version of any standard internet browser such as:

- Internet Explorer (IE 11 and up)
- Firefox
- Chrome
- Mozilla
- Safari

GeoDASH has also been tested to be fully compatible with the following smartphone/mobile operating systems

- Android (eg. Samsung Galaxy, Nexus, etc.)
- iOS (eg. iPhone, iPad, etc.)

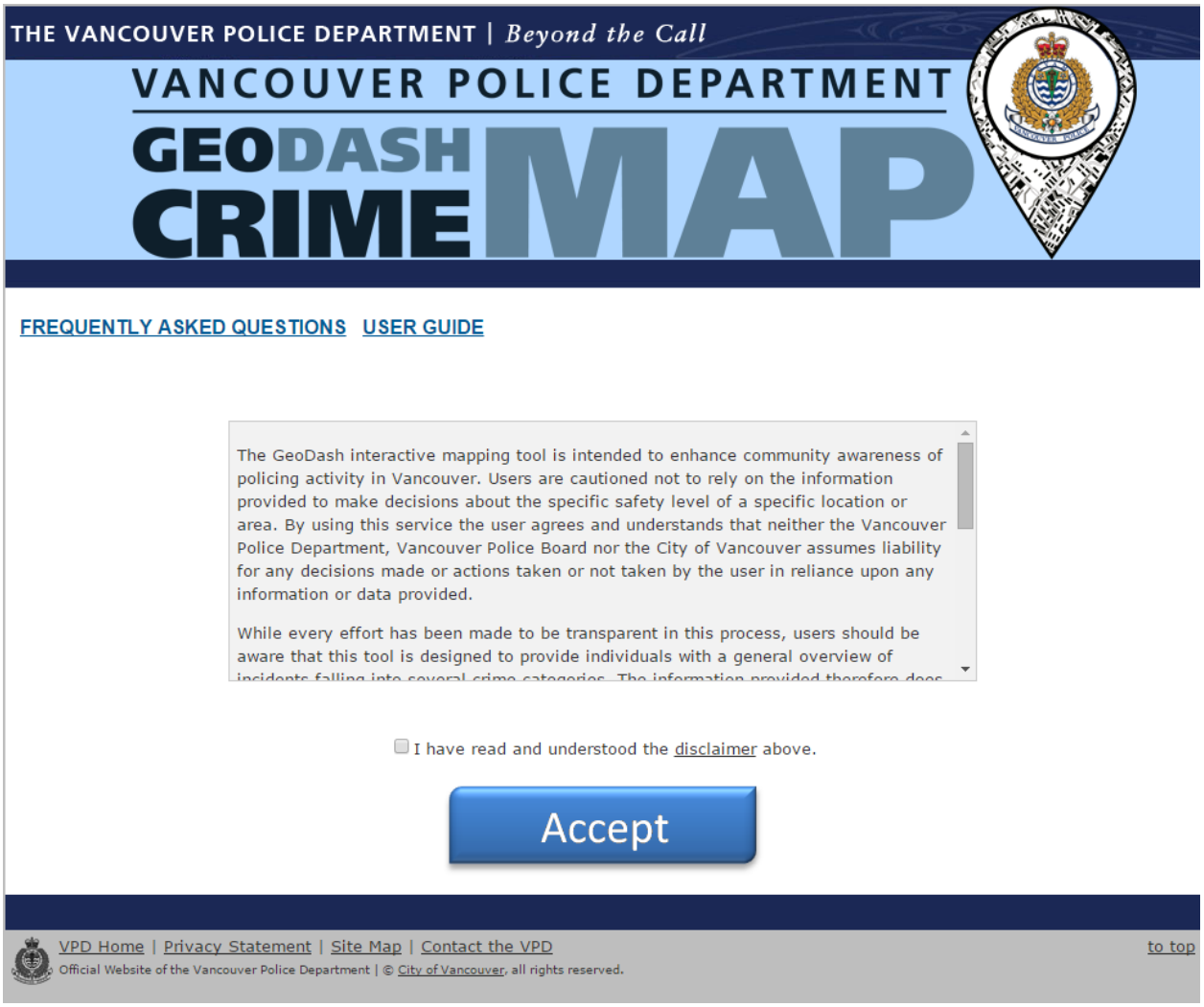
GeoDASH is not fully compatible with BlackBerry10 browser. Please download Chrome or another browser on a BlackBerry10 device to access all features.

The user must agree to accept the conditions of the disclaimer before crime data is displayed on the map.

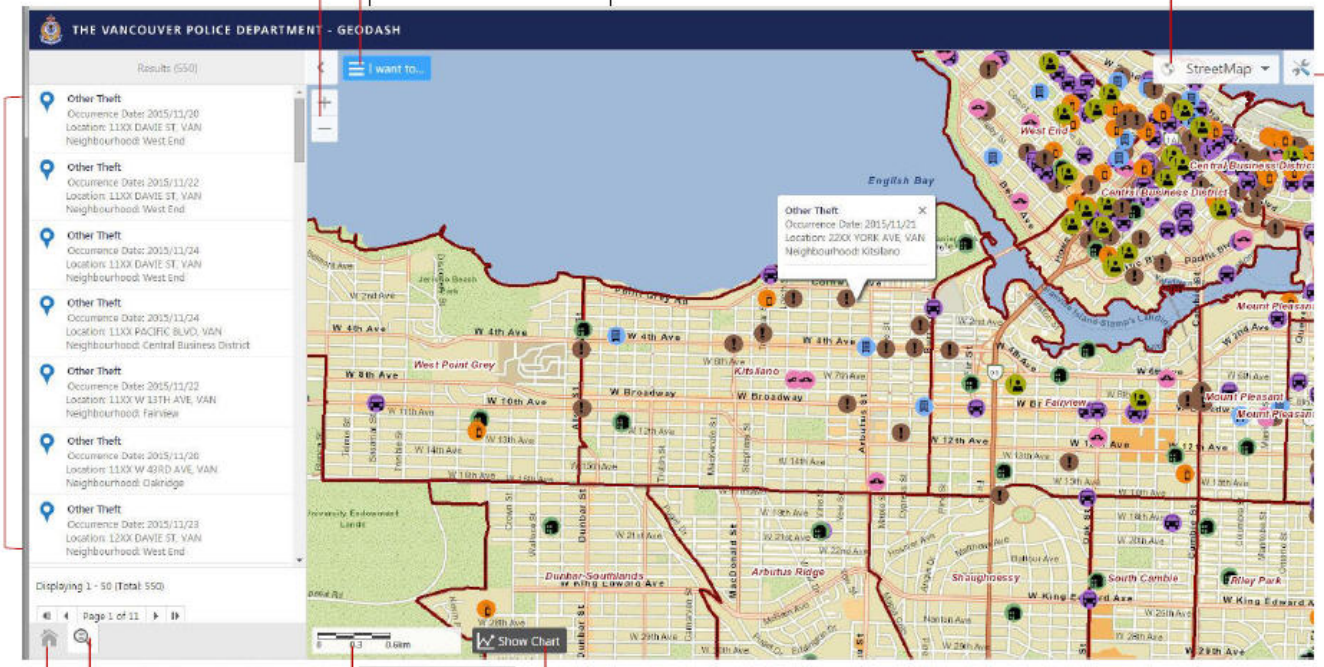
3. GeoDASH Disclaimer Page

The disclaimer page is the first page displayed on the GeoDASH website. At the bottom of the page the user must indicate that they read and understood the disclaimer. If the user checks the box then the default crime map is displayed, otherwise, they are returned to the VPD website at www.vpd.ca.

The default crime map is the map of all crimes that occurred the previous week in all the neighbourhoods.



4. Web Page Layout



Zoom
Zoom in (+) and out (-)

I want to ..
Displays the options that are available.

Street Map
Toggles between Street Map and Street Map Imagery

Tools
Displays mapping, drawing and measuring tools.

Results
Displays the result of the search .

Display Incidents
Displays details of the incident .

Scale
Shows the scale of the map.

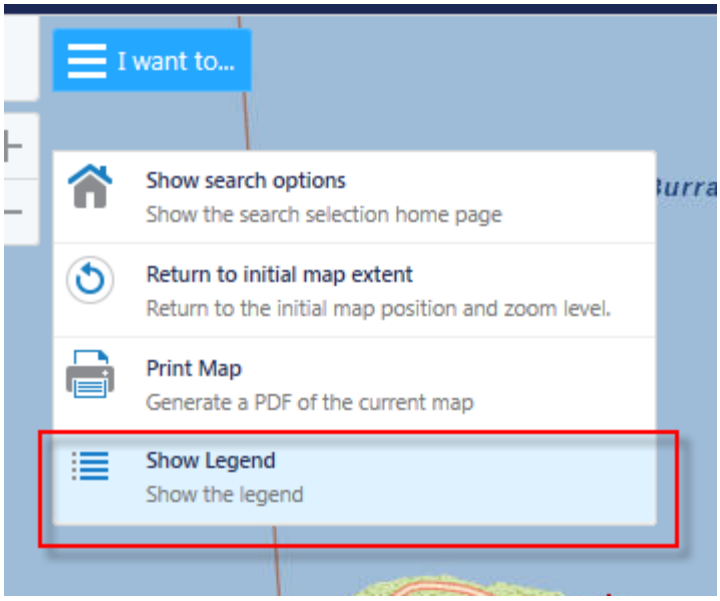
Show Chart
Displays the chart with an option to display historic trends

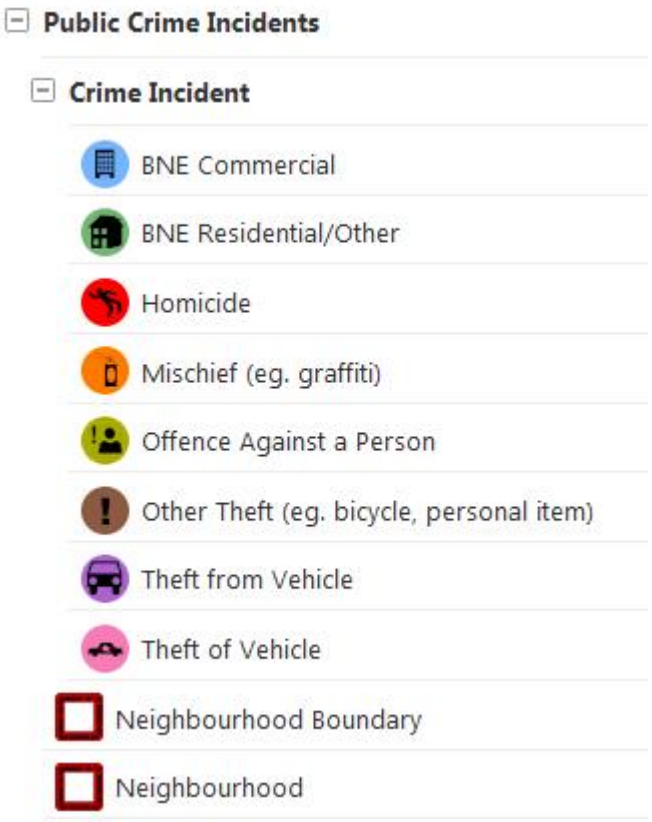
Marker
Click an incident marker to see more details about the crime.

Search for Occurrences
Displays the Search Options

5. General Symbology

GeoDASH uses different symbols on the map. To find out the meaning of these symbols, click ***Show Legend***.





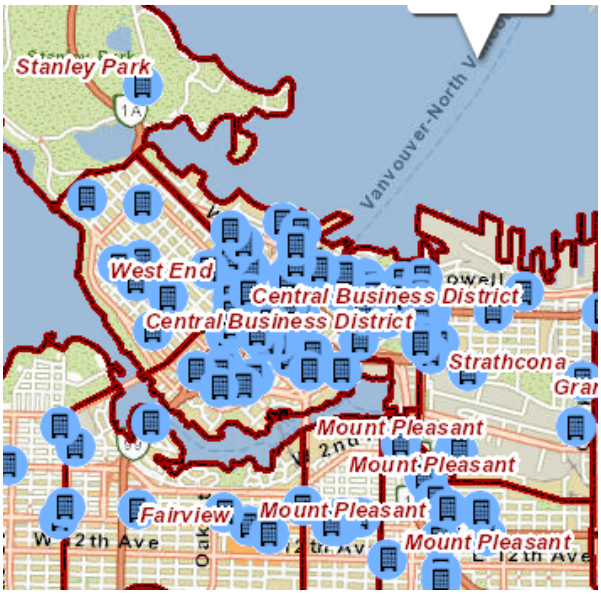
6. Map Overview

- **Zoom** in and out by clicking **+** or **-**. Or using a mouse wheel.

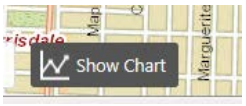
- **Scale**
  As you zoom in (+) and out (-) of the map, the scale is displayed at the bottom.

- **Views**
  In the upper right corner of the map, toggle between StreetMap and StreetMap Imagery.

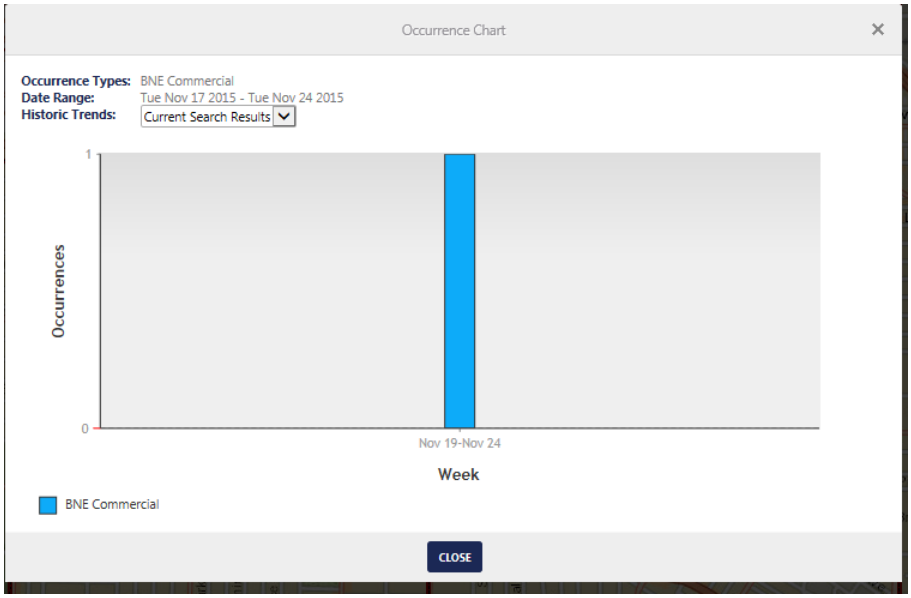
- **Clustering of Icons**
  If two crimes occur near each other, when you zoom out those incident icons will overlap at some point. When the two symbols overlap it is difficult to tell that there are two crimes in that area.

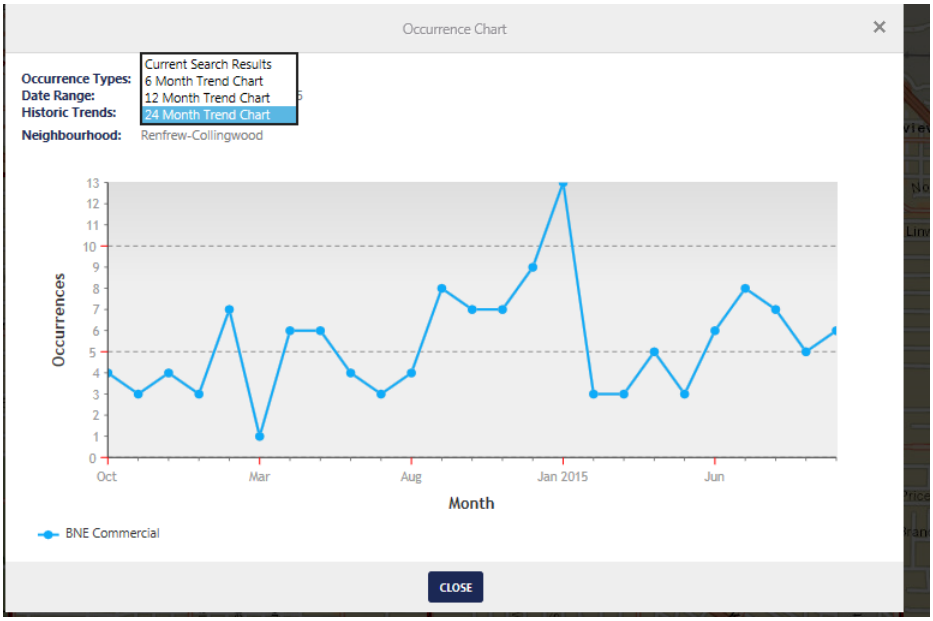


7. Chart (this feature is not available on mobile devices)

Click the *Show Chart* 

icon to display the chart for the current search result.

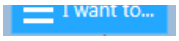




8. Search Options

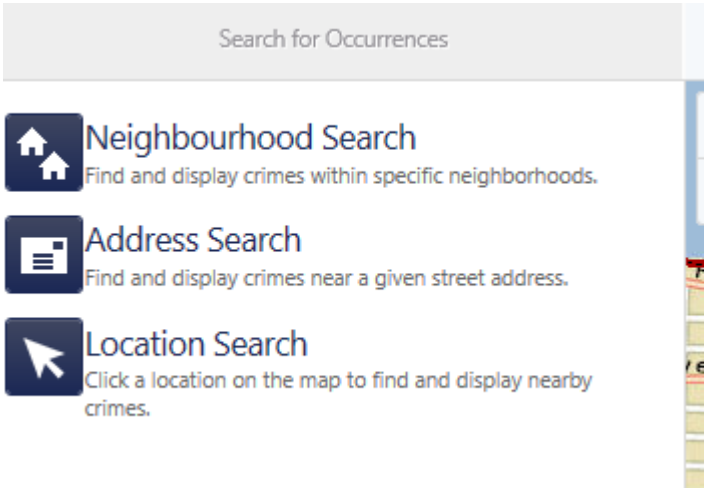
GeoDASH allows the ability to search using different options.

To start a search, you can either:

a. Click on the "I want to" button  and select *Show search options*.

b. Click the icon located at the bottom left corner of the page.

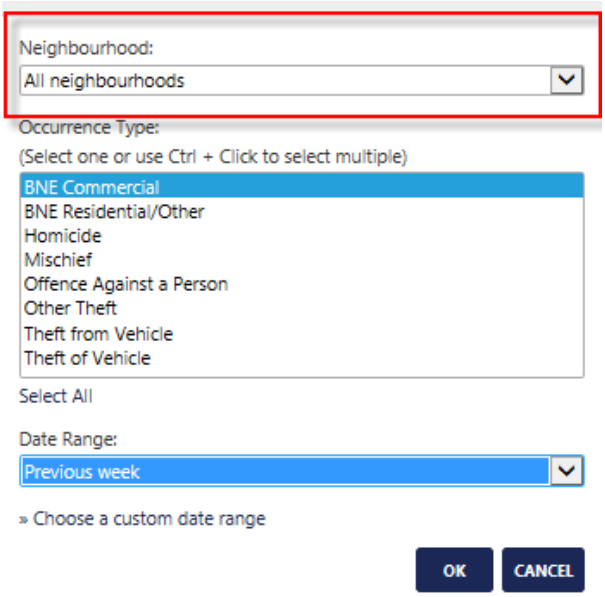
The following Search screen is displayed.



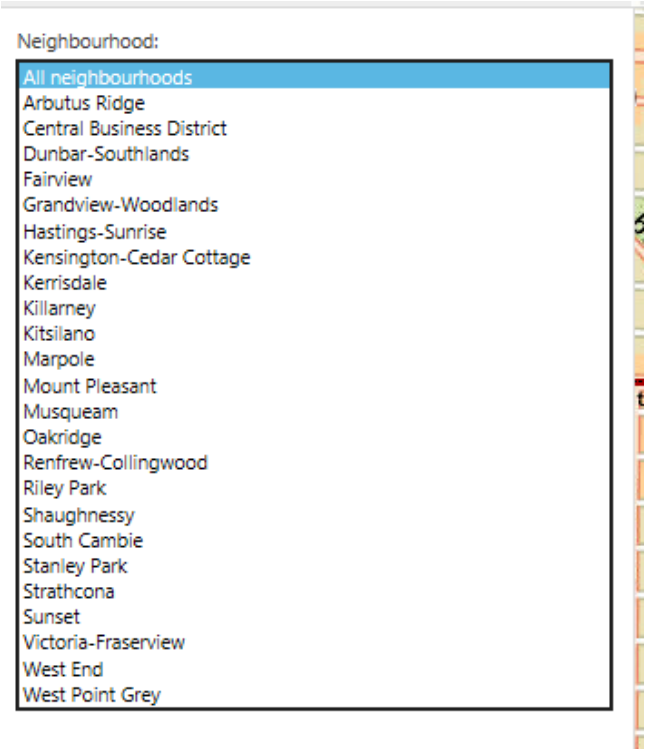
8.1. Search by Neighbourhood

To search by Neighbourhood, click *Neighbourhood Search*.

a. Default is All Neighbourhoods.



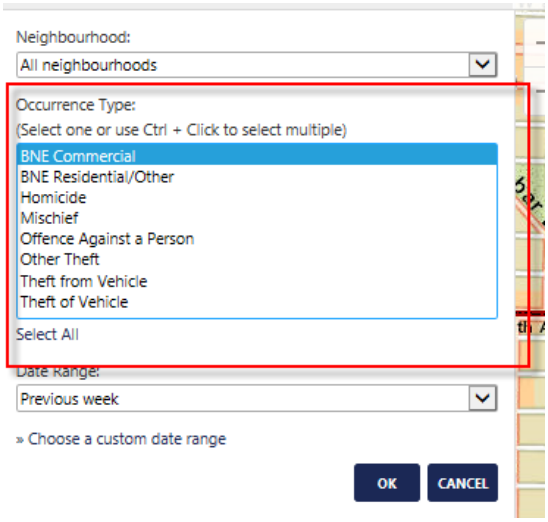
b. Select the Neighbourhood by clicking the dropdown list. Only 1 Neighbourhood can be selected at a time.



After a successful search, the map displays the crimes

8.1.a. Filter by Crime Type

GeoDASH allows the ability to narrow the search to specific crime types by selecting one or more of the categories provided. The default is “BNE Commercial”.



- To select multiple crime types, press and hold down the Ctrl key, and then click each item that you want to select.

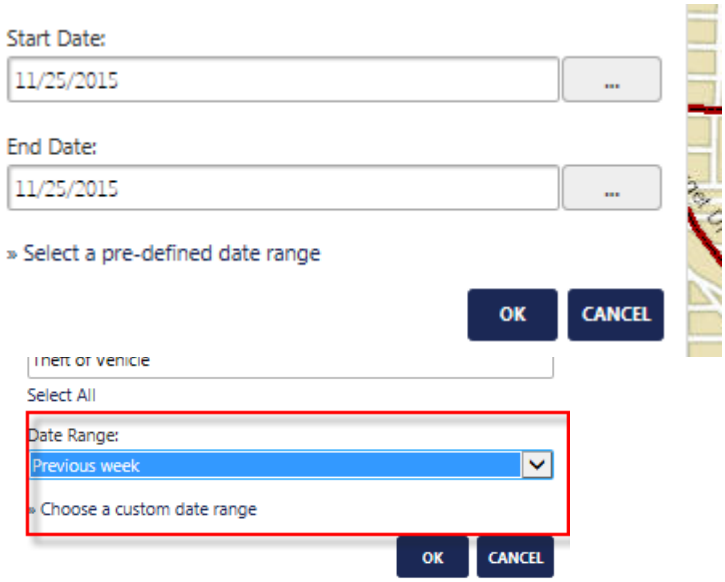
- To select all crime types, click ***Select All.***

8.1.b.Filter by Date Range.

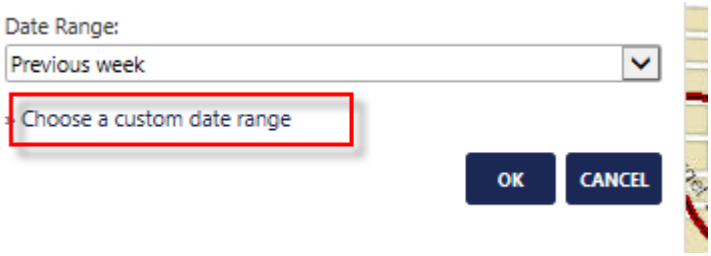
GeoDASH allows the ability to narrow the search by date range. The default is “Previous week”.

Note: Previous week also means the past 7 days. For example, if you are doing the crime map search on Dec 8th, previous week will be from Dec 2nd to 8th

- To change the date range, click on the dropdown and select another date range.

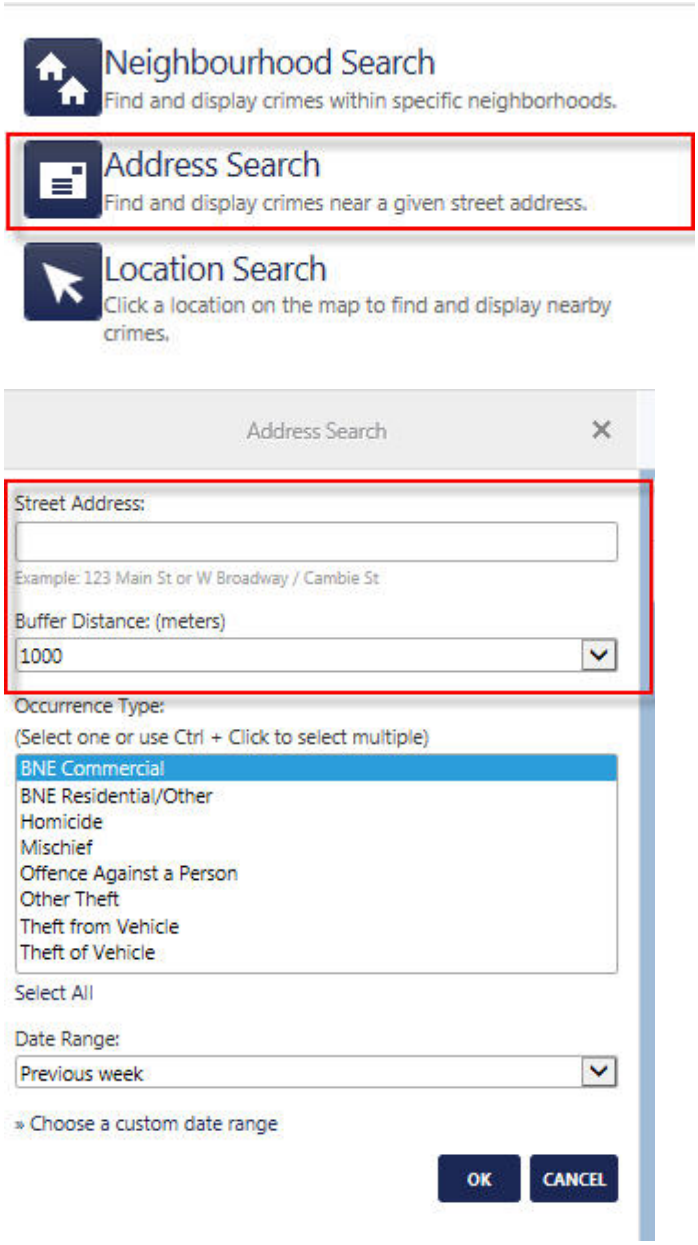


- To enter your own date range, click *Choose a custom date*.



8.2. Search by Address

To find and display crimes near a given street address, click Address Search.



- Type an address or two streets that form an intersection.
  Example: **123 Main St** or **W Broadway / Cambie St**
  Note:
  - The address search requires the street name to match the one that is on the map.
  - The address search for intersection requires the space in between the "/", otherwise it will result in “address not found”.

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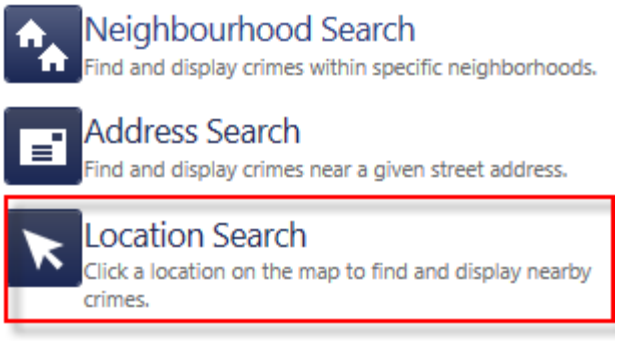
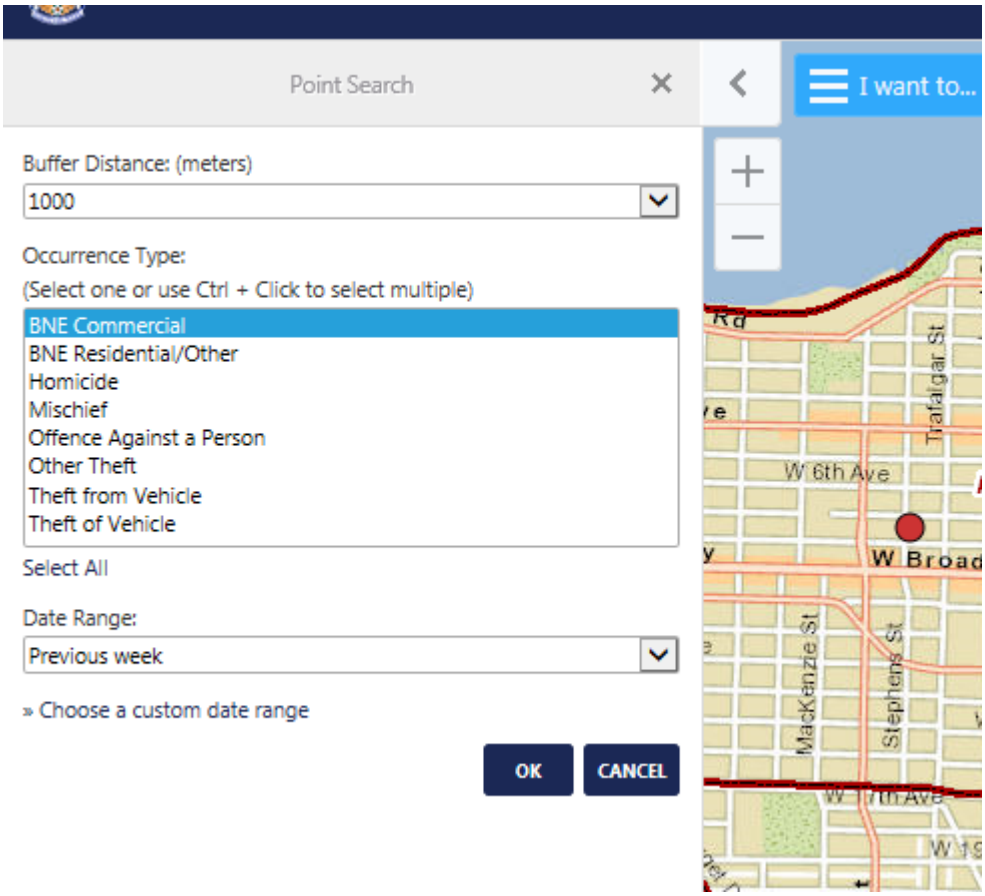
8.3. Search by Location

To find and display crimes near a location on the map.

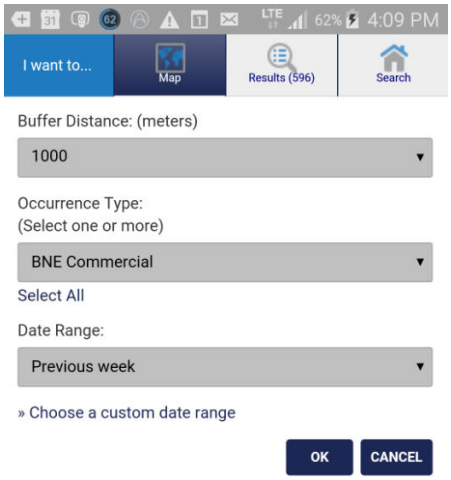


- Click a location on the map. A red dot marks the location. Select the buffer distance.



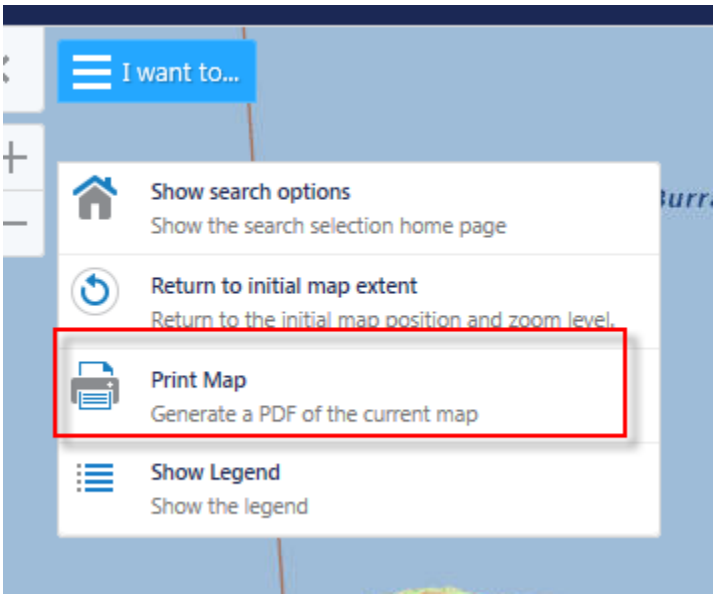
9. GPS Search (This feature is only available on mobile devices)

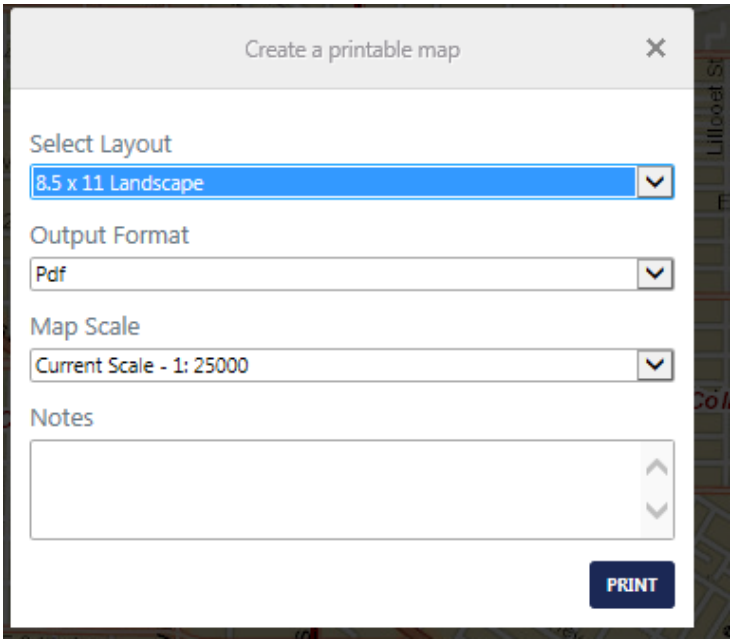
Location services on your mobile device have to be turned on in order to use this feature.



10. Print Map

GeoDASH provides the ability to print a copy of the map to pdf.




Create a printable map
Select Layout
8.5 x 11 Landscape
Output Format
Pdf
Map Scale
Current Scale - 1: 25000
Notes
PRINT