

2024

CITY OF MERRIAM  
**ANNUAL REPORT**

**MERRIAM**  
*just right*





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# TEAM MERRIAM VALUES

- ▶ **Service:** Provide exceptional service delivery and take pride in connecting with, and improving, our community.
- ▶ **Teamwork:** Support, celebrate, and assist others, and cultivate productive relationships.
- ▶ **Accountability:** Use talents to rise above expectations, produce outstanding quality, and build expertise.
- ▶ **Excellence:** Honor commitments, accept feedback, and act with courage and principle.
- ▶ **Leadership:** Overcome obstacles to accomplish goals and deliver results with initiative and zeal.
- ▶ **Dedication:** Recognize achievements, clearly communicate, and be a resource for others to build success.







**Construction at Merriam Grand Station continued throughout 2024.**



**Opened Merriam Plaza Library.**



**New City Councilmember Reuben Cozmyer took his oath of office.**





More than 70 homeowners participated in the Residential Sustainability Grant.



63 households participated in the Residential City Property Tax Rebate for an average rebate of nearly \$660.



Received a dozen awards for various projects at the national, state, and local levels.





Police officers attended more than 45 community events.



Averaged 615 shoppers per week at the Merriam Farmers' Market.





# ADMINISTRATION



## The Administration Department manages the City of Merriam by:

- ▶ Working with the City Council and implementing policy.
- ▶ Helping residents with City services and answering questions.
- ▶ Handling human resources and risk management for the City and employees.
- ▶ Providing Municipal Court services and support.
- ▶ Giving IT support for all Merriam facilities.
- ▶ Providing internal and external communications for City employees, residents, and businesses.
- ▶ Assisting with tourism and economic development.







## MERRIAM GRAND STATION

We've seen tremendous progress at Merriam Grand Station. Construction continued throughout the year, and apartments started being leased at the end of 2024.

You can now find new restaurants and businesses, including, Starbucks, Jersey Mike's, CAVA, Supplement Superstore, Treats Unleashed, with 30hop and HomeGrown coming in 2025.

The entire project is expected to be completed by the end of 2026.



## UNDERGROUNDING OF UTILITIES

In December, construction started on the undergrounding of utilities on Shawnee Mission Parkway, from I-35 to just east of Antioch Road.

We invested about \$5 million in this project to help beautify the area and provide better services to our community.

This project is expected to be completed by July 2025.





## MERRIAM PLAZA LIBRARY

In March, we partnered with Johnson County Library to host a book relay from Antioch Library to the new Merriam Plaza Library that had about 450 participants. We also held a ribbon-cutting ceremony on March 20. The new library highlights the Webb family with a mural.

At the end of 2024, we started to investigate purchasing the Antioch Library property to have more control of what goes into that area.

## ETC SURVEY RESULTS & AWARD

The City of Merriam received outstanding results in its community and business satisfaction surveys.

Conducted every three years, these surveys are a vital tool for evaluating City services through community feedback.

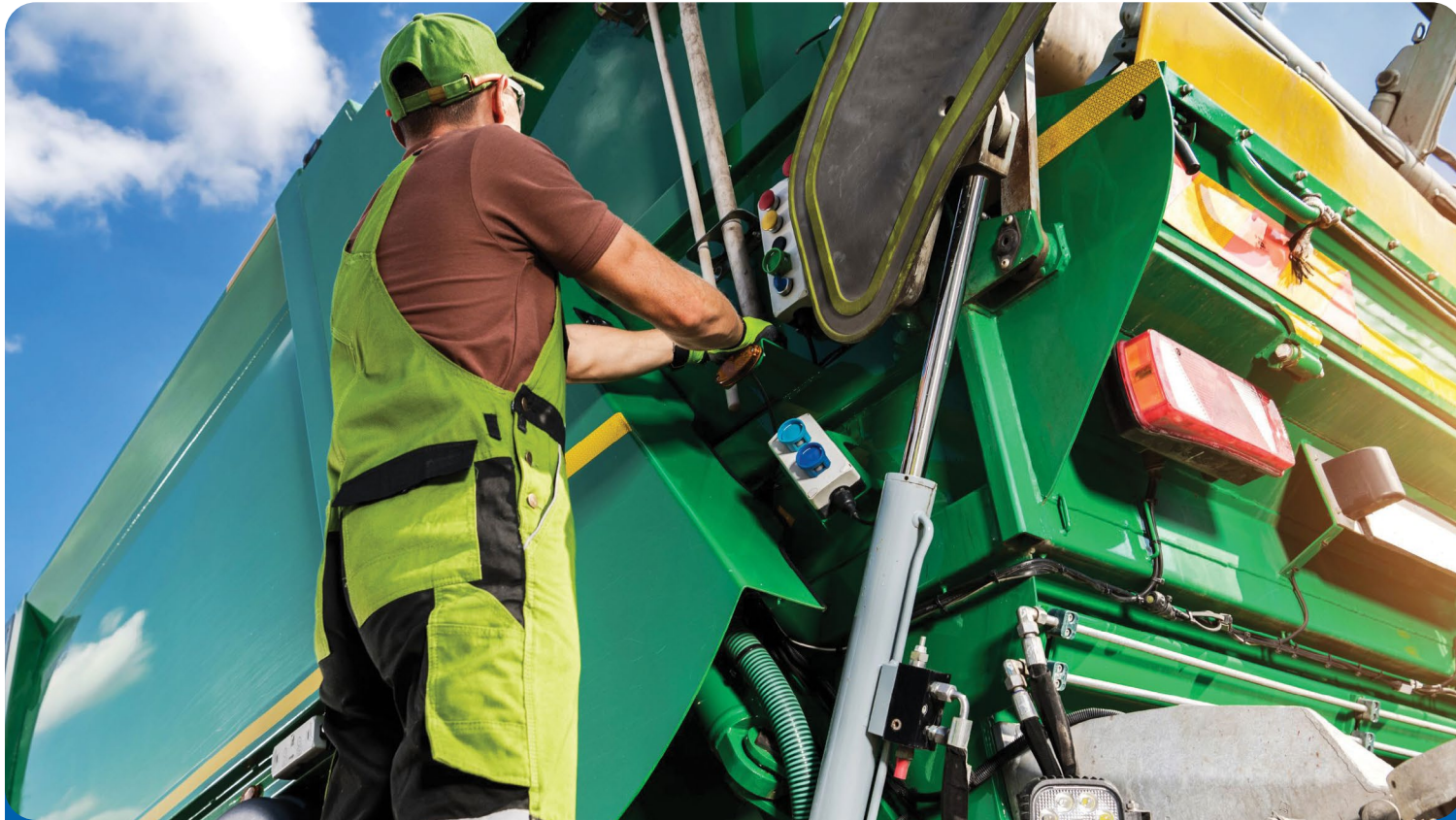
The results of our community survey highlight our commitment to meeting the needs and expectations of our residents. Of those surveyed:

- ▶ 93% said they were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with the overall quality of city services
- ▶ 92% were satisfied with the overall quality of life in the City
- ▶ 80% were satisfied with the overall value received for tax dollars and fees.

From these survey results, Merriam received its second Leading the Way award in a row. This award is given only to the top 10% of all local governments in the U.S. that receive a high composite score for outstanding service achievements.







## SINGLE TRASH HAULER

- ▶ In October, the City Council voted to pass a resolution of interest to organize collection services.
- ▶ A workgroup of residents from each ward, two City Councilmembers, and a representative from Johnson County Solid Waste Management met three times to work on a Request for Proposals.
- ▶ It's under consideration to determine if the City will establish an organized service collection plan.



## PUBLIC ART

- ▶ Finished the Public Art Master Plan and initiated the first project, which will be located at the Merriam Community Center campus.
- ▶ Received two Parade of Hearts: My Heart Resides in Strawberry Hill by Kate E. Burke and Stitched Together by Leah Dwyer.
  - ▶ Purchased My Heart Resides in Strawberry Hill and its permanent location is at Merriam Marketplace.
- ▶ Implemented the Public Art Tour on the Octocast app.



# NEW CITY COUNCILMEMBER

---

**Ward 4 Reuben Cozmyer** took his oath of office at the Oct. 28 City Council meeting.





**Human Resources** is responsible for recruiting, supporting, and developing a talented workforce to ensure the organization's success. We handle everything from employee relations and benefits to training, performance management, and fostering a positive work environment.





# FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE STATISTICS

**9.5 YEARS**

AVERAGE TENURE

**242 PEOPLE**

EMPLOYED BY THE CITY IN 2024

**16 EMPLOYEES**

HAD 2024 MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES

**48 EMPLOYEES**

PARTICIPATED IN OUR  
EMPLOYEE WELLNESS PROGRAM

**14 EMPLOYEES**

SUCCESSFULLY REFERRED A NEW  
EMPLOYEE TO THE CITY

**4 EMPLOYEES**

EMPLOYEES PARTICIPATED  
IN LEADERSHIP NEJC

**4 EMPLOYEES**

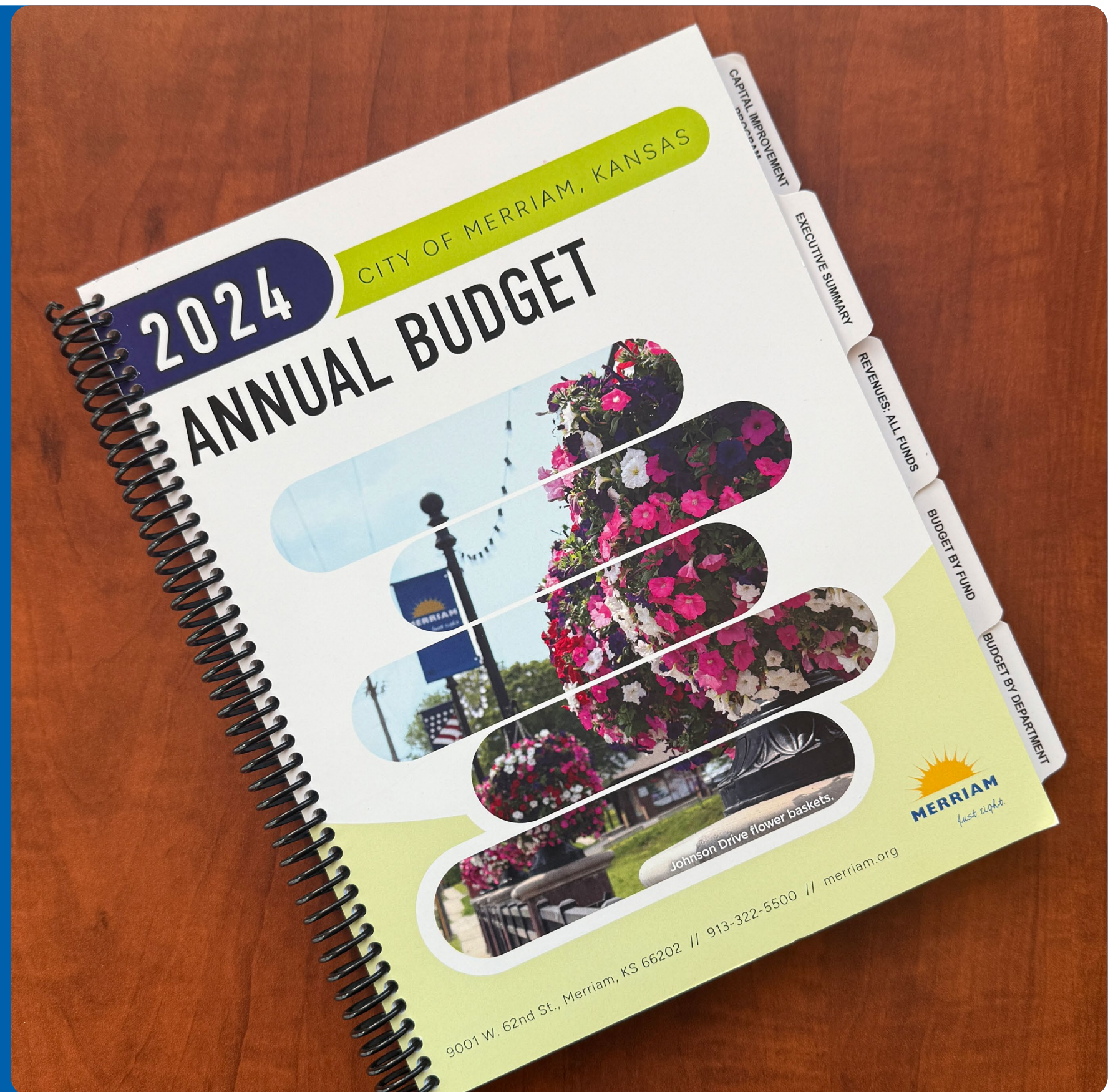
TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE LANGUAGE STIPEND  
IN ORDER TO BETTER SERVE THE NON-ENGLISH  
SPEAKING MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

**1 EMPLOYEE**

PARTICIPATED IN THE EMERGING LEADERS  
PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS



**The Finance Department** is responsible for the administration and coordination of the City's financial services. This includes budget, accounting, investments, payroll, debt service, financial information systems, and internal auditing.





# FINANCE HIGHLIGHTS

9.475%

SALES TAX RATE

(STATE: 6.5%; COUNTY: 1.475%; CITY: 1.5%)

AAA (STABLE)

BOND RATING

(BY S&P GLOBAL RATINGS)

5,132

HOUSEHOLDS

(PER 2020 U.S. CENSUS)

SERIES 2018 BONDS

DEBT RETIREMENT

(TO BE FULLY REPAID IN 2027)

\$290 M

ASSESSED PROPERTY VALUATION

(47% RESIDENTIAL, 50% COMMERCIAL, 3% OTHER)

This summary provides a preliminary, unaudited overview of the financial performance of the City of Merriam for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024. Final audited numbers may vary slightly.



# KEY FINANCIAL METRICS

\$4,197,168 DEFICIT

NET POSITION CHANGE

(REFLECTING PLANNED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS)

CASH &  
INVESTMENTS

\$58,988,659  
CASH & INVESTMENTS



91.3%  
FEDERAL SECURITY  
PORTFOLIO



8.7%  
CASH ACCOUNTS  
PORTFOLIO

OUTSTANDING  
OBLIGATIONS

\$7,240,000  
GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS  
(SERIES 2018)



\$26,844,455  
I-35 REDEVELOPMENT FUND COMMITMENTS  
(IKEA, MERRIAM GRAND STATION, ETC.)



# REVENUES

**\$41,603,258**  
TOTAL REVENUE

**\$21,798,120**  
GENERAL FUND REVENUE  
*(94% OF BUDGET)*

## SALES TAX COLLECTIONS

**\$8,498,680**  
1% CITY SALES TAX  
*(\$498,680 OVER BUDGET)*

**\$2,169,755**  
.25% STORM/STREET SALES TAX  
*(\$169,755 OVER BUDGET)*

**\$2,169,755**  
.25% RECREATION FACILITIES SALES TAX  
*(\$169,755 OVER BUDGET)*

**\$1,070,278**  
CITY USE TAX  
*(\$2,842 OVER BUDGET)*

## TOP OVER-PERFORMING REVENUE SOURCES

**\$1,731,527**  
MERRIAM COMMUNITY CENTER REVENUE  
*(\$315,442 OVER BUDGET)*

## REAL PROPERTY TAX COLLECTIONS

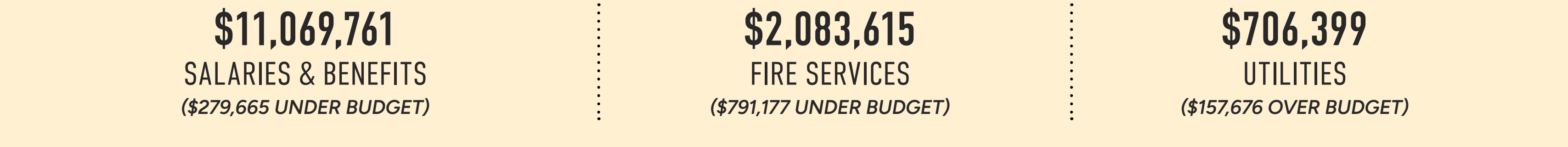
**\$4,828,137**  
*(98% OF BUDGET)*



# EXPENDITURES



## SIGNIFICANT EXPENSE CATEGORIES



## MERRIAM COMMUNITY CENTER EXPENSES





# KEY OBSERVATIONS

- ▶ **Revenue Growth:** Sales tax collections increased by 0.8% year-over-year, driven by modest growth in auto sales (+0.5%) and “Other” retail categories (+6.2%).
- ▶ **Merriam Community Center:** Continued strong performance with memberships and programming exceeding expectations.
- ▶ **Expenditure Management:** Savings were achieved across multiple areas, including salaries, fire services, and utilities.
- ▶ **Capital Investments:**
  - ▶ **Notable purchases:** HVAC system upgrades (\$605,334), extrication tools (\$44,974), and a Bobcat utility vehicle (\$77,982).





**Merriam Municipal Court** is the judicial branch of the City and handles all traffic and city ordinance violations.





# COURT STATISTICS

92 COURT SESSIONS



4,817 CITATIONS ISSUED



2,939 CASES CLOSED



226 COURT RECORDS REQUESTED



21 TOTAL TRIALS





# COURT FINANCIALS

**\$822,226**  
TOTAL GROSS REVENUE

**\$713,250**  
TOTAL CITY REVENUE

**\$215,354**  
TOTAL AMOUNT PAID ONLINE

**\$56,161**  
TOTAL AMOUNT SENT  
TO COLLECTIONS

**\$46,187**  
TOTAL AMOUNT RECEIVED  
FROM COLLECTIONS



# TOTAL CHARGES



**135** DUI CHARGES

ADMINISTRATION: MUNICIPAL COURT

## TOP THREE CRIMINAL CHARGES

**70** DRUG CHARGES



**67** THEFT CHARGES



**26** BATTERY CHARGES



## TOP THREE MISDEMEANOR TRAFFIC OFFENSES

**857** NO PROOF OF LIABILITY INSURANCE



**441** NO VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE



**104** DRIVING WHILE SUSPENDED



## TOP THREE TRAFFIC INFRACTIONS

**1,433** SPEEDING



**521** INVALID TAGS



**261** TRAFFIC SIGNAL/ STOP SIGN





**Communications** is responsible for connecting with the public through the City's website, social media, digital and print newsletters, news releases, and proclamations, ensuring our message is clear and impactful. We engage with the media and the community to foster transparency, inform the public, and maintain a positive image for the organization.





# SOCIAL MEDIA STATISTICS



**6,997**

**FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS**

*(UP 48% FROM 2023 IN PART DUE  
TO A COUPLE VIRAL VIDEOS)*



**5,647**

**X FOLLOWERS**

*(EXITED IN APRIL)*



**2,132**

**INSTAGRAM  
FOLLOWERS**

*(UP 19% FROM 2023)*



**948**

**E-MERRIAM  
SUBSCRIBERS**



**4,524**

**NEXTDOOR MEMBERS**

*(3,424 CLAIMED HOUSEHOLDS)*



**754**

**LINKEDIN  
FOLLOWERS**



**52**

**NEWS STORIES  
ON WEBSITE**



**454,732**

**WEBSITE  
TRAFFIC**



# TOP PERFORMING SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS



## TRAINING DAY VIDEO

Nov. 18

## TRAFFIC ALERT: ANTIOCH ROAD & SMP

Dec. 9



## TRAFFIC ALERT: SINKHOLE ON KNOX ST.

June 28

## TRAINING DAY VIDEO & CHRISTMAS IN THE COURTYARD

Nov. 18-24



# COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS

Received nine communications awards for various projects at the national, state, and local levels.



5

CITY-COUNTY  
COMMUNICATIONS &  
MARKETING ASSOCIATION

3

GREATER KANSAS CITY  
PUBLIC RELATIONS SOCIETY  
OF AMERICA

1

TOURISM INDUSTRY  
ASSOCIATION OF  
KANSAS



# STARTED OFFERING DIGITAL SPANISH PUBLICATIONS

### Verdaderamente, No Hay Lugar Como CASA

Ubicado justo al lado de la I-35 en el noreste del Condado de Johnson, y apenas a 8 millas al sur del centro de Kansas City, Merriam es una joya oculta de 4.3 millas cuadradas que es el hogar de casi 11,000 residentes. Merriam será pequeña de tamaño, pero es grande de corazón, y no podemos esperar a mostrarle por qué este lugar es tan especial.

Vivir aquí significa disfrutar de calles bordeadas de árboles que son perfectas para una caminata vespertina, explorar senderos que serpentean por nuestros parques, y admirar arte público que le añade un toque creativo a nuestra ciudad. Desde eventos de temporada hasta reuniones comunitarias, siempre hay algo en marcha en Merriam que nos reúne.

Uno de los atributos más apreciados de Merriam es nuestro espíritu acogedor. Somos una comunidad unida e inclusiva, en donde los vecinos se conocen por nombre y los rostros nuevos de vivienda asequible en sonrisa. Con sus alternativas de vivienda escolar vecindarios seguros y amigables, y un distrito escolar galardonado, Merriam es verdaderamente un lugar donde echar raíces.

No importa de dónde venga o en la etapa de vida en la que se encuentre, Merriam es una ciudad a la medida, por las mejores razones.

- ▶ **A la medida** para su familia.
- ▶ **A la medida** para hacer amistades de por vida.
- ▶ **A la medida** para iniciar su recorrido juntos.
- ▶ **A la medida** para edificar un negocio y hacerlo crecer.
- ▶ **A la medida** para hallar su primera casa.
- ▶ **A la medida** para acomodarse en su casa de toda la vida.
- ▶ **A la medida** para acomodarse en su casa de toda la vida.

Venga y experimente a Merriam. Verdaderamente, no hay lugar como casa, y nos sentimos confiados de que tendrá la misma sensación cuando llegue aquí.

Fuentes: Oficina del Censo de los EE. UU., julio de 2023 y ETC Institute, 2024

### La Vida en Merriam

Población: **10,875**

Alquiler Promedio: **\$1,161**

Valor Promedio de Vivienda: **\$298,000**

Satisfacción con la comunidad:

El **92%** de los residentes se siente satisfecho con la calidad general de vida en Merriam.

### «¡Nos encanta vivir en Merriam!»

En el 2007 nos mudamos de Missouri a Merriam para vivir a cerca de la familia de nuestra hija. En aquel tiempo no sabíamos la pepita de oro que es Merriam.

Apoyar a los comercios locales es importante, y Merriam nos brinda casi todo lo que necesitamos con sus comercios locales, al igual que la conveniencia de las grandes tiendas de departamentos. Por haber participado varias veces en la 5K del Turkey Creek Festival y en ese festival, hemos tenido esa sensación de pueblito que tanto disfrutamos.

Aprovechamos el Centro Comunitario de Merriam y su biblioteca, y en especial, las obras de arte que siempre van cambiando en la Galería de Arte Tim Murphy.

¡Nos encanta vivir en Merriam! La recolección de desechos de jardín y artículos grandes, la ayuda financiera para el mejoramiento de las propiedades, y el mantenimiento eficiente de las calles y aceras señalan a un Concejo Municipal y a una administración que realmente buscan a nuestros Concejales del Distrito 4 y al Departamento de Obras Públicas porque siempre responden a nuestras preguntas con prontitud. Nos sentimos agradecidos por formar parte de una ciudad de tan alta calidad.

— Mark and Betty Lou Peckham

## CRONOGRAMA: CAMPBELLTON A MERRIAM

Campbellton fue fundada por David Oae Campbell.

El nombre de Campbellton se cambió a Merriam en honor a Charles Merriam, el secretario de ferrocarriles.

Apertura del parque de Merriam. Este parque de 40 acres contaba con un zoológico con fosas de osos, una laguna, un carrusel y campos para béisbol, tenis y croquet.

Apertura de la Escuela de Merriam, con una escuela primaria y secundaria. Posteriormente se tardó en el Centro Comunitario Ilena B. French.

Paul Pflumm llegó a ser el primer jefe de las bombas voluntarias de Merriam.

Merriam se convirtió en una ciudad oficial.

Inauguración de las instalaciones de Obras Públicas de Merriam en 6901 Knox St.

Apertura del Centro Comunitario Ilena B. French en 5701 Merriam Drive.

Inauguración de la estación de policía y remodelación del Ayuntamiento.

Apertura de Plaza Histórica de Merriam en 6304 E. Frontage Road.

Apertura del Centro Comunitario de Merriam en 6040 Slater St.

Julius McFarlin fue el primer afroamericano elegido a un cargo político en el Condado de Johnson.

Construcción del Centro acústico y de albercas en 6040 Slater St.

1864

1880

1880

1880

1947

1950

1961

1973

1985

1989

1996

2004

2006

2020

¡Compre su camiseta de Campbellton a Merriam!

Celebre el Día de fundadores por medio de comprar las camisetas conmemorativas de edición limitada del Centro Comunitario de Merriam por \$15 mientras duran las existencias.

### PREGUNTAS SOBRE EL PERSONAL

¿Qué hace usted para la Ciudad de Merriam? Gestiono, preparo y mantengo los vehículos y equipos de propiedad de la Ciudad.

¿Qué es lo que le gusta de su trabajo? Trabajo con una variedad amplia de vehículos y equipos.

¿Por qué se necesita su trabajo? Tener una flota que trabaja mantiene a los servicios de la ciudad en marcha.

¿Cómo pueden ayudarle los miembros de la comunidad a que usted haga su trabajo en el invierno y la primavera? Si le dan espacio a los camiones con hojas para quitar la nieve. Es muy difícil ver a los vehículos a los lados y detrás de nuestros camiones.

¿Qué significa formar parte del Equipo de Merriam para usted? Significa que un grupo de personas con talentos diferentes trabajamos juntos para servir a los residentes de Merriam y al público en general.

### ROSS DAVIS

Superintendente de Flota de Obras Públicas

Ayude a Mantener a las Cuadrillas de Obras Públicas a Salvo este Invierno

Las cuadrillas de Team Merriam se esfuerzan por tener las calles de la ciudad listas para el invierno. ¡Deles espacio en la calle para que cumplan con su trabajo! Aquí le ofrecemos algunas sugerencias:

- ▶ Baje la velocidad cuando vea equipos o camiones arado de Obras Públicas en la calle.
- ▶ Guarde una distancia prudente entre su vehículo y el camión de arado de nieve. Se recomienda guardar una distancia igual al largo de tres autobuses escolares entre usted y el camión de arado para darle más tiempo de reacción en condiciones adversas.
- ▶ Tenga sumo cuidado si precisa rebasar un camión de arado. La hoja de arado podría ser más ancha que el carril.
- ▶ Si caen más de 2 pulgadas de nieve en Merriam, quite su vehículo de las calles.
- ▶ Sea paciente.





# TOURISM & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



**Tourism and Economic Development** serves as Merriam's gateway, attracting visitors, supporting businesses, and enriching the community for residents.







## QUALITY INN RENOVATIONS

Celebrated the renovations made possible by the Lodging Grant at Quality Inn, including interior and exterior paint, full room remodels, new furnishings, signage, landscaping, and hotel lobby and entrance upgrades.



## DUAL-LANGUAGE VISITOR GUIDE

Distributed the first-ever dual-language Merriam Community & Visitor Guide, now available in English and Spanish.





## WALKER SCHOOL NOMINATION

Provided letters of support and staff assistance for the Walker School nomination to become a designated listing on the Kansas Registry of Historic Places.

# DOWNTOWN *Merriam* PARTNERSHIP

Our Unity Comes From Our Community

## DOWNTOWN MERRIAM PARTNERSHIP

Actively participated in Downtown Merriam Partnership events and activities to lend support to this local business association.





# Shop MERRIAM



## SHOP MERRIAM

Launched the new Shop Merriam program designed to encourage visitation to local merchants and service businesses through a modest discount program.



## NEW BUSINESSES

We welcomed 40 new businesses to Merriam with 213 employees.







## BUSINESS VISITS & AWARDS

Conducted 34 new and renewing business visits to share our appreciation of business owners who've made Merriam their location of choice.

Nominated local businesses for regional and state awards.



## VISITORS GUIDE AWARD

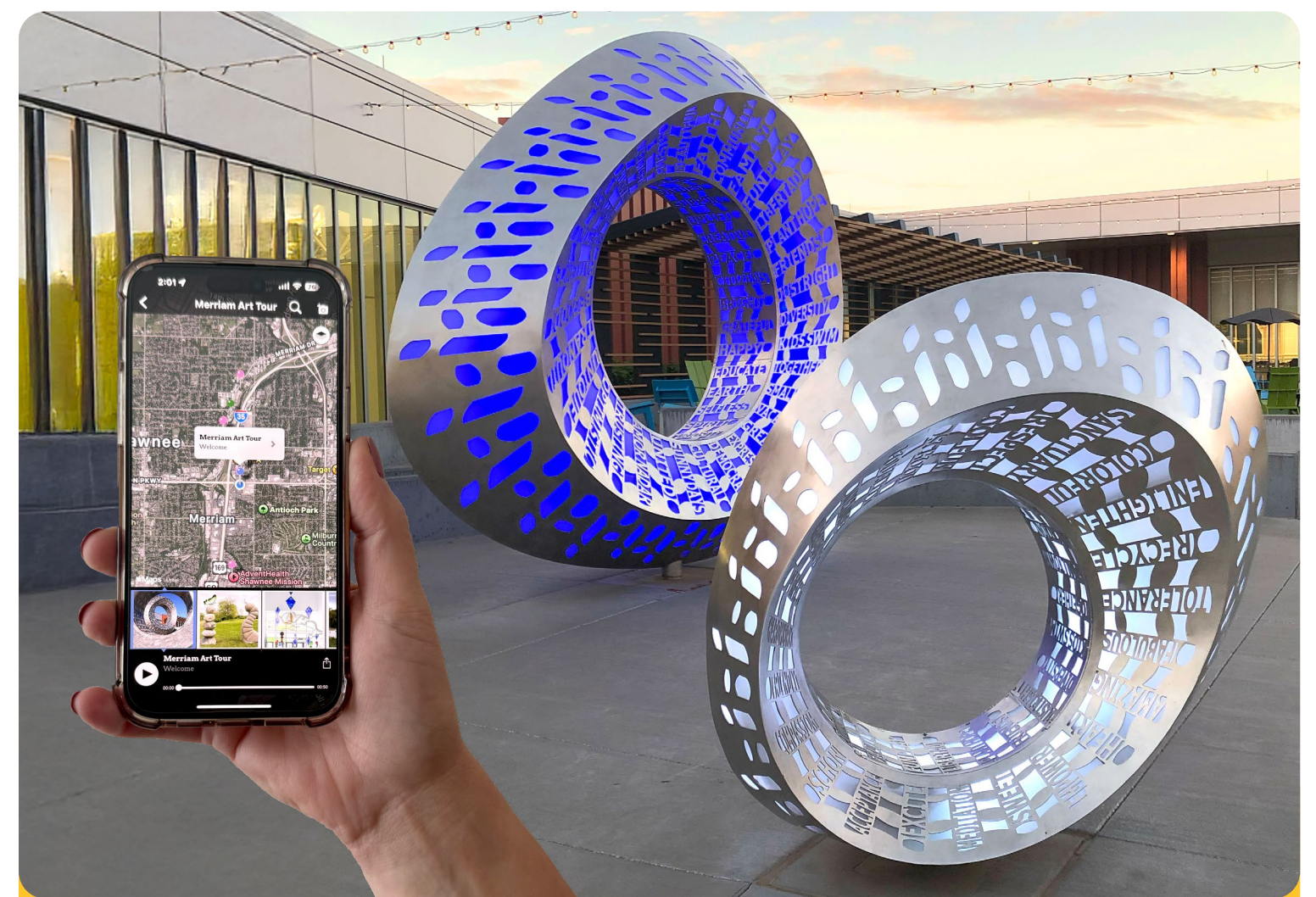
Won best visitor guide – medium budget at the state tourism conference marketing awards ceremony.





## BUSINESS APPRECIATION HAPPY HOUR

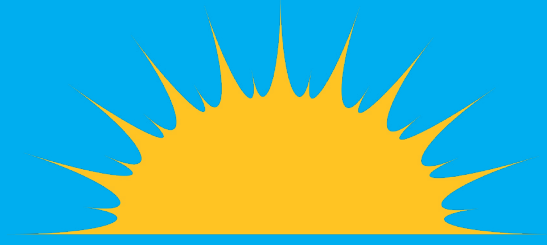
Hosted a successful business appreciation happy hour where we shared the results of the 2024 business survey with attendees.



## ART TOUR ON OTOCAST

Created a new art tour on the Otocast app featuring artists' statements, photos, descriptions, fun facts, turn-by-turn directions, social-sharing options, and more.





# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



The **Community Development Department** works to create a quality environment to live, work, and do business within our city.





# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STATISTICS

1,211

CODE ENFORCEMENT  
ACTIONS



473

RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD  
LICENSES ISSUED



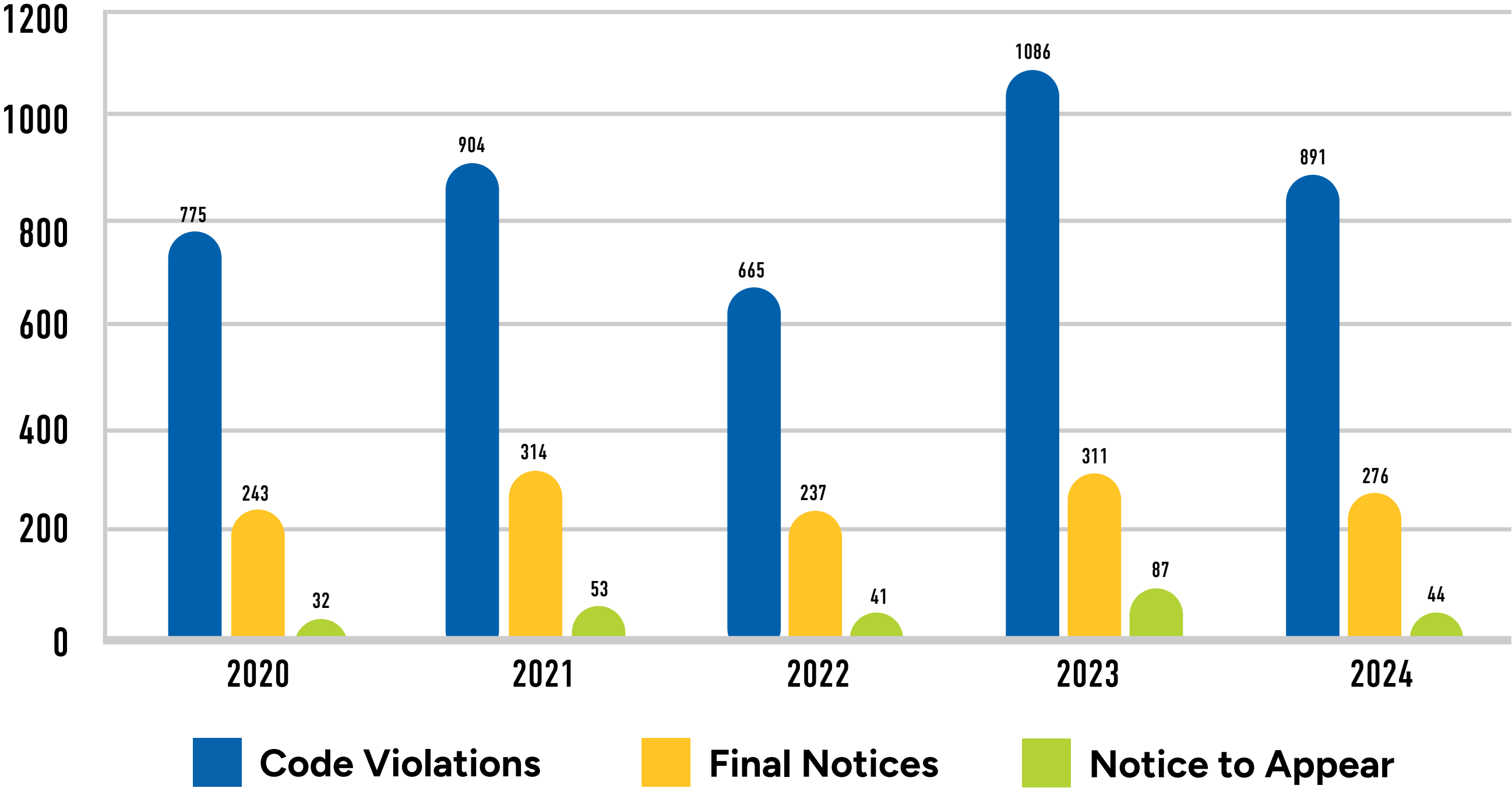
748

BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED



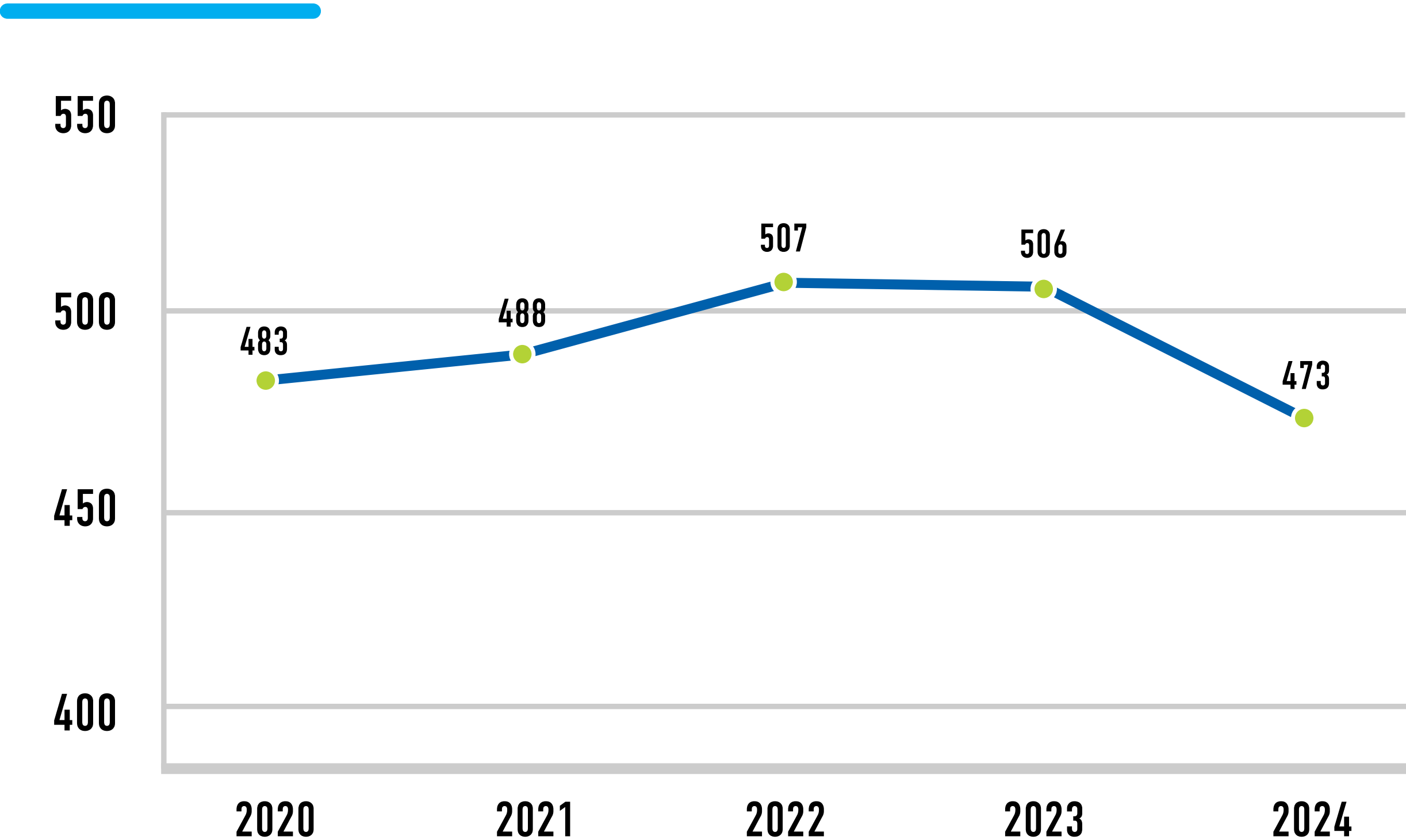


# CODE ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS





# RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD LICENSES ISSUED



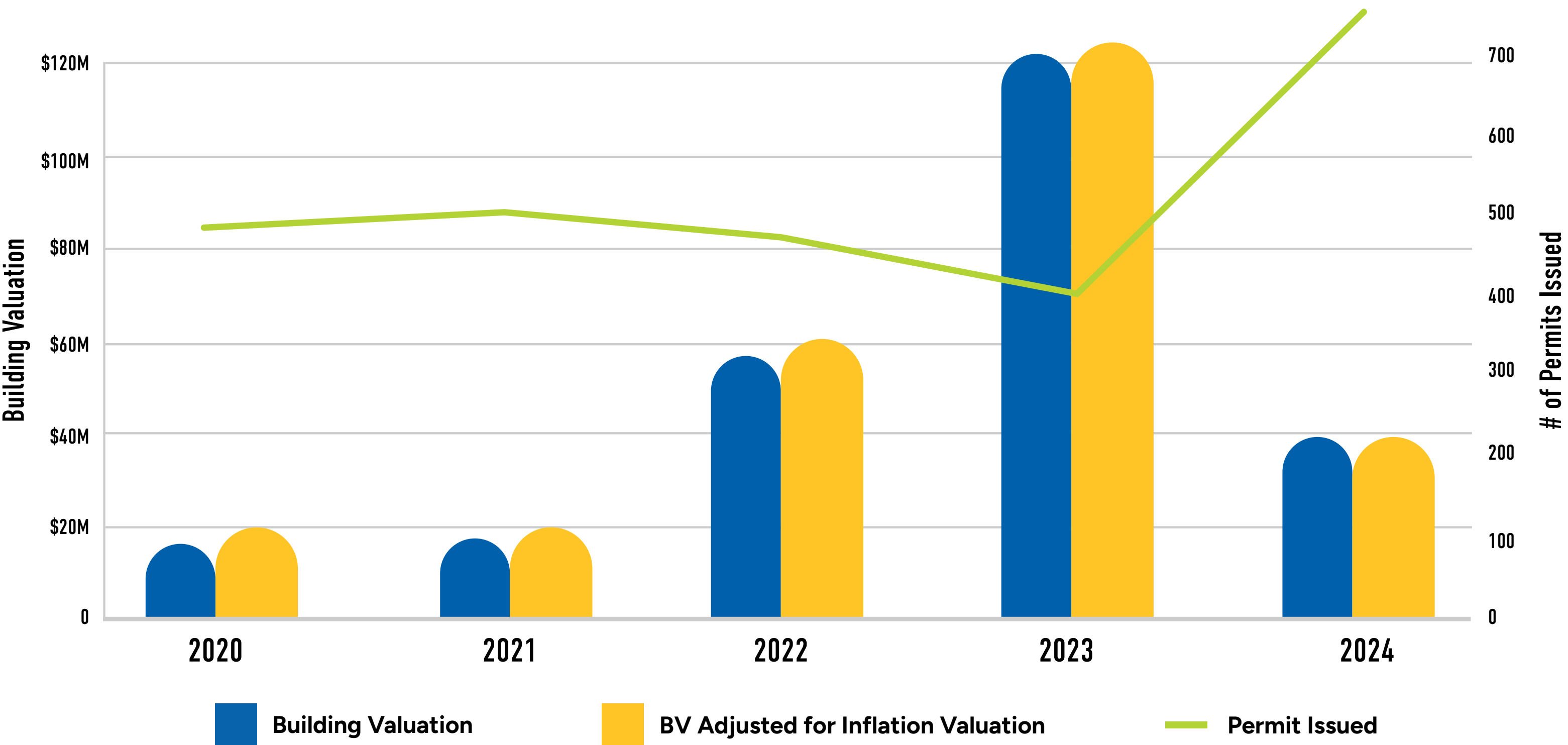


# 2024 BUILDING PERMITS

Permit Type	# of Permits Issued	Permit Fees	Building Valuation
Commercial	41	\$92,667	\$27,930,163
Demolition	7	\$808	\$111,000
MEP	152	\$37,246	\$4,316,517
Grading	2	\$3,309	\$475,500
Residential Alteration	512	\$98,575	\$6,249,760
Residential SF	1	\$2,394	\$350,000
Signs	33	\$5,159	\$309,364
Total	748	\$240,158	\$39,742,304



# 2020-2024 BUILDING PERMITS





# 2024 NEIGHBORHOOD GRANTS

**BLOCK PARTY**  
14 PARTIES  
\$3,521 REIMBURSED



**COMPOST & COMPOST BINS**  
6 HOUSEHOLDS  
\$822 REIMBURSED



**NEIGHBORHOOD ISLANDS**  
3 LOCATIONS  
\$1,228 REIMBURSED

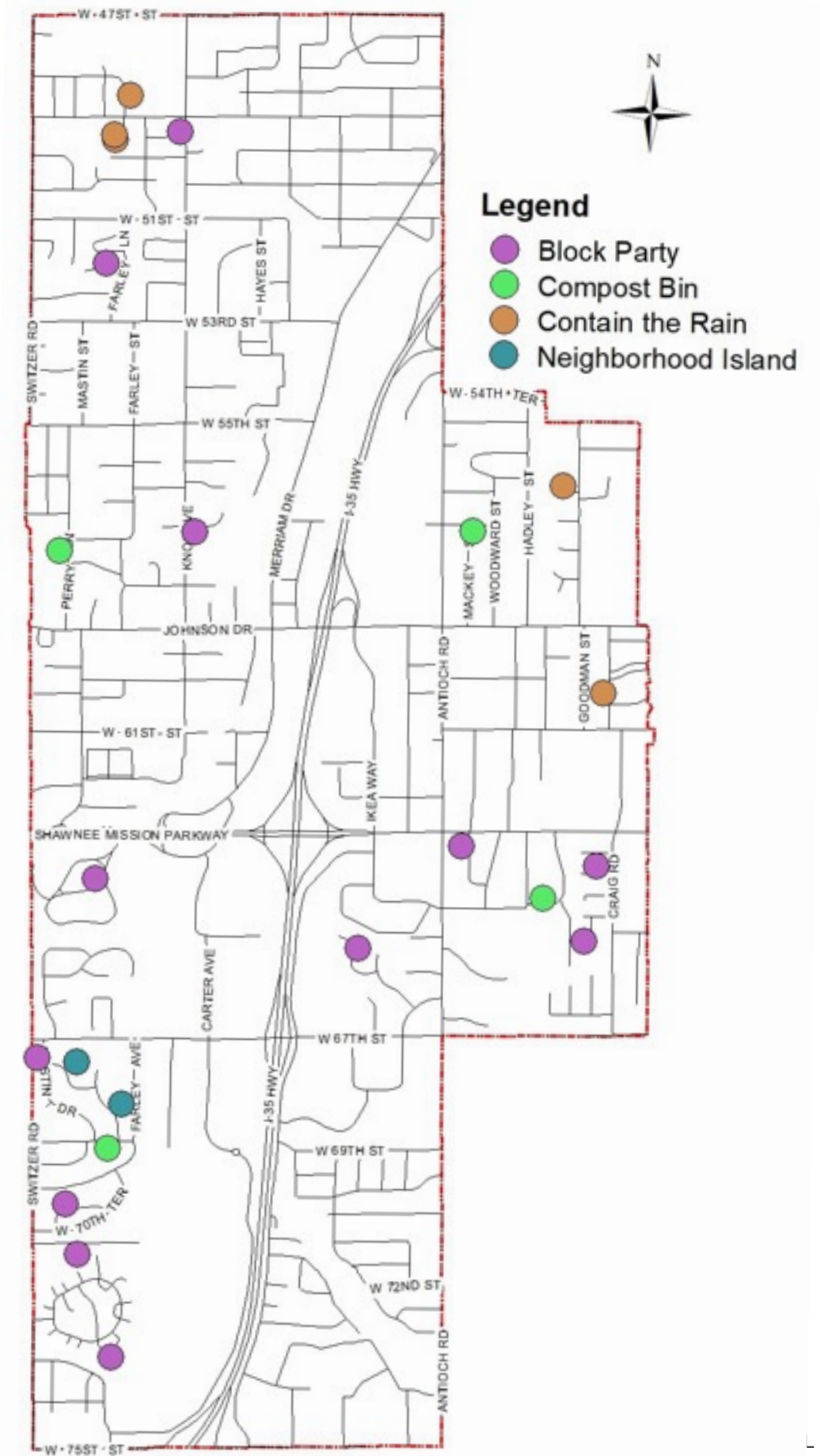


**CONTAIN THE RAIN**  
5 HOUSEHOLDS  
\$2,700 REIMBURSED



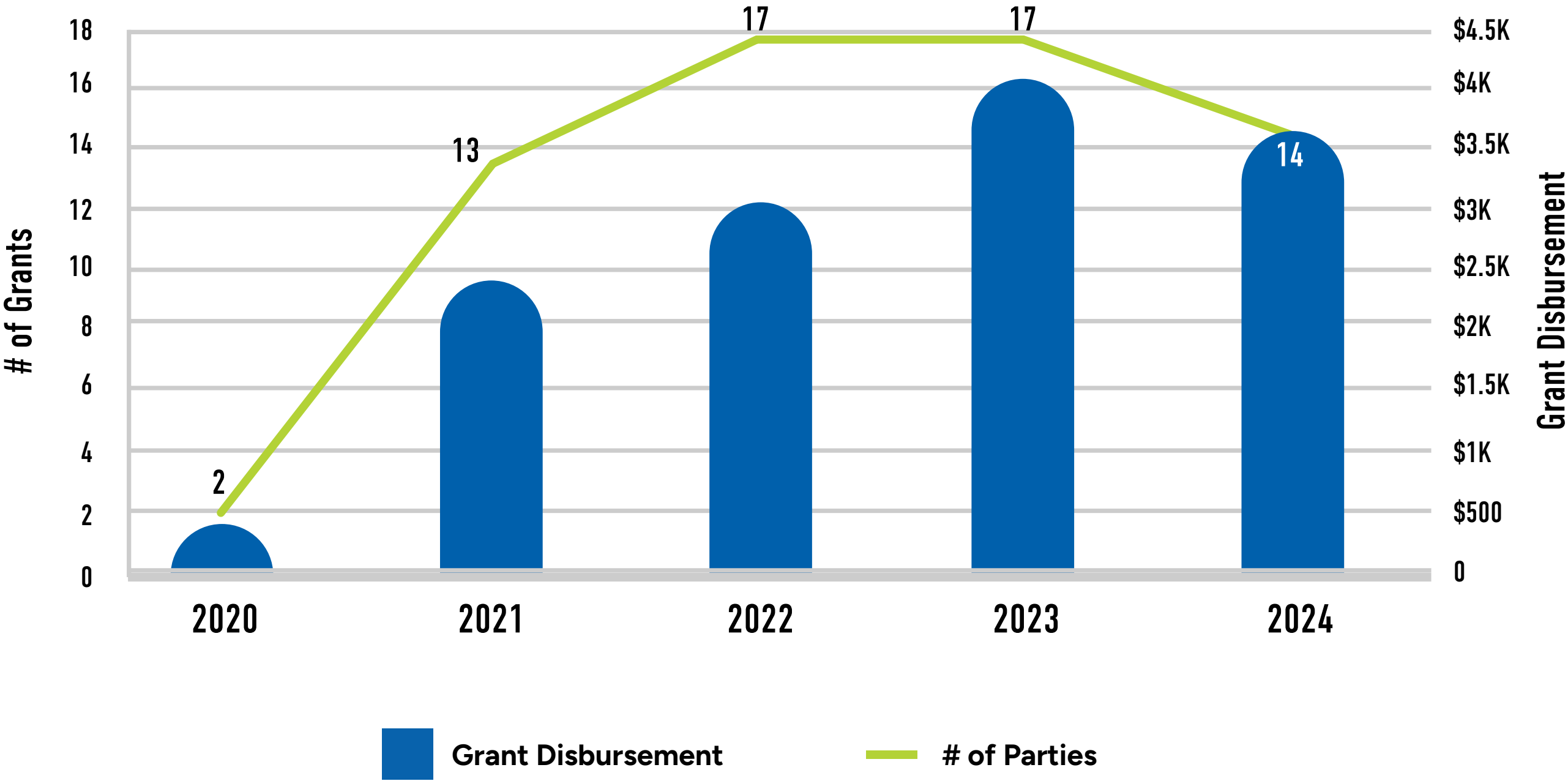


# NEIGHBORHOOD GRANT LOCATIONS



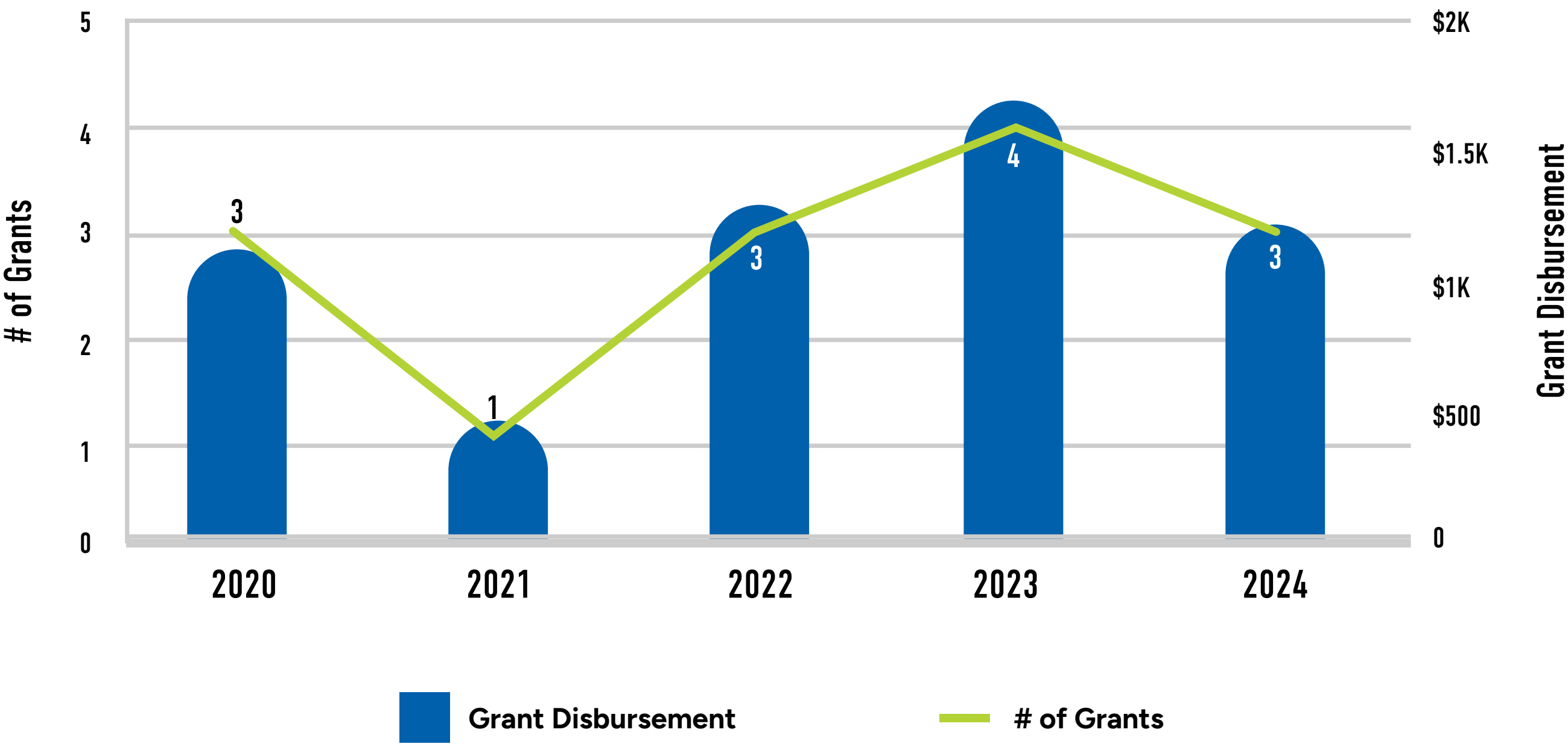


# BLOCK PARTIES





# NEIGHBORHOOD ISLANDS





# FOREST PARK & MASTIN DRIVE

BEFORE



AFTER





# 2024 ASSISTANCE GRANTS

## FRANCHISE FEE

52 HOUSEHOLDS  
\$4,645 REBATED  
\$89.32 AVG. BENEFIT



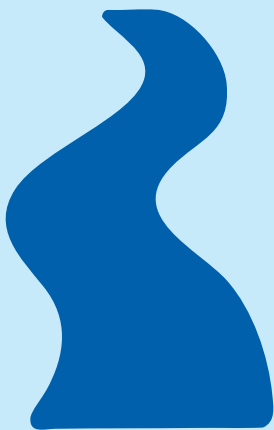
## RESIDENTIAL CITY PROPERTY TAX

63 HOUSEHOLDS  
\$41,534 REBATED  
\$659.27 AVG. BENEFIT



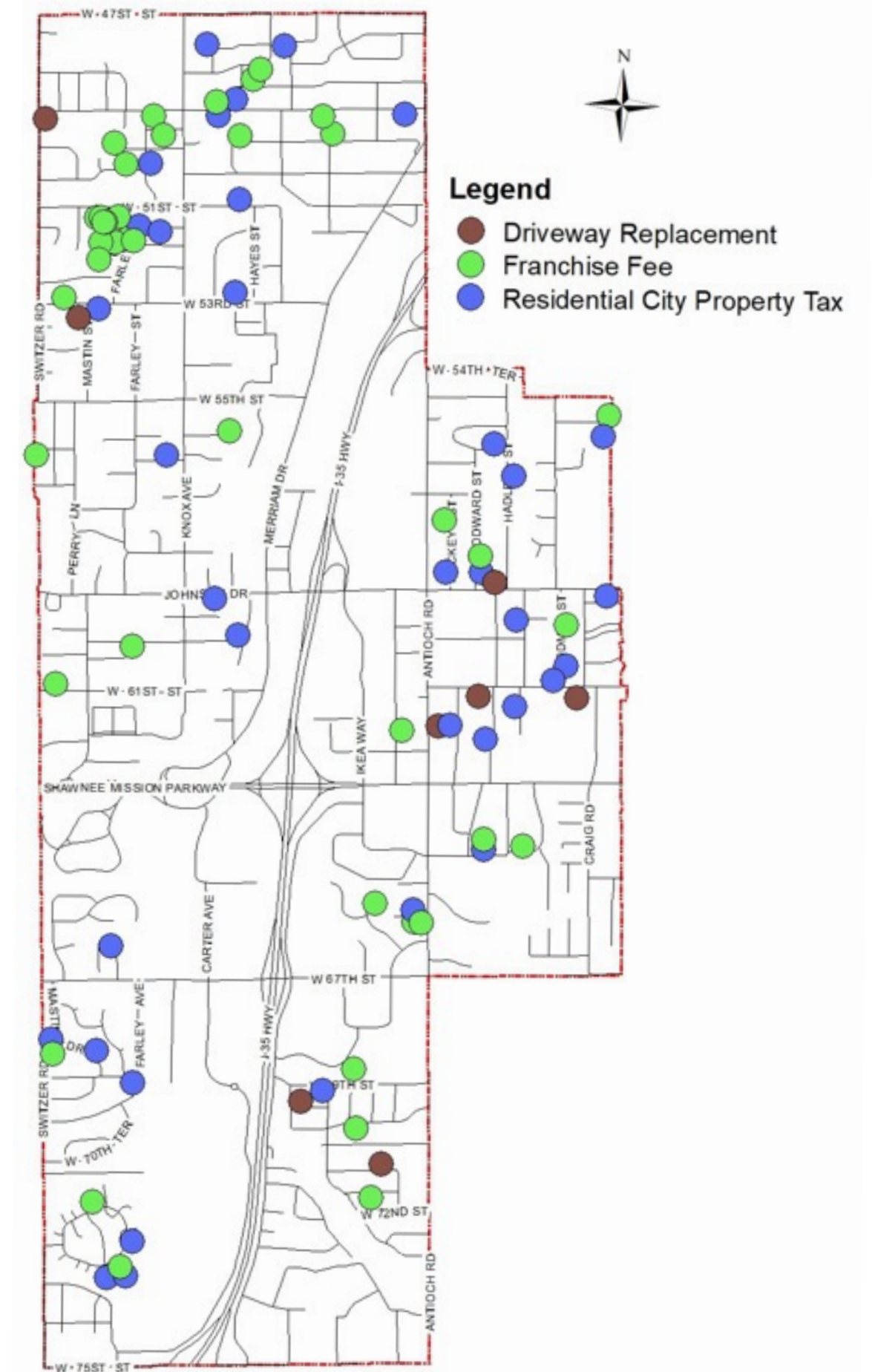
## RESIDENTIAL DRIVEWAY REPAIR/REPLACE

8 HOUSEHOLDS  
\$124,549 REIMBURSED  
\$15,569 AVG. BENEFIT



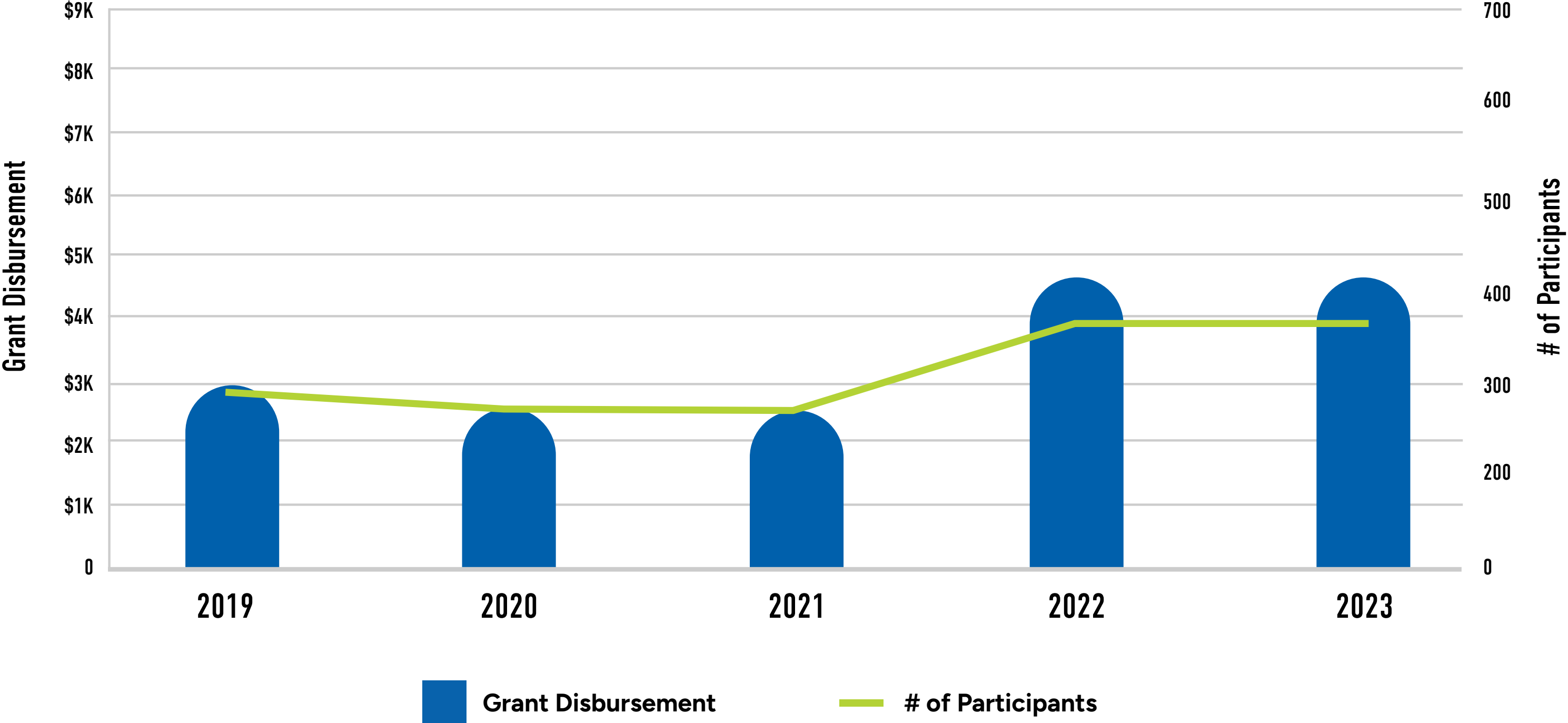


# ASSISTANCE GRANT LOCATIONS



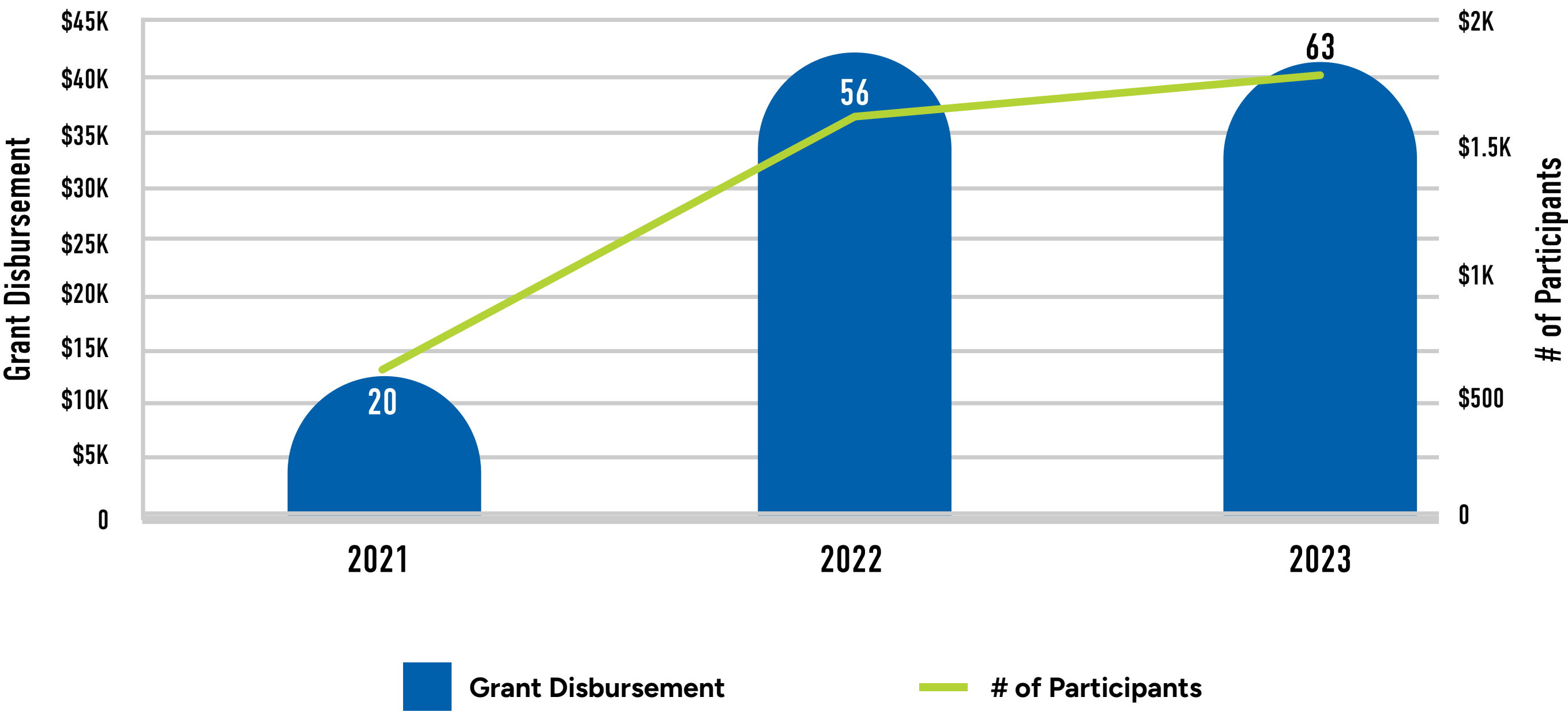


# FRANCHISE FEE REBATE



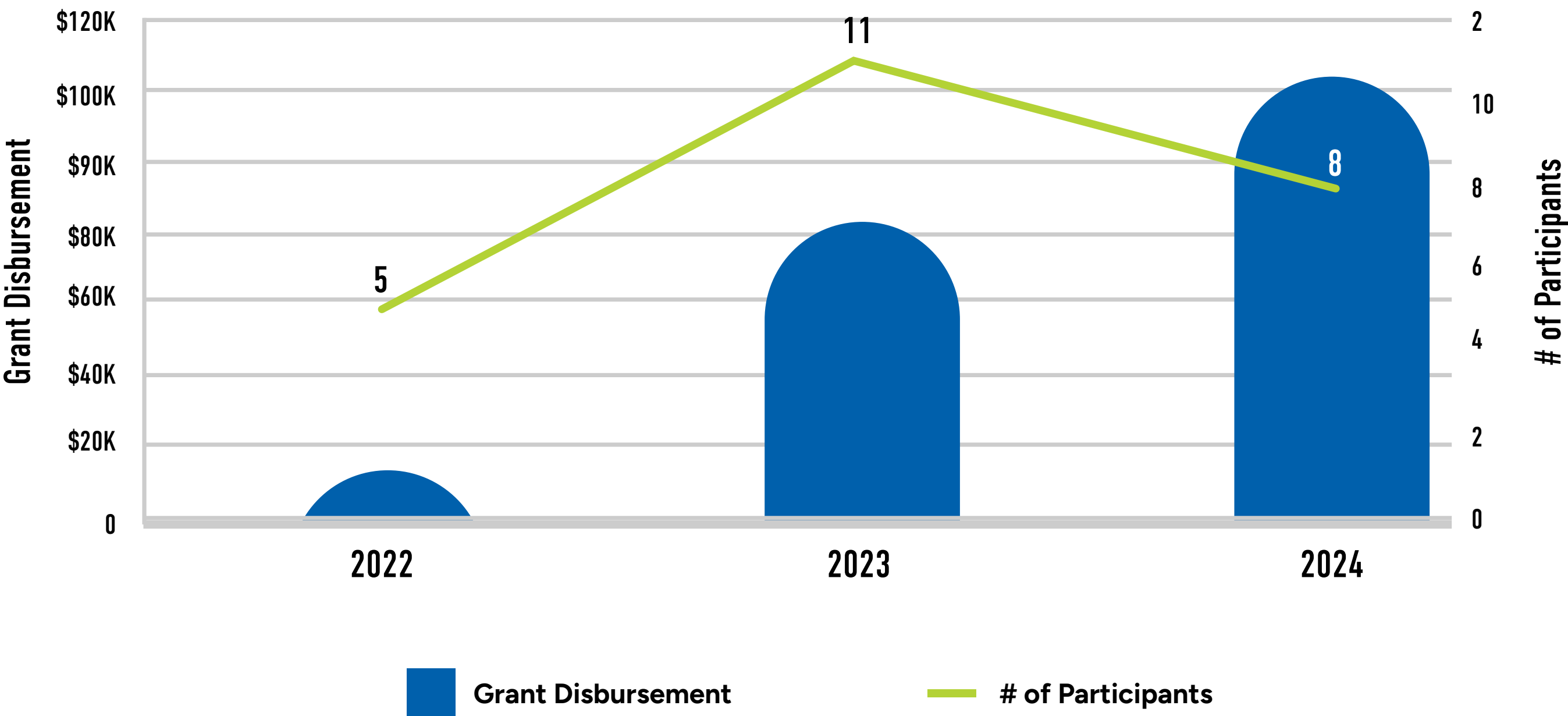


# CITY PROPERTY TAX REBATE





# DRIVEWAY REPAIR/REPLACEMENT





# RESIDENTIAL GRANTS SUMMARY



81 APPLICATIONS



71 HOMES IN PROGRAM

\$170,496

REIMBURSED



\$2,401

AVERAGE REIMBURSEMENT



\$11,667

LEVERAGED FUNDS

\$4.86

AVERAGE IMPROVEMENT AMOUNT  
*(OF PRIVATE FUNDS FOR \$1 OF CITY)*

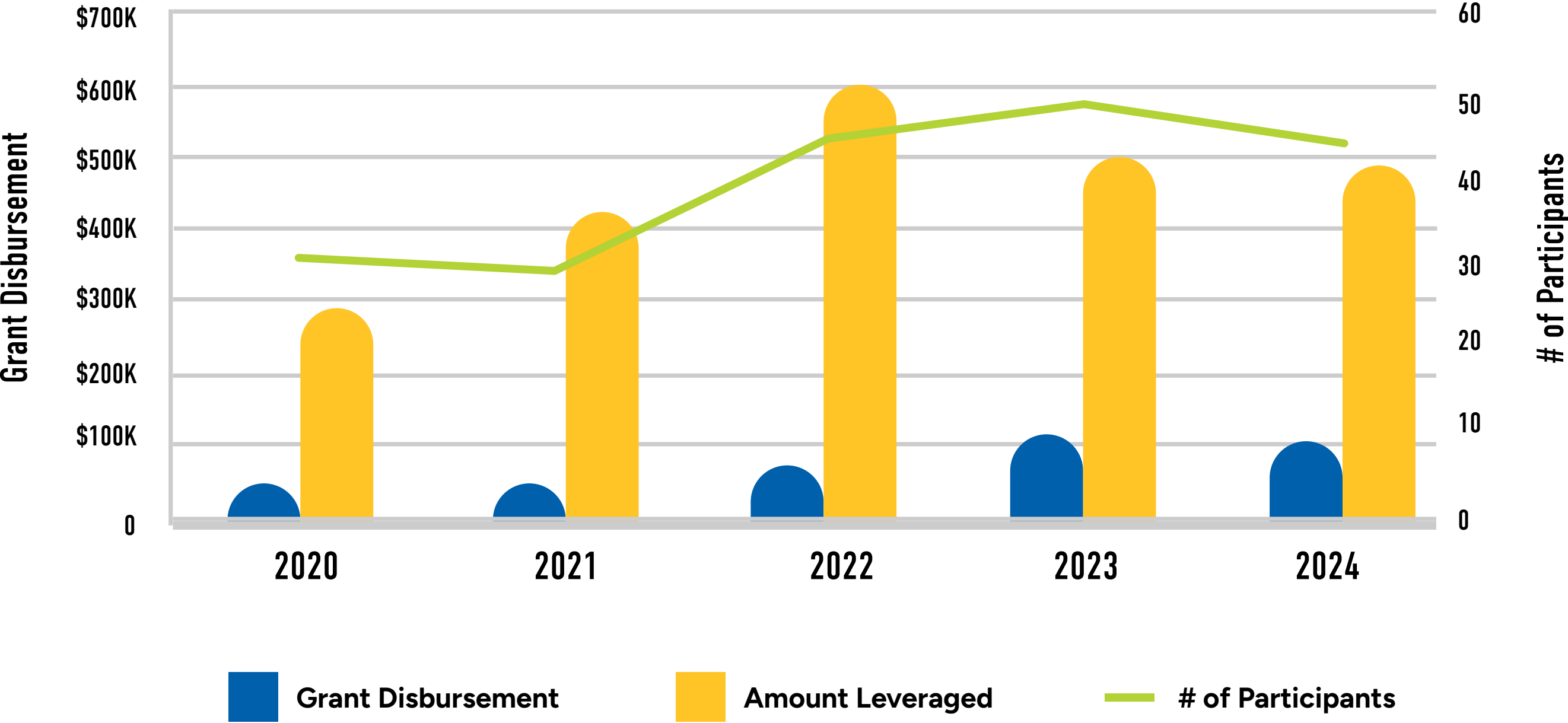


\$828,371

TOTAL REIMBURSEMENTS

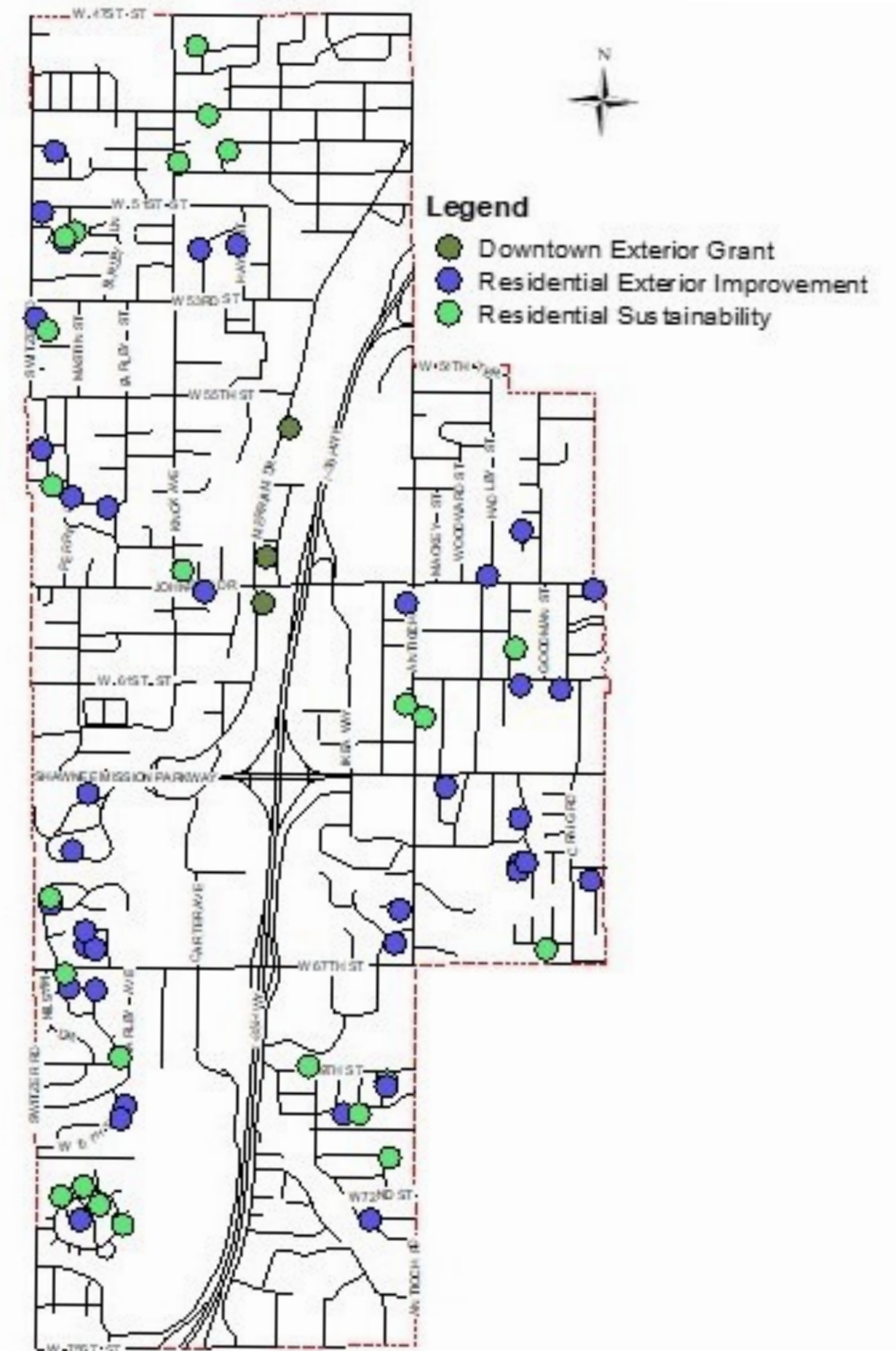


# RESIDENTIAL EXTERIOR IMPROVEMENTS





# EXTERIOR IMPROVEMENTS & SUSTAINABILITY LOCATIONS





# RESIDENTIAL EXTERIOR IMPROVEMENTS

Roof/Siding/Painting/Windows	26
Landscaping/Drainage	4
Driveway/Sidewalk/Fence/Deck	15
Total	45

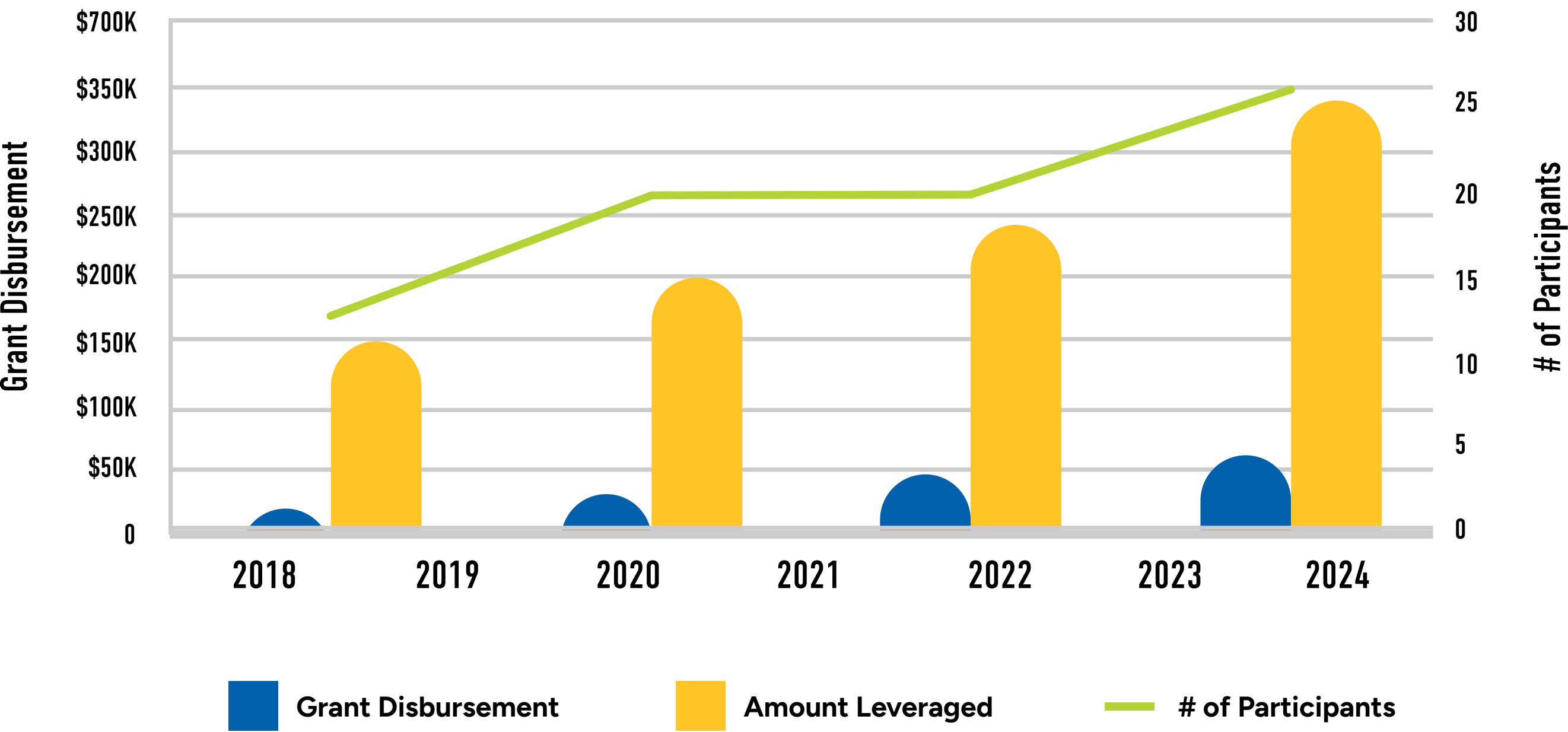


# RESIDENTIAL SUSTAINABILITY

Windows	9
HVAC	11
Insulation	4
Solar Panels	2
Total	26



# RESIDENTIAL SUSTAINABILITY





# EXTERIOR IMPROVEMENTS

BEFORE



AFTER



# DOWNTOWN EXTERIOR GRANT SUMMARY

3

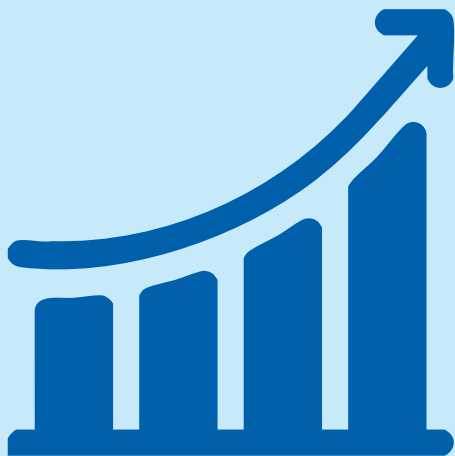
BUILDINGS IN PROGRAM



\$5,992  
REIMBURSED



\$57,834  
TOTAL IMPROVEMENTS





# 2024 ASSISTANCE GRANTS

## RENTAL ASSISTANCE

PARTNERED WITH JOCO AGING & HUMAN SERVICES

4 HOUSEHOLDS



\$1,200 TOTAL BENEFIT



\$300 AVERAGE BENEFIT



## UTILITY ASSISTANCE

PARTNERED WITH JOCO AGING & HUMAN SERVICES

52 HOUSEHOLDS



\$7,560 TOTAL BENEFIT



\$145 AVERAGE BENEFIT





**POLICE**



**The Merriam Police Department** is guided by the philosophy of community policing, working together with our residents, business owners, and visitors.







Merriam officers attended more than 45 community events in 2024, including Cub Scout station tours, family and community events, a recycling event, women's situational awareness classes, and more.



In December, seven officers and four staff members helped kids celebrate the holidays with Northeast Elves (NOEL). Thanks to donor contributions, five elementary students from Merriam and Westwood shopped for presents for their family members. Then, they ate dinner and met Santa while volunteers wrapped their presents.





Officers met with community members at three Coffee with a Cop events in June, August, and October.



Officers participated in annual fundraising events, including the Polar Plunge, Heroes Pull, Torch Run, and a silent auction, which resulted in thousands of dollars raised for Special Olympics Kansas.



Officers greeted young students at weekly Motivational Mondays at Crestview Elementary and High-Five Fridays at Merriam Park Elementary schools.



# 2024 CRIME STATISTICS

Crime Type	2023	2024	% Change
Property Crimes	825	800	-3%
Crimes Against Society	446	333	-25%
Person Crimes	208	200	-4%



# 2024 CALLS FOR SERVICE

Year	Calls for Service	Self-Initiated Calls	Reports Taken	Arrests
2021	9,692	11,659	3,833	1,295
2022	9,581	9,487	3,570	1,091
2023	10,091	8,035	3,627	1,068
2024	9,441	10,790	3,723	852

# NUMBER OF CITIZENS SERVED

Year	Number of Citizens Served						Police Data		
	911 Response on Scene & by Phone	ER Diverts	Jail Diverts	Follow up by Phone or Mail	Two Officer Outreach Door Knock In-Person	Other Co-Responder Contacts*	Reports Flagged Mental Health	Crisis Line Utilized by LEO	
	2022	152	11	21	110	49	128	347	131
	2023	234	25	7	300	69	341	403	105
	2024	238	28	6	322	63	347	357	120



# TOP FIVE ACCIDENT LOCATIONS

99 SHAWNEE MISSION PARKWAY



64 JOHNSON DRIVE



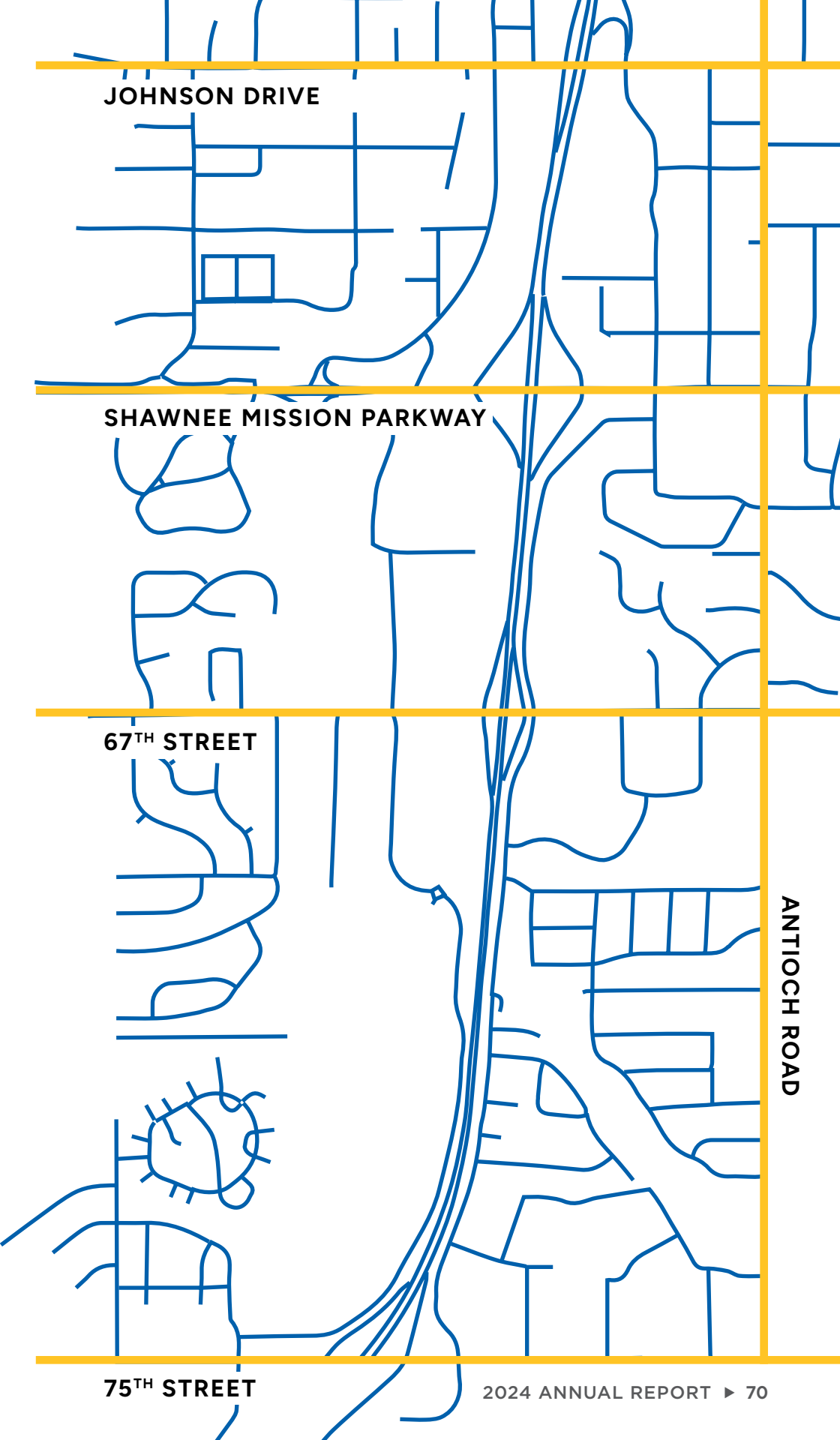
51 ANTIOCH ROAD



39 67<sup>TH</sup> ST.



30 75<sup>TH</sup> ST.





**FIRE DEPARTMENT**



**The Overland Park Fire Department** provides fire and medical services to the City of Merriam in a unique partnership.





# FIRE INCIDENTS

## COMMERCIAL

\$702,000

ESTIMATED COMMERCIAL  
PROPERTY AND CONTENTS VALUE

\$702,000

ESTIMATED COMMERCIAL  
DOLLAR LOSS

0%

ESTIMATED COMMERCIAL PROPERTY/  
CONTENTS SAVED PERCENTAGE  
*(THIS WORKS OUT TO BE 0.47% OF THE ASSESSED  
COMMERCIAL VALUATION.)*

## RESIDENTIAL

\$19,168,904

ESTIMATED RESIDENTIAL  
PROPERTY AND CONTENTS VALUE

\$544,888

ESTIMATED RESIDENTIAL  
DOLLAR LOSS

97.15%

ESTIMATED RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY/  
CONTENTS SAVED PERCENTAGE  
*(THIS WORKS OUT TO BE 0.40% OF THE ASSESSED  
RESIDENTIAL VALUATION.)*



# 35 TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES

12 CAR FIRES



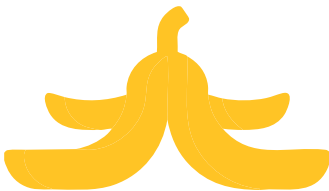
7 BUILDING FIRES



5 COOKING FIRES IN CONTAINER



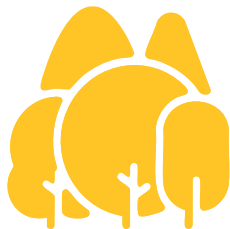
4 OUTSIDE RUBBISH/ TRASH FIRE



2 BRUSH/GRASS & BRUSH FIRES



2 NATURAL VEGETATION/OTHER



1 GRASS FIRE



1 TRASH FIRE IN A STRUCTURE



1 DUMPSTER/OUTSIDE TRASH RECEPTACLE FIRE FIRE



# FIRE DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

279

FIRE INSPECTIONS  
PERFORMED

94%

FIRE CODE VIOLATIONS  
CORRECTED

264

BURN PERMITS  
ISSUED

1,870

TOTAL CALL VOLUME

1,503

TOTAL EMS CALLS

367

TOTAL FIRE/OTHER CALLS











# **PARKS & RECREATION**



**Merriam Parks and Recreation** provides classes and workshops, promotes fitness and wellness, and creates lifetime memories for families and community center patrons.







2024 marked the inaugural year of the Military Tribute Banner Program with participation from seven families.



Installed new bollards along the Turkey Creek Streamway Trail and implemented a replacement plan for picnic tables and trash receptacles in city parks.





**Community members rented out park shelters 52 times.**



**Merriam Marketplace was rented out eight times.**



**There were 106 field rentals at Waterfall Park.**



# SPECIAL EVENT PARTICIPATION



FARMERS' MARKET

2023: 12,202 // 2024: 12,906



COMMUNITY SPECIAL EVENTS

2023: 20,171 // 2024: 14,363



MERRIAM COMMUNITY CENTER VISITS

2023: 229,399 // 2024: 236,323

2023 TOTAL EVENT PARTICIPATION  
261,772

2024 TOTAL EVENT PARTICIPATION  
263,865



# SPECIAL EVENT ATTENDANCE



ART GALLERY RECEPTIONS // 971



TURKEY CREEK FESTIVAL // 5,000



TURKEY CREEK FESTIVAL 5K // 267



FAMILY FUN FRIDAYS // 325



CONCERT IN THE COURTYARD // 400



CRUISE NIGHTS // 180



TURKEY CREEK CAR & MOTORCYCLE SHOW  
4,000



MERRIAM DRIVE LIVE // 1,325



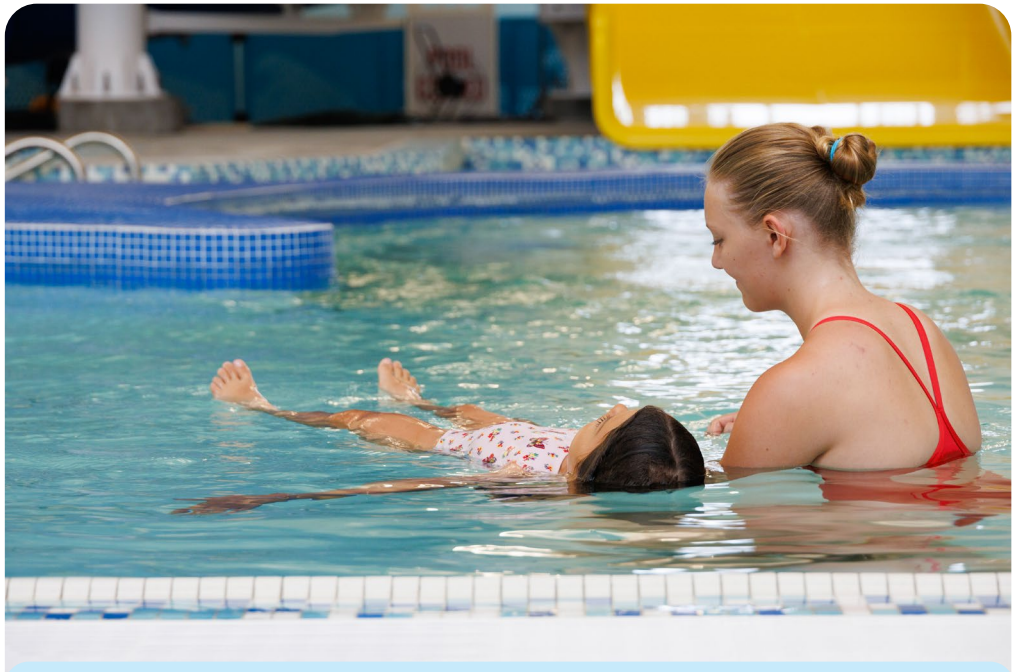
HALLOWEEN HAPPENINGS // 350



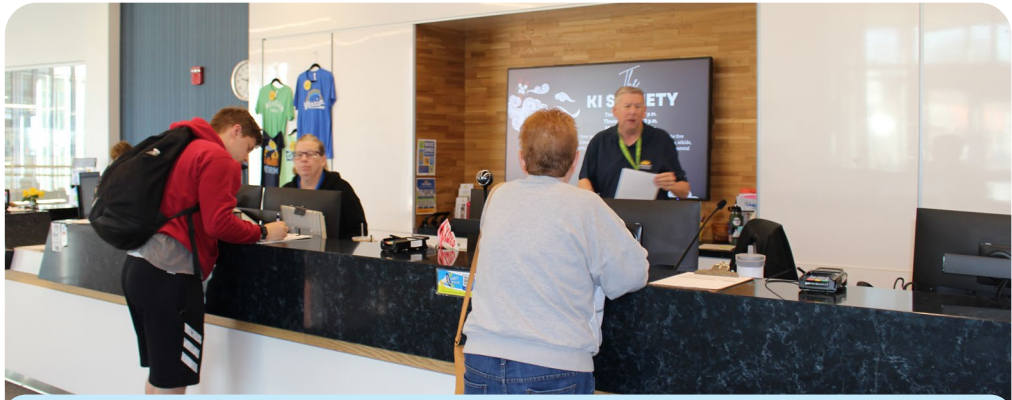
CHRISTMAS IN THE COURTYARD  
175



# MCC PATRON PARTICIPATION



**YOUTH (AQUATIC/EDUCATION)**  
2023 Participation: 10,062 // 2024 Participation: 13,119



**MEMBERSHIP & DAILY VISITS**  
2023 Participation: 115,356 // 2024 Participation: 172,614



**WATER FITNESS**  
2023 Participation: 5,167 // 2024 Participation: 6,895

**RENTALS**  
2023 Participation: 31,064 // 2024 Participation: 34,363

**TOTAL PARTICIPATION**  
2023 Participation: 210,425 // 2024 Participation: 236,323



**ADULT (LAND/YOGA/EDUCATION)**  
2023 Participation: 3,820 // 2024 Participation: 4,290



**50+**  
2023 Participation: 4,776 // 2024 Participation: 5,042



# MCC HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Scholarship Assistance approved 33 MCC membership applications (30 redeemed) for a total assistance of \$12,232 with \$6,520 reimbursed by the foundation.
- ▶ Dolphin Fund approved 18 applications for swim lessons representing 51 children (19 redeemed) total assistance \$1,397 - 100% reimbursed by the Dolphin Fund.
- ▶ Senior Fit Class Pass Scholarship approved one application for \$240. This was reimbursed by the Park, Recreation & Community Foundation.
- ▶ 3,392 active memberships, equating to 5,254 active members. This is 406 memberships more and an additional 403 active members from 2023.
- ▶ **New Programs:** Senior Strength, Ballet Yoga, Tap Class, Pickleball Kickstart, and partnered with Kansas City VA Medical Center for GeroFit. Added three new personal trainers.





# MCC HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Added hardware to stabilize the portable art gallery wall and upgraded the pool's chemical control system to resolve recurring factory reset issues.
- ▶ Added fitness equipment, including a new upright bicycle, a selectorized abdominal machine, heavier kettlebells, and new EZ bars.
- ▶ Approved to offer SilverSneakers programs, resulting in increased visitation and reimbursement.
- ▶ Volunteers are essential to the success of special events. In 2024, volunteers contributed about 190 hours representing a monetary value of \$28.50 per hour. This provided the department with a cost savings estimate of \$5,187 in salaries, enabling resources to be allocated to other operational needs.





# MCC OPERATIONS REVENUE



## RENTALS

2023: \$196,962 // 2024: \$228,448



## MEMBERSHIPS

2023: \$1,035,594 // 2024: \$1,151,107



## PROGRAMS

2023: \$282,825 // 2024: \$351,901

2023 TOTAL REVENUE  
\$1,515,381

2024 TOTAL REVENUE  
\$1,731,504



# MCC OPERATIONS EXPENSES



## PERSONNEL

2023: \$1,510,810  
2024: \$1,683,967



## CONTRACTED SERVICES

2023: \$475,378  
2024: \$504,684



## UTILITIES

2023: \$238,378  
2024: \$278,085



## GENERAL SUPPLIES

2023: \$117,799  
2024: \$131,525

2023 TOTAL EXPENSES  
\$2,342,365

2024 TOTAL EXPENSES  
\$2,598,951



# COST RECOVERY COMPARISON

	2023	2024
Revenues	\$1,515,381	\$1,731,504
Expenses	\$2,342,365	\$2,598,951
Total Subsidy	\$826,984	\$867,447
Cost Recovery	64.7%	66.6%

# FALL IN LOVE WITH PARKS CAMPAIGN

- ▶ In August, we featured a “Fall in Love with Parks” campaign for community members to explore all 10 of Merriam’s scenic parks and trails.
- ▶ They solved clues to identify each park and then could scan a QR code to enter to win a \$100 gift card.
- ▶ This campaign was very popular, with 660 entries submitted.





# FARMERS' MARKET SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Operated for 21 weeks.
- ▶ 590 vendors for the season, which averaged 28 vendors per week.
- ▶ Averaged 614 shoppers per week.
- ▶ Shoppers enjoyed live music performances on the first Saturday of each month.
- ▶ Children enjoyed free kids activities on the third Saturday of each month.
- ▶ Parks and Recreation celebrated on the Merriam Farmers' Market 25th anniversary.
- ▶ Hosted the first Kids Maker Market.







**PUBLIC WORKS**



**The Public Works Department** maintains the City's streets, fleet, stormwater system, facilities, parks, and manages the Capital Improvement Program.





# OVERVIEW

Public Works provides the following services:

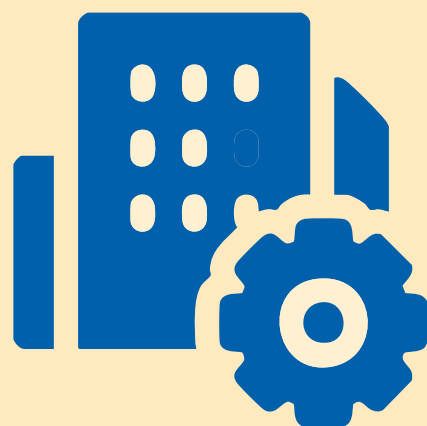
MAINTENANCE OF CITY  
INFRASTRUCTURE



FLEET  
MAINTENANCE



FACILITIES  
MAINTENANCE



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT  
PROGRAM





# MAINTENANCE OF CITY INFRASTRUCTURE

- ▶ Maintained city streets, streetlights, traffic signals, stormwater facilities, and parks and trails throughout the year.
- ▶ Crack sealed 12 lane miles of roadway.
- ▶ Repaired or replaced 4.3 lane miles of asphalt pavement.
- ▶ Replaced 3.1 miles of concrete (curb and sidewalk).
- ▶ Maintained 1,800 streetlights, installed 47 new streetlights, and converted 25 streetlights to LEDs.
- ▶ Street swept 1,700 lane miles.
- ▶ Replaced and/or lined 2,500 feet of stormwater pipe and cleaned 1,166 inlets.
- ▶ Mowed and trimmed over 60 acres of state right of way and nine city parks.
- ▶ Issued 142 right of way permits, including permit review and construction inspection.





# FLEET MAINTENANCE

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- ▶ Maintained 55 vehicles and 105 types of equipment throughout the year.
- ▶ Upfitted two new police patrol vehicles, a new Public Works heavy-duty truck, and a new Fire Department squad truck.
- ▶ Installed new in-car camera systems in 11 patrol vehicles.





# FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

---

- ▶ Maintained five city facilities and a parking structure throughout the year.
- ▶ Completed the City Hall exterior improvements project.
- ▶ Commenced HVAC and building control upgrades for city facilities.





# CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM



Continued ongoing design and coordination discussions with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the Upper Turkey Creek Project.



Completed Construction: 2024 Mill and Overlay, 2024 Sidewalk Replacement Program, and 50th Terrace and England St. Drainage Improvements Projects.



Received \$2,862,000 in STP funds for 2027 for the Merriam Drive Project (55th St. to 50th Terrace).



# CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM



**Managed 14 projects with a total project budget of \$19,955,000.**



**Commenced construction for the Undergrounding Utilities Project and the installation of 860 streetlight LED retrofit kits with Carbon Reduction Program grant funds.**

**Commenced design on the Shawnee Mission Parkway and I-35 Professional Engineering Study and the 2025 Street and Drainage Improvements Project.**



# PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMS



Performed five citywide cleanup campaigns: two large-item pickups, one tree limb pickup, one holiday tree pickup, and one storm debris drop-off.



Maintained 210 hanging baskets.



Maintained a butterfly garden and provided free milkweed seeds to the community for the Mayors' Monarch Pledge.



# PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMS



**Completed a tree grant program for residents, with 165 free trees planted by the Heartland Tree Alliance.**



**Administered three Neighborhood Island grants.**





*Thank you!*



merriam.org