



# The Research Bureau

**Crown Hill and Elm Park  
Fall 2005 ComNET Review**

**Independent Research in the Public Interest  
[www.wrrb.org](http://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

Boarded/broken windows

Clogged catchbasins

Faded crosswalk lines

Broken curbs

Overflowing dumpsters

Graffiti

Lampposts- bulb out

Litter

Illegal dumping

Crumbling sidewalks

Sidewalk trip hazards

Uneven/crumbling roads

Potholes

Street sign- missing

Street- patching uneven

Dead trees

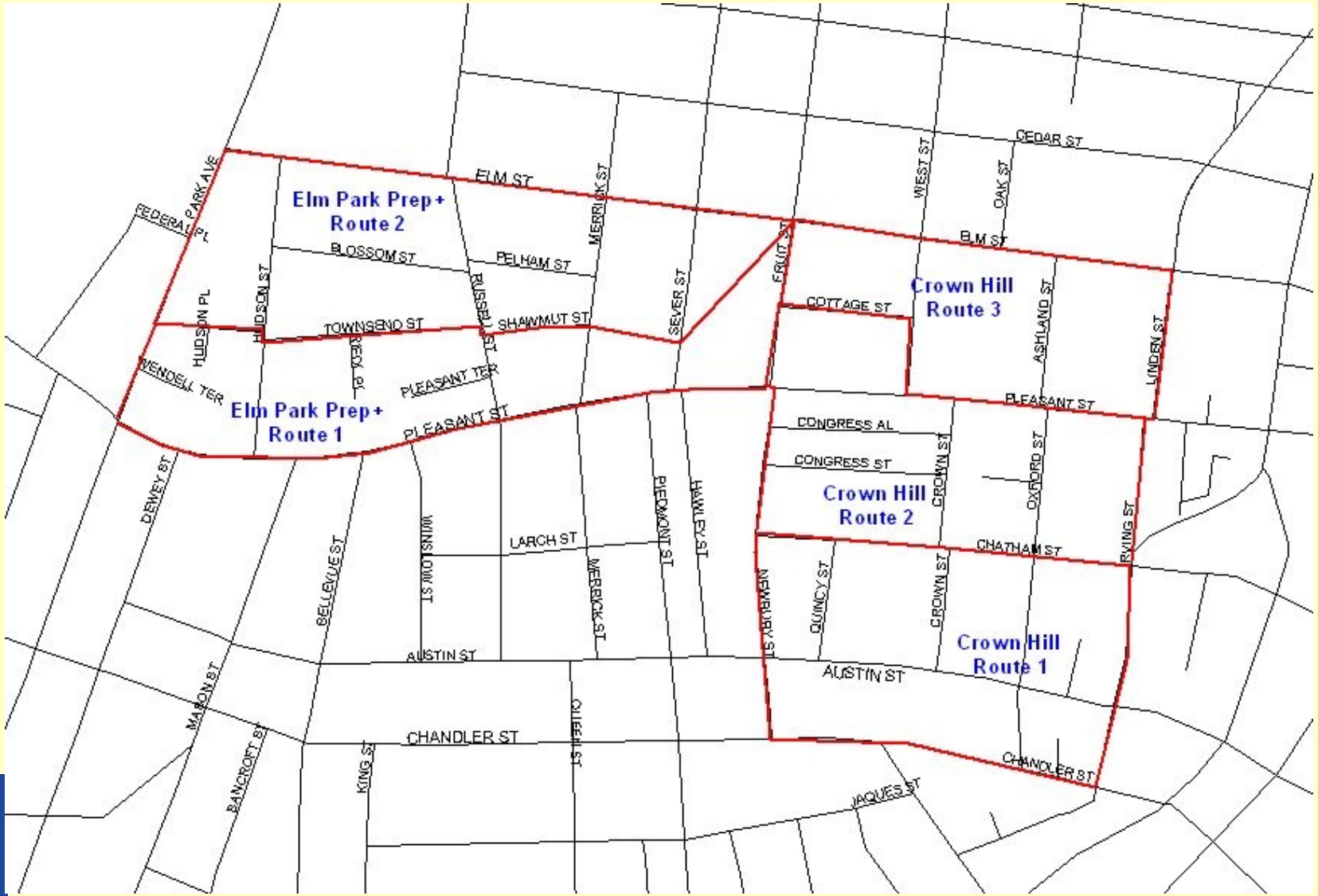
Utility covers missing

Overgrown vegetation

Abandoned & unregistered vehicles



# Survey Area



# ComNET Results: Crown Hill and Elm Park

- ❖ Initial survey conducted in 2001
- ❖ Follow-up surveys conducted in 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005
- ❖ Surveys track status of previously identified problems as well as noting new problems



# Crown Hill & Elm Park Results (Cont.)

- ❖ **1,104 problem conditions have been identified since 2001**
  - 526 in Crown Hill
  - 578 in Elm Park
- ❖ **More than half (58%) of all problems were street and sidewalk issues**
- ❖ **Problems are grouped according to whose responsibility it is to address the issue**
  - 57% of the problems identified are the responsibility of the Department of Public Works
  - 24% of problems are “community issues”



# The Good News: 670 Problems Resolved

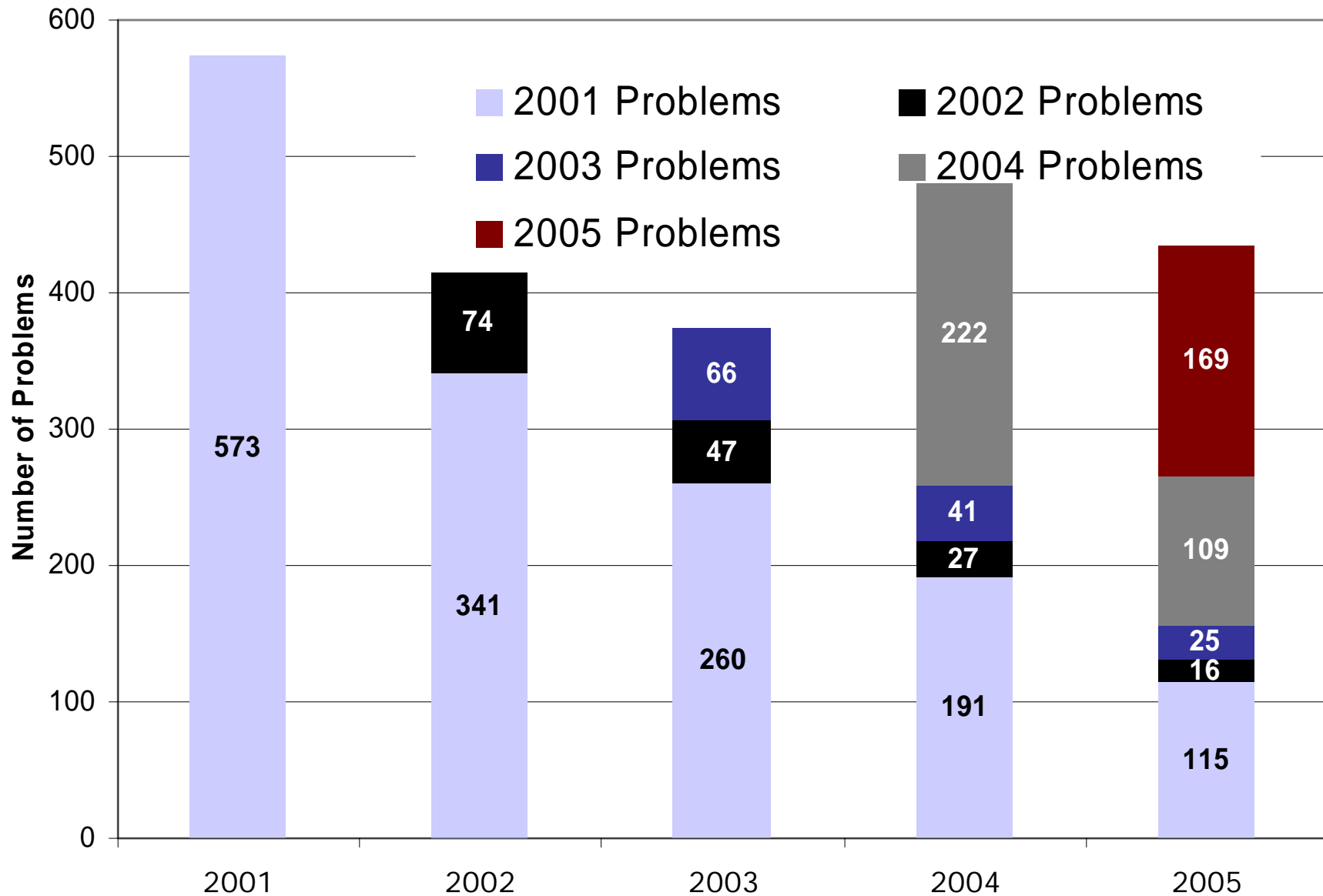
## ❖ Examples include:

- 103 sites with litter
- 68 sidewalk trip hazards
- 39 potholes
- 36 locations with graffiti
- 15 vacant or abandoned buildings
- 26 buildings with peeling paint
- 15 locations where dumping occurred





# Tracking Problems Over Time



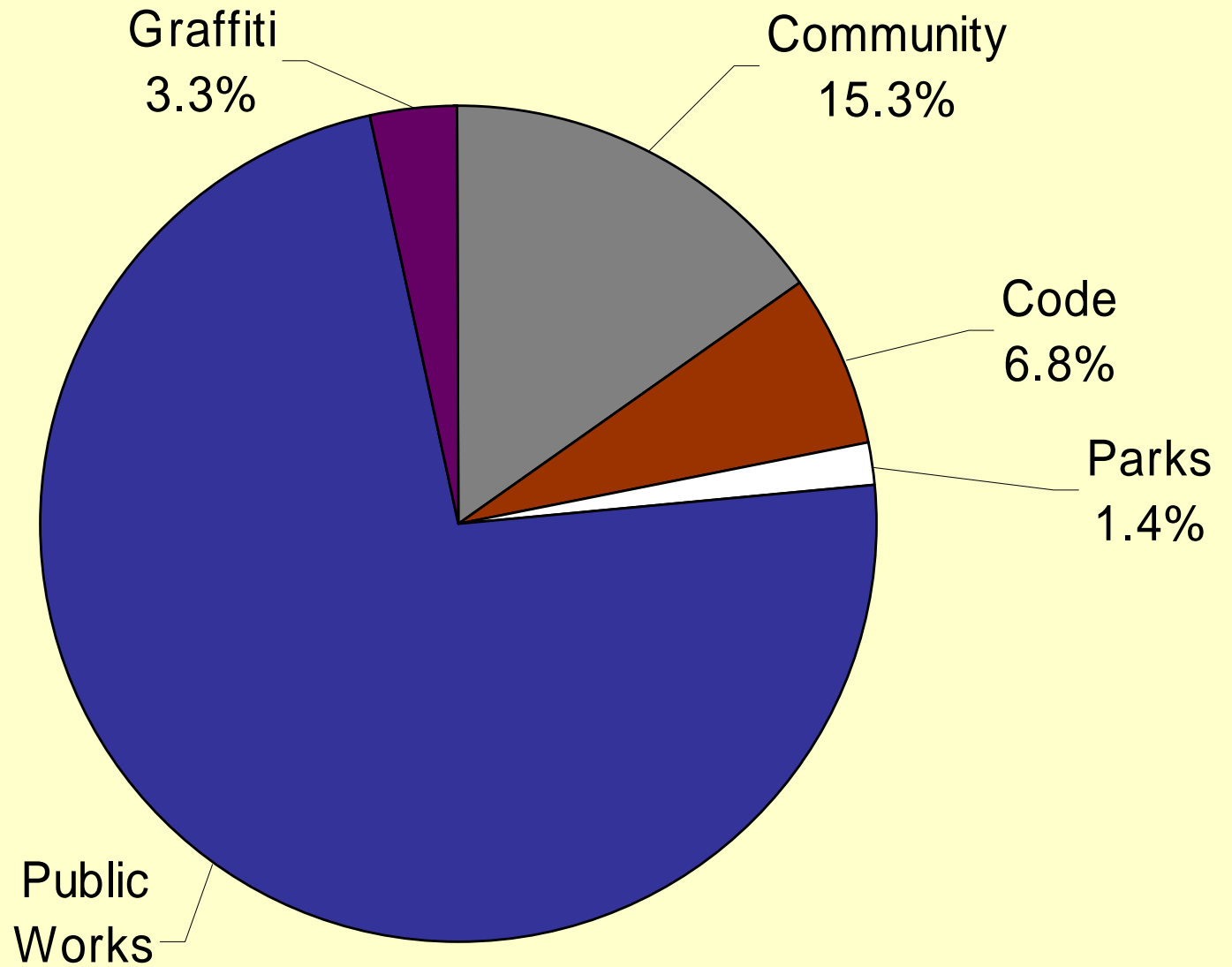
# **The Bad News: 434 Problems Remain**

## **❖ Examples include:**

- 151 sidewalk trip hazards**
- 40 locations with litter**
- 10 potholes**
- 36 sites with overgrown weeds/vegetation**
- 12 sites with graffiti**



# 434 Remaining Problems: Who Is Responsible?



# 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.**

