

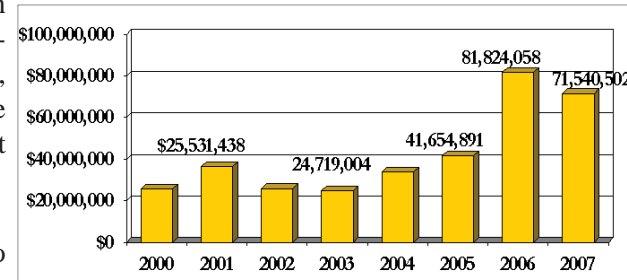
Capital Projects

200% increase in funding from 2003-2007

Looking back

In 2007, the City finished major renovations of the W.W. Law Center on Savannah's eastside, and the Lady Bamford Early Childhood Development Center on the westside. Major drainage projects were finished on the Wilshire Canal and in Jackson Woods. Construction wrapped up on a \$20 million westside wastewater treatment plant, and began on a curb cut initiative to improve accessibility at almost 1,500 corners downtown.

project, which is adding an underground parking garage and restoring one of Savannah's original squares. Work will also begin on the Children's Museum at Battlefield Park, and finish on the Alice and Tattnell drainage project downtown.

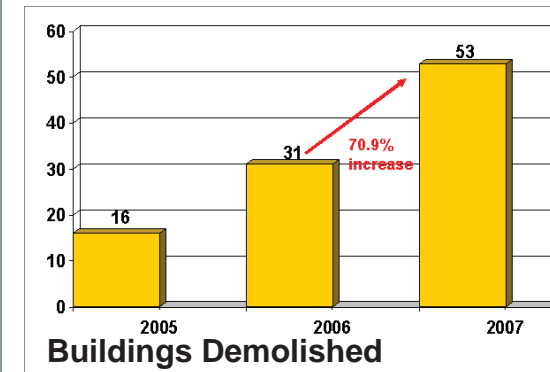


Looking ahead

In 2008, work is expected to finish on the massive Ellis Square

Blight Eradication

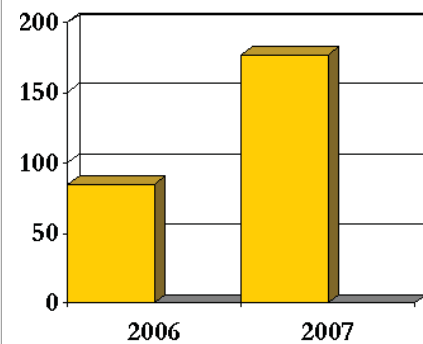
City works to engage citizens in war on blight



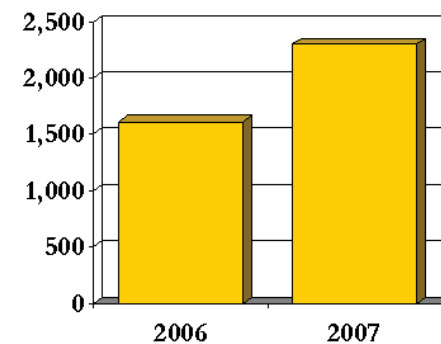
Looking back

In 2007, the Property Maintenance Department tore down about one dilapidated structure a week, and cleared more than 1,000 overgrown lots. The department successfully completed its first 100 Worst Properties List, which targets the worst of the worst, and quickly moved on to its second 100 Worst List.

Trash removed (tons)



Tires removed



Operation: Clean Sweep

Looking ahead

In 2008, the City will work to change the laws to make it easier and quicker to take action against blighted properties. The City has also begun monthly Blight Boot Camps, which train citizens to be partners in the war on blight, and neighborhood blitzes, which focuses all City inspectors on a single neighborhood for a single day.

SAVANNAH City Council



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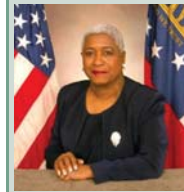
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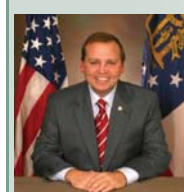
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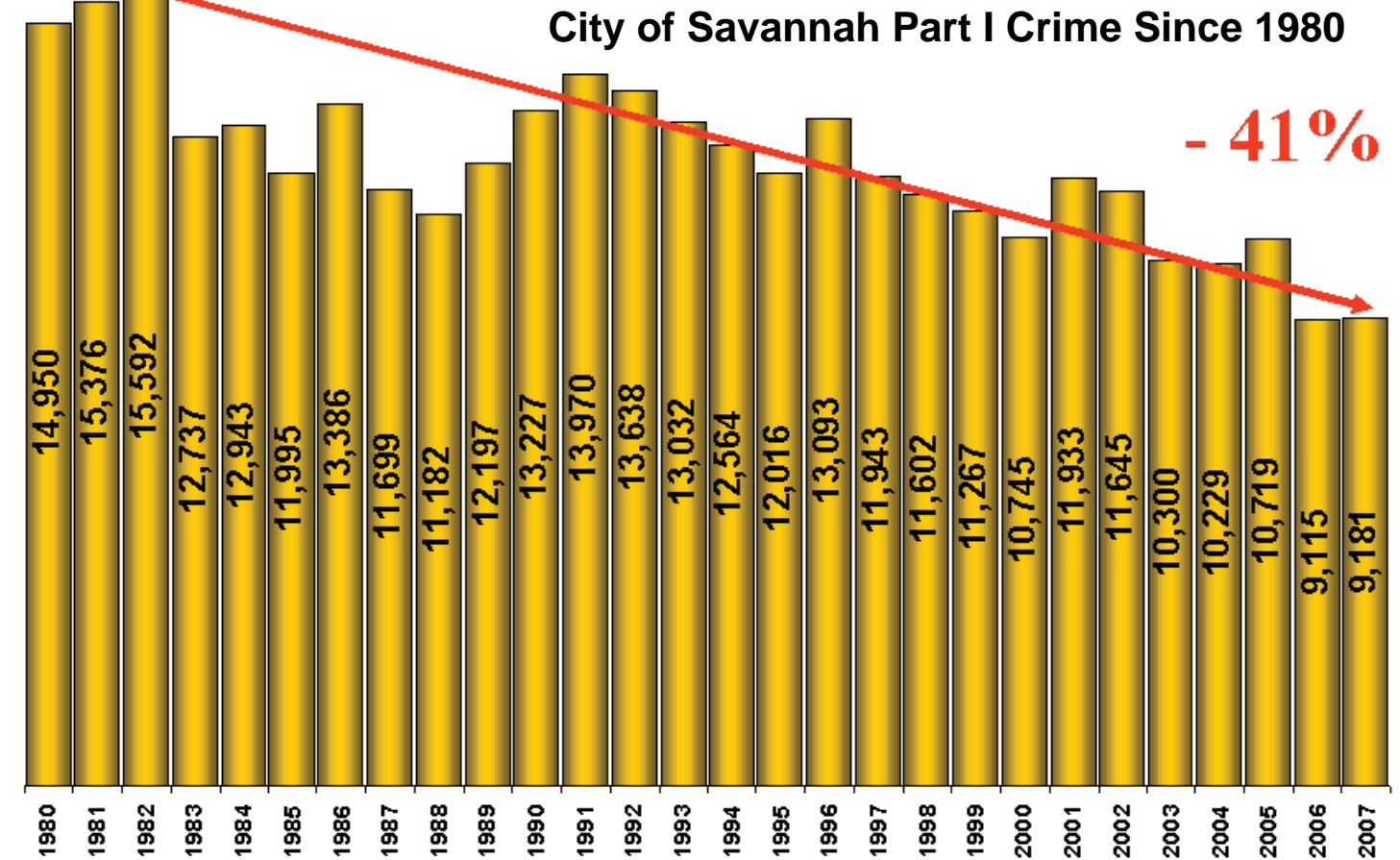
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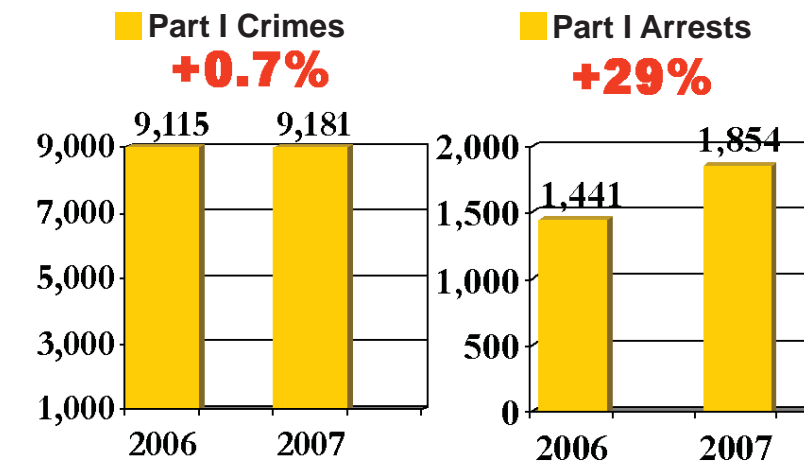
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Public Safety

Historic lows in crime continue



Crime Flat – Arrests Up



Looking back

In 2007 the City saw a continuation of the historically low Part I crime numbers reached in 2006, when serious crime dropped below 10,000 for the first time in 30 years. While Part I crime increased slightly – by 0.7 percent – the numbers were still 23 percent below the 2001 total and 10 percent below the 2004 total.

This occurred without the dramatic overtime Metro police incurred in 2006, when 16 Sheriff's deputies were brought in to supplement the force. Metro Police Chief Michael Berkow accomplished this by using new technology, by forming new partnerships, and by deploying a strategy that focused on more efficient use of manpower.

PUBLIC SAFETY

From the cover

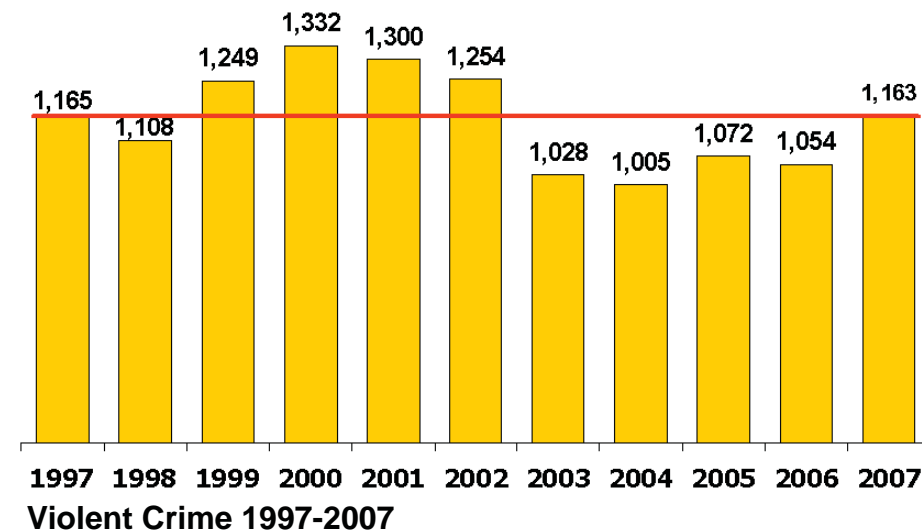
This strategy led to more criminals being caught. Between 2006 and 2007, Part I arrests rose 29 percent.

Looking ahead

In 2008, Metro Police will focus on driving down violent crime, which rose by 109 incidents in the City in 2007. While still below levels of five years ago, the numbers are unacceptable, particularly with robberies, which increased 8 percent in Savannah last year. Much can be attributed to juvenile offenders: Between 2006 and 2007, the median age of robbery arrestees dropped from 21 years old to 20. The number of robberies committed by offenders aged 17 and under increased 164 percent; the robbery rate increased 83 percent for those aged 18-21.

To combat this problem, Mayor Otis Johnson will hold a Youth Crime Summit in April. The summit's goal will be to implement an action plan that will focus on establishing a juvenile offender case management workgroup, creating a mechanism to increase parental responsibility, and forming a plan to engage community- and faith-based groups to participate in the solution.

In 2008, Police will also focus on fully staffing positions, on expanded investigations through the newly formed Savannah Area Regional Intel Center (SARIC), and on new technology such as mobile data terminal for cruisers, and new surveillance cameras at loca-



	Total 2004	Total 2005	Total 2006	Total 2007	Change
Homicide	23	25	25	22	-3
Rape	65	65	56	66	10
Commercial Robbery	123	120	106	98	-8
Street Robbery	418	402	450	506	56
Residential Robbery	48	47	69	74	5
Domestic Agg Assault	38	62	60	56	-4
Non-Domestic Agg	290	351	288	341	53
SUBTOTAL VIOLENT	1005	1072	1054	1163	109
Commercial Burglary	474	587	465	471	6
Residential Burglary	1511	1541	1144	1339	195
Purse Snatch/Pick Pocket	99	80	59	72	13
Shoplifting	906	884	1048	1060	12
Larceny from Auto	2738	2765	1885	1756	-129
Larceny Yard, Bldg, Bike	1868	2008	2103	2031	-72
Other Larcenies	435	566	318	292	-26
Auto Theft	1193	1216	1039	997	-42
SUBTOTAL PROPERTY	9224	9647	8061	8018	-43
TOTAL PART I CRIME	10229	10719	9115	9181	66

tions throughout the City.

A major initiative in 2008 will be realizing the full potential of SARIC, a new partnership involving more than a dozen local, state and federal law enforcement agencies.

The Center was formed in September when Metro's Intelligence and Analysis/Planning offices merged. The Center produces daily briefings that are updated throughout the day, and acts as a single resource for dissemination of information vital to improved tactical planning. This year, SARIC will also gain oversight of alcohol licenses and sales for the first time.

Economic Development

City works to help Savannahians grow new business

Looking back

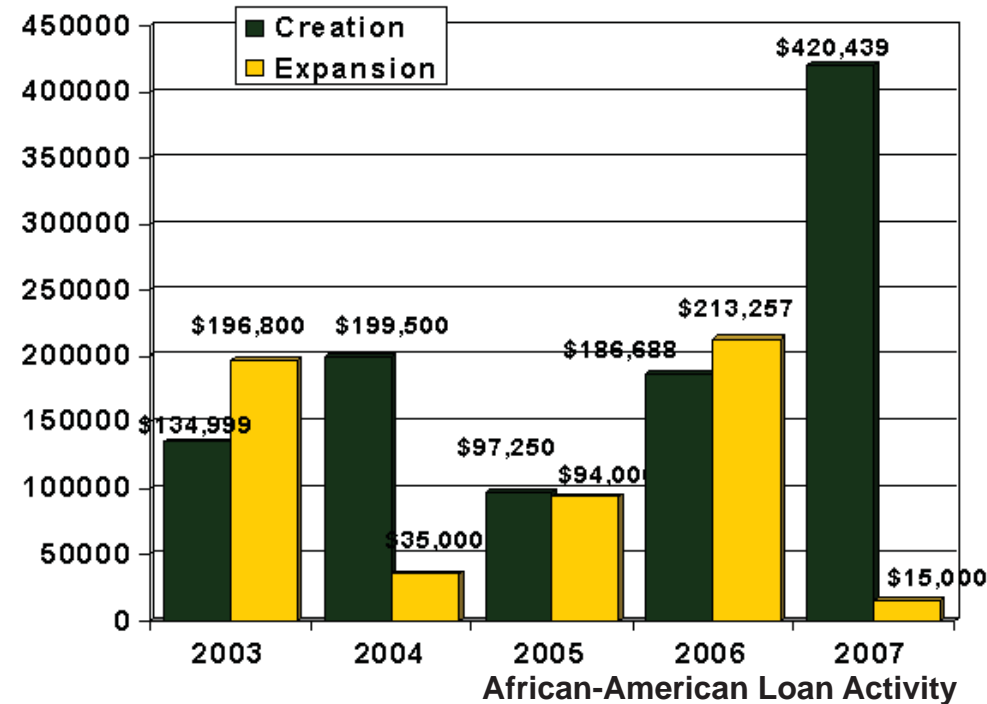
In 2007 the City taught more than 600 residents how to develop business plans and other skills necessary to start their own companies. About \$435,000 in loans were awarded to create new African American-owned businesses – the most ever in Savannah.

The City's Minority- and Women-owned Business Enterprise Program focused on increasing the capacity of existing local businesses through training and referrals. More than \$8.8 million in City contracts were awarded to African American-owned businesses in 2007 – a 57 percent increase over 2006.

The Step-Up Poverty Reduction Collaborative enrolled 156 residents in job skill centers in 2007, and helped 2,574 residents claim \$2.6 million in refunds through free tax preparation sites.

Looking ahead

In 2008, the City's MWBE office will develop a comprehensive database of local minority-owned busi-



nesses to help increase minority participation in City contracts.

The City, in collaboration with Step-Up, has contracted with the nonprofit company Accion to provide small, low-interest loans to help start-up entrepreneurs with seed money to create their small businesses. Accion plans to make 100 loans in 2008 totaling \$700,000, for an average of \$7,000 per loan.

Affordable Housing

Helping residents afford new homes, and fix up their old ones

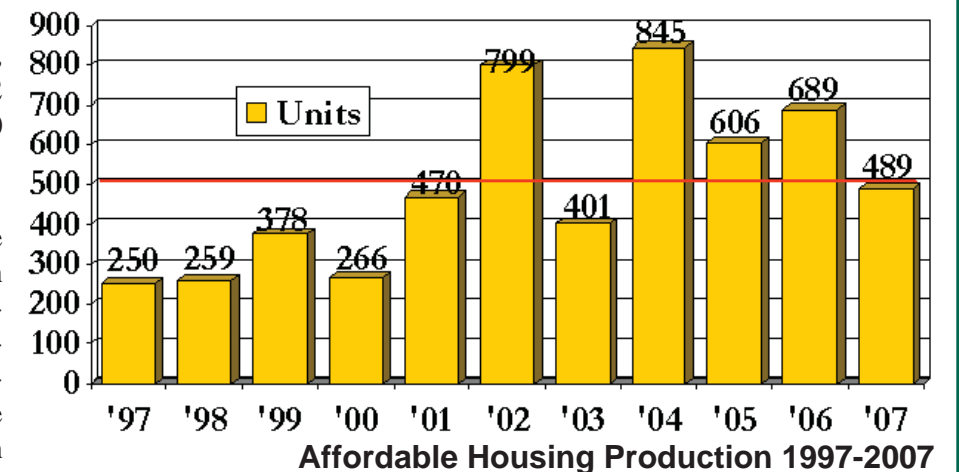
Looking back

In 2007, the City built 57 infill houses, added 40 affordable rental units, made 292 homeowner improvements, and helped 100 residents purchase their first homes.

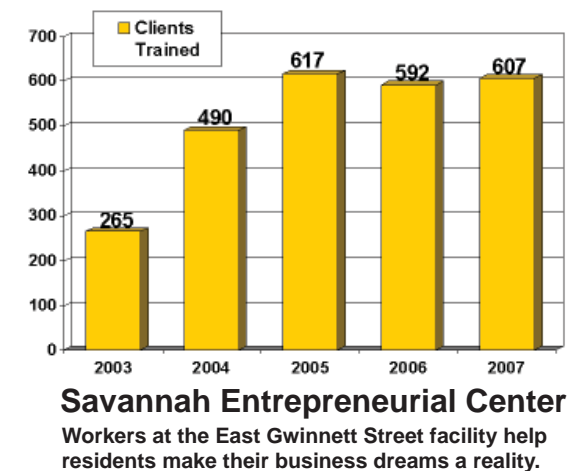
Looking ahead

In 2008 the City, in partnership with the nonprofit CHSA Development Inc., will begin the process of redeveloping the 44-acre, 380-unit Strathmore Estates on Savannah's eastside. Plans are to redevelop the site into high-quality mixed-use, mixed-income affordable housing. CHSA purchased the property with assistance from the City in 2007.

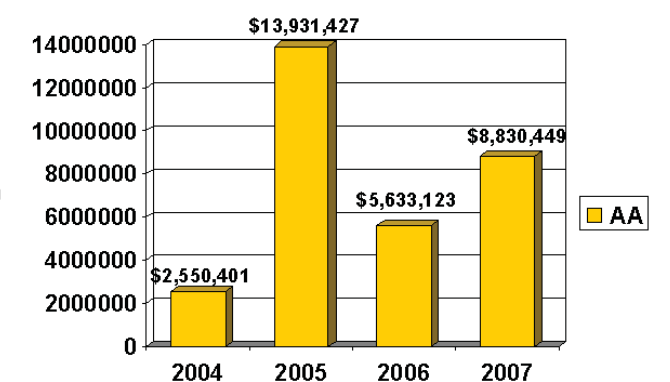
On Savannah's westside, the City is partnering with the Housing Authority of Savannah and Melaver Inc. to redevelop the former Fellwood Homes public housing community



into the mixed-income Sustainable Fellwood. The development will include 220 public and affordable housing units, 100 senior housing units, 10 single-family homes, organic community gardens, and large parks. It will be developed using cutting edge green building techniques.



Workers at the East Gwinnett Street facility help residents make their business dreams a reality.



African-American Business Enterprise City Contract Awards

The City has tripled the annual amount of business it awards to minority-owned contractors during the past four years.