The Research Bureau

Crystal Park Fall 2007 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 13,000 problem conditions documented since 2001
  - 58 surveys in 13 neighborhoods
- About seven out of 10 (69%) 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

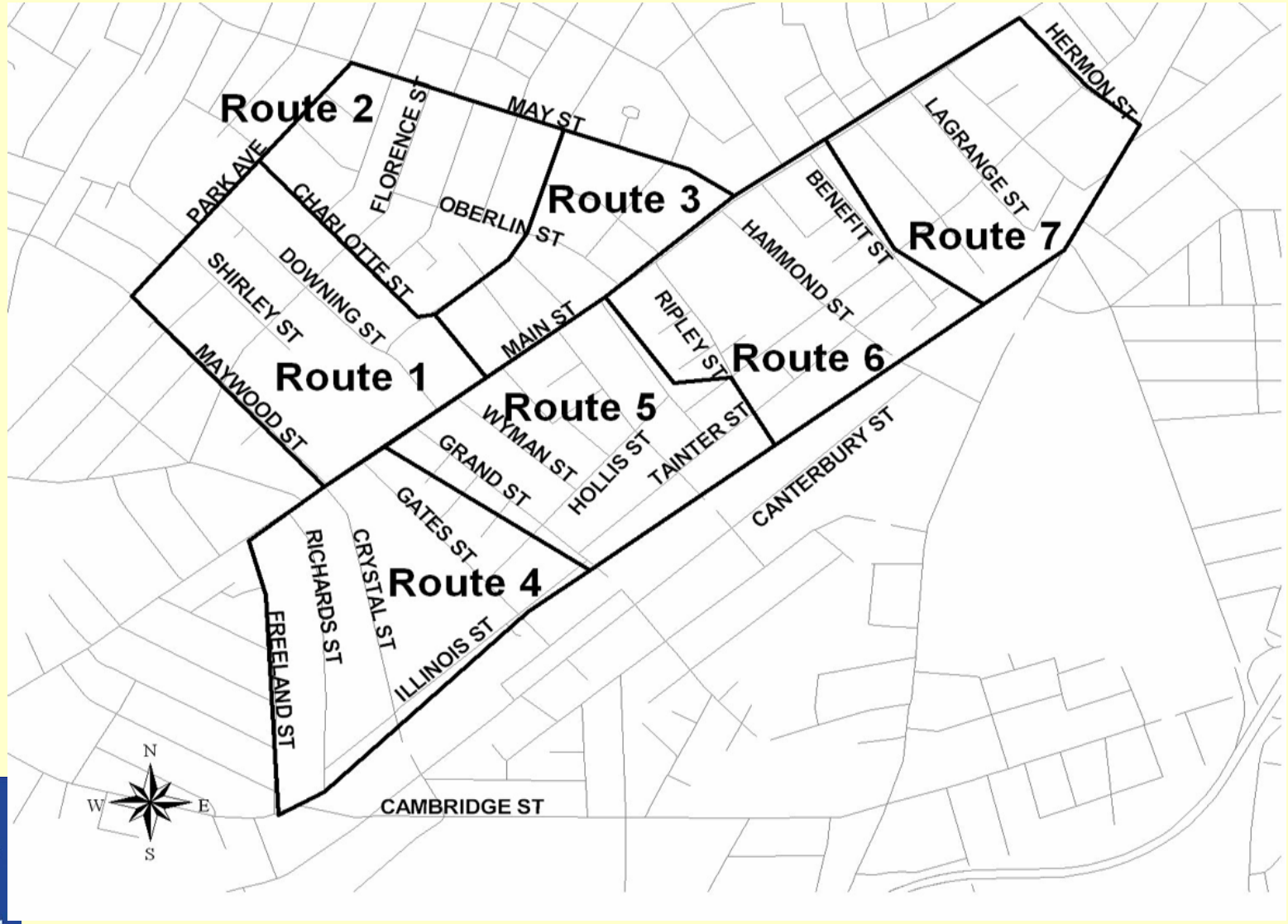
Traffic Lights- operating

Trees- Dead

Utility Covers missing

Vegetation/weeds- overgrown

Survey Area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Route 3
Route 1
Route 5
Route 6
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Route 4
PARK AVE
FLORENCE ST
MAY ST
CHARLOTTE ST
OBERLIN ST
SHIRLEY ST
DOWNING ST
MAIN ST
MAYWOOD ST
RIPLEY ST
HAMMOND ST
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ComNET Results: Crystal Park

- Initial survey conducted in 2003
- Follow-up surveys conducted in Fall 2004, Spring 2006, & Fall 2007
- Surveys track status of previously identified problems as well as noting new problems

Crystal Park Overall Results

- **1252 problem conditions have been identified since 2003**
- **About half (52%) of all problems were street and sidewalk issues**
- **Problems are grouped according to whose responsibility it is to address the issue**
  - 54% of the problems identified are the responsibility of the Department of Public Works & Parks
  - 25% of problems are “community issues”

Crystal Park Overall Results Cont'd

- **Overall 572 (64%) of all previously identified problems have been resolved**
  - **88 sites with litter**
  - **35 sites with dumping**
  - **80 sites with overgrown weeds/vegetation**
  - **51 abandoned/unregistered vehicles**
  - **191 sidewalk issues (trip hazards, under construction, etc.)**

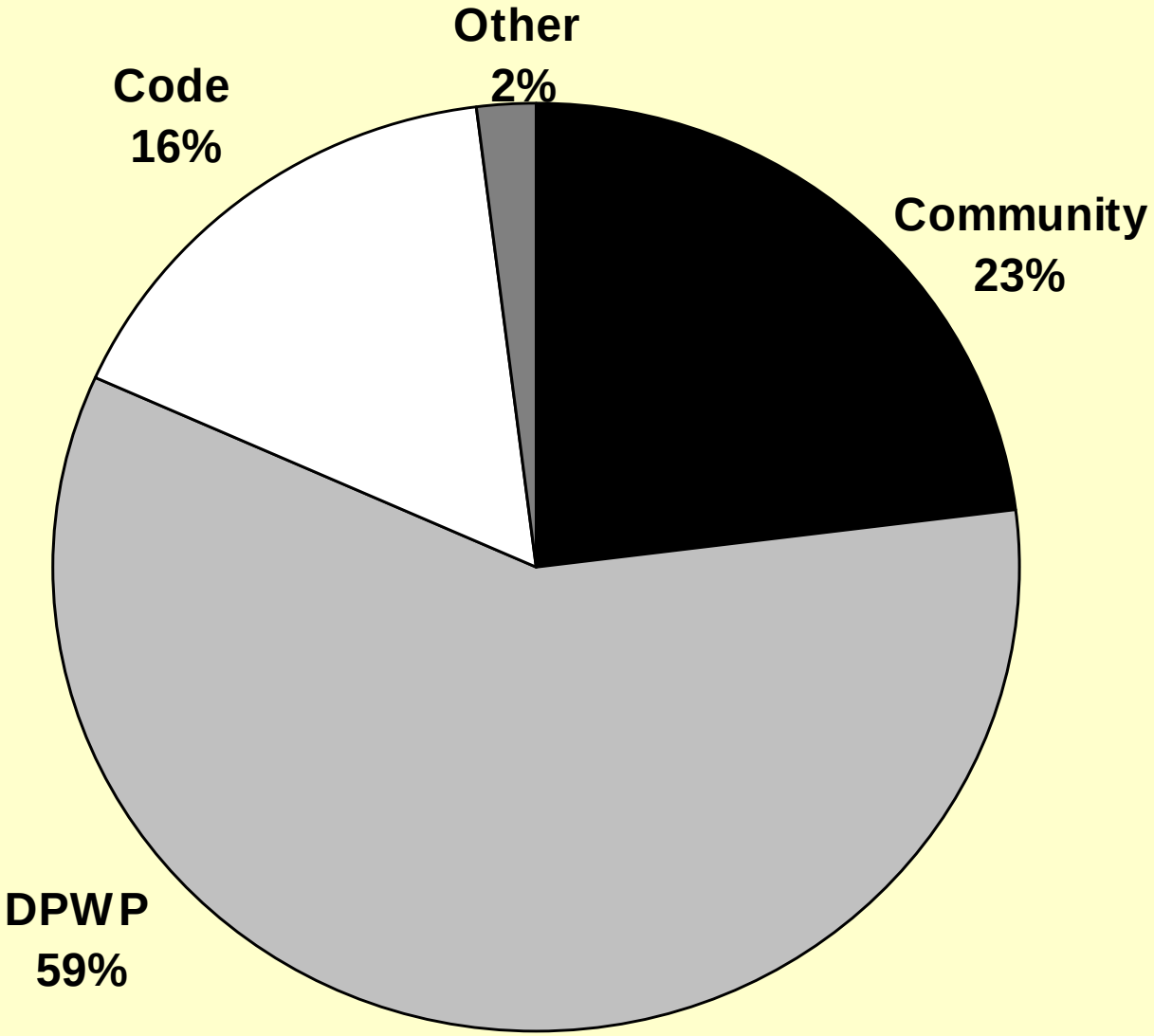
115 Problems Resolved Recently

- **Problems resolved since last survey in 2006:**
  - **15 Sites with litter**
  - **10 Locations with dumping**
  - **3 Abandoned vehicles**
  - **5 Locations where weeds/vegetation overgrown**
  - **7 sites with potholes/uneven roads**
  - **23 Sidewalk trip hazards**

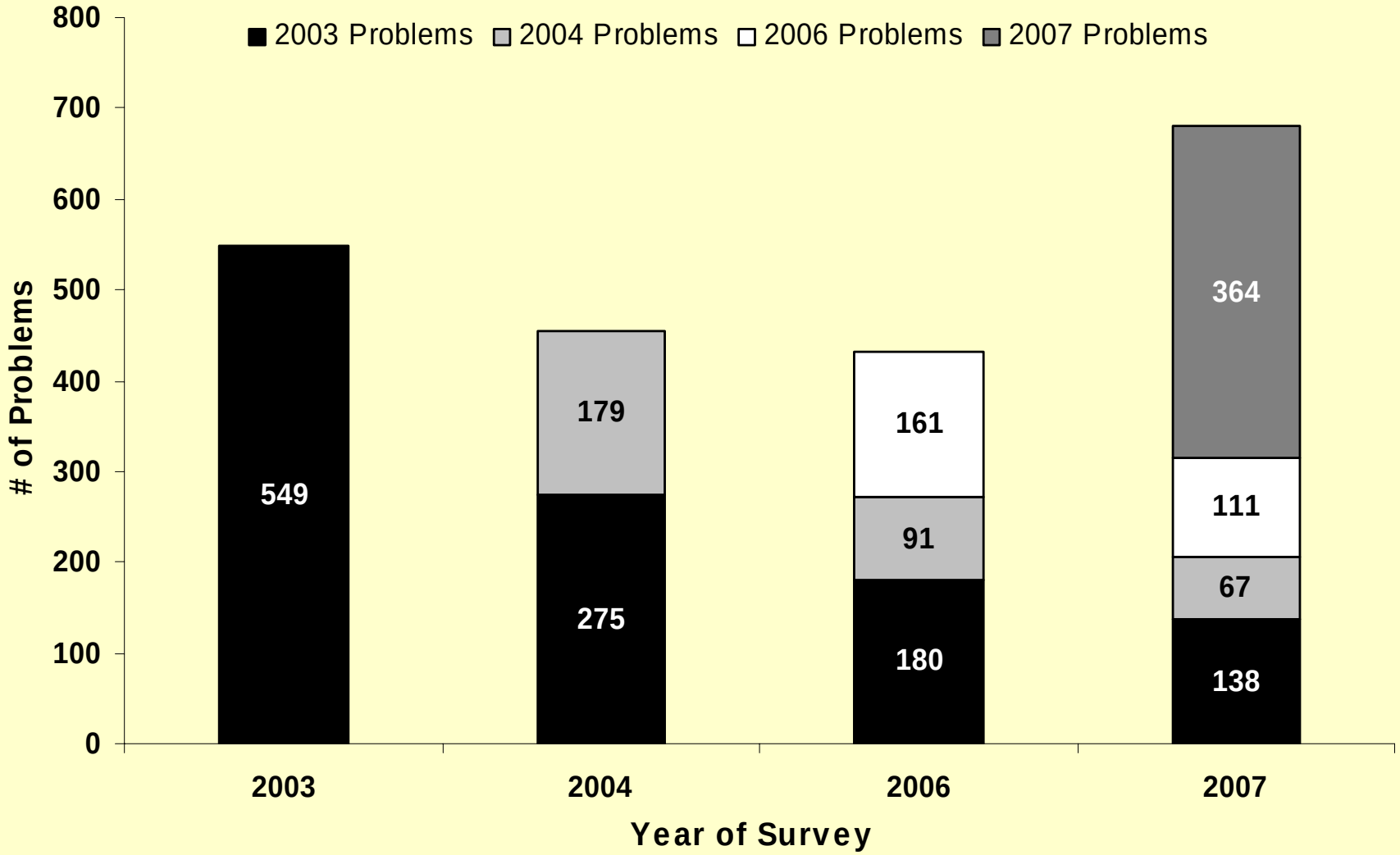
680 Problems Remain

- **Examples include:**
  - **132 sidewalk trip hazards**
  - **147 locations with litter**
  - **39 dumping sites**
  - **54 street problems- construction, potholes, etc.**
  - **96 sites with overgrown weeds/vegetation**
  - **12 Abandoned/vacant buildings**
  - **27 Abandoned/unregistered vehicles**

680 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.**