



# Planning for Healthy Communities: Environmental Justice in General Plans

SB 1000 IMPLEMENTATION TOOLKIT

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# California Environmental Justice Alliance (CEJA)

CEJA a statewide,  
community-led alliance  
that works to achieve  
environmental justice by  
advancing policy  
solutions.



# What is Environmental Justice?

*A people's definition:*

“The basic **right** of people to live, work, go to school, play, and pray in a **healthy and clean environment.**”



# Frequently Asked Questions

**Planners:** “What do I have to do according to the law?”

1. How would I know if my city or county has to do SB 1000?
2. What are “unique and compounded health risks”?
3. What is it mean to adopt 2 or more elements?
4. What happens if I don’t do SB 1000?
5. Do you have a case study of doing SB 1000?

**EJ Communities:** “*Why **should** we do SB 1000?*” “*How can SB 1000 benefit our city or county?*” “*How does SB 1000 lead to smarter, common sense planning?*”

# Benefits of SB 1000



*Intelligent planning creates healthy and vibrant communities while preventing outcomes that can be costly.*

- EJ has been a part of planning
- Avoid lawsuits and conflicts
- Promote equity and civil rights
- Abide by Planner Code of Ethics
- Comply with state laws
- Leverage funding and resources

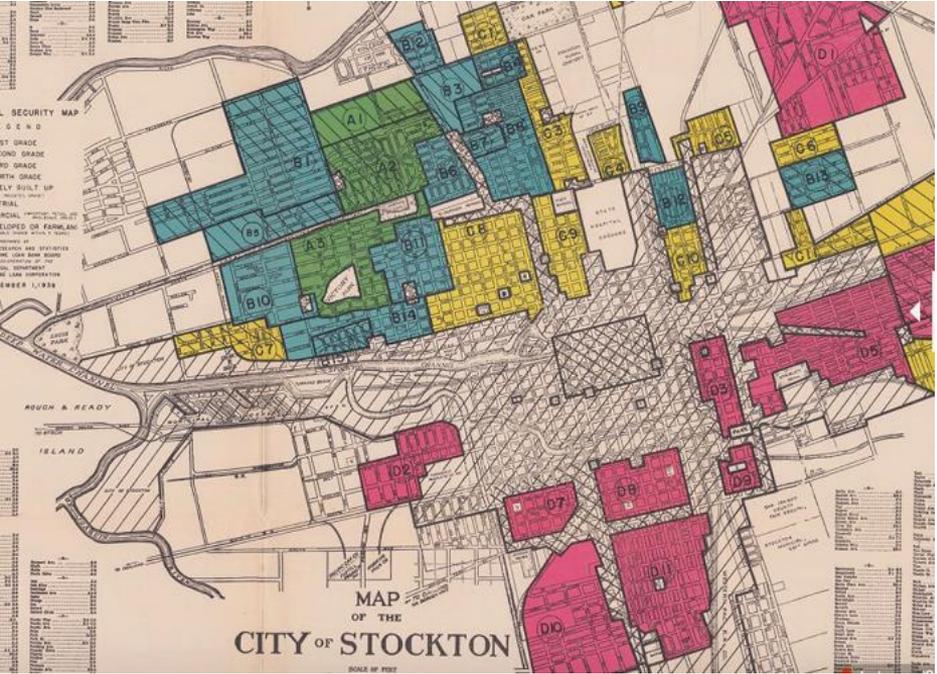
# Why SB 1000?

Low-income residents, communities of color, indigenous communities and immigrant communities have disproportionately experienced some of the greatest environmental burdens and related health problems in this country.

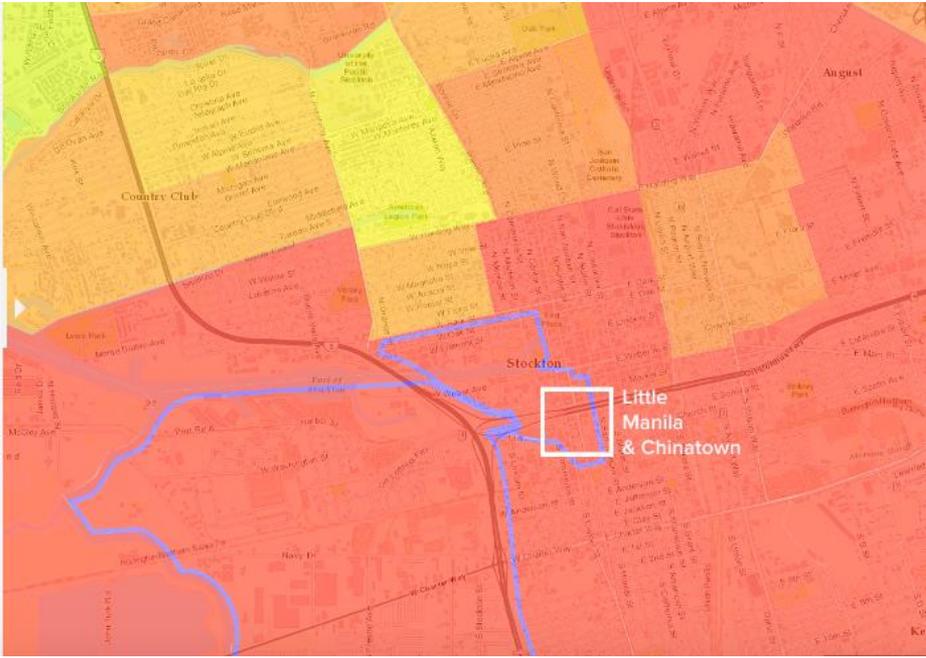
- Inappropriate land use planning
- Discrimination (housing, lending)
- Low political power
- Business interests valued over health



# Legacy of Past Land Use Policies



Redlining map: City of Stockton



CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Map: Results

# Key Lessons Learned

Community engagement: do from the very beginning; see as a long term process

Go to where the people are

Partner with community engagement experts (e.g. CBOs and residents)

Identify EJ communities upfront to identify problems and appropriate solutions



# Building Trust and Relationships

- Face to face connections
- Deep listening
- Acknowledging history and problems
- **Valuing and using local knowledge and data**
- Ensure a transparent process
- Be accessible



# Community Engagement: A Sample Process\*



*\* It is important to work with the community from start to implementation during the General Plan development process*

- 1. Develop preliminary assessment by jurisdiction:**
  1. Identify DACs, residents and stakeholders such as CBOs who can support and lead efforts
  2. Design steps for community engagement plan
- 2. Engage community in SB 1000 & GP process**
  1. Provide education and training to residents
  2. Identify disadvantaged communities
  3. Brainstorm problems and issues to address
  4. Identify desired solutions and goals
- 3. Conduct on-going evaluation and review of plan (iterative process)**
- 4. Create advisory bodies to oversee plan development and implementation (include community and CBOs)**
- 5. Document and share results of the plan**

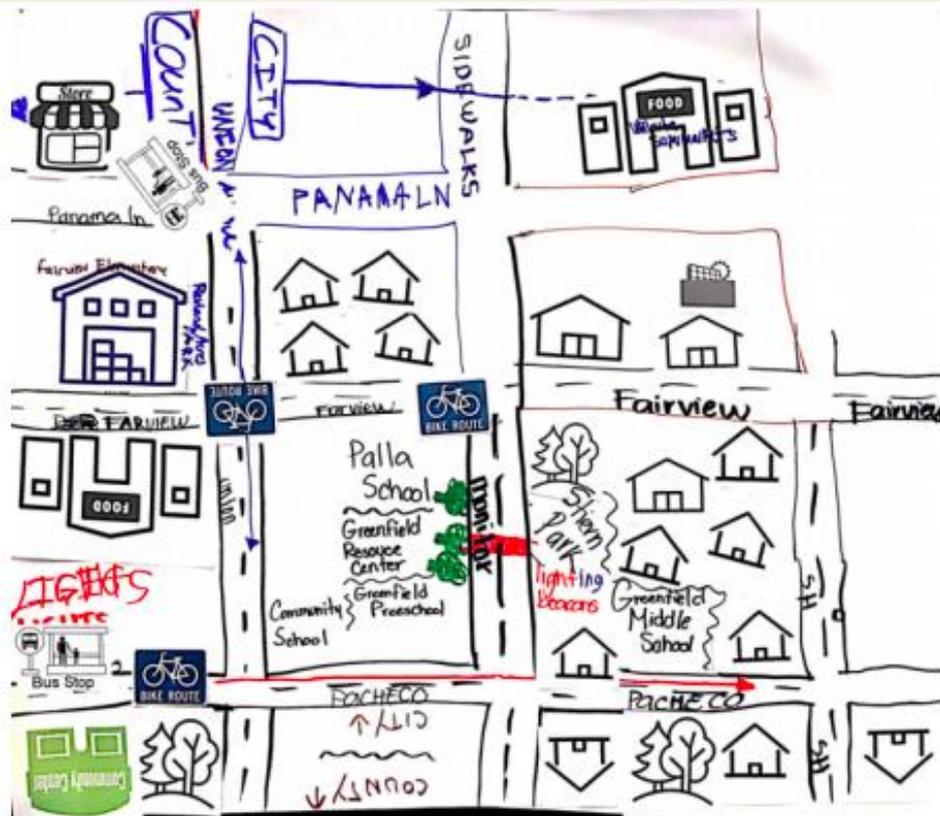
# Planning with Community Members: Inland Valley

## Getting people to the meeting

- Making meetings accessible, both logistically and in format
- Door-to-door outreach
- Direct mailings
- Clear purpose of meetings and outcome of participation

## Organizing meetings

- Make information digestible (multiple workshops)
- Use visuals and simulations
- Provide hands on activities
- Engage in trainings



# Best Practices: EJ and Equity in General Plans

- **Identify EJ communities:** Assess where, why, how certain communities have experienced higher burdens than others within a jurisdiction.
- **Identify specific burdens and issues that EJ communities are facing.** Use best and most appropriate data, tools and methodologies (and: resident feedback).
- **Ask residents** and other stakeholders to share expertise and knowledge. Honor community priorities, especially feedback from those in DACs or EJ communities.
- **Identify community assets:** What can be leveraged or lifted up / maximized?

# Best Practices EJ in GPs (part II)

- **Assess and identify current goals, policies, and programs:** What is working that can be expanded? What needs to be changed and improved?
- **Create new goals, policies and programs** that directly mention EJ communities (areas and/or demographics) that should be served. Modify old goals and policies, (etc.) based on data and research. *NOTE: Create clear action items and deadlines to ensure implementation.*
- **Create an implementation plan** that prioritizes solutions and benefits for EJ communities that have experienced neglect.

# Sample Policies – Promoting Implementation

**Policy EJ 1-3. Avoid new toxin sources.** Stringently evaluate the siting of facilities that might significantly increase pollution, especially near already **disproportionately impacted communities**.

**Policy HL-17. Enhance public transit service in the city.** Ensure that the current level of service is maintained and enhanced, and at least 95 percent of the housing units and employers in the city are served by public transit; they are within a quarter-mile of a local public transit stop or a half- mile of a regional public transit stop. **Provide adequate service at night and on weekends, for people with disabilities and for low-income populations.**

# Sample Policies – Addressing Inequities

Alameda County | Community Health and Wellness Element

**GOAL A.** Increase access to health and social services. Health and social services are located throughout the community and accessible to those who need them most to *improve health disparities caused by inequitable access.*

**Policy A.6.** Pursue the *equitable distribution* of health clinics, emergency services, dental care, and mental / behavioral health services **across Ashland and Cherryland** to ensure all residents have access to preventative care and medical and dental treatment.

# ARB Technical Advisory: Reducing Air Pollution



Strategies that reduce traffic emissions

1. Speed reduction mechanisms including roundabouts
2. Traffic signal management
3. Speed limit reductions on high-speed roadways (>55 mph)



Strategies that reduce the concentration of traffic pollution

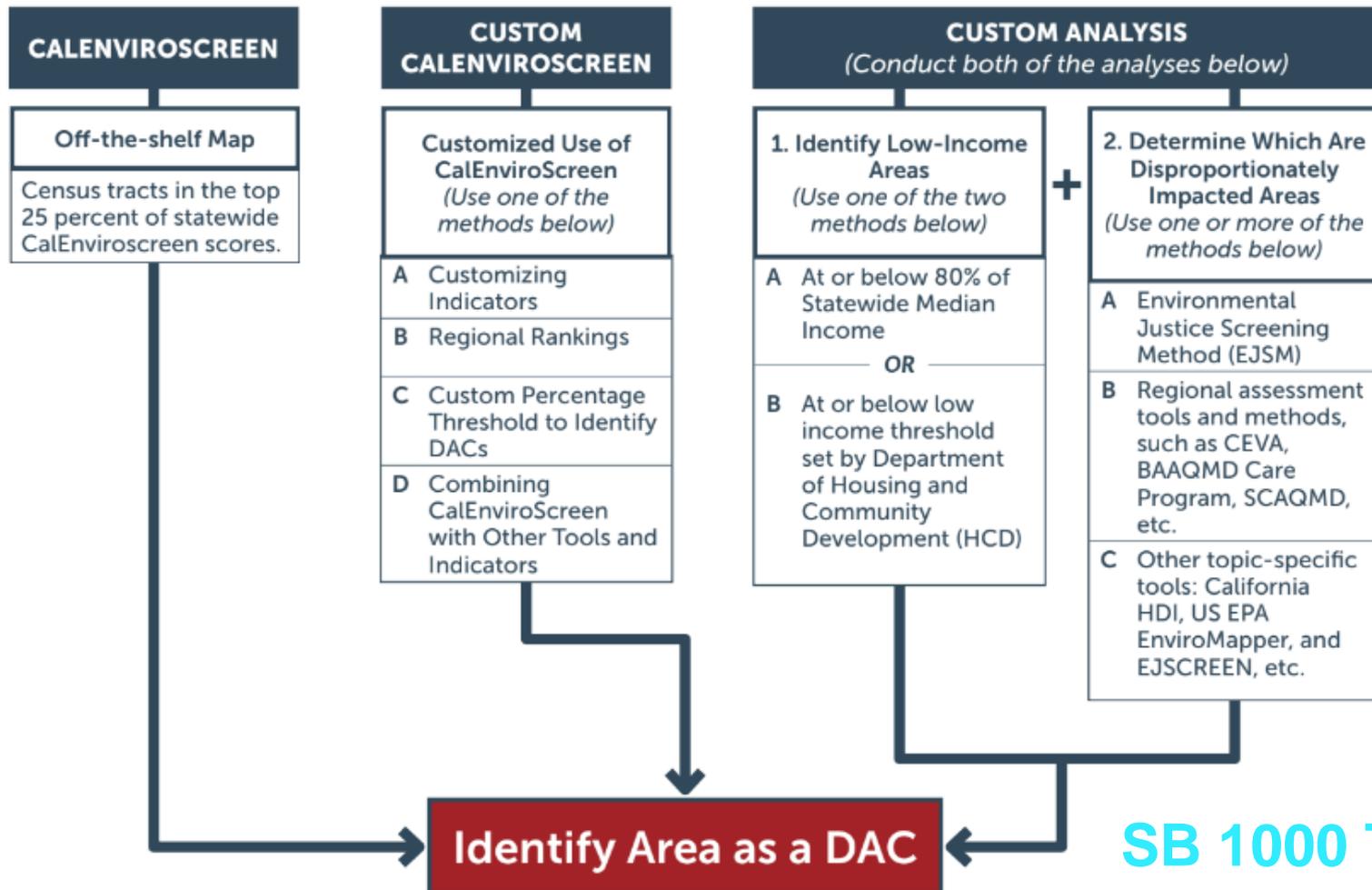
4. Urban design that promotes air flow and reduces the concentration of pollution along street corridors
5. Solid barriers such as sound walls
6. Vegetation that reduces the concentration of pollution



Strategies that remove pollution from indoor air

7. Indoor high efficiency filtration that removes pollution from the air

# Ways to Identify Disadvantaged Communities (DACs)



**SB 1000 Toolkit**

# Clean Up Green Up Campaign (Los Angeles)

1. Coordinated inspections
2. **More protective health standards** for new and expanded industrial operations
3. Stronger public participation from local residents.
4. **Restrictions on the expansion of oil refinery operations:** health impact assessment and a conditional use permit required
5. **Building codes:** mandatory air filters in all new units: 1,000 feet of a freeway
6. Proper building and mechanical enclosures to prevent fugitive emissions
7. **“No idling” signage** for diesel trucks at warehouses and other facilities
8. Creation of “buffer zones” of 500 feet between auto-related uses and homes
9. **Green business and energy efficiency** training for mom and pop businesses

# Anti-Displacement Policies & Tools

- Inclusionary Zoning
- Density Bonuses
- Jobs-Housing Linkage Fee
- No-Net Loss of Affordable Housing Units
- Affordable Housing Trust Funds
- Pathways to ownership
- Just Cause Eviction
- Value capture
- Right-to-Return policies
- Rent Control
- Community Land Trusts
- Land Banking
- Small Sites Programs
- Accessory Dwelling Units
- Tenants rights education



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[www.caleja.org/sb1000-toolkit](http://www.caleja.org/sb1000-toolkit)

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# Appendices

# Goal: Create Just Land Use Planning in CA

- **Community-led:** SB 1000 was inspired by community-led solutions to promote EJ in land use planning:
  - Jurupa Valley HEJ Element
  - National City EJ Element
- **Local to State:** CCAEJ's "Toxic Tour" inspired Senator Leyva (Chino) to work on the bill.
  - CEJA and CCAEJ co-sponsored.



Members of CCAEJ with Senator Connie Leyva, author of SB 1000

***EJ: The basic right of people to live, work, go to school, play, and pray in a healthy and clean environment.***

# Case Study: Jurupa Valley's EJ Element

## 2. Land Use and the Environment:

- EJ-2.3: Provide adequate buffers between schools and industrial facilities/ transportation corridors.

## 3. Mobility and Active Living

- EJ-3.9: Support public and/or private shuttle systems to transport residents to grocery stores and other sources of healthy food.
- EJ-3.14: Increase access to urban parks, green space and natural environments for traditionally underserved communities

## 4. Healthy and Affordable Housing

- EJ-4.3: Promote efforts to repair, improve and rehabilitate substandard housing.

# National City: Health & Environmental Justice

- **Policy HEJ-1.2:** *Encourage* existing stationary sources of emissions to use feasible measures to minimize emissions that could have potential impacts on air quality.
- **Policy HEJ-1.7:** Designate truck routes that avoid sensitive land uses, *where feasible*.
- **Policy HEJ-4.5:** *Encourage* new development and redevelopment to include a healthy food supply or edible garden, or be located within a quarter to a half mile of a healthy food supply, *where feasible and appropriate*.
- **Policy HEJ-5.2:** *Encourage* a range of health services in locations that are convenient and accessible (walkable) to the community)