

Building codes are integral to public health and safety and environmental protection

- The City of Battle Creek Inspection Division is an enforcing agency for the State of Michigan Construction Code
 - Codes are designed to govern design, construction, repair or alteration and general maintenance of buildings
 - The authority to address appeals of all State of Michigan Codes is given solely to an appeals body. For the 8 participating jurisdictions, requests for appeal are heard by the Area Metropolitan Services Agency Board of Appeals (AMSA).
- Municipalities are assigned a Building Code Effectiveness Grading Scale classification (ISO) based on multiple factors surrounding building code inspections. The premise is that cities with well-enforced, up to date codes should demonstrate better loss experience resulting in a higher rating and can reflect lower insurance rates.

Staffing

- 1 Chief Building Official
- 1 Building Official (Building / Plan Reviewer)
- 1 Dual Trade Inspector (Electrical / Mechanical / Plan Reviewer)
- 1 Dual Trade Inspector (Plumbing / Mechanical / Plan Reviewer)

Average years of experience in Inspections – 25 years

Inspectors have ongoing Continuing Education Credit requirements per trade (3 yr cycle)

- 3 Customer Service Representatives (Shared between Code Compliance & Inspections)
- 3 Sub-Contract Inspectors (Back-up coverage as needed)
 - Building / Mechanical
 - Electrical
 - Plumbing

Average years of experience in Inspections – 23 years

Inspectors have ongoing Continuing Education Credit requirements per trade (3 yr cycle)

Division Responsibilities

➤ Enforce Michigan State Codes

Residential & Commercial Building Code

Residential & Commercial Mechanical Code

Residential & Commercial Fuel Gas Code

Michigan Barrier Free

National Fire Protection Agency

Residential & Commercial Electrical Code

Residential & Commercial Plumbing Code

Residential & Commercial Energy Code

International Property Maintenance Code

International Fire Code

➤ Permit Application Approval and Plan Review

➤ Pre-Development Meetings and Inspections

➤ Code Complaint Investigations & Enforcement and Certificate of Occupancy Safety Inspections

➤ Dangerous Buildings Enforcement

➤ Structure Fires

➤ Police Raids

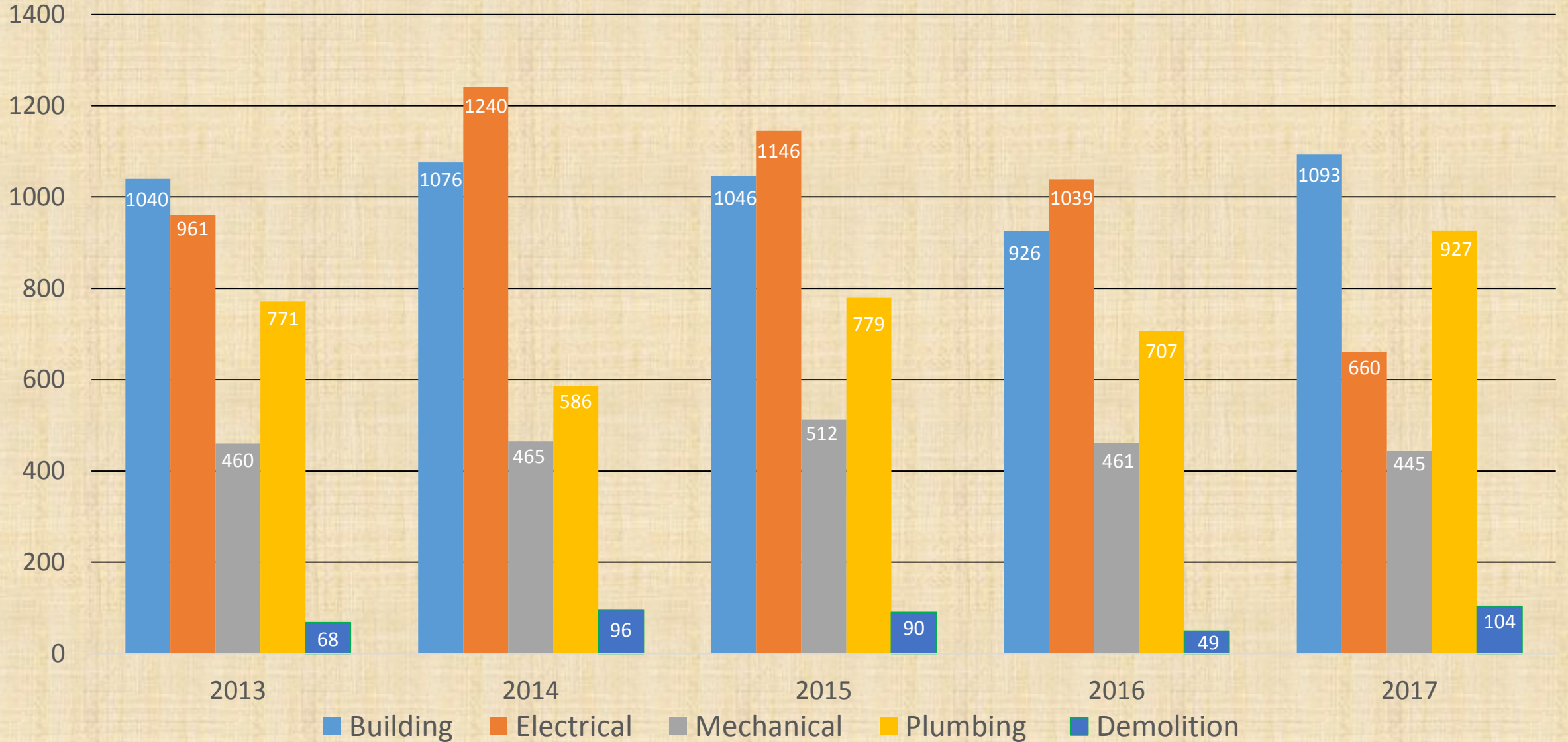
➤ Liquor License, Second Hand Goods, Used Car License Inspections

➤ Calhoun County Health Department (Orders to Vacate)

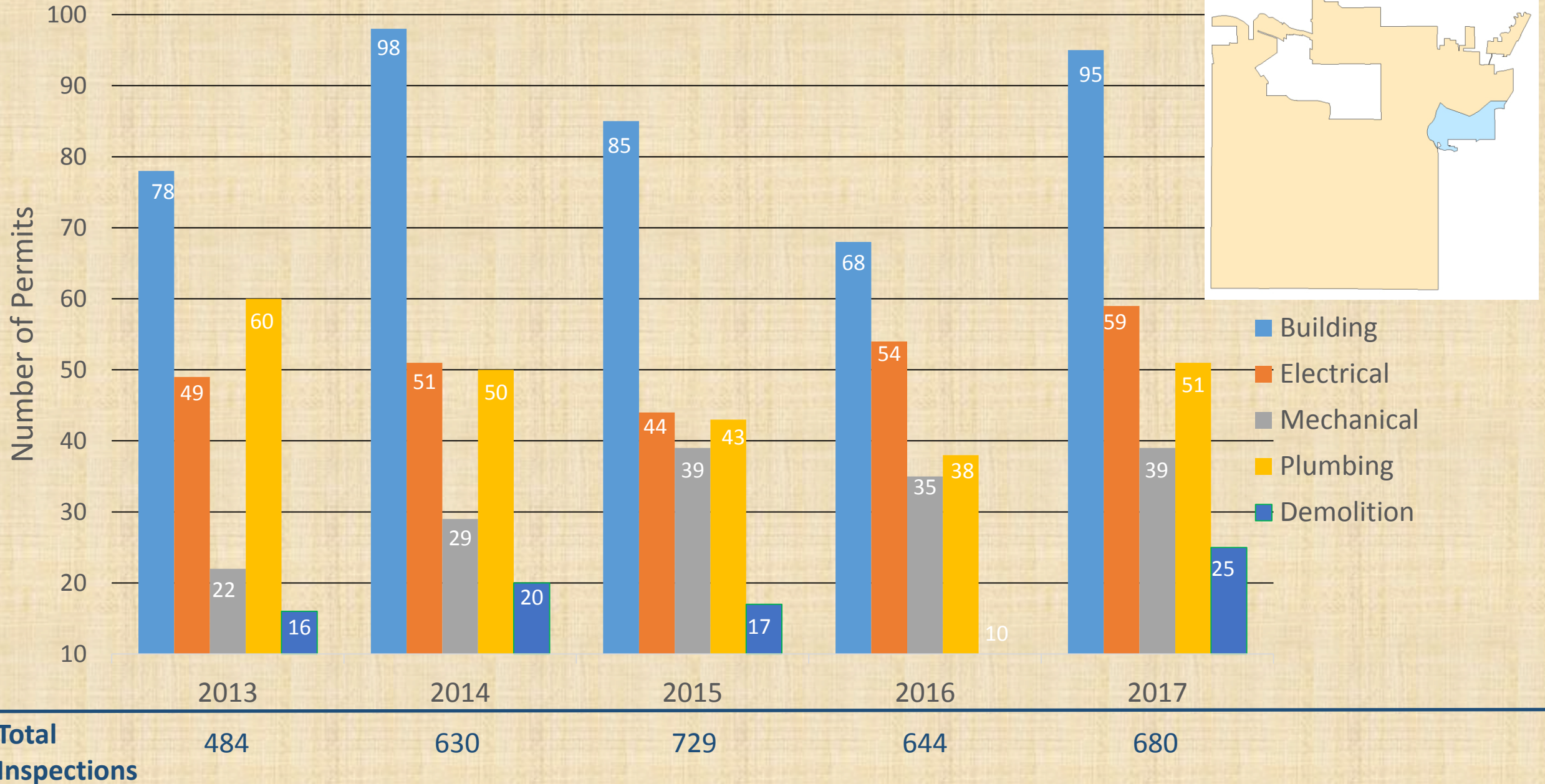
➤ Special Community Events (i.e. Field of Flight & Balloon Festival)

Trade Permits

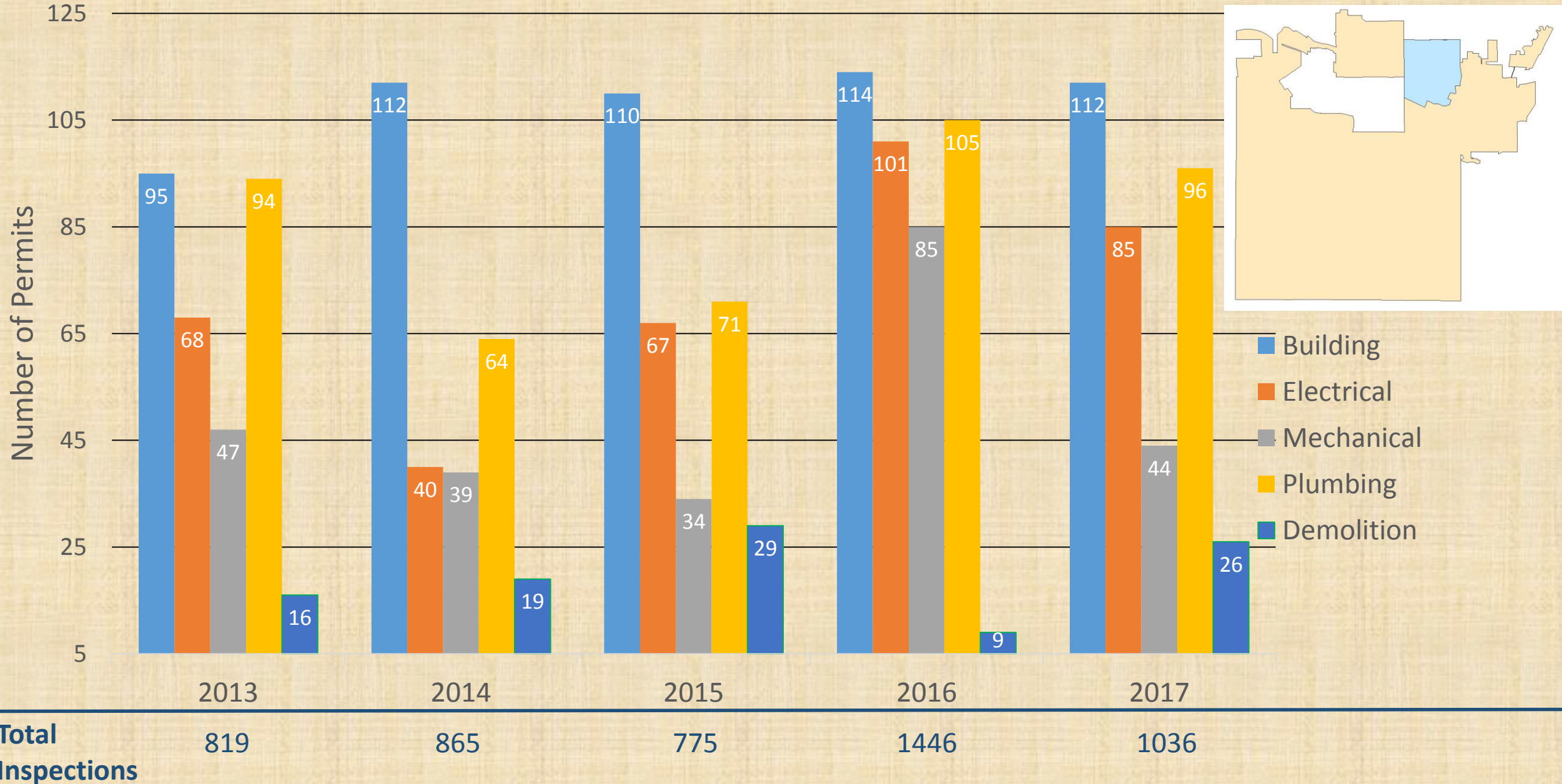
5 Year Trends



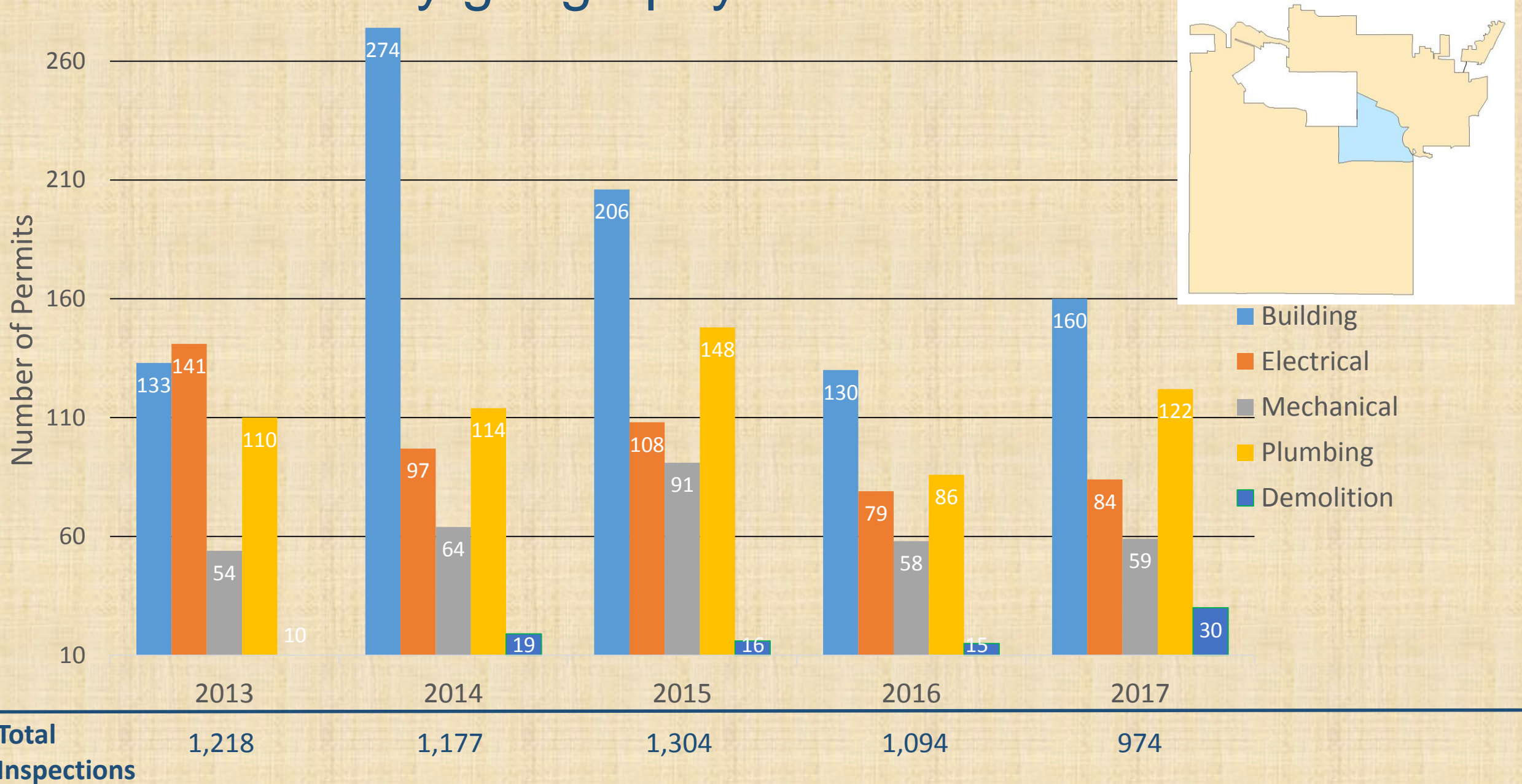
Permit inspection trends by geography – Post / Franklin NPC 1



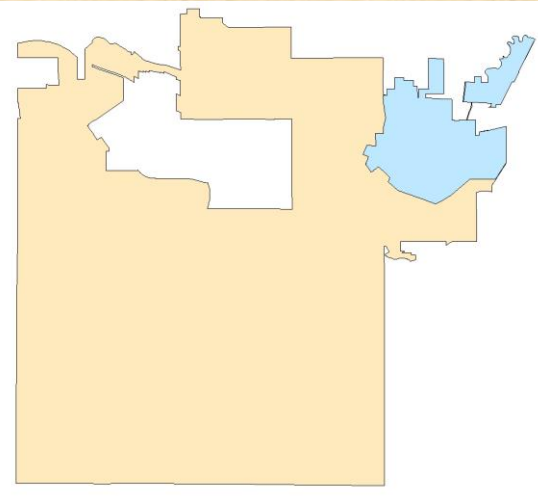
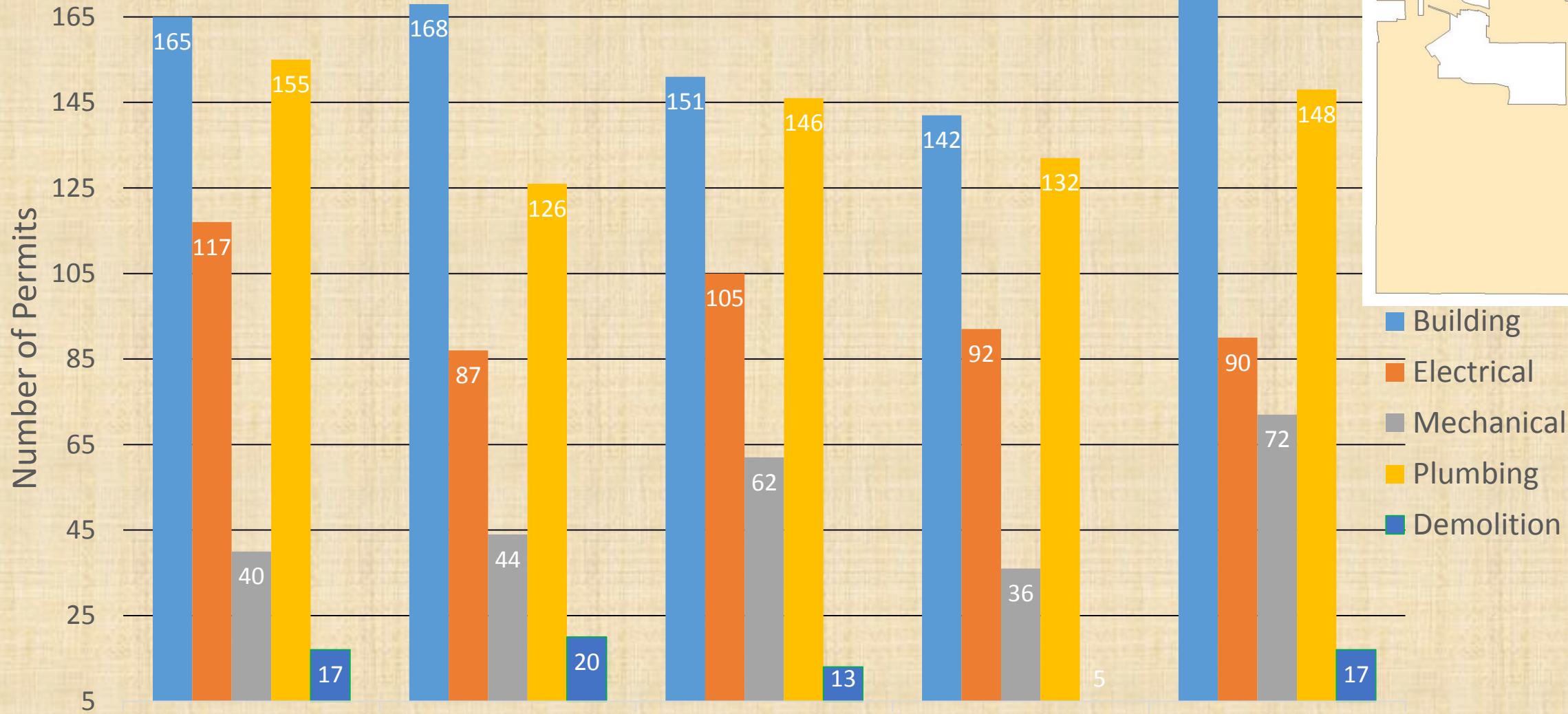
Permit trends by geography – Northcentral NPC 2



Permit trends by geography – Central NPC 3



Permit trends by geography – Northeast NPC 4



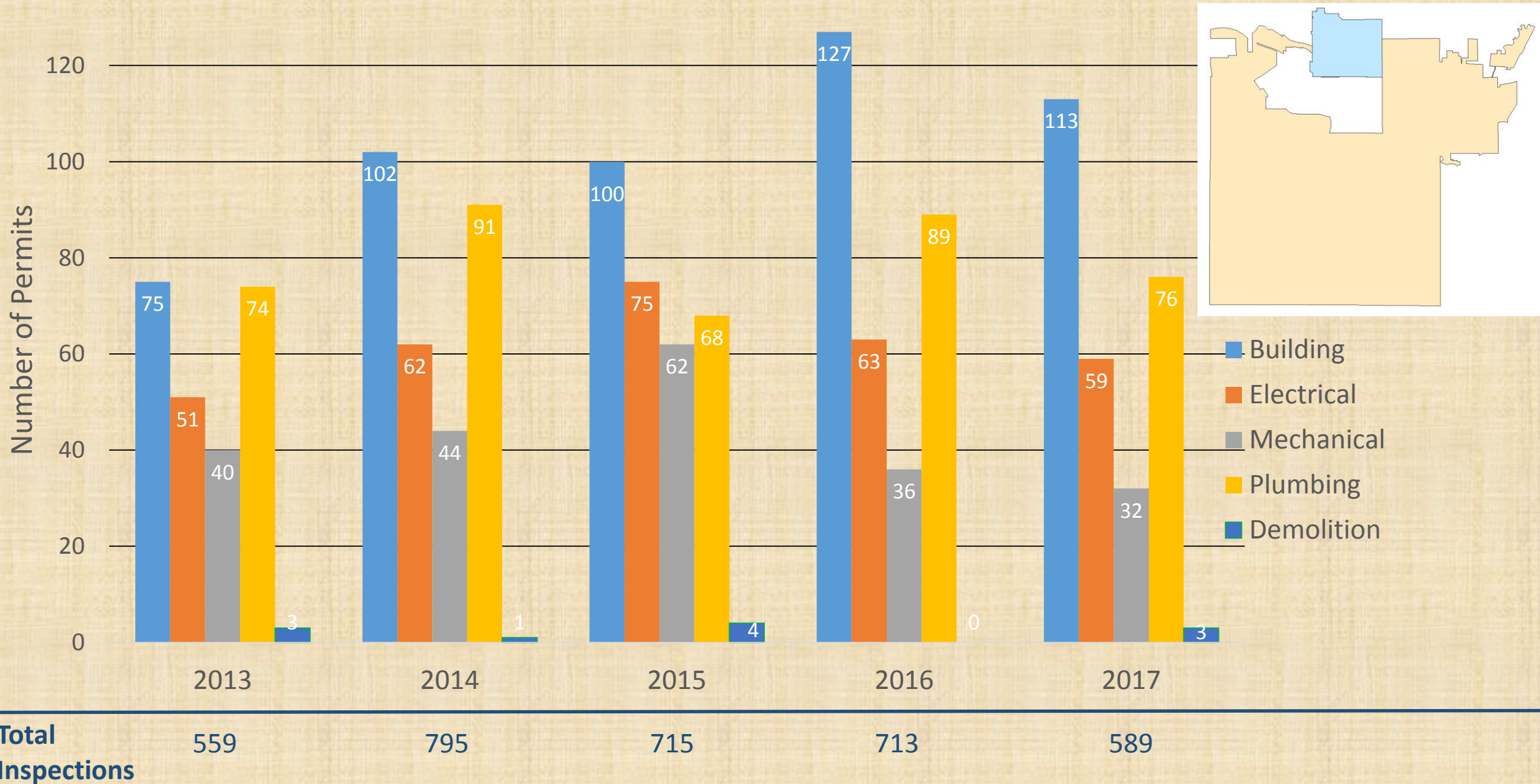
- Building
- Electrical
- Mechanical
- Plumbing
- Demolition

2013 2014 2015 2016 2017

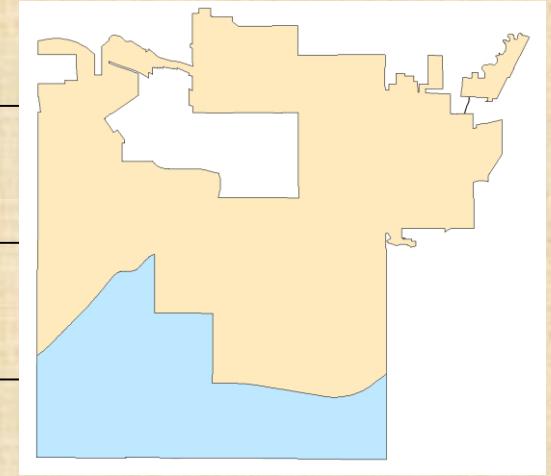
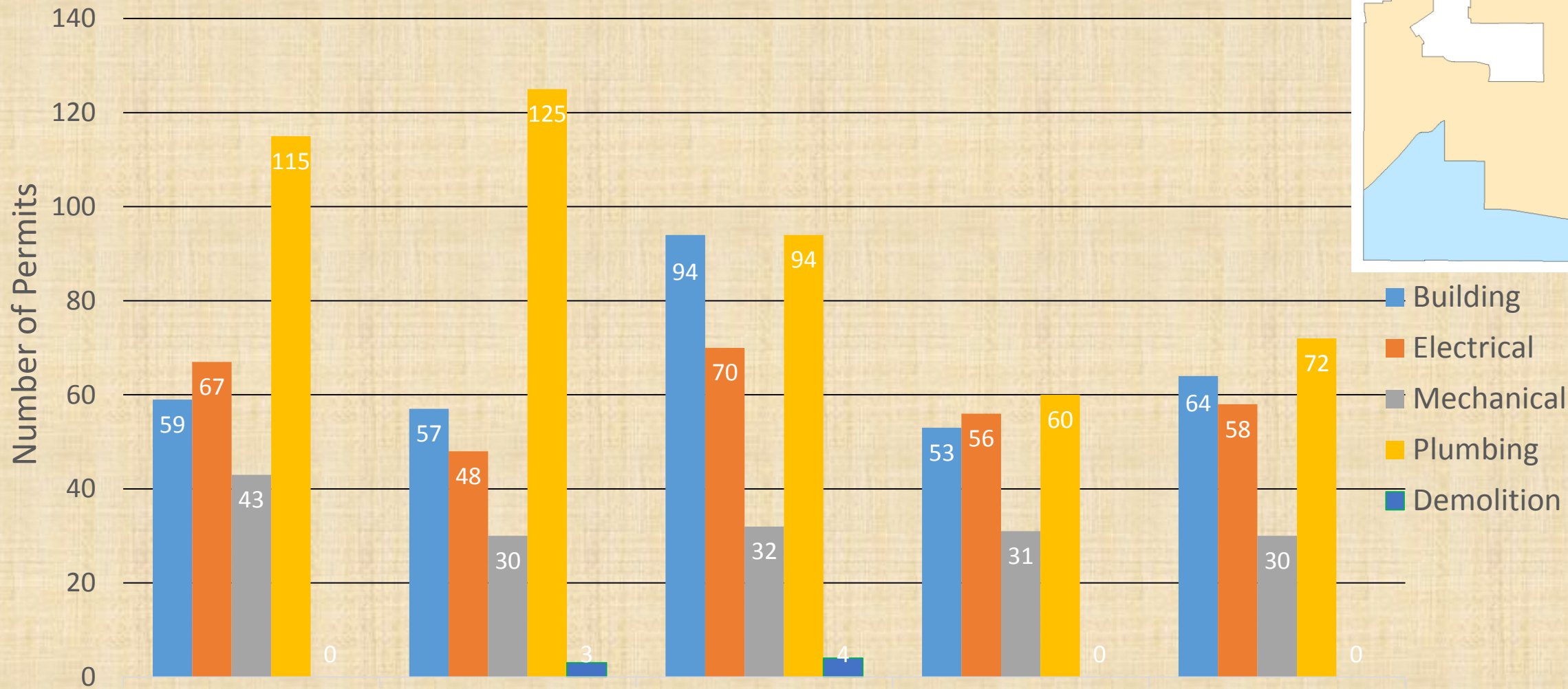
Total Inspections

1,218 1,177 1,304 1,245 1,163

Permit trends by geography – Urbandale NPC 5



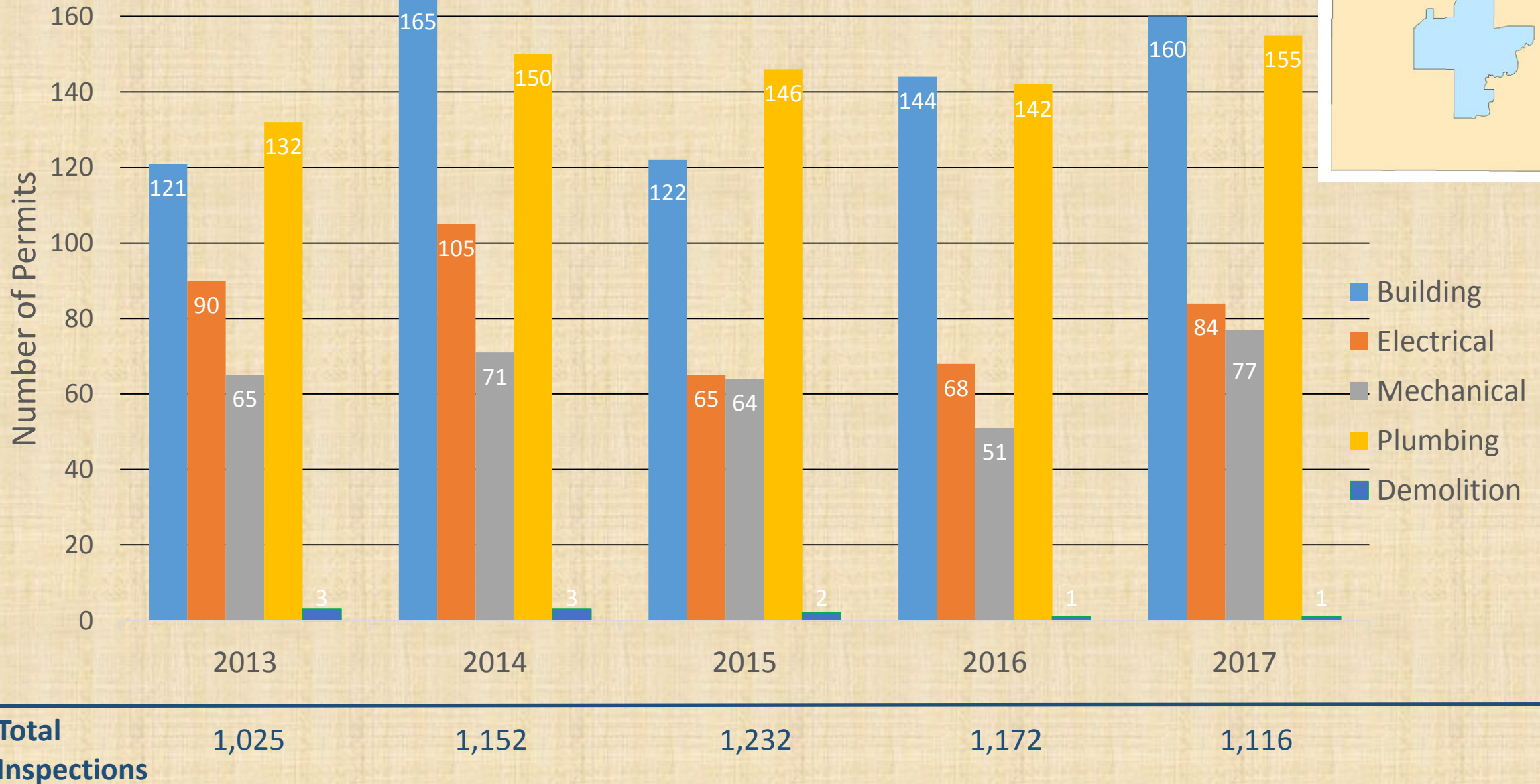
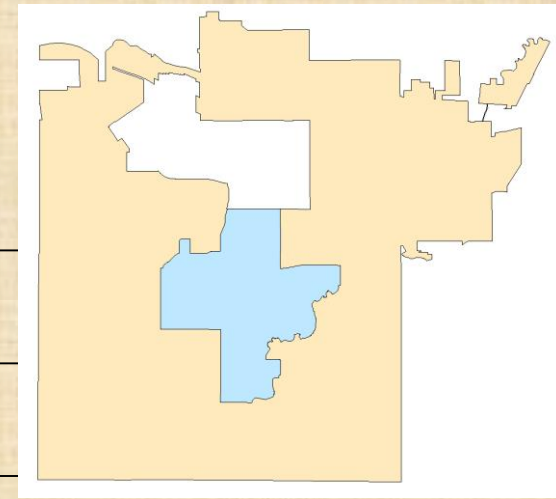
Permit trends by geography – Rural Southwest NPC 9



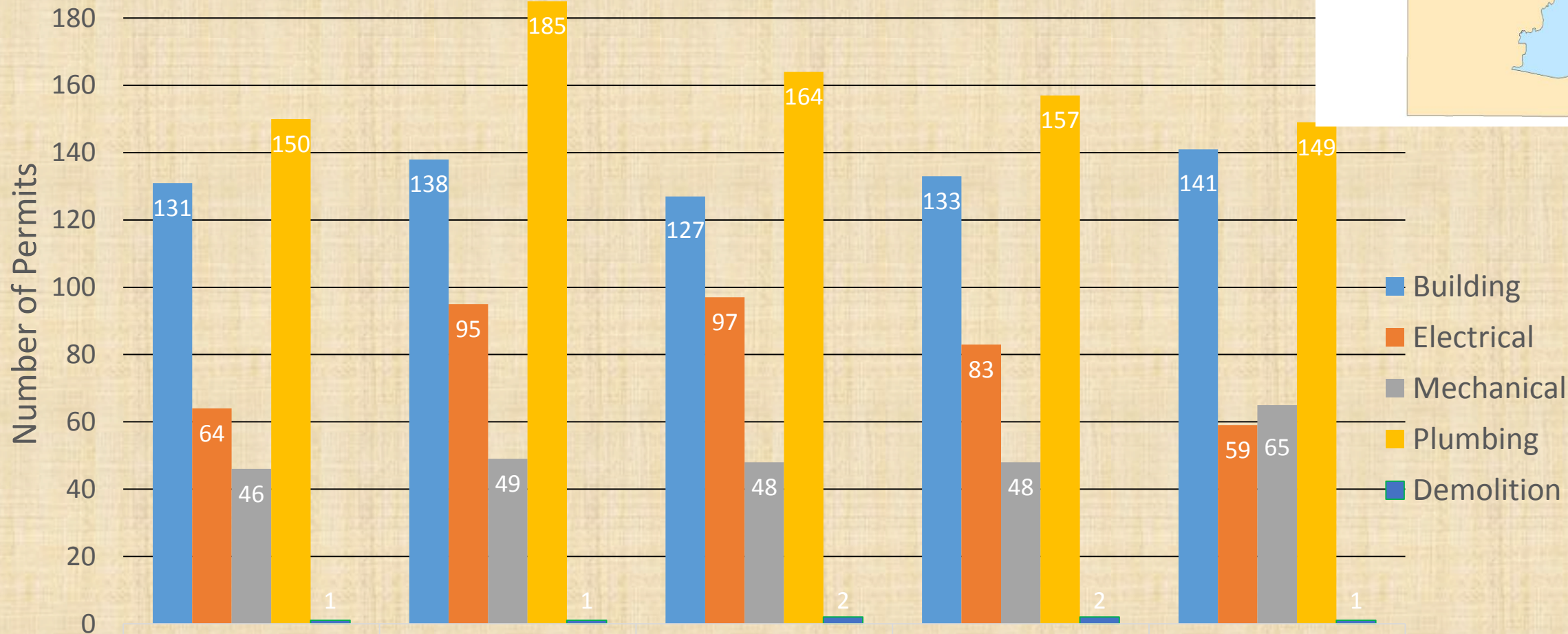
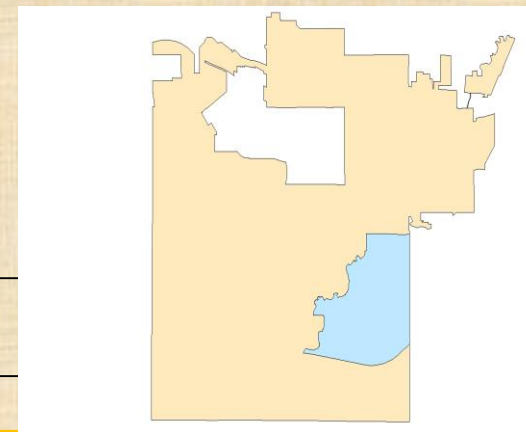
- Building
- Electrical
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- Demolition

Total Inspections 986 766 683 666 616

Permit trends by geography – Westlake / Prairieview NPC 10



Permit trends by geography – Minges Brook / Riverside NPC 11



**Total
Inspections**

833

841

993

1,003

789

2017 Overview

- Restructured the Inspections Division – Reactivation of Chief Building Official position.
 - Hired Chief Building Official October 2017.
 - Hired CSR II staff person to fill a vacancy in October 2017.
- Ongoing monthly meetings and training with area inspectors to discuss and establish inspections and processes for improved consistency.
- Replacement of laptops used in the field.
- Implementation of BS&A Access My Gov online permitting, payment, inspection scheduling and inspection result module.
- Improving communications with various departments for smoother work flow for citizens.

Moving Forward 2018

- Hosted a follow up Inspections community conversation (attended by over 70 individuals)
- Offering weekly commercial development project discussion meetings
- Host community trainings / work sessions for interested members of the community.
- Improve website content, educational materials and ease of navigation.
- Hosting monthly CBO Community Coffee's
- Implementation of Community Services Customer Satisfaction Survey
- Community Services Quarterly Newsletter

What success looks like

- Inspectors feel supported in helping to make Battle Creek a safe, desirable community
- Inspectors have the necessary resources (time, technology, etc.) to help make them and their work successful
- Commitment to continually seek opportunities to improve policies, practices, and procedures
- Increased public education, transparency, and accountability
- Community feels staff is available and supportive