



# CODE ENFORCEMENT

Working for a better community

Code Enforcement is concerned about the preservation, maintenance, and aesthetics of all residential, commercial and industrial properties throughout the city.

It takes the cooperation of all property owners and tenants to ensure that we make Traverse City the "premier City to live, work and raise a family."

I promote voluntary compliance by establishing partnerships with citizens, community groups and other agencies and other concerned groups to resolve code violations.

My goal is to help neighbors resolve problems while dealing with these violations.

# Use of the 3 E's

## Education



Try and show the citizen why the ordinance is needed and how it will help them.

# Encouragement



Try and make the resident aware of the community services available to help them accomplish the goals they need to meet to be in compliance.

# Enforcement



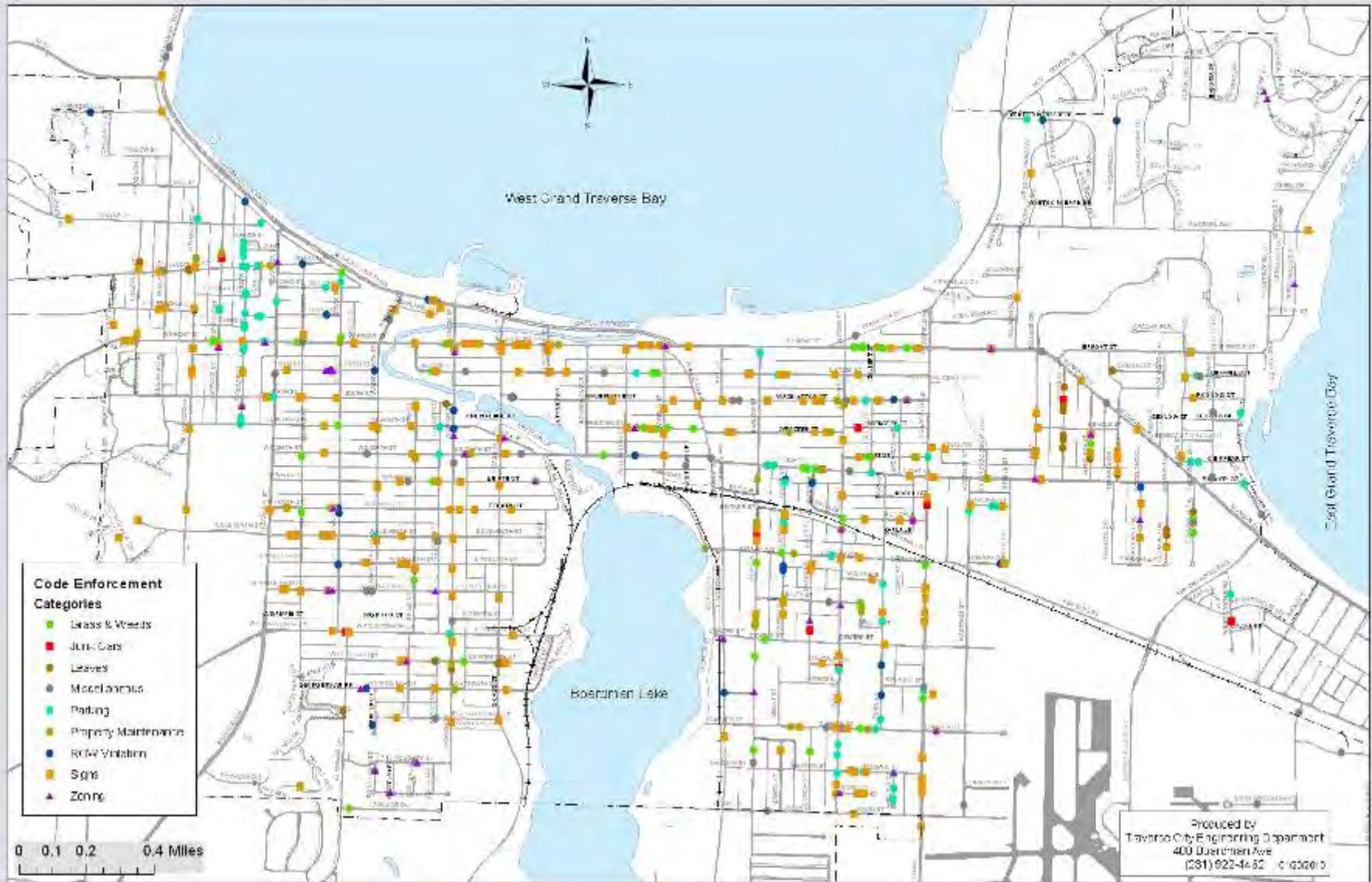
Money is what it takes to motivate some people

As a last resort, I issue citations to obtain compliance.



February to December 2009

663 complaints



- Code Enforcement Categories**
- Grass & Weeds
  - Junk Cars
  - Leaves
  - Miscellaneous
  - Paving
  - Property Maintenance
  - ROW Violation
  - Signs
  - Zoning

0 0.1 0.2 0.4 Miles

Produced by  
Tawas City Engineering Department  
400 DuRoi Ave  
(231) 822-4462 © 2020

40% dealt with signs







245 complaints dealt with signs  
in the City Right of Way.





With 101 of those complaints dealing with Yard Sale signs



47 complaints dealt  
with prohibited signs



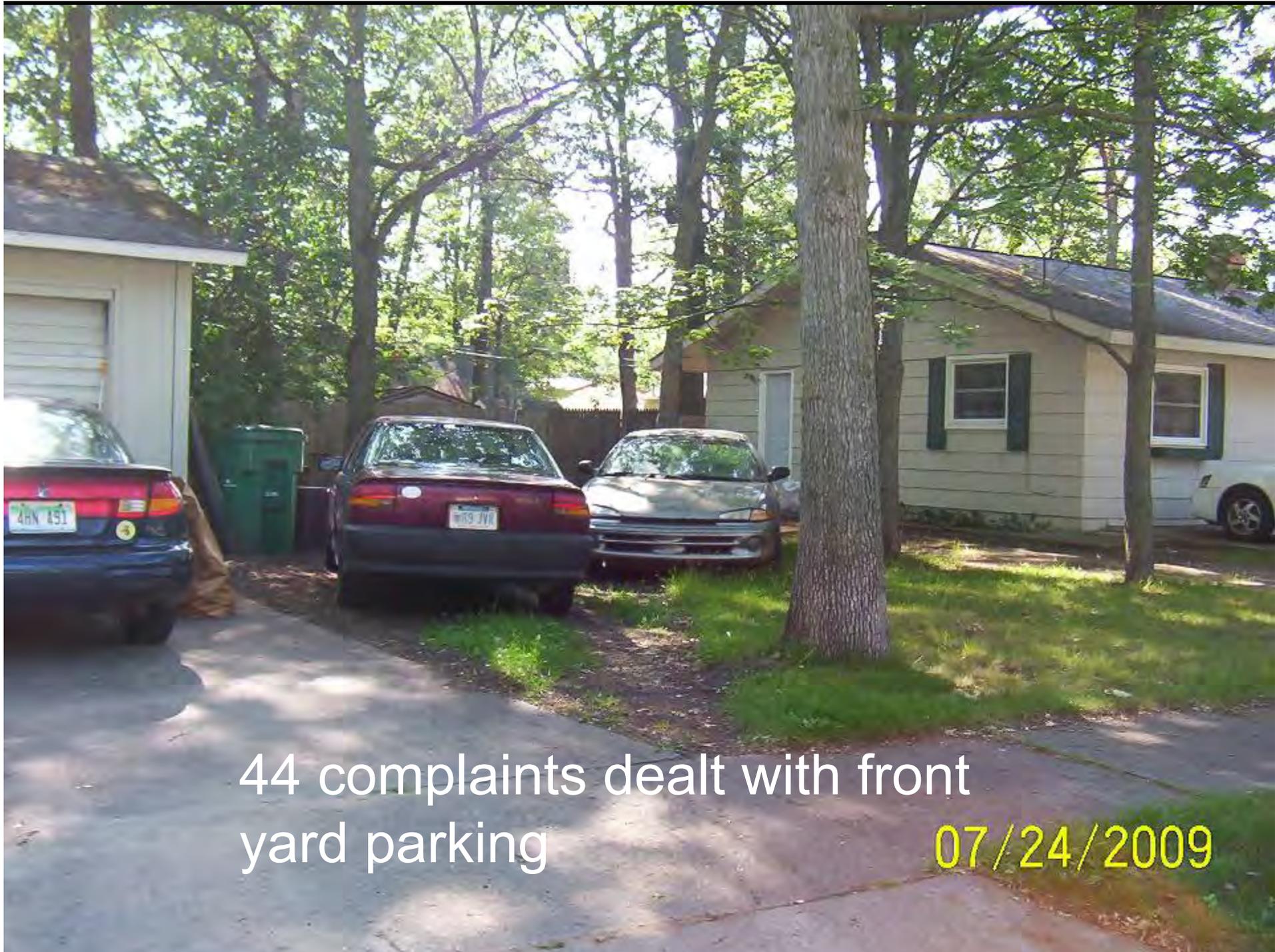
15% dealt with parking

NO  
PARKING  
AT ANY  
TIME

11.25.2009 11:36







44 complaints dealt with front  
yard parking

07/24/2009



08/20/20



07/24/2009



09.28.2009 09:18



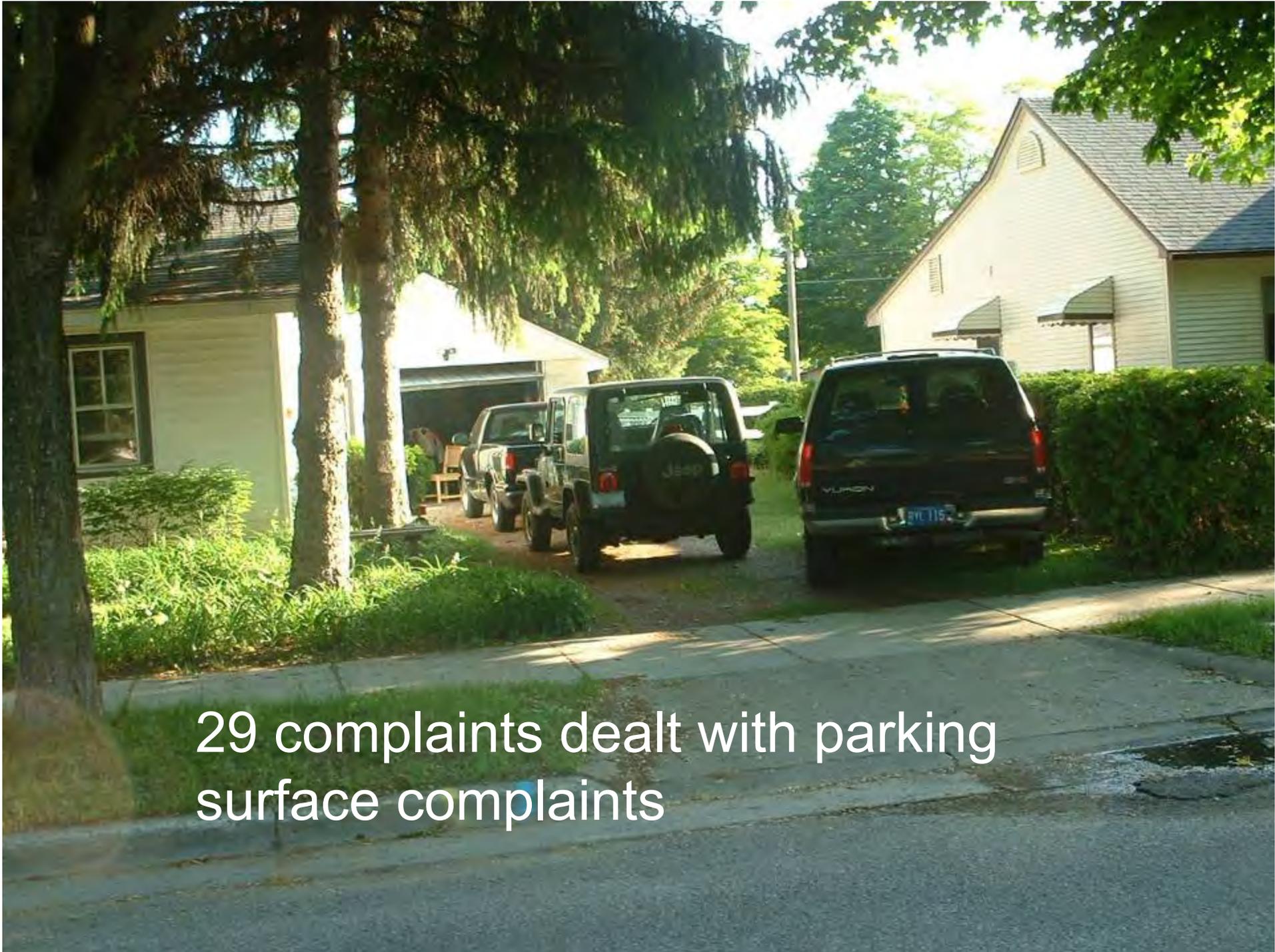
09.29.2009 09:09

55 complaints dealt with treelawn parking









29 complaints dealt with parking surface complaints

Zoning Code 1374.03 (g) (2) (B) states: Any parking area for single or two-family residential use shall, at a minimum, be surfaced and the area clearly defined with gravel, crushed stone, concrete, asphalt, brick or equal material, and be maintained substantially free of dust, mud and standing water.







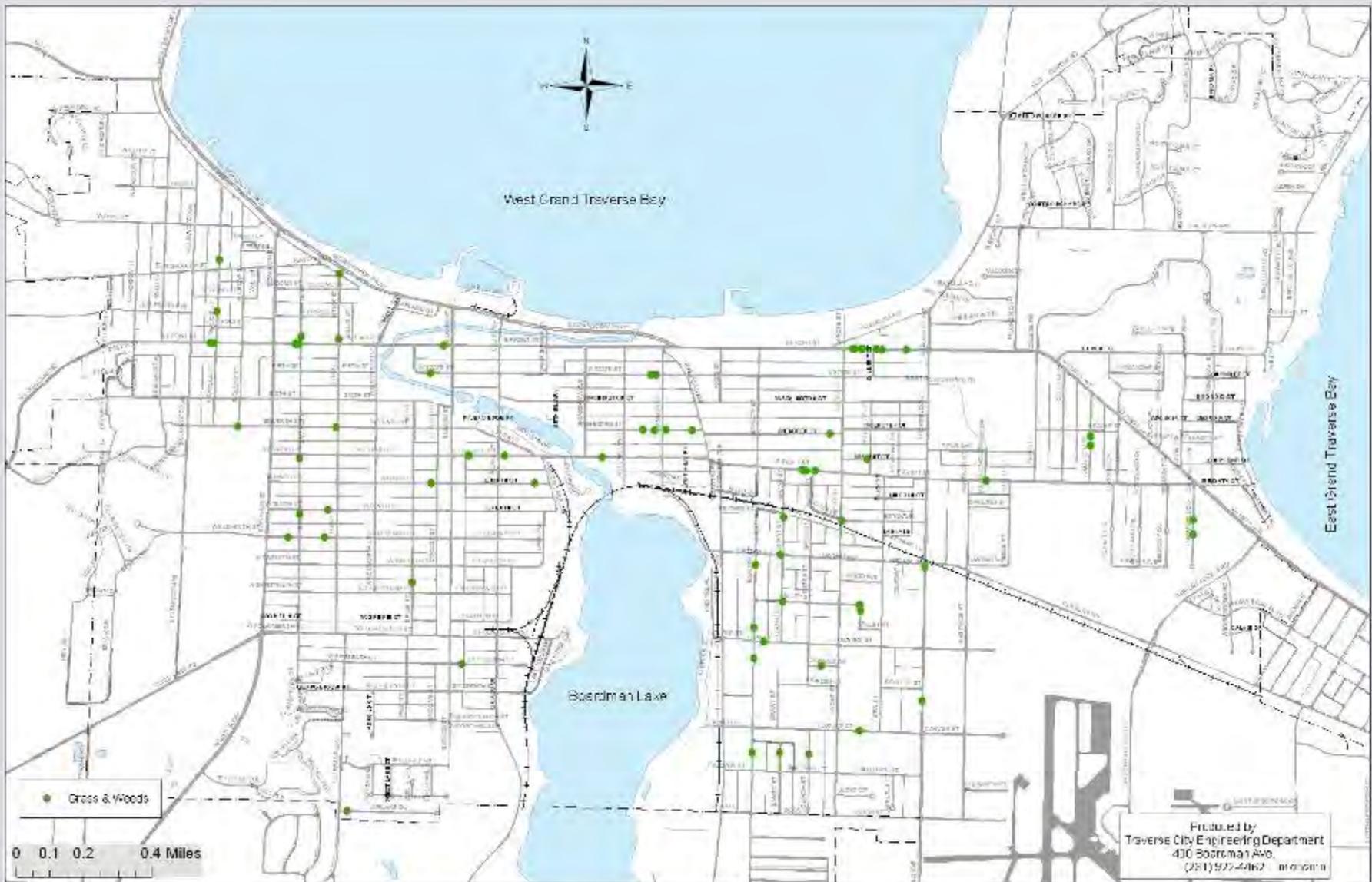
14% dealt with junk cars





13% dealt with grass height and proper disposal of yard waste





7% dealt with property maintenance  
i.e., the accumulation of junk









01/01/20



07/16/2



07/16/2009

# 5% dealt with obstructions of streets and alleys





The remaining 6% dealt with an assortment of complaints about noise, illegal rooming houses, weekly rentals, animals, snow & ice removal, smoking, handbills and

# Damaged buildings



Zoning Code 1332.04  
on RV and boat  
storage



# Home occupations





Vision obstruction

During the process of enforcement, we have discovered some flaws in our ordinances. This has led us to reconsider what the intent of the ordinance is.

1<sup>st</sup> was certain prohibited signs



What is wrong with a sandwich board sign if it meets certain requirements?

Portable, placed on private property during hours of operation only

Maximum of 6 square feet with no dimension greater than 3 feet

One sign per property, or business front

# Banners



What is wrong with a banner if it meets certain requirements?

Banners will be classified as a temporary sign

Temporary signs shall be adequately secured and must be taut or made of a rigid material



Maximum area of 32 square feet and 8 feet high



Must be removed within 14 days after the event

2<sup>nd</sup> was treelawn parking





482.03 (b) Treelawn parking prohibited. No person shall park a vehicle, trailer or water craft on the treelawn portion of the right-of-way.

05.2009 09:58

Do we or do we not allow treelawn parking on non-curbed streets? That is the question.

Where will the residents or their guest park if not on the treelawn?

Does it hurt to park on the grass for short periods of time?



It shortens the life of the edge of the pavement, and can cause problems with drainage that further shorten the life of the pavement.

The treelawns turn into gravel and dirt, which can be considered an eyesore and causes problems with runoff and soil erosion.



# New parking plan for treelawns



# Rental Housing Inspections

45 inspections of 657 units.

4 Vacation Home Rentals

2 Tourist Home Rentals

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2<sup>nd</sup> Floor in the Planning Department

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Any questions on  
Code Enforcement?

