San Francisco Environmental Justice Framework

INFORMATIONAL HEARING @ ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION | JANUARY 2023

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AGENDA

1. Background & Goals
2. Community Engagement
3. Environmental Justice Communities Map
4. Environmental Justice Framework
5. Next Steps
BACKGROUND & GOALS
Why Plan for Environmental Justice (EJ)? Why Now?

- **CA Senate Bill 1000 (SB1000)** requires:
  - Analyze data on **EJ Communities***
  - Adopt policies in General Plan to address “unique or compounded health risks” (standalone element or integrated throughout)

- **Planning & Historic Preservation Commissions** called for General Plan policies to address **racial & social equity**.

* Referred to as “Disadvantaged Communities” in SB1000

Source: SF Conservation Corps & Literacy for Environmental Justice (February 2018)
Environmental Justice **Framework & Future Updates**

**Proposed Action to Planning Commission:** Environmental Justice Framework, including the Environmental Justice Communities Map, will be incorporated by reference in an updated General Plan Introduction.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th><strong>EJ Framework</strong></th>
<th>3</th>
<th><strong>EJ &amp; equity policies</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>will serve as a guidepost to City agencies</td>
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<td>are incorporated in updated Safety &amp; Resilience Element and Housing Element</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>2</th>
<th><strong>EJ Communities Map</strong></th>
<th>4</th>
<th><strong>Future updates</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>highlights neighborhoods of concern</td>
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<td>Underway for Transportation (2025) &amp; are being scoped for other key Elements (Environmental Protection, Air Quality, Urban Design, Commerce &amp; Industry, Land Use, Arts &amp; Culture)</td>
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What Policies Can Address Environmental Justice & Racial Equity?

- Healthy & Resilient Environments
- Safe, Healthy, & Affordable Homes
- Physical Activity & Healthy Public Facilities
- Equitable & Green Jobs
- Healthy Food Access
- Empowered Neighborhoods

Source: Pxfuel, NextCity, Next Republic Bank, Vivien Kim Thorp, RWJF, SFGate
General Plan Introduction: Update

- **Sets the intention** of the General Plan and the future City (last updated in 1996)
- **New content includes:** 1) land acknowledgement 2) strengths and challenges of the built environment 3) acknowledgement and apology of inequitable planning policies and actions
- **Integrate new ideas from:**
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
Community Engagement: Goals

- Meaningfully involve the community in local decision-making
- Uplift residents, workers, and community leaders most impacted by EJ
- Elevate EJ to a citywide dialogue across neighborhood boundaries
- Acknowledge past harms & identify solutions where the City can step in

Source: SF Conservation Corps & Literacy for Environmental Justice (February 2018)
### Engagement Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Quarter</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>FALL</td>
<td>Youth Engagement: Malcolm X Academy, Balboa HS, SF State</td>
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<td>Virtual Events</td>
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<td></td>
<td>SUMMER</td>
<td>Interviews</td>
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<td></td>
<td>FALL</td>
<td>Environmental Justice Working Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>WINTER</td>
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<td>SPRING</td>
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<td>SUMMER</td>
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<td>FALL</td>
<td>Focus Groups</td>
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### Online Resources
- Outreach & Engagement Summary
- Policy Recommendations from EJ Working Group
### Community Engagement: CBO & Community Partnerships

#### YOUTH ENGAGEMENT
- Malcolm X Academy
- Balboa High School
- SF State University

#### FOCUS GROUPS
- Promotoras Activas San Francisco
- Carnaval San Francisco
- Booker T. Washington Community Service Center
- Potrero Hill Neighborhood House
- City of Dreams
- Wu Yee Children’s Services

#### EJ WORKING GROUP
- American Indian Cultural District
- Bayview Hunters Point Community Advocates
- Brightline Defense
- Chinatown Community Development Center
- Code Tenderloin
- Demonstration Gardens - Tenderloin Peoples Congress
- Fillmore Media Systems & Services Co.
- Japantown Cultural District
- PODER
- Potrero Hill Neighborhood House
- Residents Supporting Community On Treasure Island
- San Francisco African American Faith Base Coalition
- San Francisco Parks Alliance
- San Francisco Transit Riders
- Sistah Music Snax Entertainment
- Southwest Community Corporation
- St. Andrew Missionary Baptist Church
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMUNITIES MAP
How the state defines EJ Communities*

SB1000 cites **CalEnviroScreen**

- 20 pollution, health, and socioeconomic indicators
- Used for state programs (ex: cap & trade fund)
- **Critique:** excludes many sensitive neighborhoods in SF

Goals of **SF-specific analysis**

- Refine CalEnviroScreen with local data & create an easily replicable analysis
- Better align with maps by MTC, SFDPH, Rec & Park, etc.
- Reflect community feedback on areas of high need

* Referred to as “Disadvantaged Communities” in SB1000
EJ Communities Map Datasets

State encourages cities to refine CalEnviroScreen with local data on pollution burden and health risk factors.
San Francisco Environmental Justice Communities Map
ENVIROMENTAL JUSTICE FRAMEWORK
Environmental Justice Framework: Initiation Draft

- Introduction

- What is Environmental Justice?

- Environmental Justice Priorities (Why It Matters, Vision, and Priorities)
  - Healthy and Resilient Environments
  - Physical Activity and Healthy Public Facilities
  - Healthy Food Access
  - Safe, Healthy, and Affordable Homes
  - Equitable and Green Jobs
  - Empowered Neighborhoods
Healthy & Resilient Environments

PRIORITIES:

- Limit and protect against pollution exposure
- Prepare for seismic hazards, other natural disasters, and the climate crisis
- Expand nature-based solutions, green infrastructure, & urban greening
- Invest in resilient public utility systems and affirm access to water, power, and sanitation as a human right
- Ensure public access to data & information
- Empower community planning for climate resilience and justice

Example: Closing the PG&E Plant

Source: SF Chronicle, Mike Kepka
Physical Activity & Healthy Public Facilities

**EXAMPLE: SUNDAY STREETS EXCELSIOR**

**PRIORITIES:**

- Distribute public facilities **equitably**
- Ensure **public facilities** are accessible and safe for all
- Offer **diverse, flexible, and inclusive programming** in public facilities
- Support **environmental education** programs
- Ensure robust **transportation connectivity**
- Ensure **streets and transit** are accessible and safe for all
Healthy Food Access

EXAMPLE: MISSION FOOD HUB

PRIORITIES:

- Affirm healthy food as a human right
- Empower workers and community members
- Leverage the food system as a means of strengthening communities
- Foster climate resilience and innovation in the food system
- Increase nature-based food opportunities

Source: Mission Food Hub
Safe, Healthy, & Affordable Homes

**PRIORITIES:**

- Work to **undo past harms**
- Build **accountability & oversight** in the housing systems
- Address **housing affordability & availability**
- Protect **vulnerable tenants**
- Expand **housing choices** citywide
- Ensure that housing supports **public health**

**EXAMPLE: NORTH BEACH PLACE**

Source: Bridge Housing
Equitable & Green Jobs

PRIORITIES:

▪ Provide living wages for all

▪ Foster a robust network of work & entrepreneurship

▪ Promote pathways for workers’ empowerment and self-determination

▪ Facilitate the just transition of the city’s economy and workforce

Source: SF Conservation Corps & Literacy for Environmental Justice
Empowered Neighborhoods

PRIORITIES:

- Prioritize participation of EJ Communities in decision-making processes
- Build capacity for diverse voices to engage
- Center environmental justice efforts in collaboration with American Indian communities and Traditional Ecological Knowledge
- Foster a culture of transparency and communication
- Develop community partnerships to expand city’s reach
- Address community safety

Example: CULTURAL DISTRICTS

Source: Bridge Housing
5 NEXT STEPS
### Interagency Partners: Coordination & Implementation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SF Department of the Environment</th>
<th>SF Department of Public Health</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elimination or mitigation of environmental burdens &amp; improve the health outcomes for low-income communities of color</td>
<td>Public health approaches to environmental justice, including health promotion, indoor air quality, lead prevention, and COVID-19 support</td>
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<tr>
<th>SF Public Utilities Commission</th>
<th>SF Recreation and Park Department</th>
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<td>Consideration of EJ Communities in the Green Infrastructure Grant Program</td>
<td>Adopted the EJ Communities as their Equity Zones</td>
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<th>SF Human Rights Commission</th>
<th>…and more, including OEWD, ORCP, Port, SFMTA, and SFO.</th>
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<td>Development of Draft Reparations Plan</td>
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Source: SF Conservation Corps & Literacy for Environmental Justice (February 2018)
## EJ Framework Adoption Timeline

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>City agencies &amp; EJ Working Group review draft framework</td>
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<td>Early January</td>
<td>Draft framework posted on website for public comment</td>
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<td>January 5th</td>
<td>Informational hearing @ Planning Commission</td>
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<td>January 26th</td>
<td>Initiation hearing @ Planning Commission</td>
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<td>March 2(^{nd}) or After</td>
<td>Adoption hearing @ Planning Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>April - May</td>
<td>Hearings at Board of Supervisors</td>
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"If we want a safe environment for our children and grandchildren, we must clean up our act, no matter how hard a task it might be."

Hazel M. Johnson, the “Mother of the Environmental Justice Movement”
THANK YOU

Learn more & sign up for email updates at:
https://sfplanning.org/project/ej-framework