The Research Bureau

Columbus Park Spring 2006 ComNET Review

Independent Research in the Public Interest
www.wrrb.org

What is ComNET?

Computerized Neighborhood Environment Tracking

A systematic process to record the physical conditions in your neighborhood that may require attention.

What's changed since ComNET began?

- Citywide, more than 12,700 problem conditions documented since 2001
  - 57 surveys in 13 neighborhoods
- Seven out of 10 (69%) of previously documented problems have been resolved
- City and community use data to identify and quantify problems
- Developed proactive approaches to dealing with problems- something gets done

What Types of Conditions are Tracked?

Abandoned buildings

Abandoned vehicles

Buildings- window boarded/broken

Clogged sewers

Crosswalks- fading lines

Curbs- broken

Curbs- not level with street

Dumpster- overflowing

Graffiti

Institutions

Lampposts- bulb out

Litter/Dumping

Sidewalk- encroachment

Street- dirt/sand

Street Sign- missing

Street- under construction/repairs

Street- patching uneven

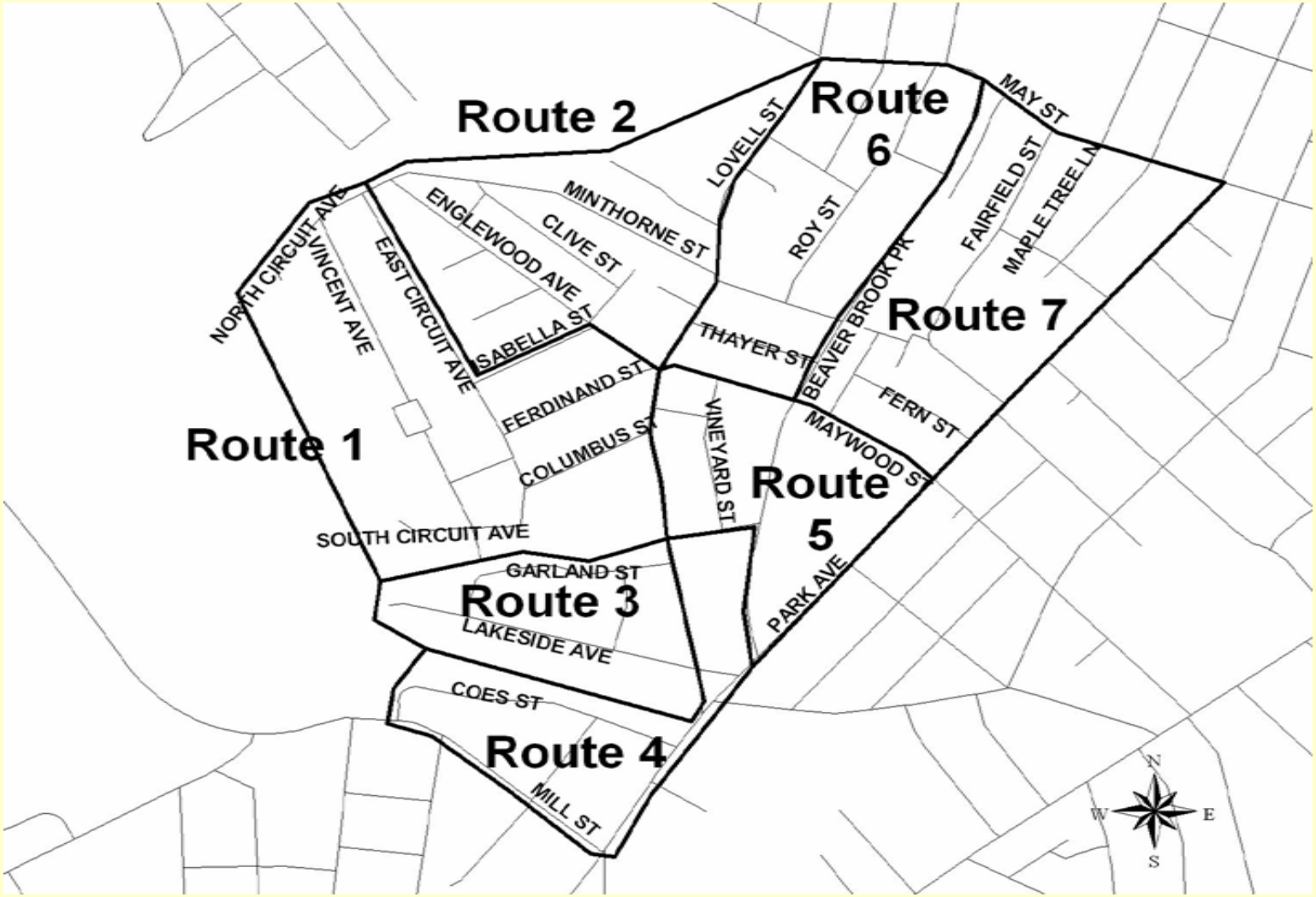
Traffic Lights- operating

Trees- Dead

Utility Covers missing

Vegetation/weeds- overgrown

Survey Area


Route 2
Route 6
Route 7
Route 1
Route 5
Route 3
Route 4
LOVELL ST
MAY ST
MINTHORNE ST
ROY ST
FAIRFIELD ST
MAPLE TREE LN
NORTH CIRCUIT AVE
VINCENT AVE
EAST CIRCUIT AVE
ENGLEWOOD AVE
CLIVE ST
SABELLA ST
THAYER ST
BEAVER BROOK PR
FERDINAND ST
FERN ST
COLUMBUS ST
VINEYARD ST
MAYWOOD ST
SOUTH CIRCUIT AVE
GARLAND ST
PARK AVE
LAKESIDE AVE
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ComNET Results: Columbus Park

- Initial survey conducted in 2002
- Follow-up surveys conducted in 2003, 2004, & 2006
- Surveys track status of previously identified problems as well as noting new problems

Columbus Park Overall Results

- 680 problem conditions have been identified since 2002
- About half (54%) of all problems were street and sidewalk issues
- Problems are grouped according to whose responsibility it is to address the issue
  - 62% of the problems identified are the responsibility of the Department of Public Works
  - 22% of problems are “community issues”

Columbus Park Overall Results Cont'd

- **Overall 384 (2/3) of all previously identified problems have been resolved**
  - **69 sites with litter**
  - **18 sites with dumping**
  - **57 sites with overgrown weeds/vegetation**
  - **24 abandoned vehicles**
  - **109 sidewalk issues (trip hazards, cracks, etc.)**
  - **67 street issues (clogged sewers, potholes, etc.)**

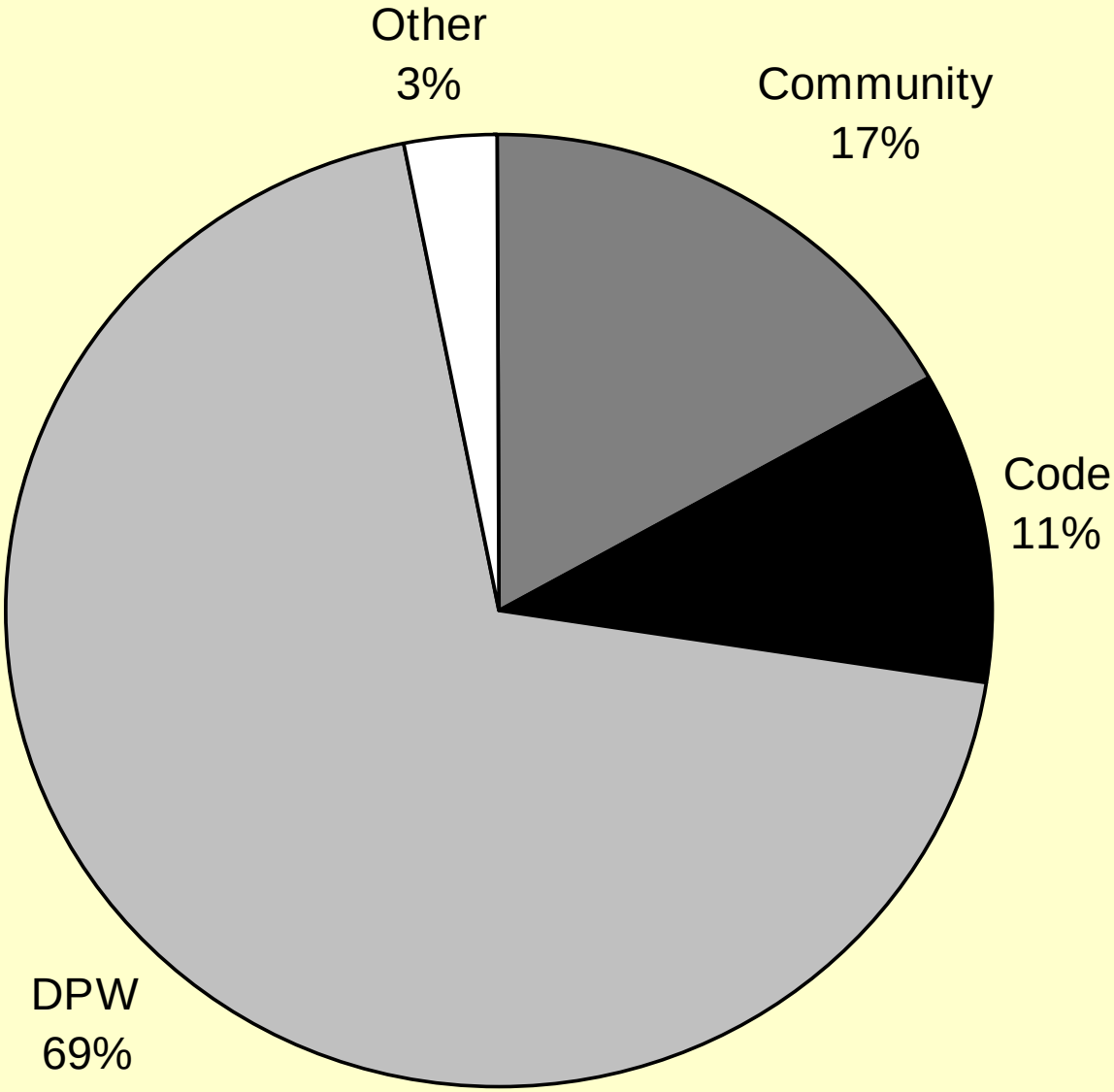
137 Problems Resolved Recently

- **Problems resolved since last survey in 2004:**
  - **22 sites with litter**
  - **5 sites with dumping**
  - **22 sites with overgrown weeds/vegetation**
  - **8 clogged sewers**
  - **49 sidewalk issues (trip hazards, construction, etc.)**
  - **25 street issues (potholes, uneven road)**

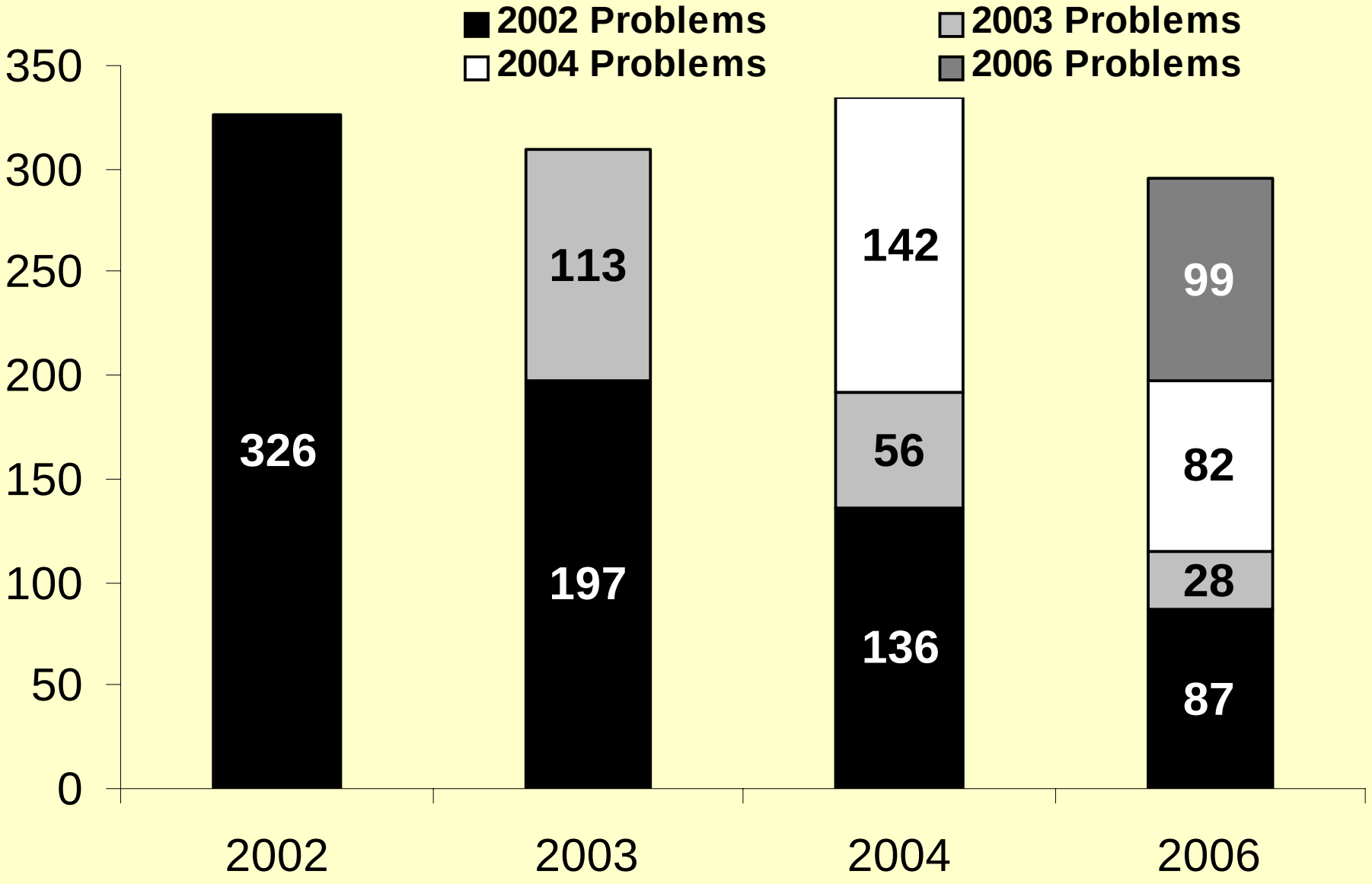
296 Problems Remain

- **Examples include:**
  - **32 sites with litter**
  - **12 sites with dumping**
  - **15 sites with overgrown weeds/vegetation**
  - **80 trip hazards (tree roots, cracks, holes, etc.)**
  - **74 street issues (uneven patching, potholes, etc.)**

296 Remaining Problems: Who Is Responsible?



Tracking Problems Over Time



What Happens Next?

- All of the problems recorded that are the responsibility of a City agency will be shared with the appropriate agency, including specific details about each problem and its location.
- The City then determines how the problems will be addressed. Some of these problems will be addressed more quickly than others.

Addressing neighborhood problems: Where do we begin?

- **Prioritize problems and be realistic – you won't solve everything at once!**
  - **What's most important to residents?**
  - **What resources are necessary to resolve problems?**
  - **Who else do you need to engage? How?**
  - **Map out a plan assigning roles, responsibilities, timeline, etc. and keep track of progress.**