



PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION

Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland



Photo by Metropolitan Family Service



Ranger Program Presentation

March 11, 2015

Galina Burley, Chief Ranger, Security and Emergency Management Manager
Hasan Artharee, Ranger Program Supervisor



“Portland Park Rangers have been and continue to be a welcome asset to our efforts. We are delighted at the friendly, helpful and valuable efforts they bring to our goal of advocacy for the homeless.”

*Lesley Snider
Bridgetown Inc. administrator*

Key Points

- Program overview and background
- Current staffing west and east of the river
- Performance measurements
- Policy options



Rangers are Ambassadors

Charged with providing information, educating park users and gaining voluntary compliance for park rules, resolving park user conflicts and enforcing City Code.



Background

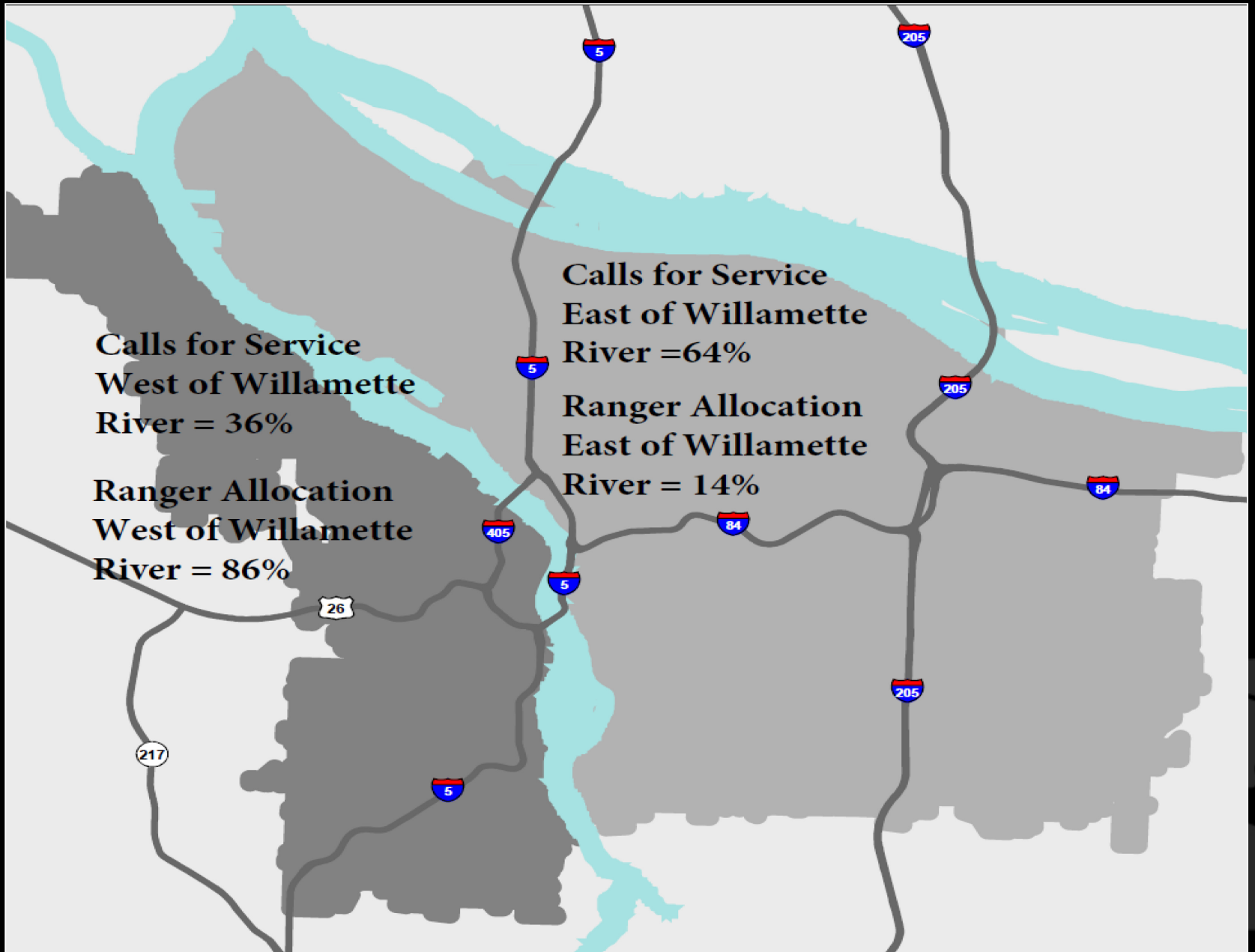
- 1990's – no permanent status rangers. One supervisor and 10 seasonal staff.
- 2010 dedicated ranger staffing in Forest Park.
- 2011 conversion of private security dollars in Central Business District (CCBD) to dedicated ranger staffing.
- 2013 conversion of bathroom lockup dollars to seasonal rangers.
- 2014 commitment to use parking revenues in Washington Park for dedicated rangers.



Current Staffing

- 14 rangers on duty daily
 - Seven (7) permanent, full time rangers
 - Seven (7) seasonal rangers
- All permanent rangers are assigned to parks west of the river.
- Capacity east of the river is limited.
- New Customer Service/Ranger Dispatch Function.
- Community calls for service – 60+% east of the river.





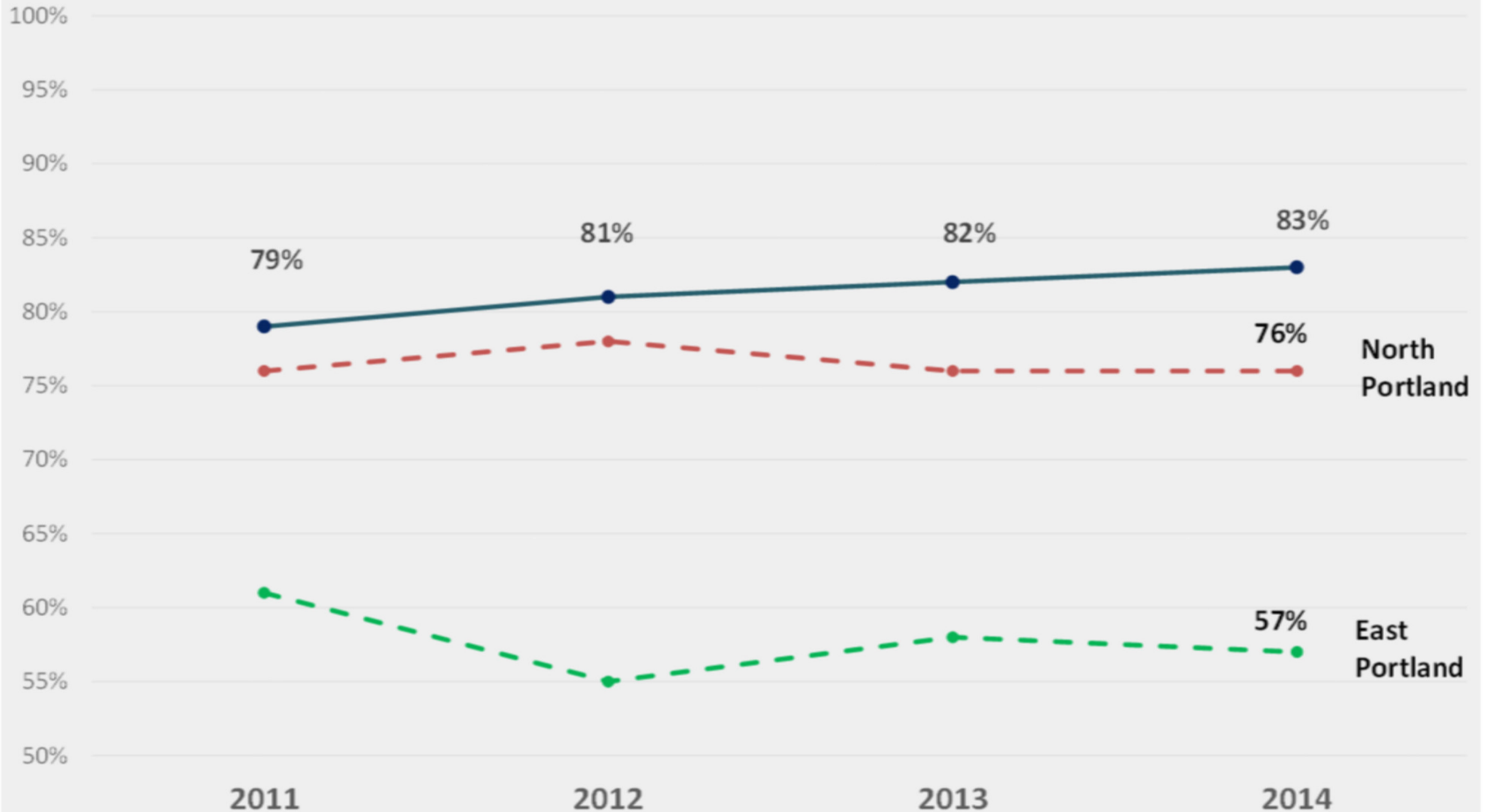
Performance Measures and Data

- For purposes of this report the following measures and associated data are presented:
 - Percentage of residents feeling safe walking in a park alone
 - The number of positive and educational contacts
 - The number of park warnings and exclusions
 - Nuisance Abatements
 - Camping contacts

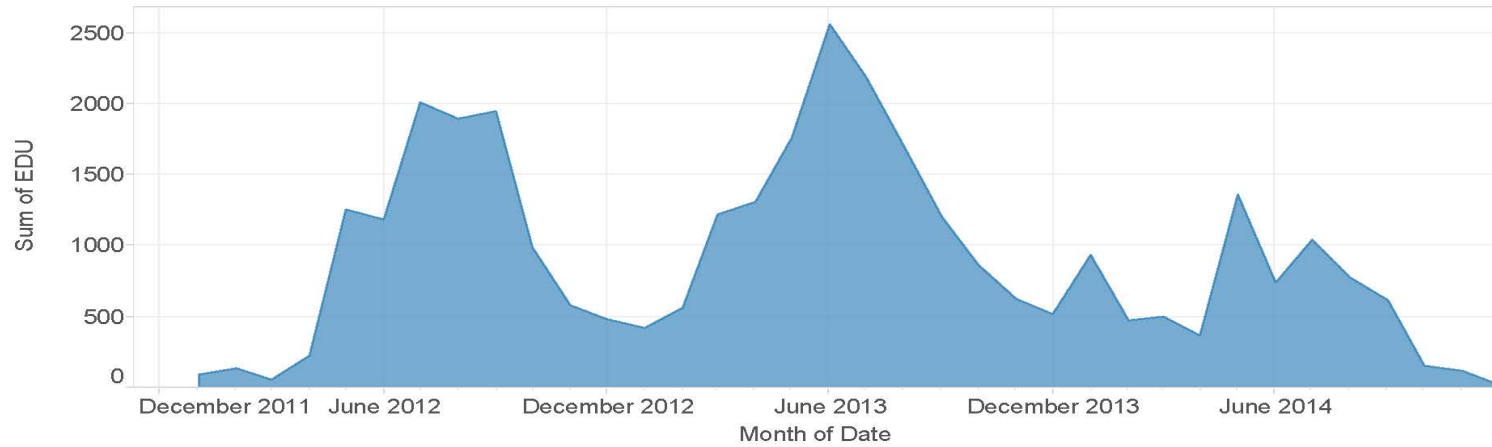


City Auditor's Resident Survey

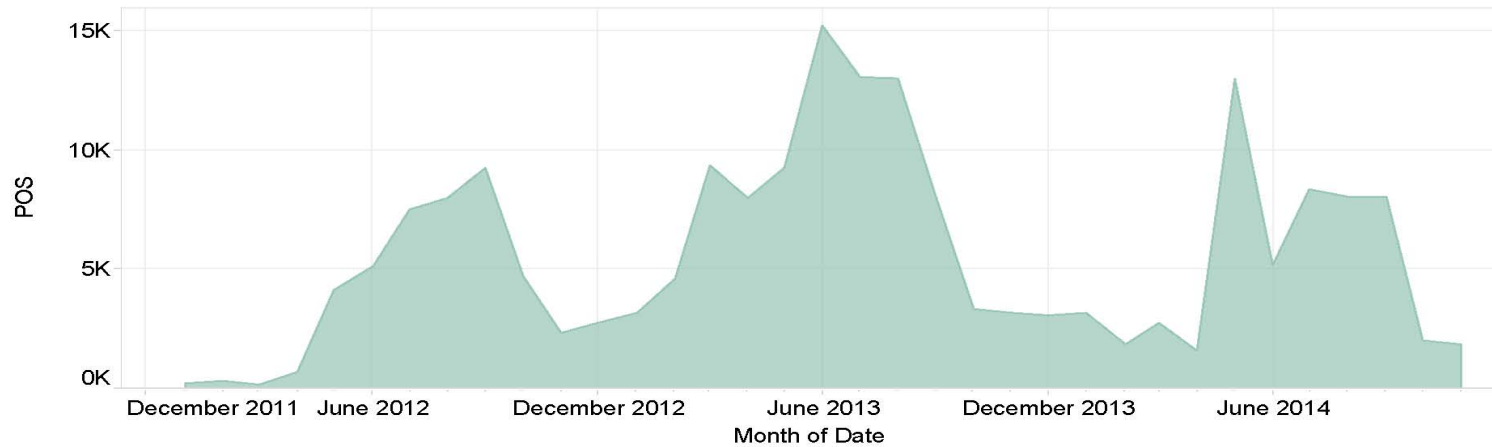
Percentage of residents feeling safe or very safe walking in a park alone during the day



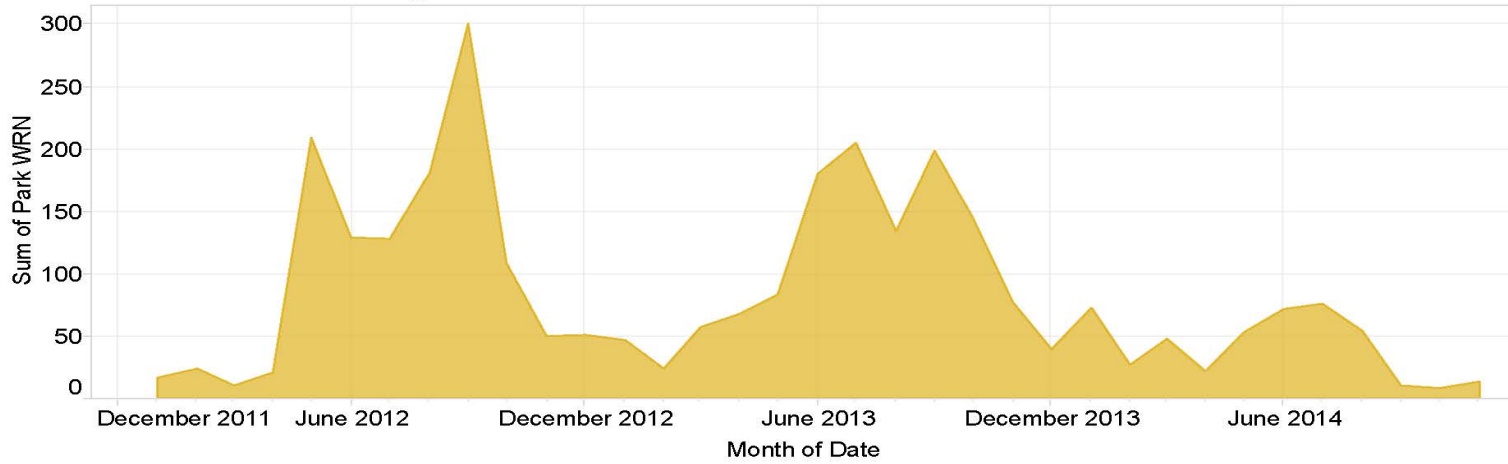
Number of Education Contacts



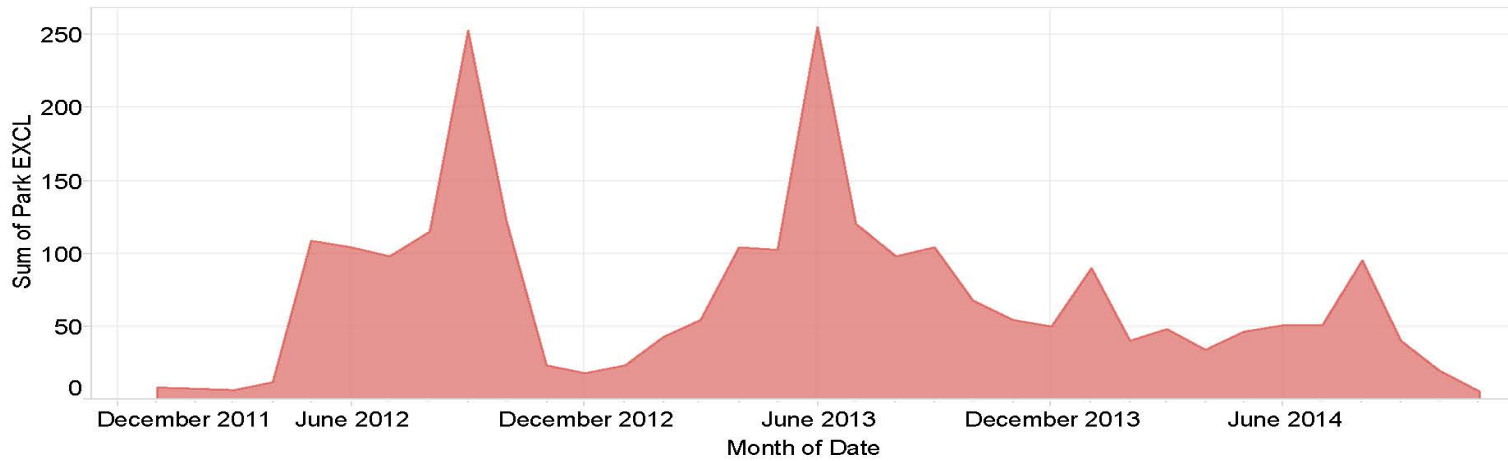
Number of Positive Contacts



Number of Park Warnings

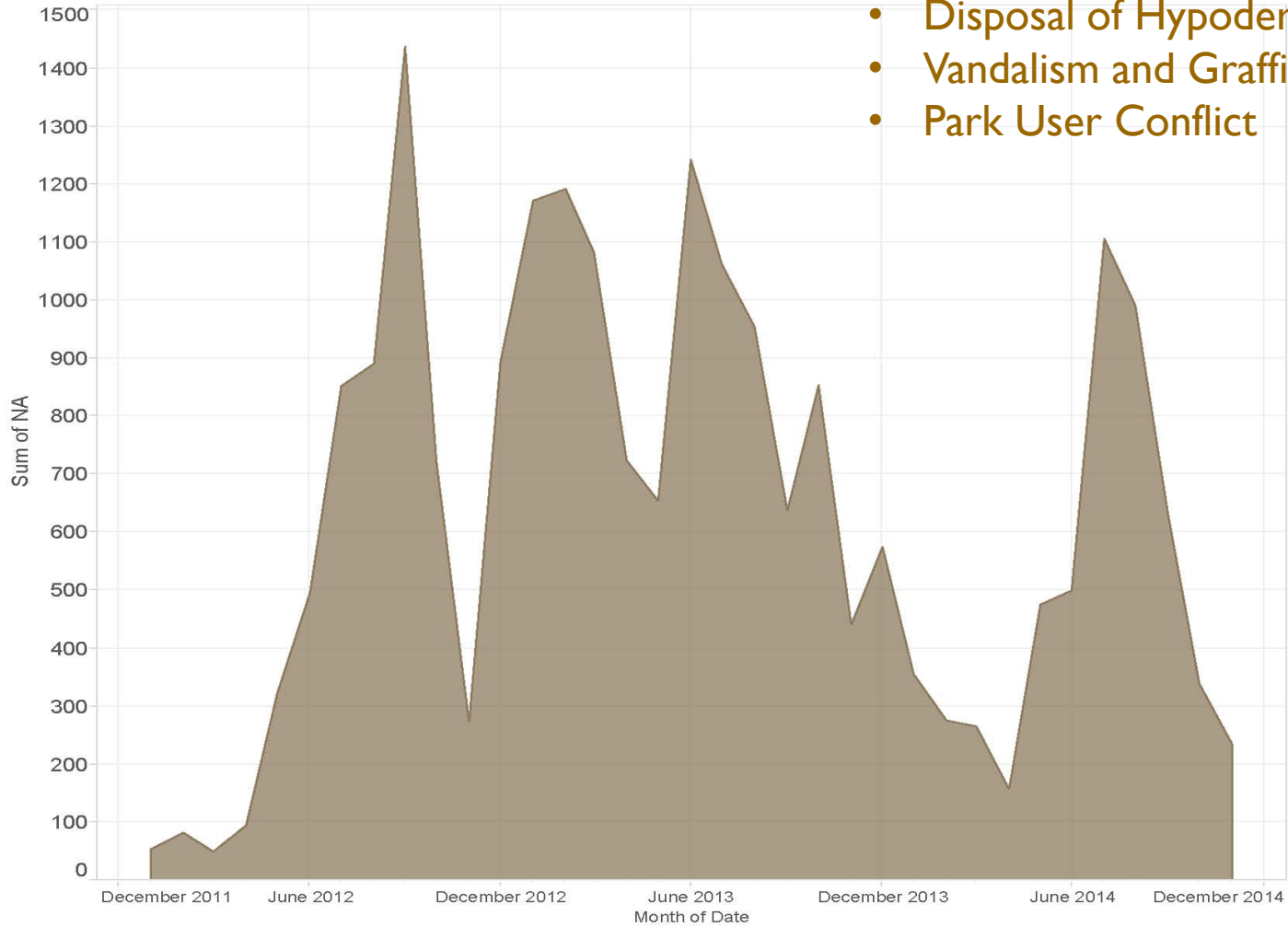


Number of Park Exclusions

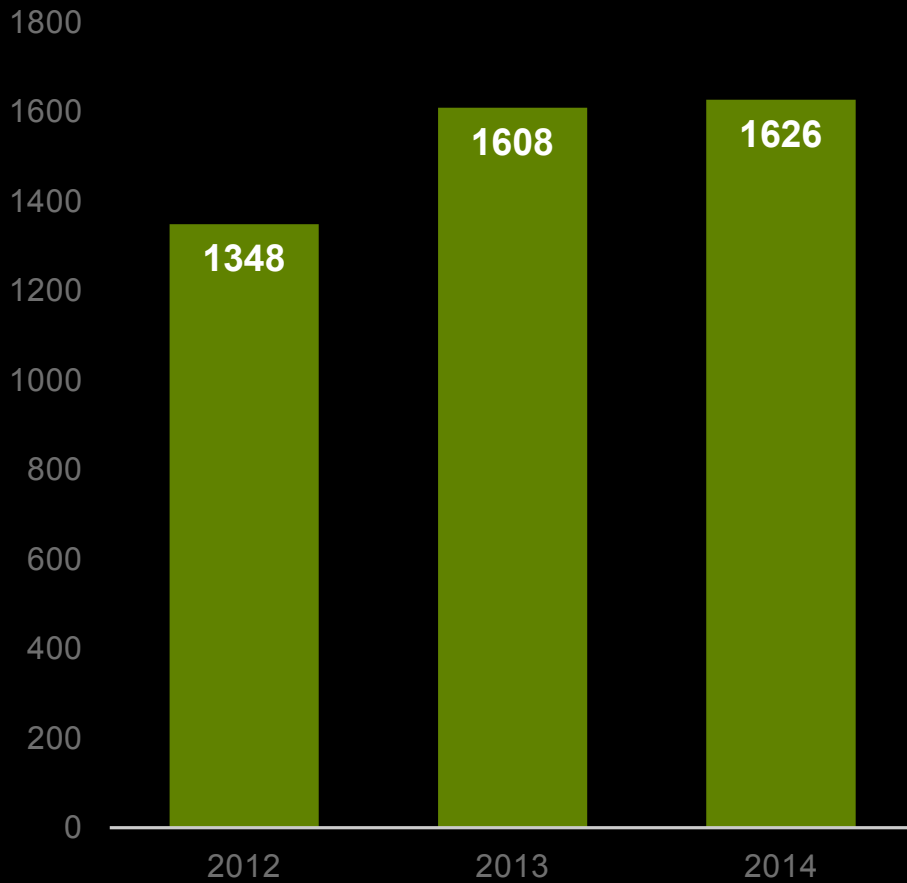


Nuisance Abatement All Parks

- Litter Pickup
- Disposal of Hypodermic needles
- Vandalism and Graffiti
- Park User Conflict



Camping Contacts



Ranger presence makes a difference

- 50% decrease in crime in Washington Park
- Holladay Park decrease in crime and increase in use patterns
- 2015 Street Count Outreach
- Summer Playgrounds



Council Policy Options

- Allowing PP&R management more flexibility from historic commitments to patrol Forest Park and the Central Business District (CCBD). This may include reduced service levels at west side parks, when appropriate, in order to better serve parks east of the river.
- Maintaining existing service level west of the river and allocating additional resources to PP&R to increase the capacity of the Ranger program to proactively serve parks east of the river.
- Combination of options one and two.





PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION

Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland

