

Lewis and Clark Neighborhood Council General Meeting Minutes

Date: March 6, 2019 Time: 6:00pm

Location: Lewis and Clark Village Community Room

3000 S Higgins Ave.

Missoula, MT 59802

Present: Leadership Team: Theresa Conner, Dave Westfall, Jeff Lamson, Kathleen Hanson, Colleen Biehl, John Wilkins, Office of the Neighborhood: Jane Kelly, Marley Merchen

1. Welcome to 40 plus neighbors with introductions of the Neighborhood Leadership Team members and the Office of Neighborhoods.
2. Missoula Neighborhood Watch – Mike Painter, Board Member, presented important information for Neighborhood watch. They conduct quarterly, meetings, the next one is in April. Some neighbors signed up for additional information.
3. Bancroft Pond Update – Morgan Valliant, Conservation Lands Manager, presented information on the improvements on the Bancroft Ponds Park. The 5 Valley Audubon donated nearly \$5,000 for a birding area on the SW corner. The planting of the flora will begin in April with a work force needed of 8-10 volunteers, beside the Park and Recreation employees. There will be a small backhoe used to dig the tree holes. A fence will be put up to protect the plants with gates. Buckets at the gates will be available for summer visitors to help water the plants during their time in the park. Creek is right there. The City will water the trees. The ADA Paths will be cut in April by the Park and Recreation Dept with volunteers for laying the gravel for packing. This is best done when the ground is moist. The gravel laying will take a couple of work days. 50 Sentinel High Schoolers will assist along with the neighborhood. A volunteer sign-up was available.
4. Traffic Calming Circle and Traffic issues –Ben Weiss, Bike/Ped Program Manager, explained the different ownership of the streets in the Neighborhood, Federal, State and City. Because of the ownership of the streets different regulations exist for each owner regarding stop signs, crosswalks and speed. He gave ball park figures for the costs of calming circles from \$10,000, plus ADA improvements on sidewalks approximate total of \$25,000, \$30,000 This would be a SID in that area. There is a process for having a calming circle built and first is the agreement of the residents on the intersection. The bus stop on South and Queen will be moved to the next block in front of the Drum Coffee, the visibility will be better for the oncoming traffic of the pedestrians. There are federal grants available for Russell street safety improvements.
5. Traffic Statistics of the Neighborhood – Jeff Miller had an excellent power point on the streets in and around the neighborhood with statistic on accidents, signage and cross walks. The power point will be on the city website.

6. Update on Upgrade of Sentinel High School – Ted Fuller, Sentinel High School Principal, updated the neighborhood on when to expect completion of the construction on the high school. The new performing arts area will be finished at the end of April. The Bancroft Parking lot will have the spaces used by the construction Co. available for the students then. Other construction projects will be done in the Fall and Mid Fall.

7. Public comment on non-agenda items: John DiBari and Jesse Ramos, Ward 4 city councilmen, took questions from the floor. Abandoned vehicles (police), snow removal and city water were some of the topics. The best way to get things going is to call your complaint into the appropriate dept.

8. Announcements: Next Team Leadership Meeting is Wednesday, April 3 from 4pm-5:30pm at the Lewis and Clark Village Community Room 3000 S Higgins Ave. Missoula, MT 59802. (NOTE: The time was later changed to begin at 3pm.)

Bancroft Ponds Steering Committee is Wednesday, March 20, same time and place

Jane Kelly, Neighborhood Coordinator jkelly@ci.missoula.mt.us 552-6081

Karen Gasvoda, Program Assistant kgasvoda@ci.missoula.mt.us 552-6084

Bike/Ped Program Manager WeissB@ci.missoula.mt.us 552-6352

Morgan Valliant Conservation Lands Manager ValliantM@ci.missoula.mt.us 552-6263

Ted Fuller Sentinel High School Principal tefuller@mcps.k12.mt.us 406-728-2400

John DiBari, Ward 4 Council Member jdibari@ci.missoula.mt.us 274-7337

Jesse Ramos, Ward 4 Council Member jramos@ci.missoula.mt.us 334-0785

Lewis and Clark Neighborhood Council Leadership Team lewisandclark@missoula-neighborhoods.org

2007-2017 Accident Assessment – Lewis & Clark Neighborhood

JD Miller

Questions

Does the Lewis & Clark neighborhood have traffic problems / issues?

- How much traffic occurs in the L&C?
- When do Accidents Occur?
- What are the conditions when accidents occur?
- How severe are the accidents?
- What are the most Important accidents
- What type of traffic problems/issues occur?
- What are the options for solutions?

What data are available to answer the questions?

- Traffic crash data were supplied by Ben Weiss through data extracted by Transportation Planner(s) in the fall of 2019.
- Data cover the period 2007 through 2017 [or 11 Years].
- Data were collected from Police Reports of accidents.
- Transportation Planners arranged the data into various groups/categories.

What data are available to answer the questions?

- I have counted within the groups / categories of the data and used GIS (computer mapping) to illustrate the extracted information.
- All my files are available to you
- Excel File contains folders : *L&C_crashes_2007_2017*
traffic; L&C; Boundary; Comparison
- **BUT first some background**

POTENTIAL LOCATIONS FOR A NEIGHBORHOOD

TRAFFIC CALMING PROGRAM IN L&C

○ = TRAFFIC CIRCLE (9)

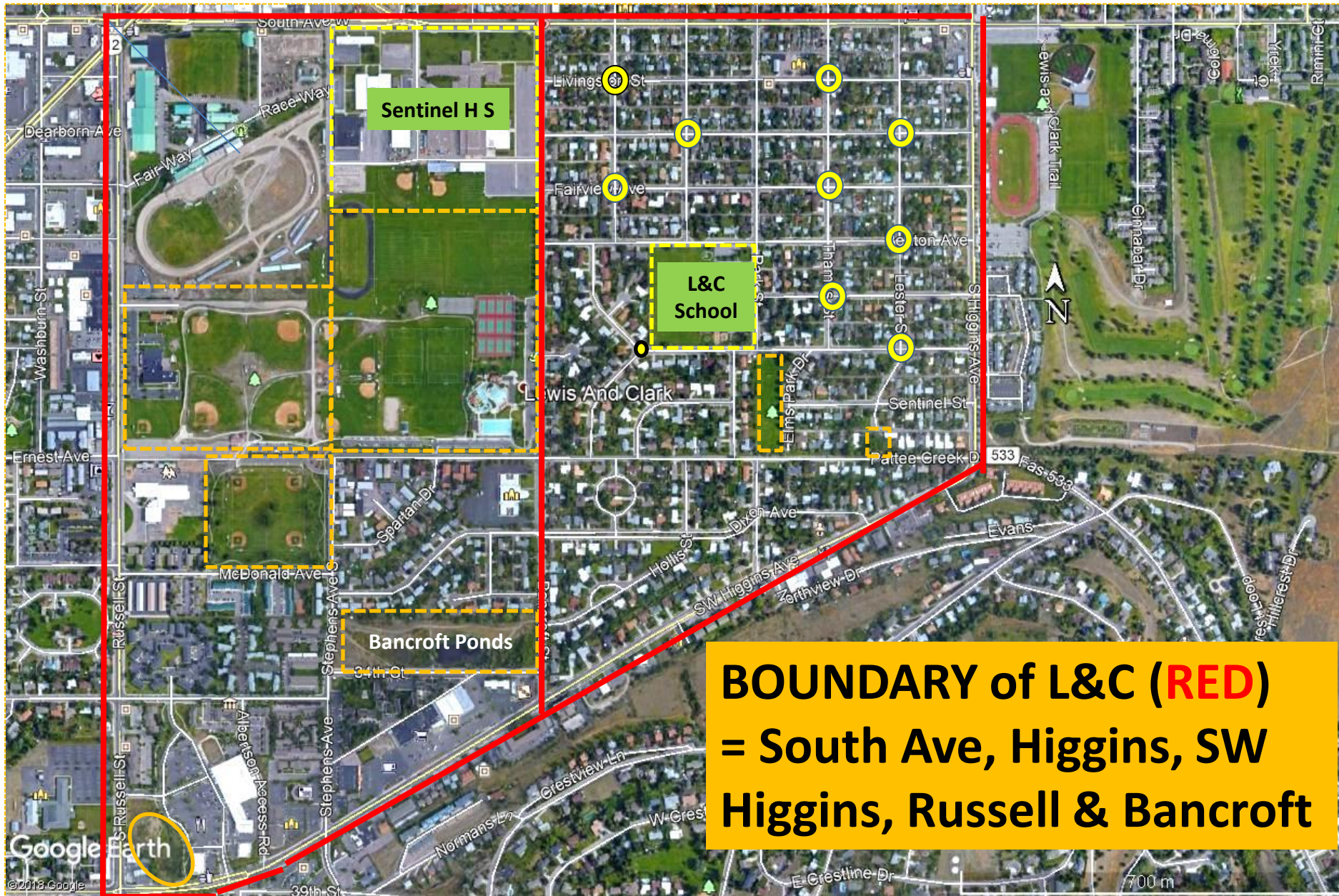
● = NARROWED INTERSECTION (1)

Map provided by Jane Kelly

Colors changed for visibility

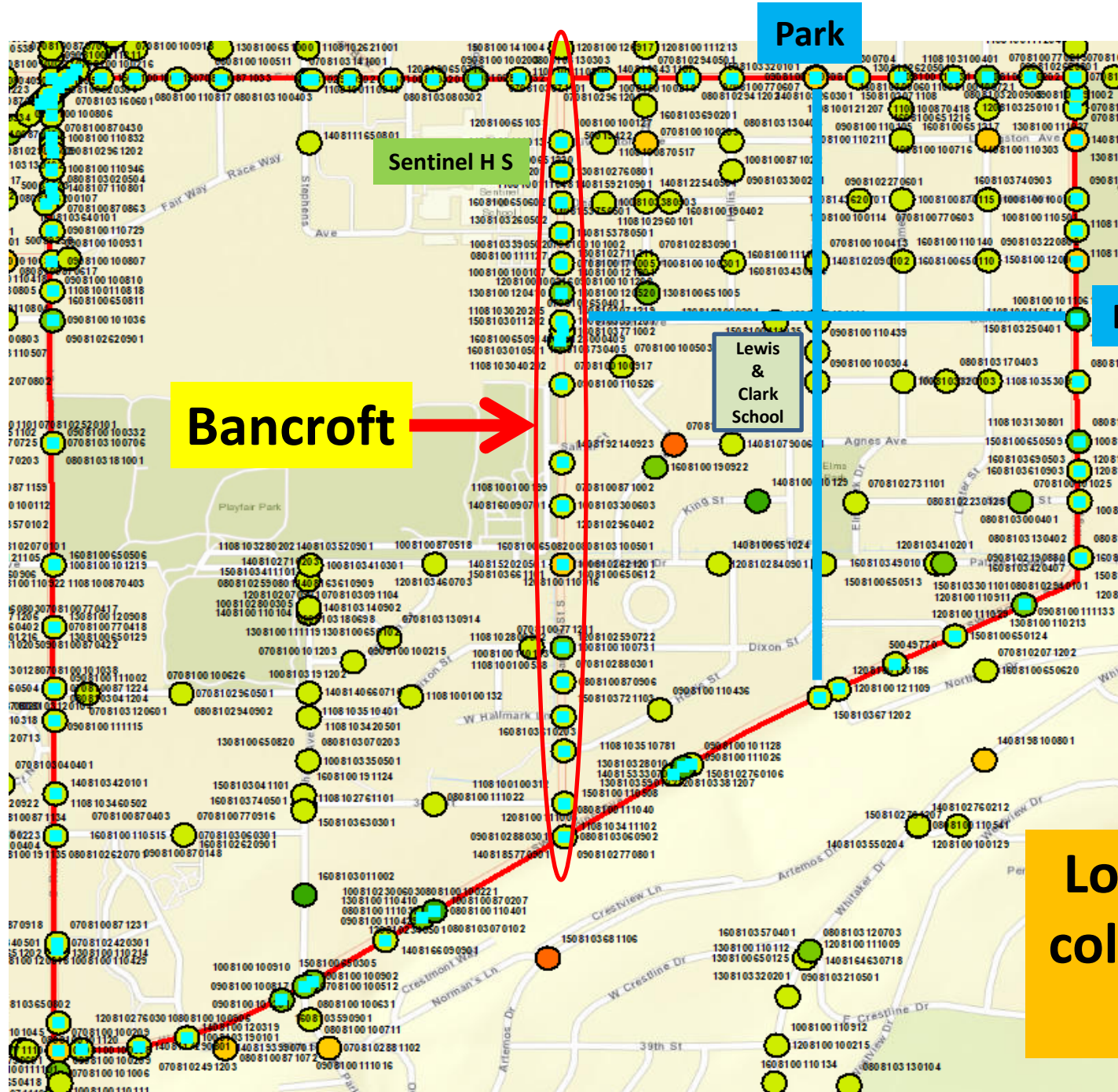


Outline of the Lewis & Clark Neighborhood



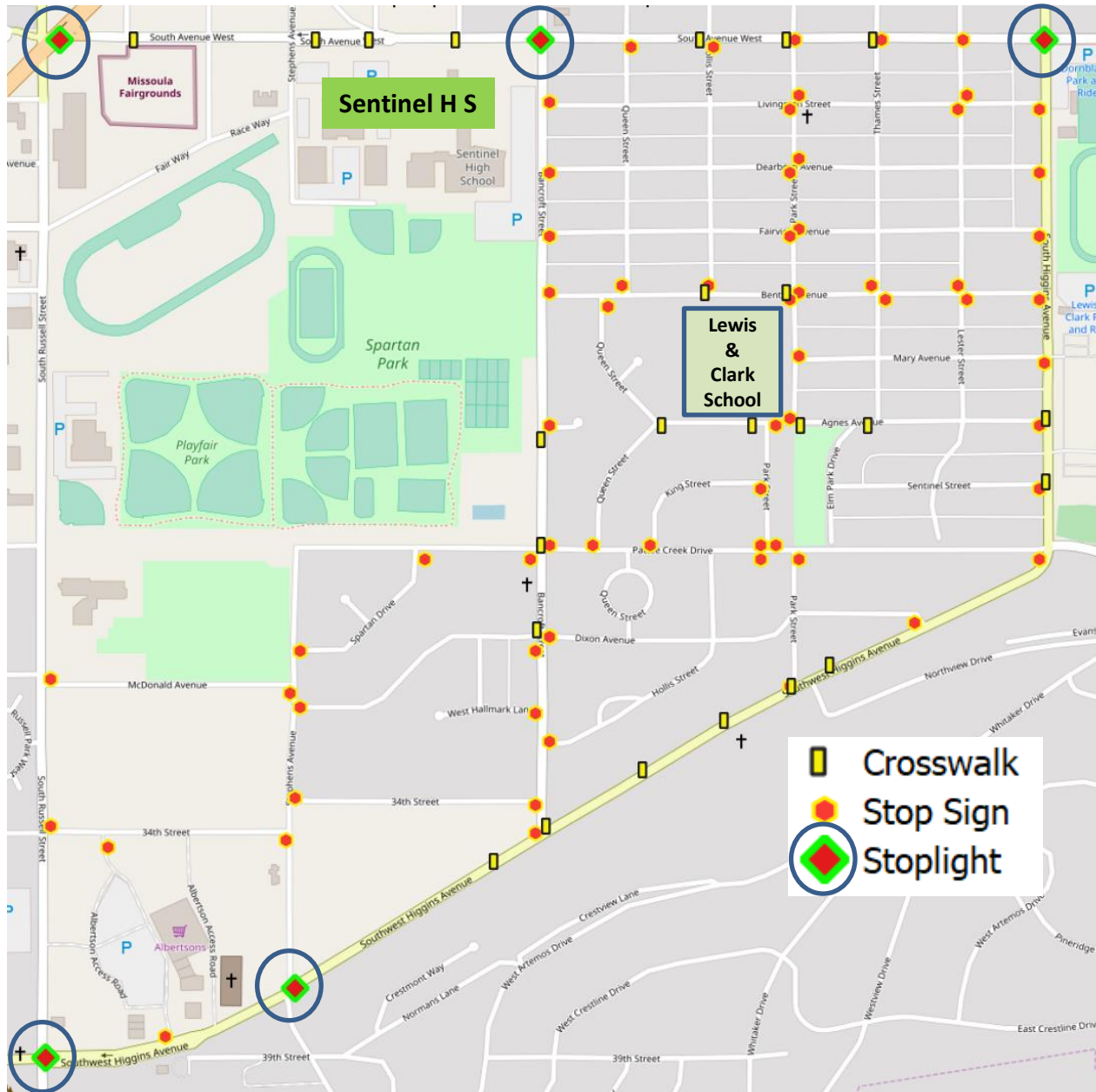
Boundary Roads 2006-2016

(From Excel file LC-Main)



Look at the colors of the dots.

Stoplights, Stop Signs & Crosswalks



Stoplights

Stoplights= 4

Flashing Stop= 1

Stop Signs

Within L&C= 37

Boundary= 31

Crosswalks= 24

Summary of 2007-2017 Data

# of Reports	# Vehicles Involved	# Injuries	Pedestrian Number (SMS)	Comment
827	1664	271	15	Totals
682	1378	247	13	# On boundary roads
145	247	24	2	# On roads within L&C
13.2/yr	22.5/yr	2.2/yr	0.2/yr	Avg # / Year in L&C
17.5%	14.8%	8.8%	14%	% of Total in L&C

How much traffic occurs in the L&C?

South
3,104 Cars/d

Russell
13,384 Cars/d

Russell
10,513 Cars/d

Sentinel H S

Park
804 Cars/d

Benton
731 Cars/d

Bancroft
6,395 Cars/d

**Lewis
&
Clark
School**

South
5,352 Cars/d

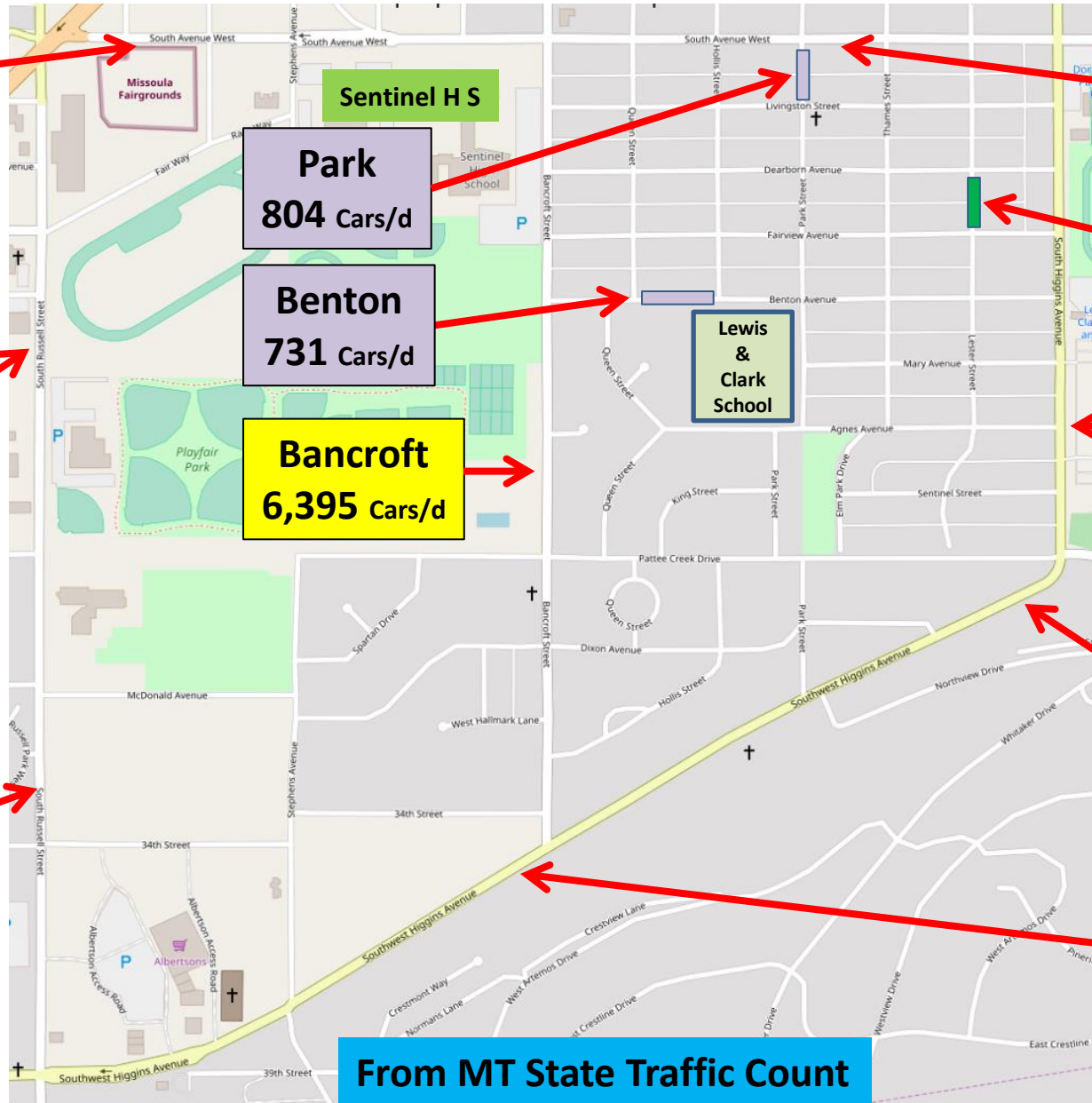
Lester
231 Cars/d

Higgins
10,878 Cars/d

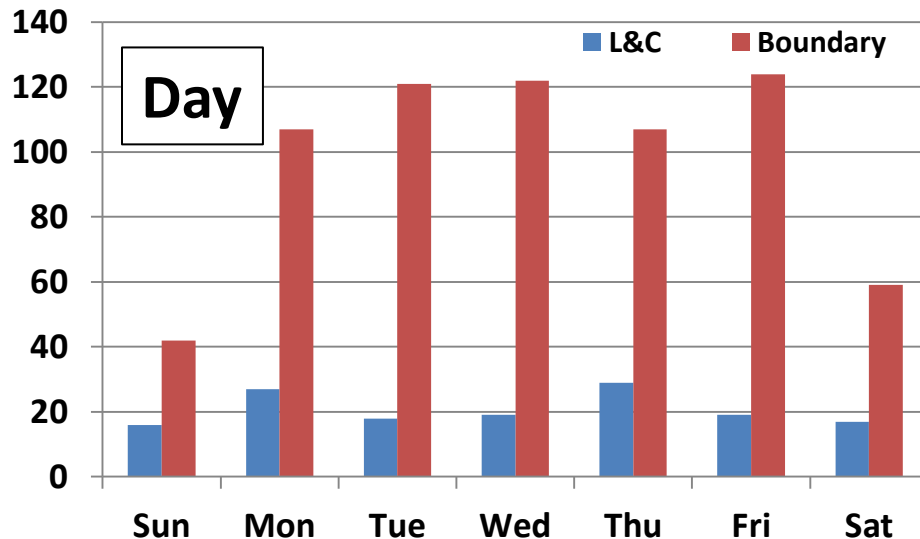
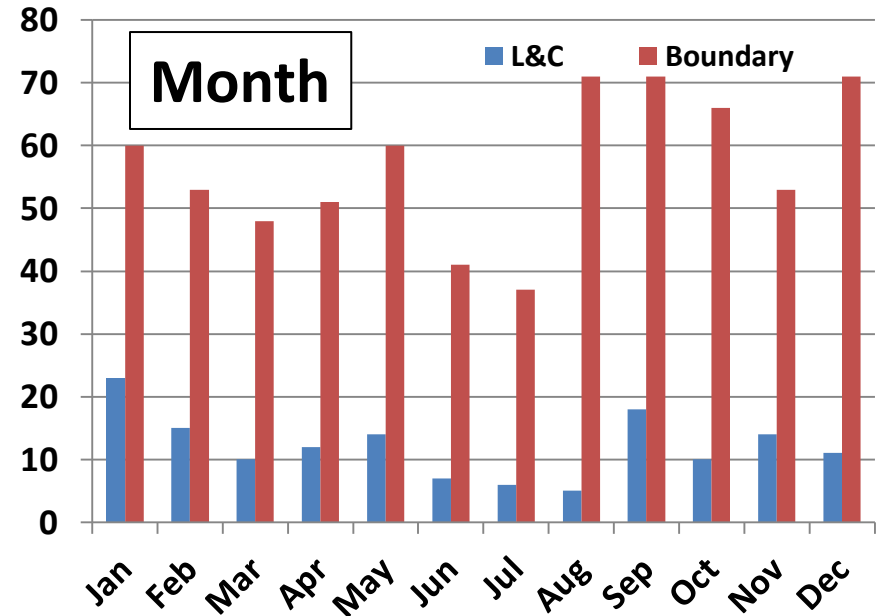
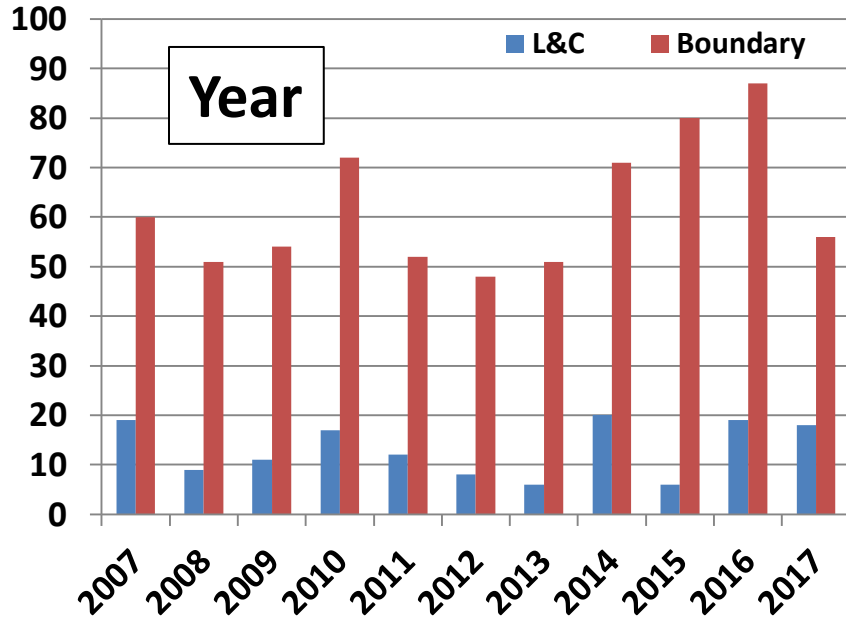
Higgins
8,594 Cars/d

SW Higgins
11,984 Cars/d

From MT State Traffic Count



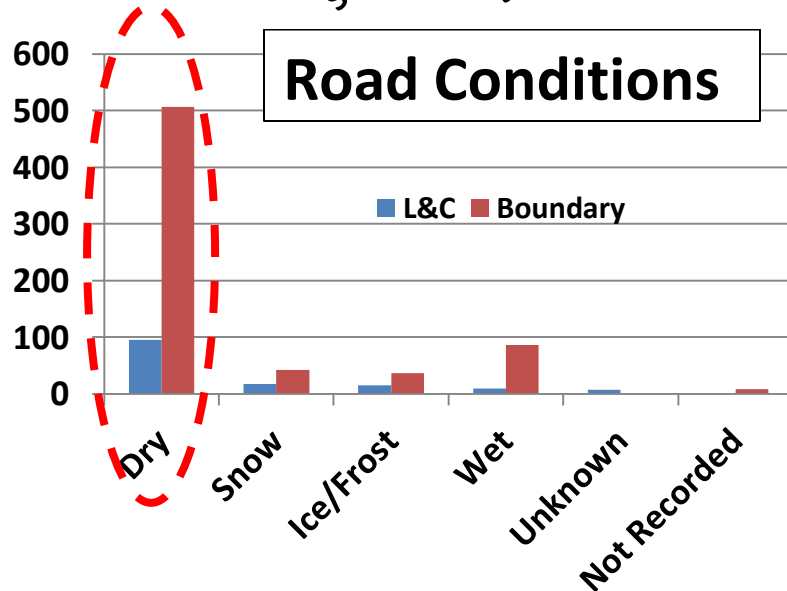
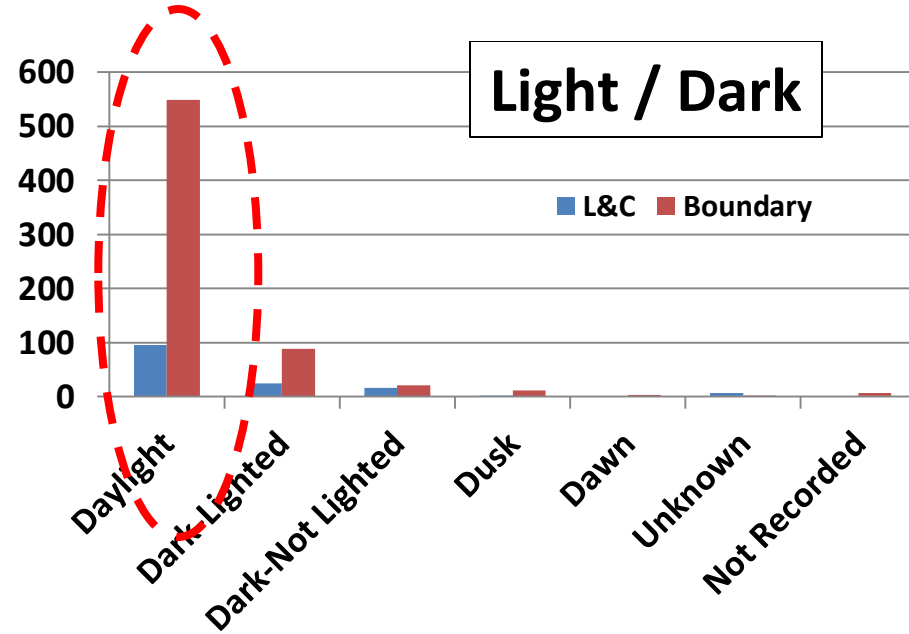
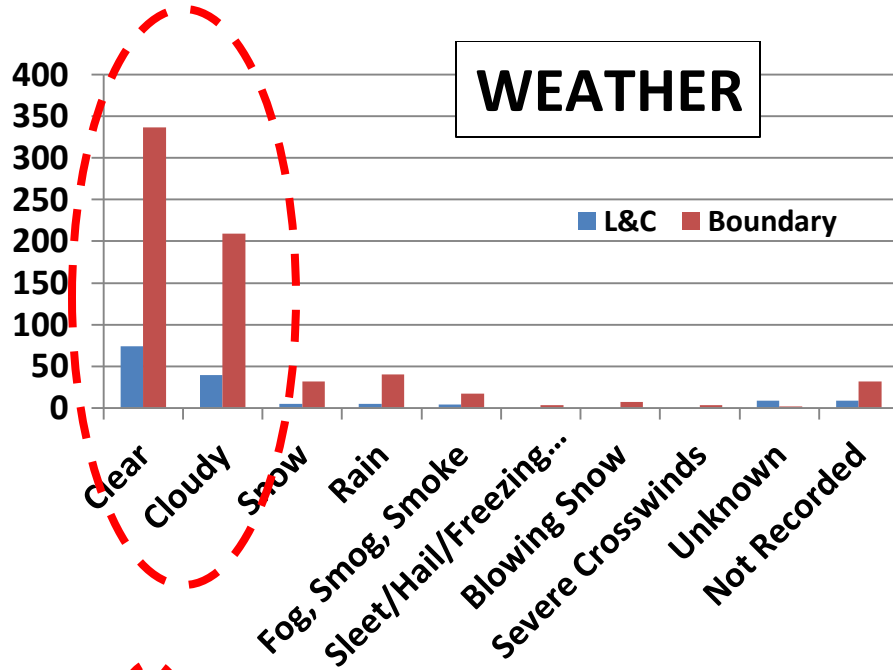
When do Accidents Occur?



11 years of data

No Important Patterns

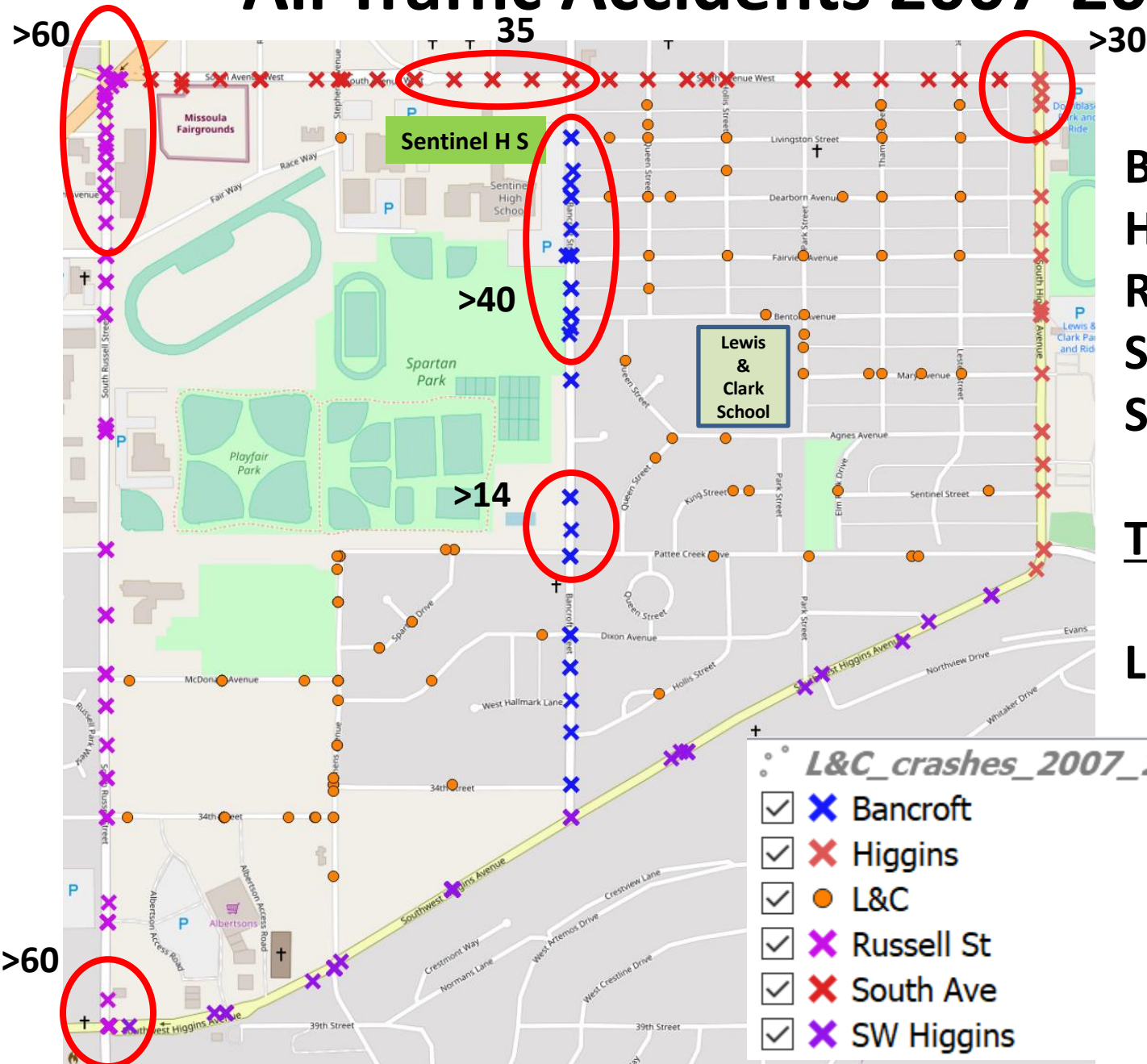
What are the conditions when accidents occur?



Conditions when accidents occur

PERCENT	L&C	Boundary
Clear	51 %	49.4%
Cloudy	26%	30.6%
Dry	65.5%	74.3%
Daylight	65.5%	80.5%

All Traffic Accidents 2007-2017



Bancroft = 70

Higgins = 77

Russell St = 325

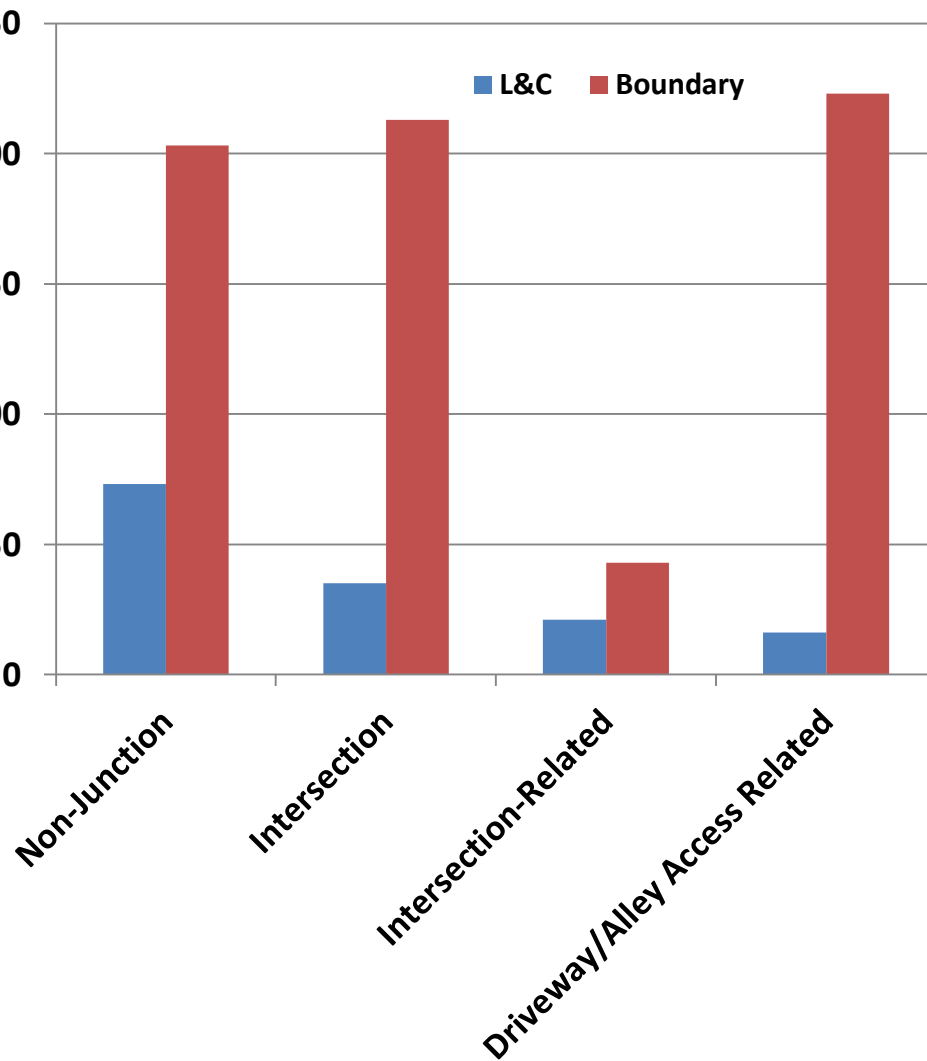
South Ave = 97

SW Higgins = 113

Total = 682 (82.5%)

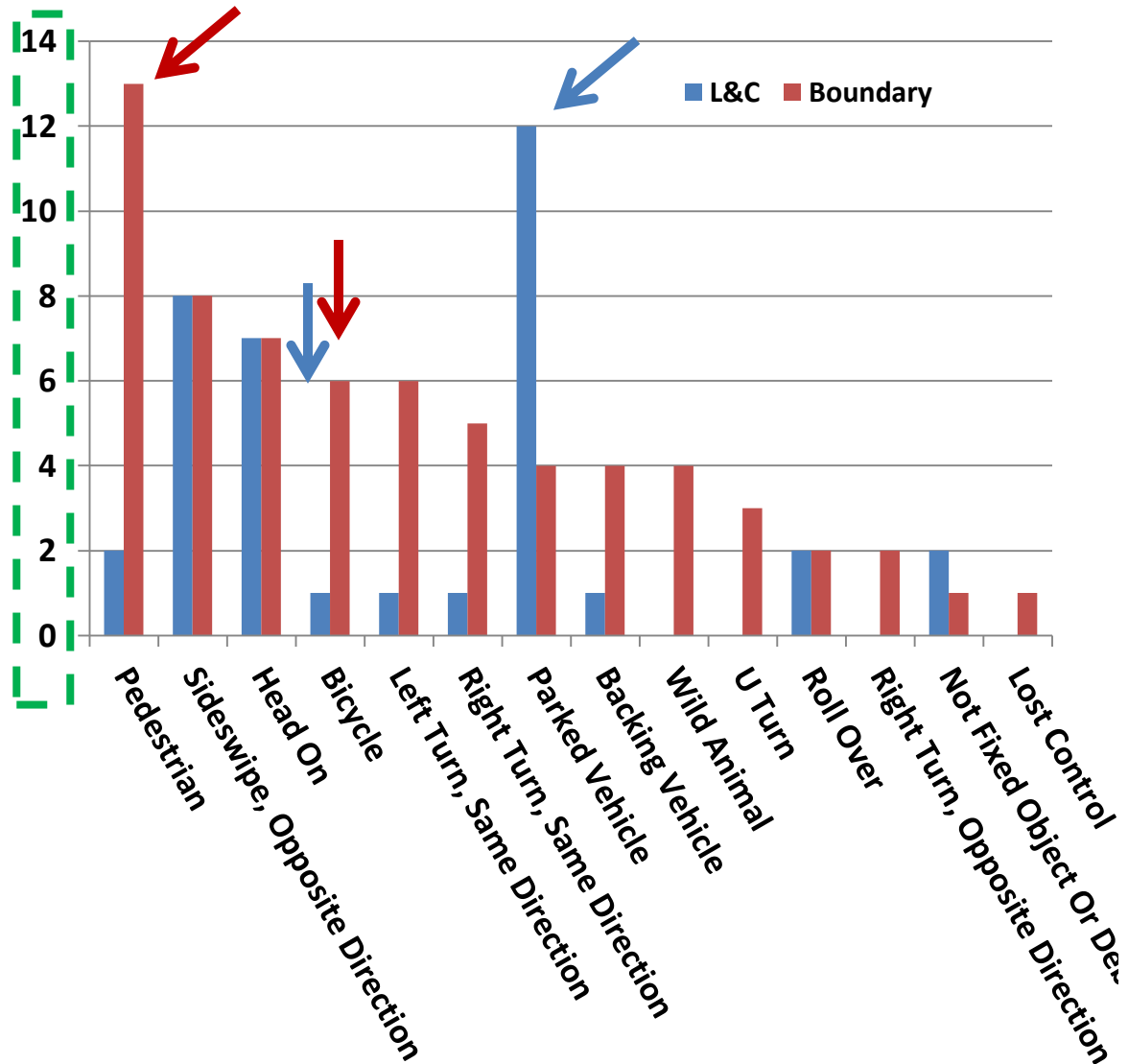
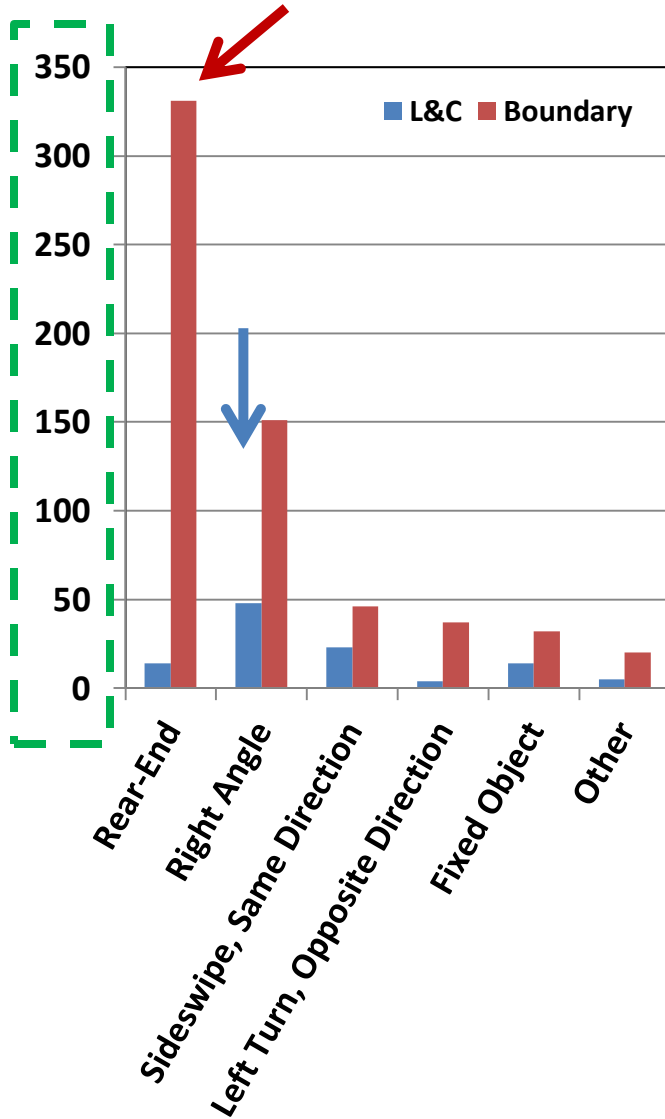
L&C = 145 (17.5%)

Where Do Accidents Occur?

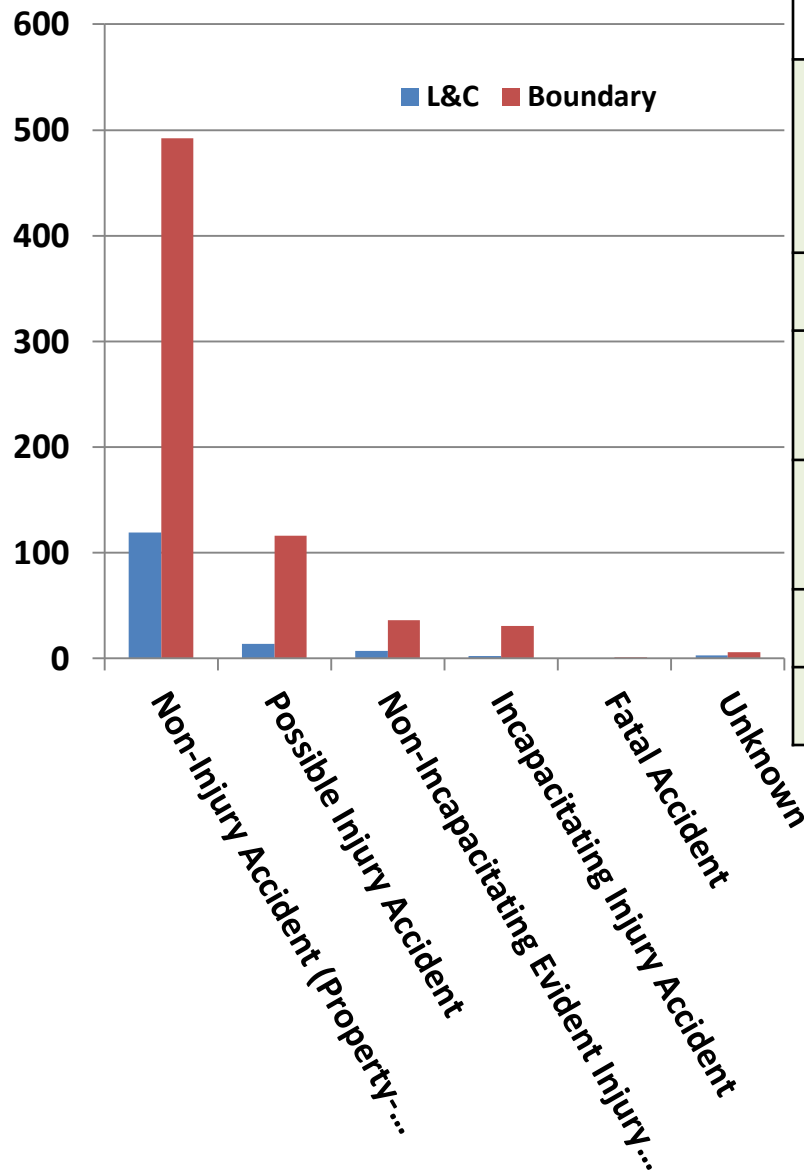


PERCENT	L&C	Boundary
Non-Junction	50.3	29.8
Intersection	24.1	31.2
Intersection-Related	14.5	6.3
Driveway/Alley Access Related	11.0	32.7

What Type of Accidents Occur?

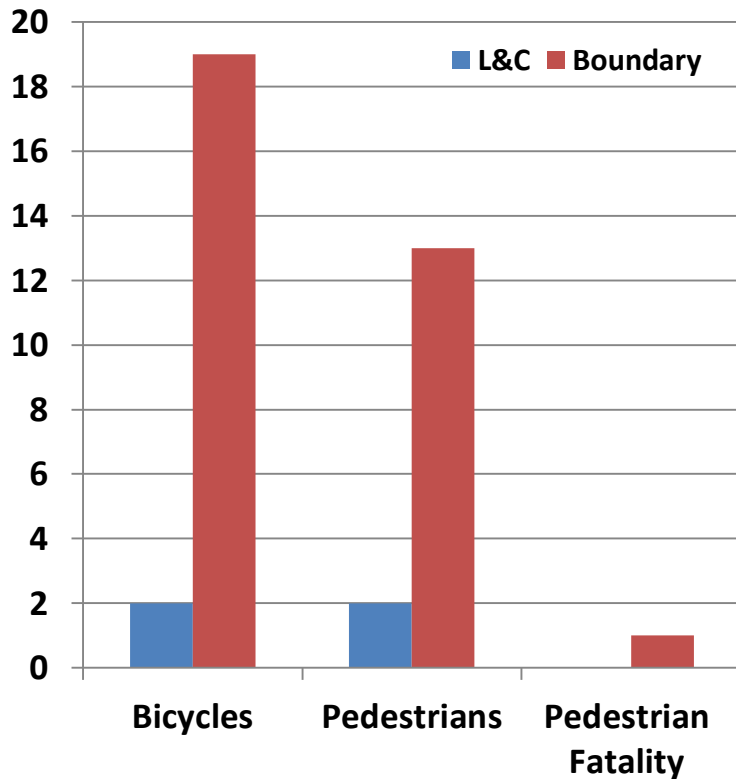


How severe are the accidents?



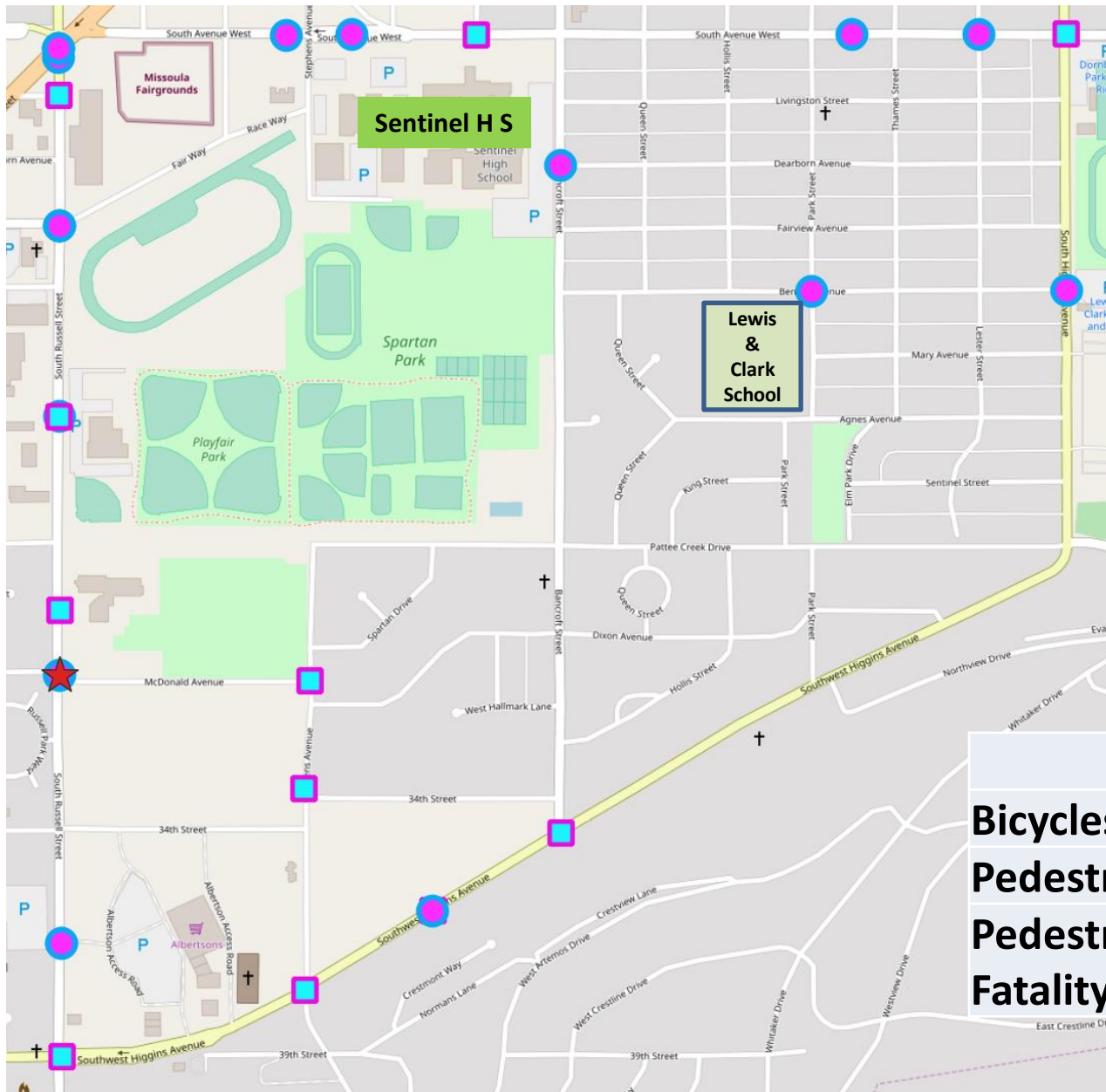
PERCENT	L&C	Boundary
Non-Injury Accident (Property-Damage-Only Accident)	82.1	72.1
Possible Injury Accident	9.7	17.0
Non-Incapacitating Evident Injury Accident	4.8	5.3
Incapacitating Injury Accident	1.4	4.5
Fatal Accident	0.0	0.1
Unknown	2.1	0.9

Most Important accidents



PERCENT	L&C	Boundary
Bicycles	9.5	90.5
Pedestrians	13.3	86.7
Pedestrian Fatality	0.0	100

Pedestrian & Bicycle Accidents 2007-2017

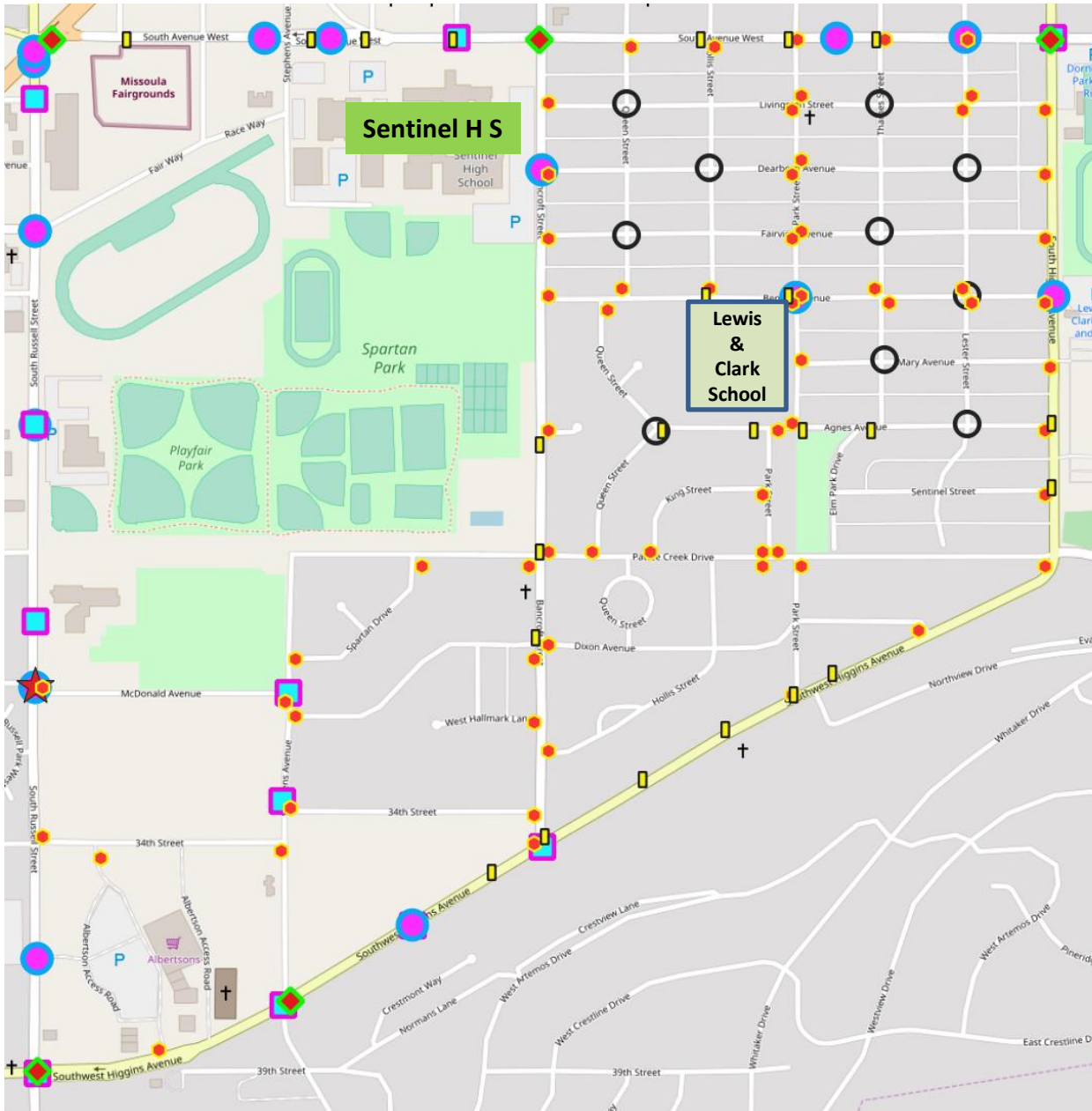


Pedestrians_Bicycles

- Pedalcycle
- Pedestrian
- ★ Pedestrian Fatal

	L&C	Boundary
Bicycles	2	19
Pedestrians	2	13
Pedestrian Fatality	0	1




Pedestrians, Bicycles, Crosswalks & Traffic Circles



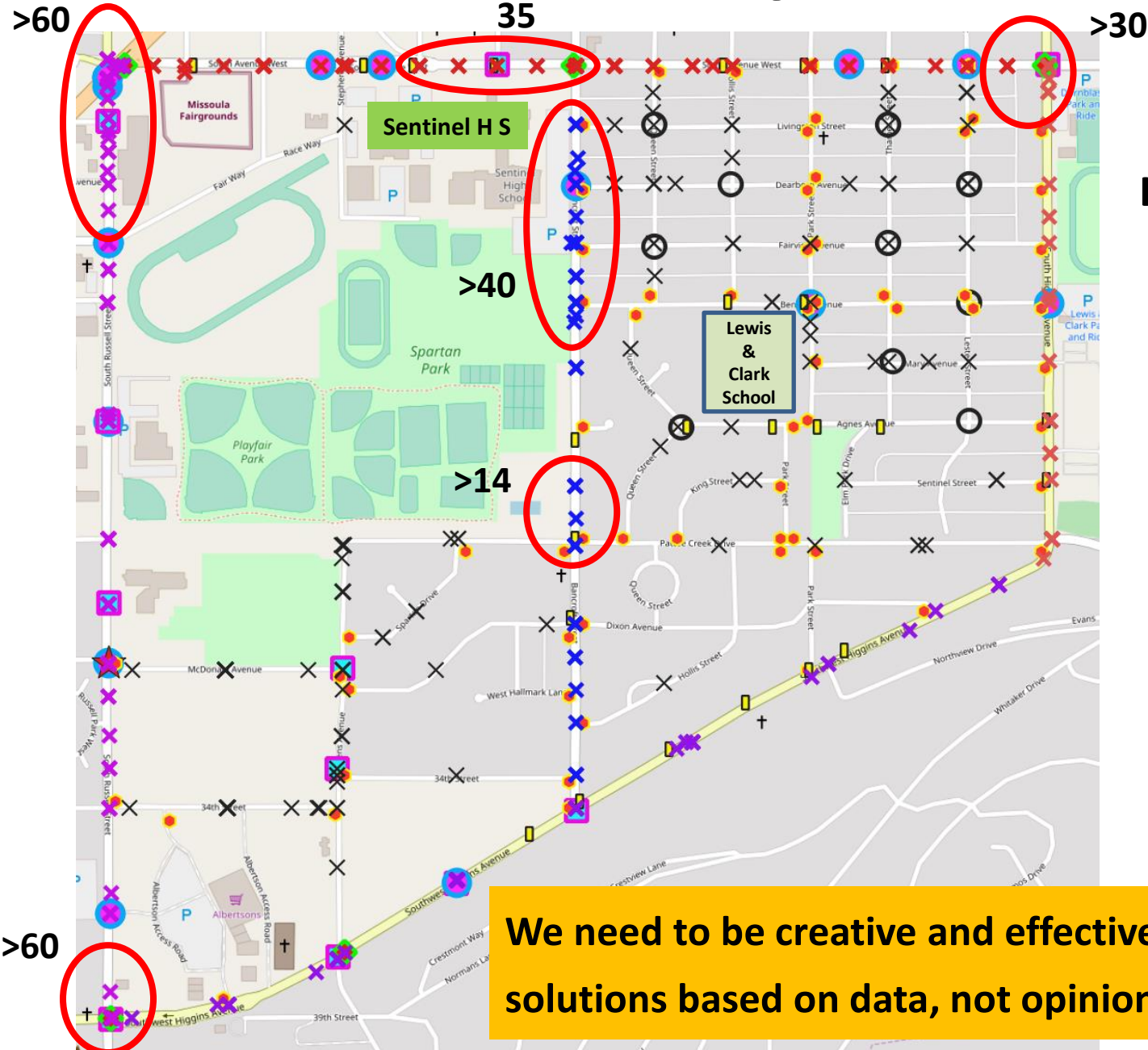
StopSigns Circles

- Circle
- ▬ Crosswalk
- Stop Sign
- ◆ Stoplight

Pedestrians_Bicycles

-  Pedalcycle
-  Pedestrian
-  Pedestrian Fatal

Summary of Data



**Does the
Lewis & Clark
neighborhood
have traffic
problems /
issues?**

Yes & No

**Traffic circles are
not an appropriate
answer**

**We need to be creative and effective in identifying
solutions based on data, not opinion**

There are other Solutions

- **Yield signs** or **Stop Signs** [less than \$1000 installed]
- Install **Crosswalks** at multiple intersections within L&C (that are used by students to and from school).
- Install **Crosswalks** with flashing lights across South Avenue and a safety Island for Pedestrians.
- Change South Avenue to **25 MPH** (at least in front of the high school)
- Increase **Police Monitoring** of identified problem areas.
- Alter High School parking space and access & egress.
- Improve driver awareness via reminders about speed limits, courteous behavior in the paper and at the High School.