# Joint Working Group Meeting
## Environmental Justice & Public Health

March 18, 2022

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

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INNOVATING FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

# HOUSEKEEPING

1. Meeting length: approximately 2 hours
2. Please take care to mute your audio/phones
3. At the end of each presentation, there will be a Q&A session
4. If you have a question during the presentation, type it into the chat box
5. We will log all questions and answer them during Q&A
6. Think of something later? Email aguirre@scag.ca.gov
7. All presentations will be emailed to those who registered to participate in today's meeting

# AGENDA

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS

2. PLANNING FOR HEALTH EQUITY, ADVOCACY, & LEADERSHIP

3. SCAG'S ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE & PUBLIC HEALTH TOOLBOXES

4. CAL ADAPT'S LOCAL CLIMATE CHANGE SNAPSHOT TOOL

5. EXTREME HEAT & PUBLIC HEALTH: BEST PRACTICES

6. URBANFOOTPRINT'S EJ DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES' ANALYSIS

7. COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ELEMENT

8. SCAG'S RACIAL EQUITY EARLY ACTION PLAN

9. FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF TIME PERMITS)

Riverside University HEALTH SYSTEM

Public Health

# Planning for Health Equity, Advocay and Leadership

Miguel A. Vazquez, AICP

# January 28, 2020

***Flight from epicenter of coronavirus outbreak redirected to March Air Reserve Base in Riverside County***

*-Los Angeles Daily News*

np 2017 New Partners for Smart Growth Conference

February 2-4, 2017 • St. Louis, Missouri

AARP Equity by Design #BuildEquity

Developing THE NATIONAL HEALTHY COMMUNITIES PLATFORM

# Creating Enabling and Equitable Housing and Multigenerational Communities

Chris Kochtitzky, MSP
Senior Advisor @ U. S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Physical Activity and Health Program

**PHEAL STEERING COMMITTEE CHAIR** Miguel A. Vazquez, AICP, Riverside University Health System - Public Health **PHEAL STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS** Mariela Alfonzo, PhD, State of Place; Ignacio F. Bunster-Ossa, FASLA; Tamika Butler, Esq., Tamika L. Butler Consulting LLC; Naomi Doerner, MUP, Nelson Nygaard; Jaime Fearer, AICP, D.C. Health - Office of Health Equity; Esther S. Greenhouse, M.S., CAPS; Eddy Jara, Dr.PH, Riverside University Health System - Public Health Mehri "Mehrsa" Mohebbi, Ph.D., American Planning Association - Diversity Equity Inclusion (DEI) Committee Triveece Penelton, AICP, Vireo; Juan Pablo Reynoso, MPH, MUP, Harvard University; Veronica O. Davis,PE, MEng, MRUP, NSpiregreen; Kelly Rodgers, MLA, Streetsmart; Mallory Rukhsana Nezam, MDes, Justice + Joy; Giselle Sebag, MPH, LEED AP ND, Fitwel Amb, Global Cities at Bloomberg Associates; Danielle Schaeffner, MPH, Blue Zones; Elizabeth Tyler, Ph.D., FAICP **PHEAL CONTRIBUTORS** Beth Altshuler Muñoz, MCP, MPH; Gretchen Armijo, AICP, LEED AP, Norris Design; Carol Barrett, FAICP; Diana Benitez, MURP, Raimi + Associates; Scott Bernstein, Center for Neighborhood Technology; Marcella Bondie, AICP; Hazel Borys, PlaceMakers; Matt Burris, AICP, LEED AP, Rancho Cucamonga; Joan Cairney; Yvonna Cazares, City of Oakland; Nupur Chaudhury, MPH, MUP, New York State Health Foundation; Bo Chung, MPH, MUP, California Strategic Growth Council; Brittany Delany; Susan Desantis, Arellano and Associates; Stephanie Firestone, MUEP, AARP International; Sara Hammerschmidt, Ph.D., Urban Land Institute; Susan Henderson, MBA, PlaceMakers; Alex Hinds, Sonoma State University; Kimberley Hodgson, MURP, MS, AICP, RD, Cultivating Healthy Places; Jennifer Horney, Ph.D., University of Delaware; Eric R. Howell; Cass Isidro, MBA, Safe Routes Partnership; Thomas Jacobson, JD, FAICP, Sonoma State University - Center for Sustainable Communities; Megan Latshaw, Ph.D., Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health; Josh Lee, MRP, San Bernardino Transportation Authority; Steve Lewis, FAIA, NOMAC, LEED AP, Thinking Leadership; Shireen Malekafzali, MPH, San Mateo County Department of Public Health; Vidal Marquez; Kate Meis, MSCRD, Local Government Commission; Waffiyyah Murray, Philadelphia Office of Transportation, Infrastructure, and Sustainability; Brian Oh, AICP, San Mateo County Department of Public Health; Jonathan Pacheco Bell, MAUP, MLIS, Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust; Keshia Pollack Porter, Ph.D., Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health; Paula Reeves, AICP, Washington State Department of Health; James Rojas, MCP, PLACE IT! Linda Rudolph, MD, MPH, Public Health Institute; Bill Sadler, JD, MURP, So Cal Public Health Alliance; David Salazar, FAICP; Sagar Shah, Ph.D., American Planning Association; Mitchell Silver, FAICP, New York City Parks; Sarah Skenazy, MCP, MPH; Nanette Star, MPH, California Strategic Growth Council; Destiny N. Thomas, Ph.D., Thrivance Project; Silvia Vargas, FAICP; Leonardo Vazquez, AICP, PP, The National Consortium for Creative Placemaking; Rob Voigt, MAPUP, Parkbridge Lifestyle Communities; Patricia Walsh, MSAA, Public Art & Civic Design Senior Program Manager, American for the Arts; Sandra Whitehead, PH.D. The George Washington University - Sustainable Planning Department; Marley Williams, MPA, MSS, So Cal Public Health Alliance; Heather Wooten, MCP, Onside Partners; Will Wright, Hon AIAI|LA, Director of Government & Public Affairs, AIA Los Angeles; Tina Yuen, MCP, MPH, ChangeLab Solutions; Ivis Zambrana Garcia, Ph.D. University of Utah; Miriam Zuk, Ph.D., Enterprise Community Partners **EXTERNAL REVIEWERS** Manal J. Aboelata, MPH Miroo Desai, MUP Monica Guerra, Ph.D. Cindy Ma, AICP, LEED AP Veronica Murphy, MScUP Rick Willson, Ph.D., FAICP

A BLUEPRINT FOR THE COVID-19 ERA
PHEAL
PLANNING FOR HEALTH EQUITY, ADVOCACY & LEADERSHIP

..."health equity means that everyone has a fair and just opportunity to be as healthy as possible. This requires removing obstacles to health such as poverty, discrimination, and their consequences, including powerlessness and lack of access to good jobs with fair pay, quality education and housing, safe environments, and health care.”

-Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Although the term “community” includes all active and passive actors in its development, for the purposes of this document “community” refers in particular to **“historically overburdened communities with health inequities.”**

# PHEAL Guiding Principles

## COMMUNITY HEALTH & REGENERATION

- Uplift Health Equity
- Develop Healthy and Just Places
- Establish Safe and Prosperous Communities

## COMMUNITY-BASED ADVOCACY

- Engage in Truthful Interactions
- Acknowledge that the Community is in Charge
- Figure it Out Together

## HEALING THROUGH LEADERSHIP

- Advance Racial Justice
- Strengthen Diversity and Inclusion

COMMUNITY HEALTH & REGENERATION

# Uplift Health Equity

**Heal:** Acknowledge historical and current harmful practices, repair broken relationships, and build a culture of health and dignity.

**Collaborate:** Work across disciplines to achieve health equity. Seek support from mission-driven health equity organizations.

**Evaluate:** Measure the holistic success of a community based on the social determinants of health.

**Shift:** Reallocate public resources and services to allow members of society the opportunity to attain their full health potential.

**Reinvest:** Finance public health infrastructure that will reduce existing health inequities and prevent and mitigate future crises.

**Prevent:** Prevent the intentional or unintentional placement of more layers of chronic stress on overburdened communities.

COMMUNITY HEALTH & REGENERATION

# Develop Healthy and Just Places

**Create Healthy Communities:** Consider the physical, mental, spiritual, and social health and wellbeing of a community at the onset of any planning effort.

**Affirm Basic Rights:** Uphold fundamental constitutional and human rights to clean air, water, land, housing, food, safety, and a fair democratic system.

**Safeguard Ecosystem Health:** Advance environmental justice in order to improve human health and wellness.

**Instill Climate Resilience:** Invest in and co-empower communities most impacted by climate change to lead efforts that create resilient places.

**Reflect a Sense of Belonging for All:** Design public places that reflect a welcoming atmosphere, so as to not cause social stress or continued community trauma.

**Anticipate and Monitor Consequences:** Anticipate unintended negative consequences of planning interventions and identify actions to prevent or mitigate against them.

COMMUNITY HEALTH & REGENERATION

# Establish Safe and Prosperous Communities

**Rethink Community Spaces:** Reconsider the merits of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design. Prioritize local community's culture in the design of public spaces.

**Reimagine Community Safety:** Promote community-based safety measures and models that promote care, recovery, and personal resilience.

**Make Economic Liberation Essential:** Invest in historically marginalized communities in a way that builds enduring grassroots wealth within.

COMMUNITY-BASED ADVOCACY

# Engage in Truthful Interactions

**Center:** Center communities overburdened with health disparities. Make them top priorities and central elements of planning practice.

**Endeavor:** Do the utmost to see from another person's perspective while purposefully making choices that frame an anti-racist, humane approach.

**Strive for Veracity:** Search for the root causes of toxic stress and community trauma. Provide a safe venue for truth-telling and reconciliation of past injustices.

**Build Trust:** Keep listening and learning from communities throughout the planning process. "Move at the speed of trust."

**Be Accountable:** Secure accountability from responsible actors in urban planning and policy-making processes through effective communication and evaluation.

COMMUNITY-BASED ADVOCACY

# Acknowledge that the Community is in Charge

**Engage Authentically:** Ensure that members from communities overburdened with health disparities are actively included throughout the planning process.

**Defer to Community Expertise:** Build on the strengths of communities and honor local knowledge, history, and institutional memory.

**Empower:** Balance the scales of power so that communities overburdened with health disparities are able to influence and lead institutional, policy, and systems changes.

**Plan with Collective Impact:** Drive planning processes with a collective impact approach in which all members see themselves as active and valuable players.

COMMUNITY-BASED ADVOCACY

# Figure it Out Together

**Imagine:** Build diverse partnerships in creative processes to envision communities. Incorporate stories and culture in the plan-making process.

**Feel:** Incorporate the feelings and memories of the community. Consider artistic or tactical interventions as new ways to engage community members.

**Uphold the Power of Data:** Stress not only the importance of rigorous empirical data, but also magnify individuals' lived experiences and histories in decision-making.

HEALING THROUGH LEADERSHIP

# Advance Racial Justice

**Reflect:** Examine the extent to which institutions and organizations internally or externally are grounded in structures that perpetuate an oppressive system of inequities.

**Reconcile:** Acknowledge and communicate the impact of racial inequities, so that institutions and organizations march toward healing and reconciliation.

**Envision:** Reimagine institutions and organizations to collaboratively work to eliminate discrimination (especially anti-Blackness). Promote anti-racism policies and practices.

**Act:** Challenge and transform institutional structures that perpetuate racist systems. Reward collaborative efforts that promote the fair and just treatment of all people.

HEALING THROUGH LEADERSHIP

## Strengthen Diversity and Inclusion

**Diversify and Support:** Elevate the roles and voices of professionals and leaders from communities overburdened with health disparities.

**Reform:** Redesign educational, training, and certification requirements for the health, planning, and design disciplines to reflect the tenets of anti-racism.

Riverside University HEALTH SYSTEM

Public Health


**Contact**

**Miguel A. Vazquez, AICP**

mvazquez@ruhealth.org


# Resources

**PHEAL Guiding Principles**
https://www.stateofplace.co/pheal

**AARP Equity by Design**
https://tinyurl.com/ynrcmyfb

**Developing the National Healthy Communities Platform**
https://platformforhealth.rivcoph.org/

# Healthy Cities Toolbox

## Recommended Practices and Approaches

Deedhiti Dola, Randall Lewis Health & Policy (RLHP) Public Health Fellow
Jane Lam, RLHP Environmental Justice & Public Health Fellow
Planning Strategy Department

March 18, 2021

www.scag.ca.gov

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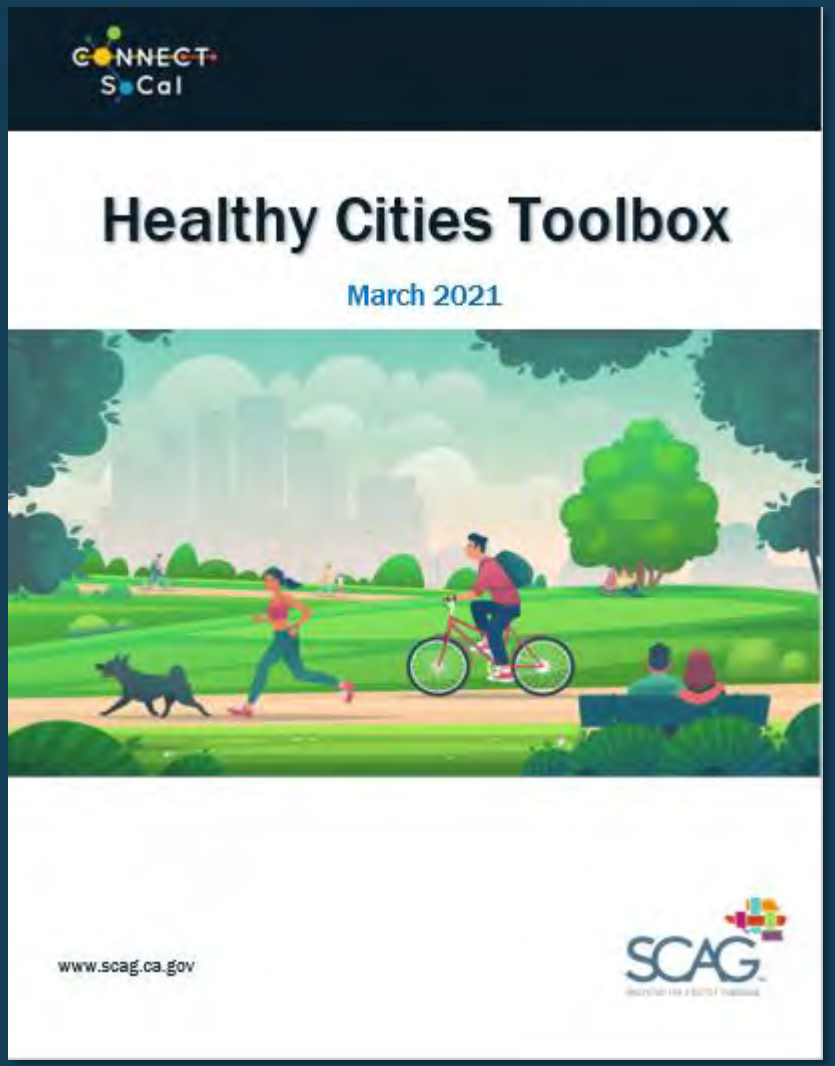
# Purpose

- Promotes best practices and approaches for public health planning
- Intended to encourage implementation
- Seven priority public health focus areas



# Public Health Focus Areas

Accessibility to Essential Services

Affordable Housing

Air Quality

Climate Change

Economic Opportunity

Physical Activity

Transportation Safety

# Public Health Focus Areas

- Accessibility to Essential Services
  - Access to Education
  - Healthcare and Health Information
  - Healthy Foods
  - Parks and Open Space
  - New Mobility
  - Technology
- Affordable Housing
- Air Quality
- Climate Change
- Economic Opportunity
- Physical Activity
- Transportation Safety

# Affordable Housing

*Recommended Practices and Approaches*

- Create requirements in conjunction with market-rate development in disadvantaged communities, such as Riverside County's Community Planning and Development Programs Action Plan and Loma Linda Veterans' Village designed for military veterans.

- Create a housing trust fund such as Ventura County's Housing Trust Fund – Revolving Loan Fund.

*Loma Linda Veterans' Village*

# Physical Activity

*Recommended Practices and Approaches*

- Offer bicycle education and traffic safety training. Consider using the following existing projects and organizations to plan your own program: Metro's Go Bike Riding classes, Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition (LACBC), Youth Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Education Program, Focus Cities Program, and California Walks.

- Develop or update transportation infrastructure to encourage active transportation. Examples: The Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition (LACBC) worked with TRUST South LA and the Los Angeles Department of Transportation in designing bicycle friendly streets.

- Take advantage of tools such as Riverside County's Healthy Development Checklists.

# Transportation Safety

*Recommended Practices and Approaches*

- Adopt and implement Vision Zero Policies to create safer streets for all users. Examples include: Vision Zero LA County: A Plan for Safer Roadways, Safe Streets Long Beach Action Plans, and Safe Mobility Santa Ana – A Vision Zero Plan.
- Partner with SCAG's Go Human campaign
- Establish Safe Routes for Seniors programs. Los Angeles Walks engages with older adults through their Safe Routes for Seniors program.

# Healthy Cities Toolbox

The Healthy Cities Toolbox (HCT) supports local planning or policy processes intended to identify and implement opportunities to advance equitable plans, projects, programs, and policies that improve community health. We provide recommended practices and approaches for seven different public health focus areas for the six counties in the SCAG region: Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura.

**What is public health?**

The organized community effort to prevent disease and promote health.

**What are social determinants of health?**

Amenable circumstances in the environments in which people are born, live, work, play, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality of life outcomes and risks. They include the factors listed below:

**What is health equity?**

Describes the actions, policies, and practices that eliminate bias and barriers to create health opportunities for all people, and especially historically and systemically marginalized people, to be healthy and prosperous and to participate fully in civic life.

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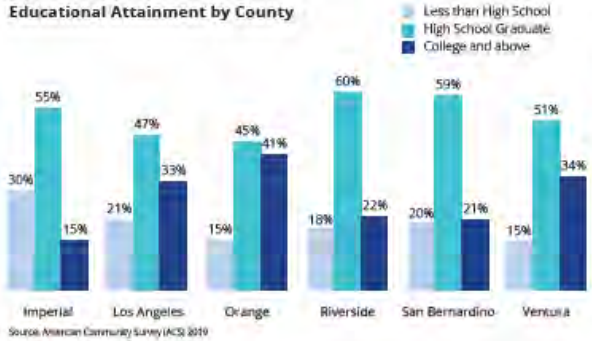
## E X A M P L E

**Educational Attainment by County**




Source: American Community Survey (ACS) 2019

**Access to Essential Services**

Education

Educational attainment is an important marker for economic success in the region, as individuals with higher education have higher earning potentials, which can lead to better health insurance and access to quality health care.

**Recommended Practices & Approaches**

Implement local and inter-district measures to increase school integration by race and socioeconomic status to cost-effectively promote better outcomes for students and reduce racial isolation.

Local Example: Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Desegregation Plan

Establish and maintain routes to schools for disadvantaged populations by developing and sustaining Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programs that support safe and convenient ways for children to walk, bike, or take public transit to school.

Local SRTS Program Examples: San Bernardino County, Los Angeles County, Imperial County

Expand affordable, local e-bike and scooter share program to increase access to school through service operators like Bird, Lime, Lyft, and Uber.

Local Example: Santa Monica Shared Mobility Pilot Program

**About SCAG**

Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) is the nation's largest Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), representing 6 counties, 191 cities and more than 19 million residents. The SCAG region is home to a diverse population and a variety of built and natural environments. With this diversity comes a wide range of health outcomes and challenges, but also opportunities to plan for healthy communities and to prioritize policies that support healthy outcomes for people of all ages and socioeconomic backgrounds. SCAG is responsible for developing the Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS), or "Connect SoCal". The multimodal transportation and land use strategies of Connect SoCal include many co-benefits for improving health outcomes and present opportunities to ensure investments result in equitable health outcomes and benefit all populations in the region.

For more information visit: https://scag.ca.gov/public-health

# Environmental Justice Toolbox

## Recommended Practices and Approaches

Jane Lam, Randall Lewis Health & Policy Environmental Justice & Public Health Fellow

Department of Planning Strategy

March 18, 2021

www.scag.ca.gov

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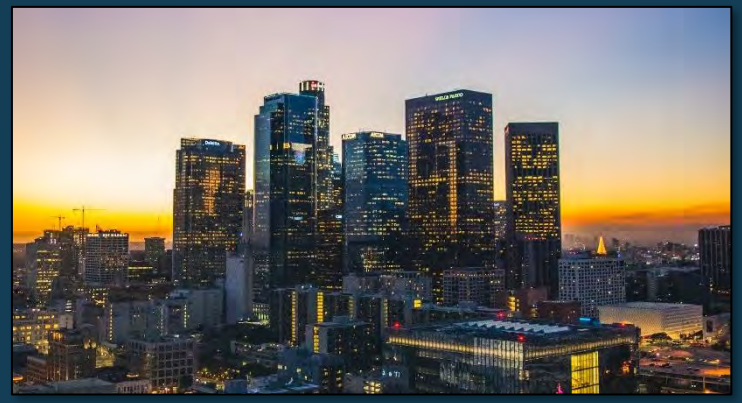
# Background

Southern California's unique demographic and geographic diversity presents a keen opportunity to promote EJ in the administration of transportation and land use decisions that affect residents' daily lives.



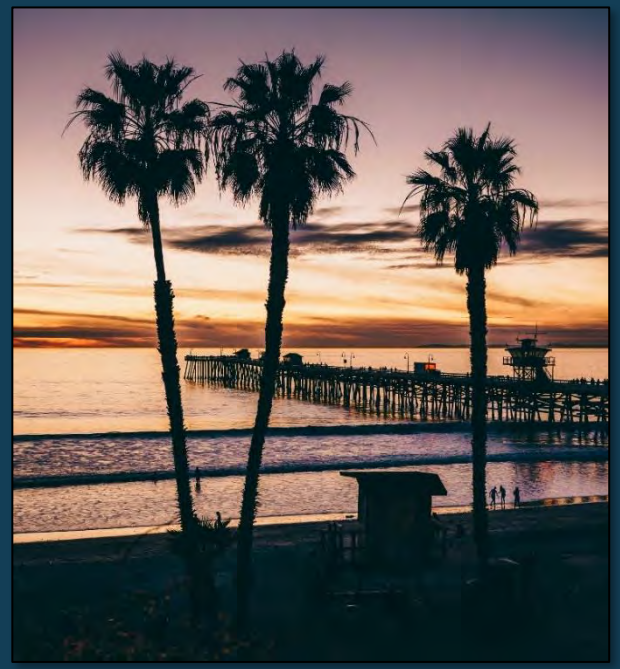
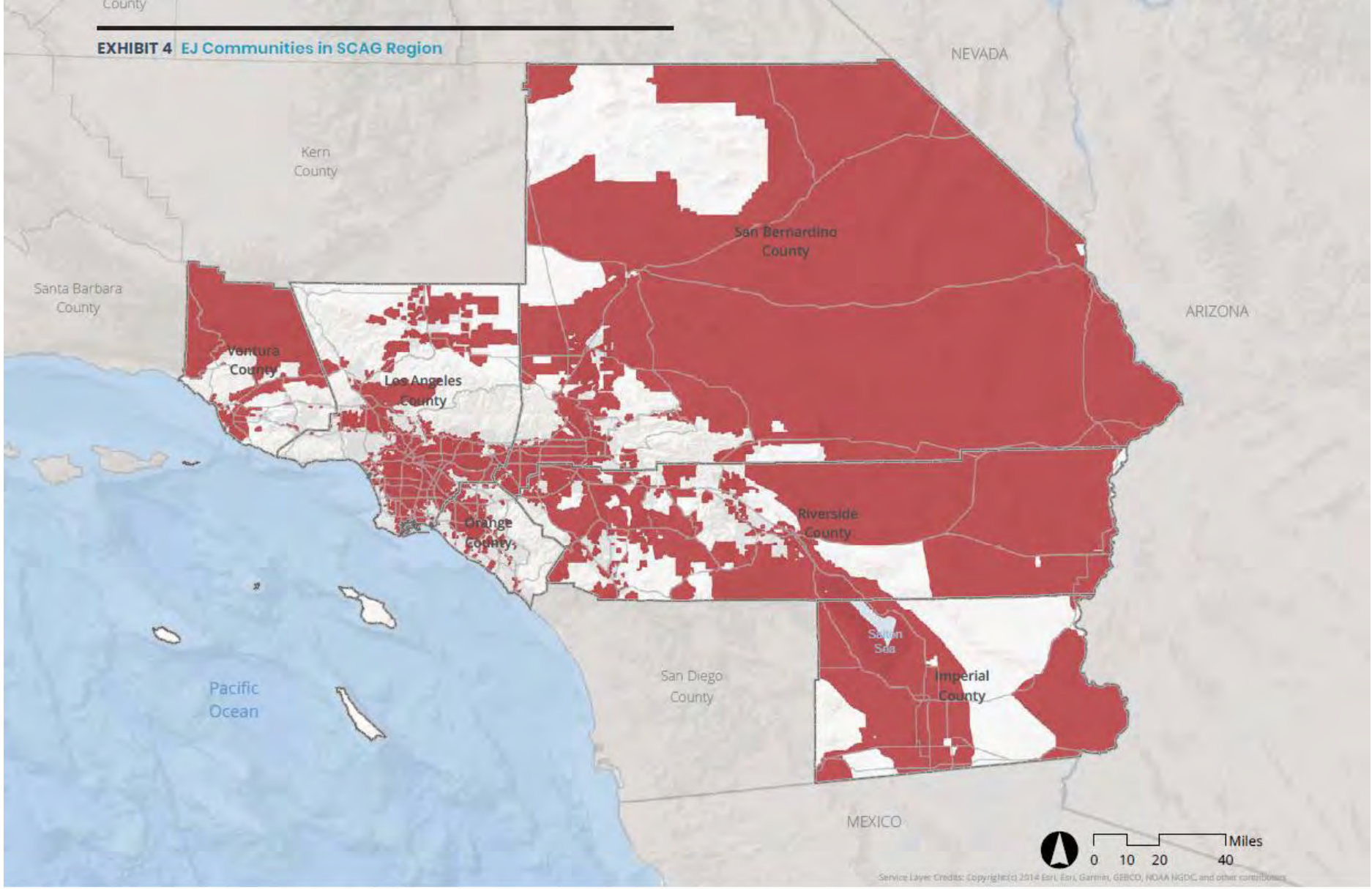


**EXHIBIT 4** EJ Communities in SCAG Region

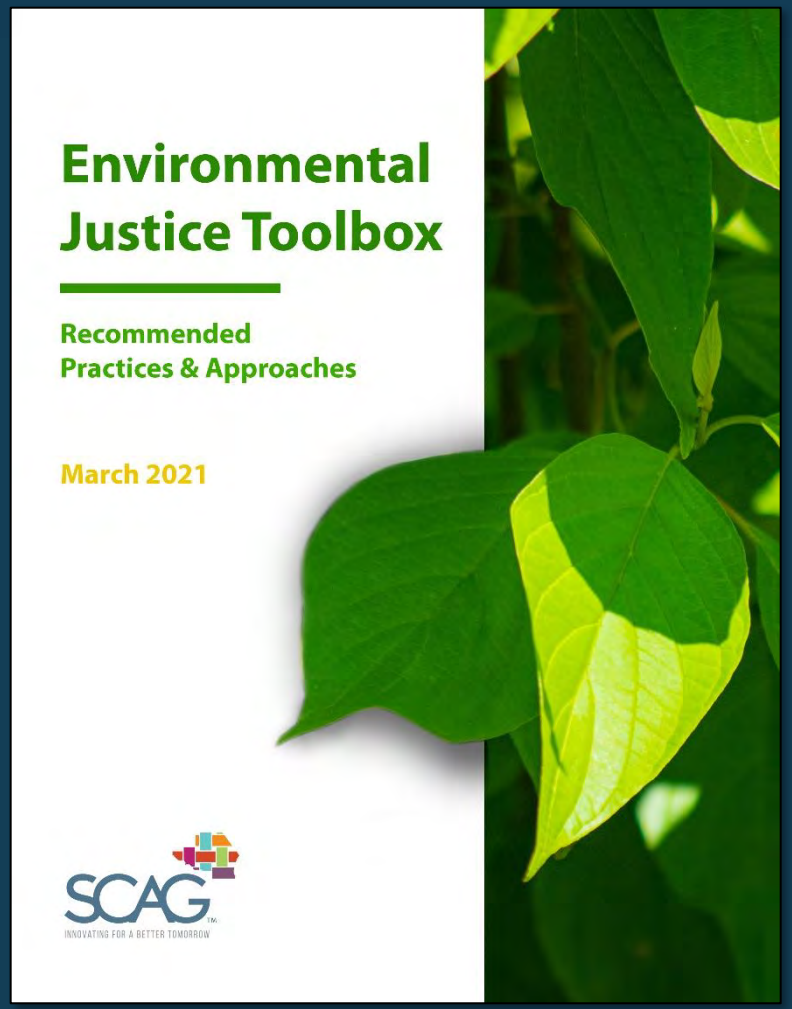



All Environmental Justice Communities (i.e. EJA, DAC, COC) | County Boundaries | City Boundaries | Freeway

Source: Census PUMS, OEHHA, CalEPA, CalEnviroScreen Ver. 3.0, 2013-2017 ACS 5 Year Estimates, City of Los Angeles Community Planning Area, SCAG, 2019

# Purpose

- Provide recommended strategies and resources to address existing and potential inequitable outcomes for EJ communities.
- A resource for local jurisdictions and EJ stakeholders to combat disproportionately adverse impacts on EJ communities.
- Organized into nine EJ topics.



# EJ Topics

Healthy, Safe, and Sanitary Housing

Access to Essential Services and Facilities

Active Living, Active Transportation, and Physical Activity

**Climate Vulnerability and Resiliency**

Roadway and Aviation Noise Impacts

**Air Quality and Pollution Exposure Impacts**

Impacts of Road Pricing Mechanisms

**Community Outreach and Engagement**

Other Policy Recommendations for EJ Impacts

# Climate Vulnerability and Resiliency

CalBRACE Initiative

City of Los Angeles Cooling Centers

Ventura County Tree Protection Ordinance

# Air Quality and Pollution Exposure Impacts

CARB Community Air Protection Program (CAPP)

Identifying Violations Affecting Neighborhoods (IVAN) Air Monitoring

CA Department of Education, Indoor Air Quality Guide for Educators

# Community Outreach and Engagement

Institute for Local Government, Technology: Tools, & Techniques to Improve Public Engagement

SCAG's Public Participation Plan (2018)

# Environmental Justice Toolbox

The Environmental Justice (EJ) Toolbox supports local planning or policy processes intended to identify and implement opportunities to advance equitable plans, projects, programs, and policies that improve outcomes for EJ communities. It provides recommended practices and approaches for nine different EJ topics for the six counties in the SCAG region: Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura.

- Healthy, Safe, and Sanitary Housing
- Climate Vulnerability and Resiliency
- Impacts of Road Pricing Mechanisms
- Access to Essential Services and Facilities
- Roadway and Aviation Noise Impacts
- Community Outreach and Engagement
- Active Living, Active Transportation, and Physical Activity
- Air Quality and Pollution Exposure Impacts
- Other Policy Recommendations for EJ Impacts

### What is environmental justice?

The fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

Source: State of California Department of Justice

### Who are environmental justice communities?

Low-income communities of color experiencing disproportionate negative environmental impacts that affect their access to more mobile, sustainable, and prosperous futures.

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## E X A M P L E

### Climate Vulnerability and Resiliency

Climate change already impacts all communities in California, but EJ communities can potentially suffer disproportionately higher adverse impacts when EJ is not considered during the planning process. Extreme heat, flooding, wildfire, drought, and sea-level rise are hazards that can harm people and present risk to the built and natural environment.

Below are examples of existing projects, programs and policies that local jurisdictions and community members can reference during their planning process to address climate vulnerability and resiliency.

### Recommended Practices & Approaches

**Project Examples**

- California Department of Public Health (CDPH) California Building Against Resilience Against Climate Effects (CalBRACE) Initiative

**Program Examples**

- City of Riverside Heat Response Plan
- Los Angeles County Cooling Center Program

**Policy Examples**

- California Air Pollution Control Officers Association Model Policies for Greenhouse Gases in General Plan (2009)
- Ventura County Tree Protection Ordinance

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For more information visit: https://scag.ca.gov/environmental-justice

# Contact Information

## Healthy Cities Toolbox

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## Environmental Justice Toolbox

environmentaljustice@scag.ca.gov

For more information visit:

www.scag.ca.gov/public-health
www.scag.ca.gov/environmental-justice

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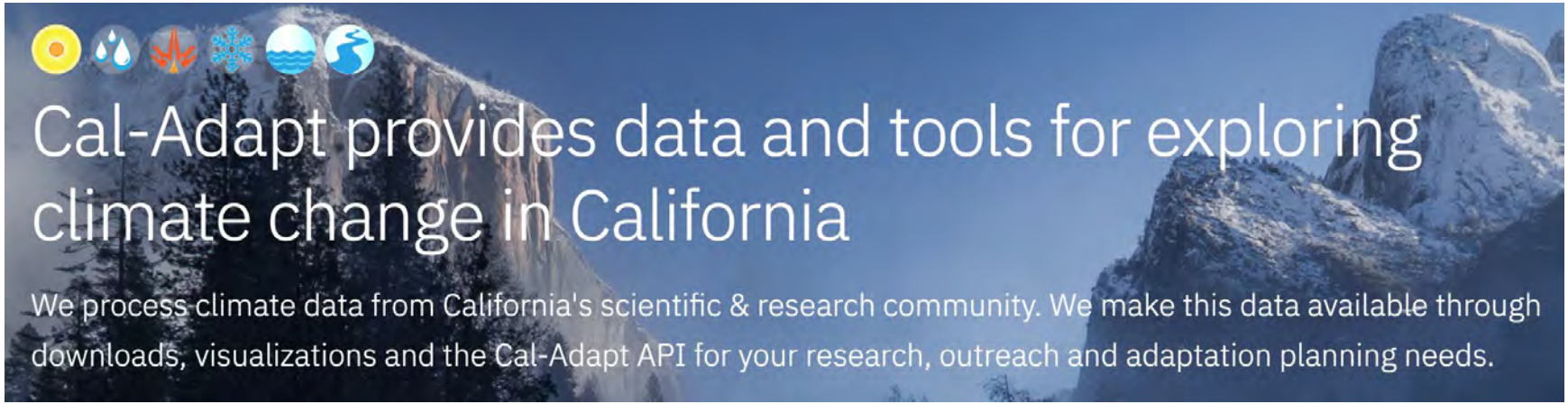
# Cal-Adapt

GEOSPATIAL INNOVATION FACILITY
Cutting-Edge Mapping Technology at UC Berkeley

CALIFORNIA STRATEGIC GROWTH COUNCIL




visualize climate data

download climate projections

learn about climate change science

# Let’s take a look!

https://cal-adapt.org

# Local Climate Change Snapshot Tool

- Designed to be straightforward, introductory, and accessible
- Intended to support municipal adaptation planning (e.g LHMP compilation), education, and advocacy
- Simplifies settings for parameters like GCMs and time intervals to quickly provided information

# Steps to use the tool

1. Select an aggregation boundary and location.
2. View projections for a collection of physical climate variables.
3. Connect with additional resources.

# Local Climate Change Snapshot

Climate change related effects vary significantly throughout California, mirroring our state's diverse climate, topography, and ecology. This tool is a starting place if you are looking to get a quick sense of climate impacts in your region. The Snapshot tool provides climate projections for temperature, precipitation, and wildfire. Additional variables e.g. sea level rise will be added when they become available.

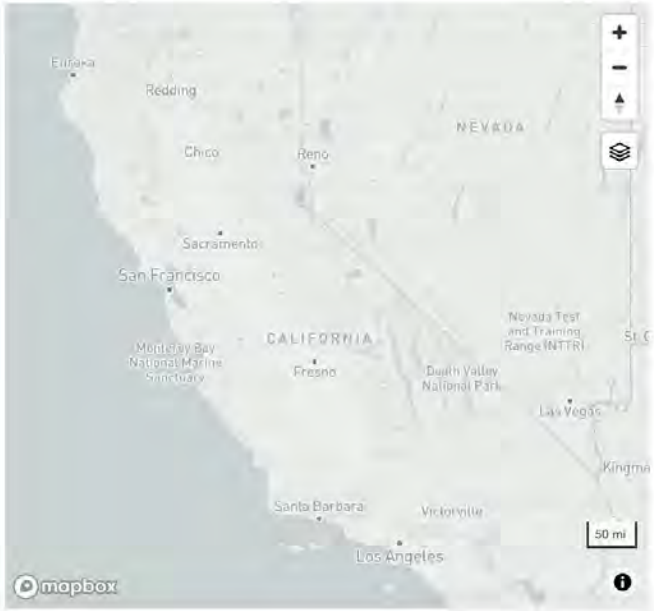
The Local Climate Change Snapshot Tool tool is designed to be straightforward and accessible for most users. Watch a short video on how to use the tool. If you want to explore the data in more depth, other tools on Cal-Adapt provide more configurable options.

**Start by selecting a location. Search for address/zipcode or click on the map. To select an area, click on the County, City, Census Tract or Watershed options. Search by name/census tract number or click on the map.**

Enter address or zipcode

(•) Address ( ) County ( ) City ( ) Census Tract ( ) Watershed (HUC10)

GENERATE SNAPSHOT



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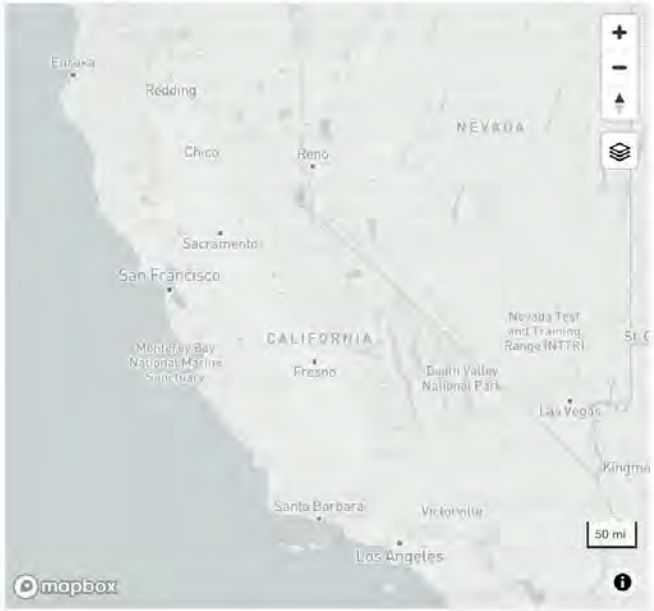
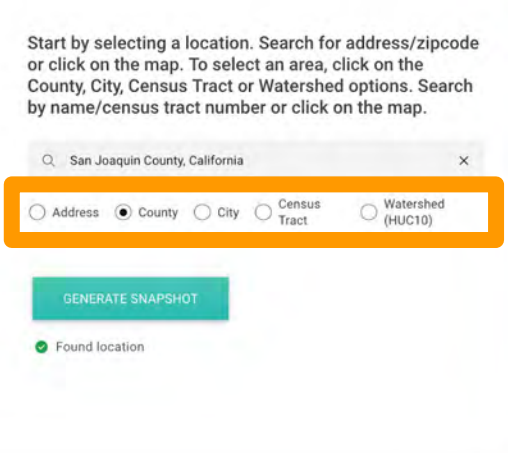
Enter address or zipcode

- (•) Address
- ( ) County
- ( ) City
- ( ) Census Tract
- ( ) Watershed (HUC10)

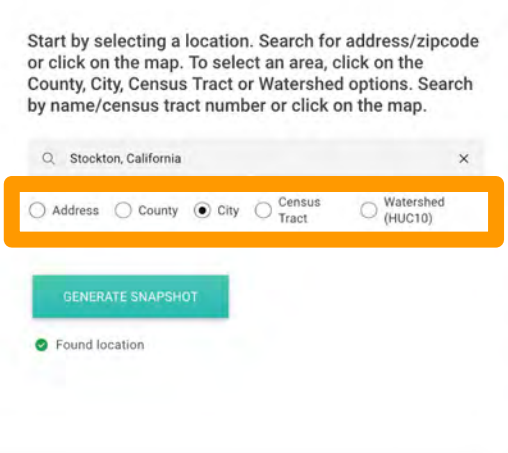
GENERATE SNAPSHOT

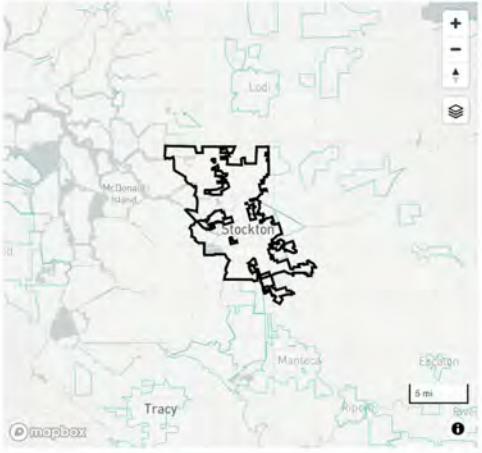


## Selecting a county



## Selecting a city



- Annual average maximum temperature
- Annual average minimum temperature
- Extreme heat days
- Warm nights

- Maximum 1-day precipitation
- Maximum length of dry spell
- Annual precipitation

- Annual average area burned

# Emissions scenarios - RCPs

- RCP 4.5, *medium emissions scenario*: global $CO_2$ emissions peak by 2040 and then decline.
- RCP 8.5, *high emissions scenario*: global $CO_2$ emissions continue to rise throughout the 21st century.

*Your choice of RCP scenario will depend on your risk tolerance, grant application instructions, and other context. When in doubt, consider both.*

# Let’s take a look!

https://cal-adapt.org/tools/local-climate-change-snapshot

# Questions?

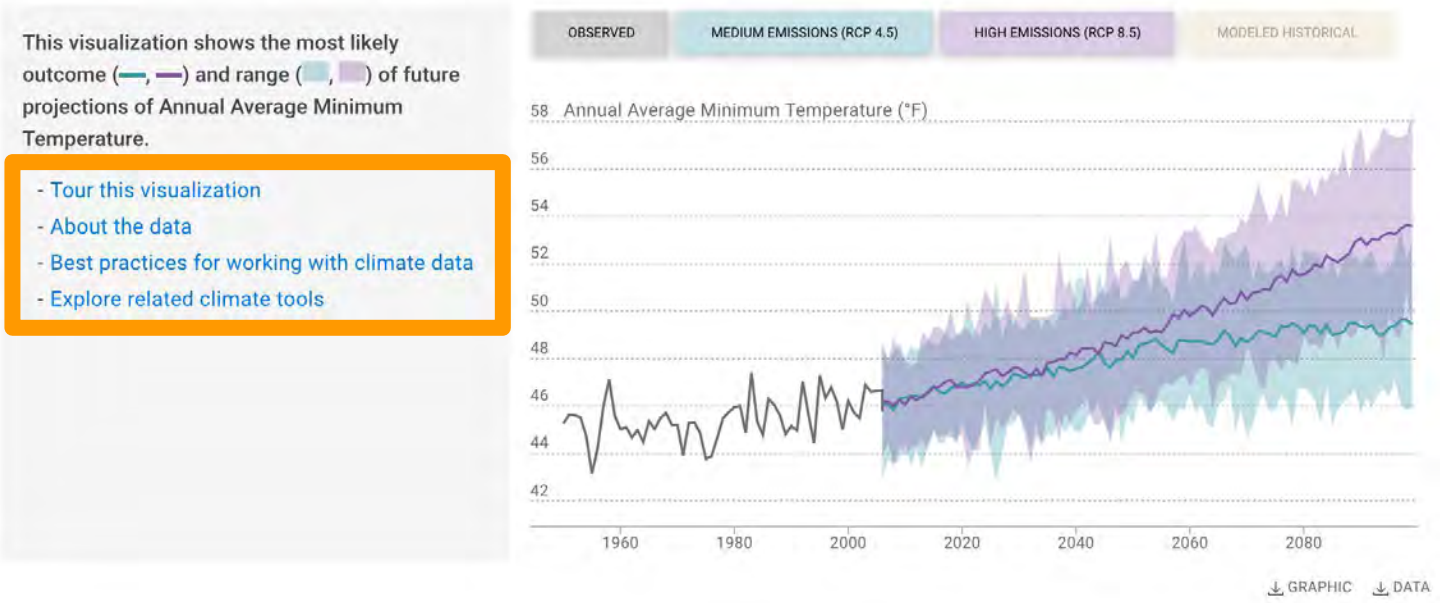
# Thank you!

Sign up for the Cal-Adapt newsletter:

https://cal-adapt.org/signup.html

Email us at support@cal-adapt.org.

# Appendices




- Two emissions scenarios (RCPs) - RCP 4.5 and RCP 8.5
- 32 LOCA downscaled projections (models)
  - Average of all 32 models - dark lines
  - Range of all 32 models - shaded region

**Observed (1961-1990)** 30yr Average: 74.2 °F

| | Change from baseline ⓘ | 30yr Average | 30yr Range |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Baseline (1961-1990)** | | | |
| MODELED HISTORICAL | - | 74.3 °F | 74.1 - 74.5 °F |
| **Mid-Century (2035-2064)** | | | |
| MEDIUM EMISSIONS (RCP 4.5) | +3.8 °F | 78.1 °F | 76.6 - 79.3 °F |
| HIGH EMISSIONS (RCP 8.5) | +4.7 °F | 79.0 °F | 77.0 - 80.9 °F |
| **End-Century (2070-2099)** | | | |
| MEDIUM EMISSIONS (RCP 4.5) | +4.9 °F | 79.2 °F | 77.2 - 81.4 °F |
| HIGH EMISSIONS (RCP 8.5) | +8.1 °F | 82.4 °F | 79.6 - 86.4 °F |

GRAPHIC DATA

## Related Cal-Adapt Tools

### Annual Averages

Explore projected annual averages of maximum temperature, minimum temperature and precipitation for your location.

### Extreme Heat

Explore projected frequency and duration of extreme heat days and warm nights for your location.

### Maps of Projected Change

Explore maps of projected long-term (30 years) changes in annual average temperature and precipitation.

## Additional Resources

# Extreme Heat Best Practices

Natalie Arreaga, Civic Spark Fellow
Sustainability Department
March 18, 2021

www.scag.ca.gov

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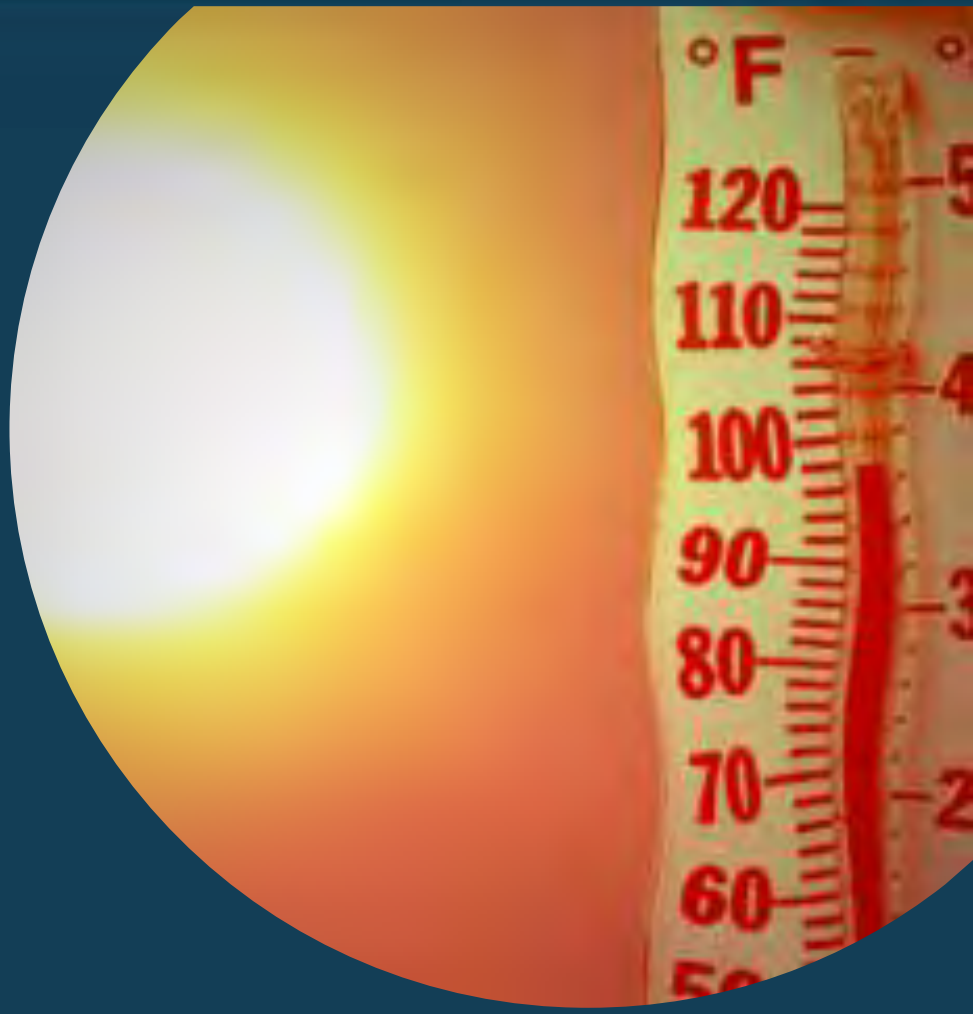
# Extreme Heat

- Defined as weather that is substantially hotter than average for a specific time and place.

- Heat Index
  - Air temperature + relative humidity
  - Heat advisories and excessive heat warnings

- Forecasts of Extreme heat
  - United States
    - Midcentury (2036-2065)
    - Late Century (2070-2099)
  - SCAG Region



# Extreme Heat and Public Health

## Health Impacts

- Heat Cramps
- Heat Exhaustion
- Heat Stroke
- Heat Related Mortality
- Respiratory Illness
- Vector Borne Illness
- Water Quality

## Most Vulnerable

- Infants and small children under the age of 4
- Children under the age of 14
- Population over 65 years of age
- Rural residents
- City dwellers
- Outdoor workers
- Low-income communities
- People with chronic diseases
- Adults living alone

# Best Practices (SCAG region) - Adaptation Strategies

## City of Indio

- General Plan Safety Element
  - Cooling Centers
  - Neighborhood and building cooling

## City of Inglewood

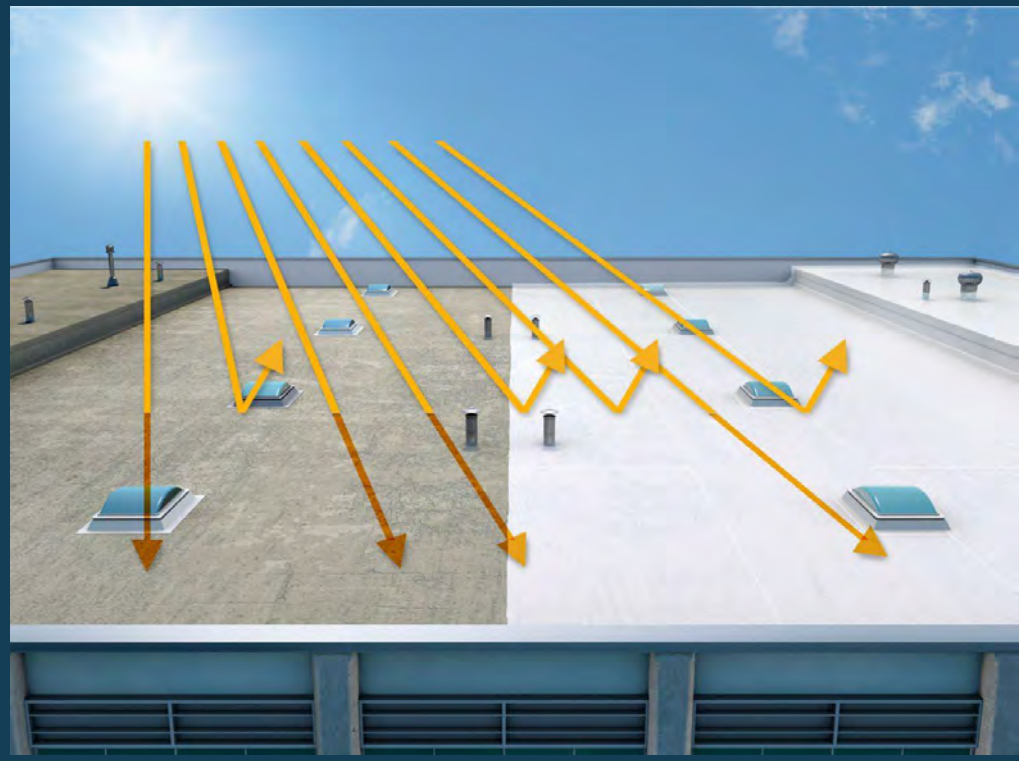
- Energy and Climate Action Plan
  - Transportation-assistance program
  - Heat island program
  - Street and neighborhood scale measures

## City of Laguna Woods

- Climate Adaptation Plan
  - Increase resilience to climate change-related hazards
  - Maintain low levels of heat-related illness and death
  - Adopt development standards to mitigate urban heat island effects

# Best Practices (SCAG region & California) - Ordinances

- Los Angeles Cool Roof Ordinance
  - Helps reduce urban heat island effects
- California's Heat Illness Prevention in Outdoor Places of Employment
  - Ensures the safety of outdoor workers during an extreme heat event
- SB 1167 Employment Safety for Indoor Worker
  - addresses heat-related illnesses of indoor workers



# Resilience Strategies

## Green Roofs

An extension of an existing roof that involves water proofing, drainage system, root repellent system, filter cloth, and plants

## Cool Roofs

A cool roof is a roofing system that reflects more sunlight and absorbs less heat than traditional roofs

## Cool Pavements

A road surface that uses additives to reflect solar radiation unlike conventional dark pavement that save energy and reduce the need for street lighting at night

## Urban Tree Canopy

Trees and other vegetation can reduce heat by providing shade for buildings, pavement, and other surfaces to prevent solar radiation from reaching heat absorbing surfaces

# Heat Response Plans (Outside of SCAG region)

## Minnesota Extreme Heat Toolkit

Steps for responding to an extreme heat event:

- Create a heat response plan
- Predict extreme heat events
- Assess risk and determine activation of response plan
- Activate response plan and notify the public
- Implement response plan
- Evaluate response plan

Response plans should include the following elements:

- Lead agency
- Criteria for activating and deactivating the plan
- Roles and activities of agencies and organizations
- Communications plan
- Identification of vulnerable persons
- Evaluation

# Adaptation Strategies (Outside of SCAG region)

New York City Extreme Heat Policy Agenda 2020

- Increase access to air conditioners and reduce the economic burden of electricity use for vulnerable populations
- Coordinate emergency planning strategies during extreme heat events to prevent power outages and promote safety
- Encourage the use of and improve the amenities offered by cooling centers
- Implement and expand channels of communication with vulnerable populations to increase awareness of extreme heat impacts
- Implement green design techniques and increase renewable energy production to promote natural cooling and reduce NYC's carbon footprint

# Recommendations for Local Jurisdictions (CA DPH)

- Develop (or consult) an urban heat island index
- Examine and expand the use of cool, porous, or sustainable materials in pavements
- Promote and expand urban greening and the use of green infrastructure
- Assess state, regional and local hazard mitigation plans, heat contingency plans and other hazard planning documents
- Improve Heat-Health Alert Warnings
- Improve access to and use of air conditioning and other indoor cooling strategies
- Improve community resilience from the impacts of increasing heat events, especially for vulnerable populations
- Increase the health care system's extreme heat preparedness and resiliency
- Improve the timeliness and completeness of heat illness and death surveillance activities planning and responses

Preparing California for Extreme Heat: Guidance and Recommendations

# Thank you!
# Questions? Comments?

Natalie Arreaga
arreaga@scag.ca.gov



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# Environmental Justice ("EJ")
# County of Riverside

SCAG Joint EJ & PH Working Groups

March 18, 2021

Robert Flores, Principal Planner

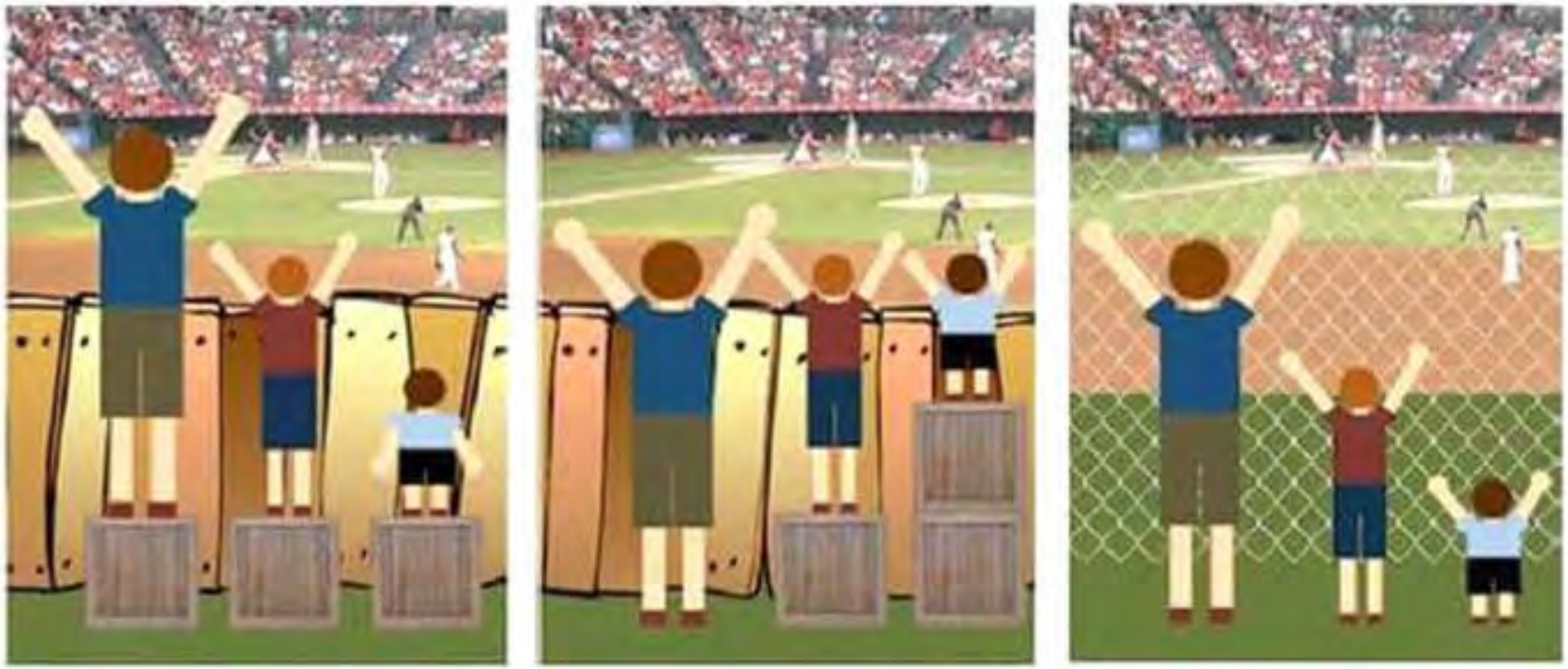
Riverside County Planning Department

# SB 1000

- **SB1000** (2016)
  - Address Environmental Justice
  - Incorporate EJ “goals, policies, programs” into General Plan
- **Objectives for Disadvantaged Communities (“DCs”):**
  - Identify DCs within unincorporated County
  - Reduce unique or compounded health risks
  - Promote civic engagement in public decision-making process
  - Prioritize improvements and programs that address the needs

# What is Environmental Justice?

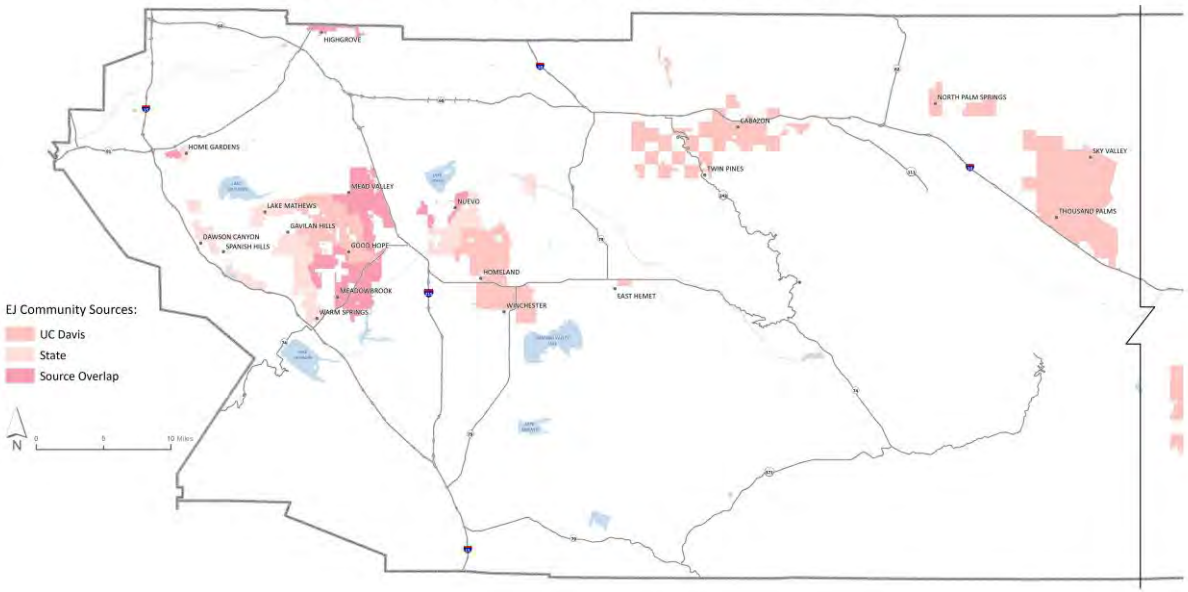
- *"**Environmental Justice** is the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies."*



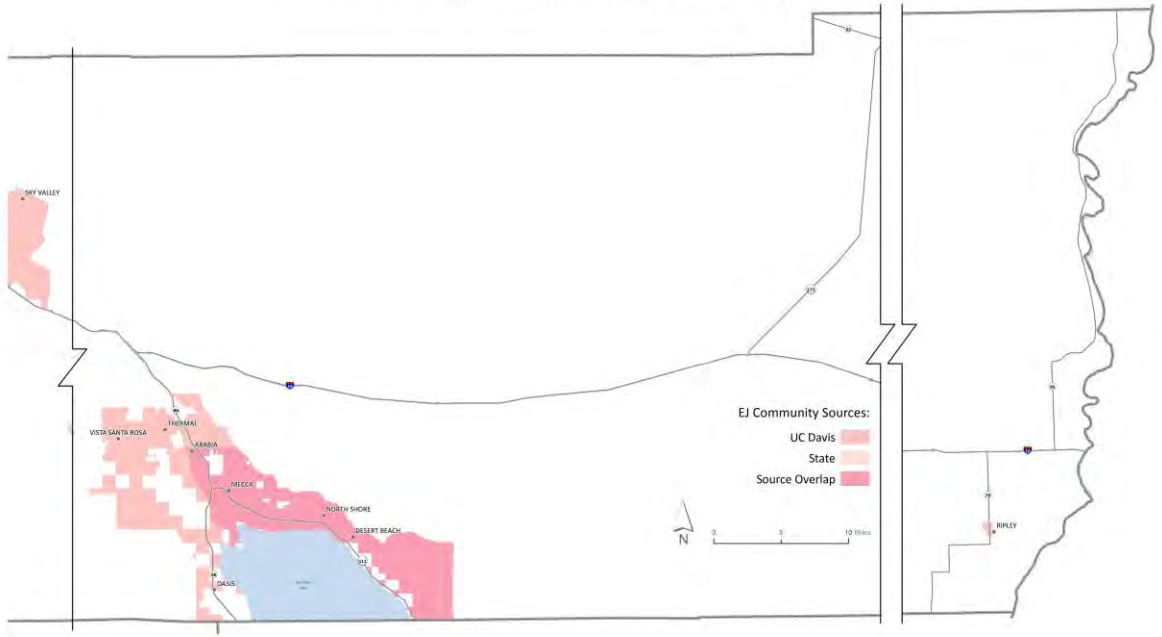
# EJ Communities (a.k.a DCs)

- An Environmental Justice Community (EJ Community/-ies) is defined as:
  - "low-income area that is disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative health effects, exposure, or environmental degradation".
- Identified by the CalEPA based on the area's socioeconomic, public health, and environmental hazard criteria.
  - CalEPA uses CalEnviroScreen to identify and designate EJ communities throughout state.
- UC Davis Study
  - Vulnerable Zones

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AFFECTED COMMUNITIES - WEST COUNTY




ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AFFECTED COMMUNITIES - EAST COUNTY



# Outreach for EJ

- Initial outreach community outreach (pre-pandemic)
  - Presentations to community councils
    - Four (4) community councils in strategic locations
    - Introduction & Q/A
  - Planning Commission study session
  - Project-specific community meeting (Spanish only)
    - East County, Eastern Coachella Valley: Mecca, CA
- Outreach for draft policies (post-pandemic) (English and Spanish)
  - Virtual office hours
  - Two (2) virtual policy charettes

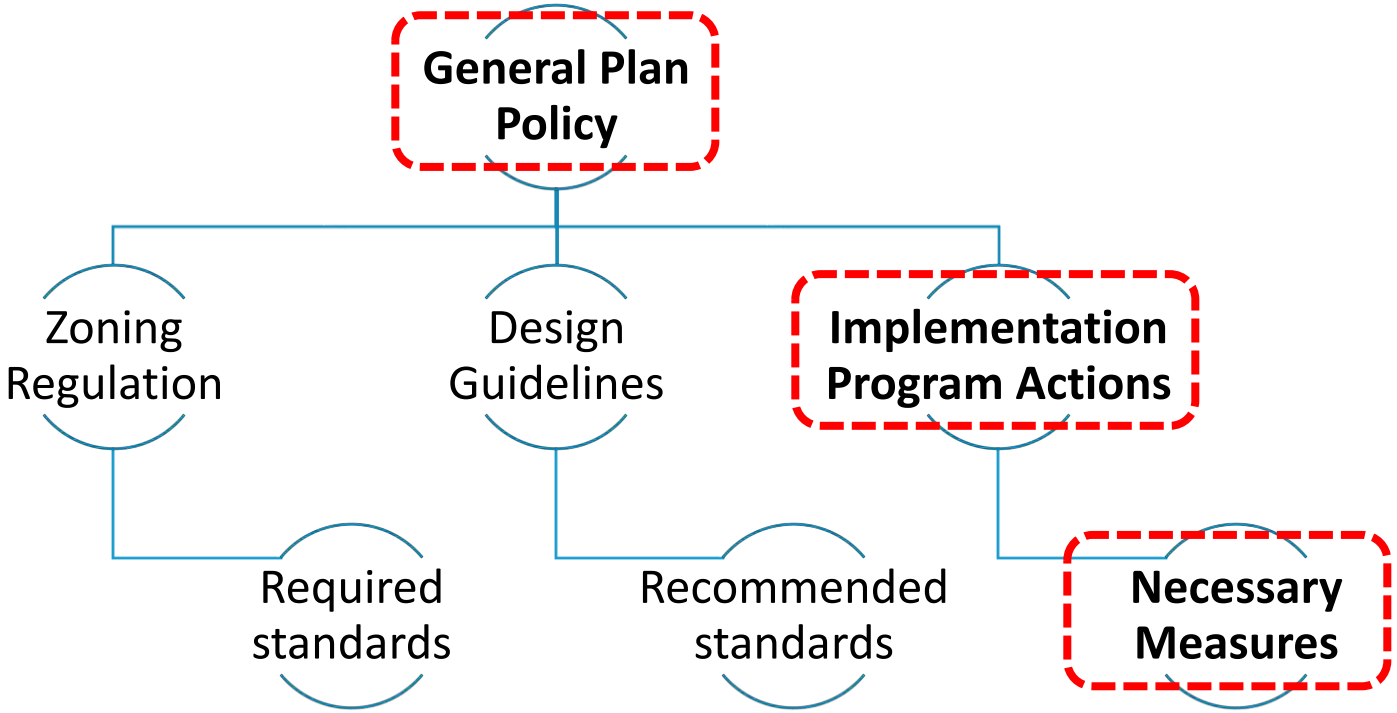
# Outreach for EJ

- Website & Social Media (English and Spanish)
  - Dedicated webpage
    - Information
    - Draft documents
    - Outreach schedule
  - Social Media
- Public hearings and comment periods

# General Plan Amendment for EJ

- Land Use Element (LUE): EJ framework and legal basis (SB1000) are being added to LUE
- Healthy Communities Element (HCE): EJ policies are compiled in HCE
  - Policies are grouped as described in state law (SB1000); policies address topics under the following categories:
    - Civic engagement
    - Health Risk Reduction
    - Public Facilities
  - Policies apply only in mapped areas of EJ communities, as modified by the county
- Mapped areas depict environmentally disadvantaged communities

# How will this work?



# Implementation and Next Steps

- Implementation Plan:
  - Land use development projects in EJ areas
  - Evaluation for compliance with applicable EJ policies
  - Venue for evaluation – affected Municipal Advisory Councils and Community Councils
- Approval Process
  - Public hearings for EJ general plan amendment and implementation plan
  - Expected to be adopted in late winter or early spring

# Thank you!

Questions?

# Website

- For more information regarding Environmental Justice, please refer to the Dedicated Riv. Co. Environmental Justice webpage:

**planning.rctlma.org/EJ**

# SCAG's Equity Efforts

Environmental Justice & Public Health Working Groups
Thursday, March 18, 2021
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

www.scag.ca.gov

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# SCAG's Commitment to Equity & Social Justice

- July 2020 – SCAG Board adopted resolution
- Established Special Committee on Equity & Social Justice
- Focus on key deliverables:
  - Definition of equity
  - Equity inventory
  - Equity framework
  - Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion work plan
  - Public Participation Plan review

# Defining Equity

Leading with racial equity to address the pervasive and deep inequities faced by people of color across the region.

> "As central to SCAG's work, racial equity describes the actions, policies, and practices that eliminate bias and barriers that have historically and systemically marginalized communities of color, to ensure all people can be healthy, prosperous, and participate fully in civic life."

# Researching & Understanding Our Baseline

- Analysis of existing disparities and inequities
- Indicators across four main categories:
  - Economic Vitality
  - Healthy and Complete Communities
  - Mobility
  - Environment
- Informs Racial Equity Early Action Plan & future planning work

# Establishing an Equity Framework: Goals

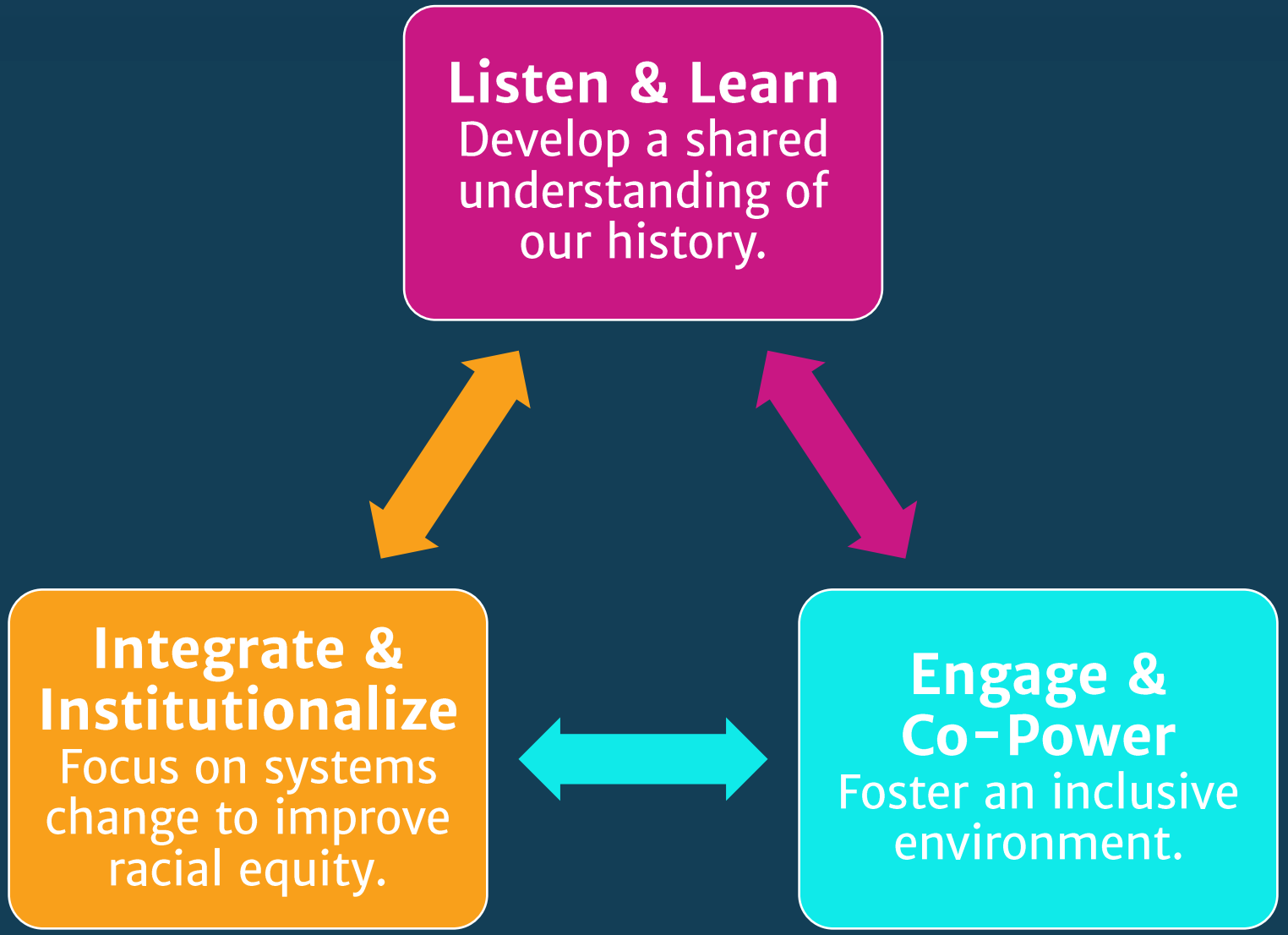
Shift the Organizational Culture

Center Racial Equity in Regional Policy & Planning

Encourage Racial Equity in Local Planning Practices

Activate & Amplify

# Establishing an Equity Framework: Strategies



# Identifying Early Actions

What activities can SCAG pursue to…

- **Listen & Learn:** Expand understanding among staff, SCAG's elected leadership, local elected officials and the general public.
- **Engage & Co-Power:** Establish processes at SCAG, support local planning processes and expand understanding of planning processes to engage and co-power communities of color in land-use and transportation planning and policy-making.
- **Integrate & Institutionalize:** Update internal policies, regional plans and policies, practices to center racial equity in all aspects of work; support local plan development and join with others in different fields & sectors to address regional inequities.

# Take the Racial Equity Early Action Plan Survey!

What early actions would you recommend SCAG consider in the draft Racial Equity Early Action Plan?

Take the survey to provide your input to shape the draft plan.

**www.surveymonkey.com/r/earlyactionplan**