AB617: Protecting Community Health

- March 28, 2018

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- Bay Area Air Quality Management District
- Deputy Air Pollution Control Officer

Overview

- History of Health Protection in Bay Area
- Community Health Protection Programs
  - CARE and AB 617
- Selecting Communities
- Getting Started
- Next Steps

Community Health Protection: An Air Quality Lens

Air Pollutants

- emission rates
- types of emissions

Ambient Concentration

- types of pollutants
- topography
- wind patterns

Exposure and Dose

- breathing rate
- location
- time

Health Effects

- dose
- susceptibility

Community Health Protection In the Bay Area

- Regional
- Facilities
- Communities

Regional-scale

- Considers regional population exposure to common sources
- Focus on carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, fine particles, sulfur dioxide
- Meeting ambient air quality standards

Facility-scale

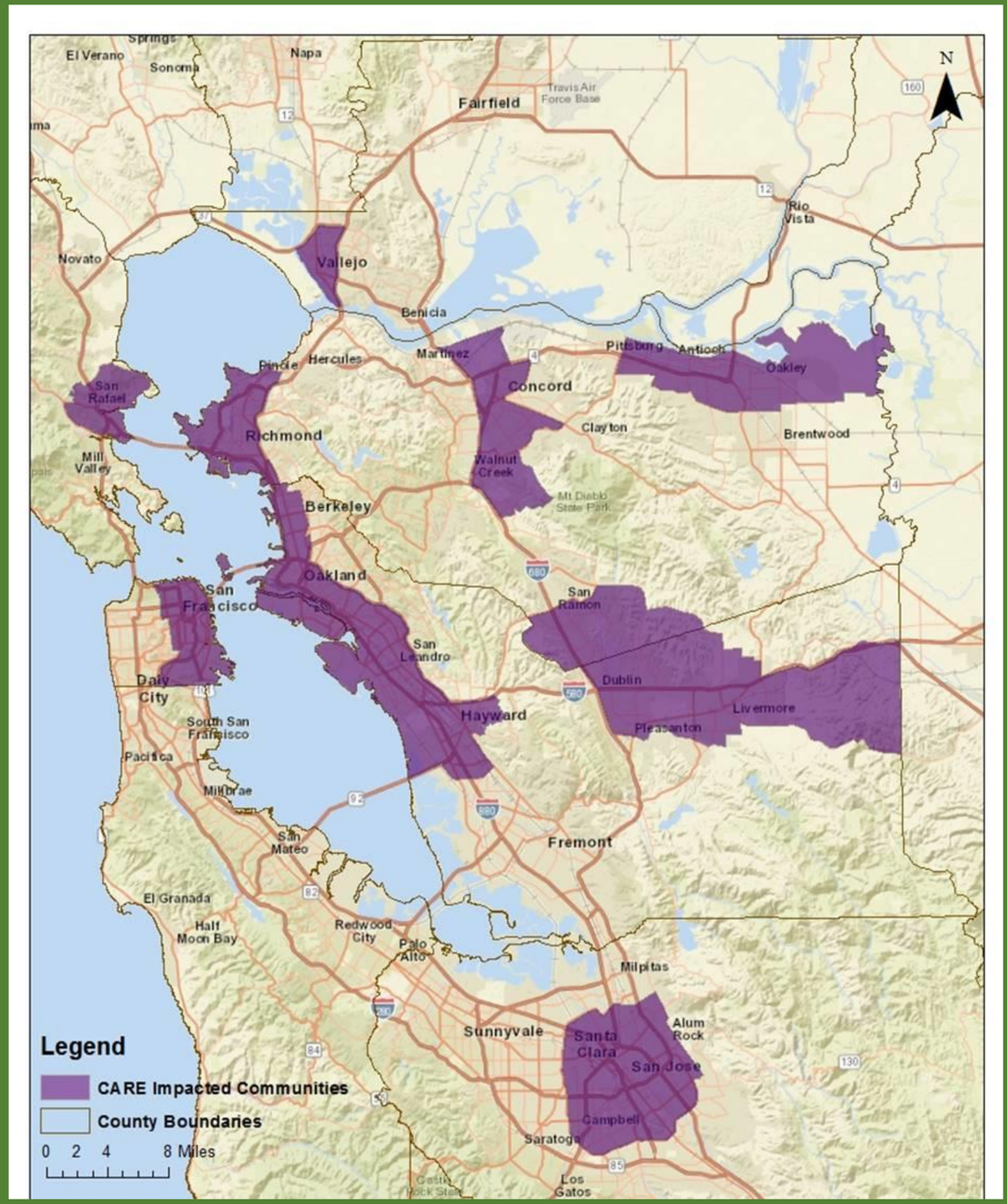
- Single-source focused
- Focus on toxics
- Health risk assessments

Community-scale

- Bridges gap between regional and facility planning
- Focuses on cumulative impacts and community health
- CARE program (2008)
- AB 617 (2017)

CARE: First Community Program

- Complements traditional air quality planning
- Highlights communities most affected by high exposure and those vulnerable to air pollution
  - Maps areas of greater health impact based on cumulative air pollution levels and existing adverse health outcomes
  - Identifies **vulnerable communities**
- Strives to fill a gap in health protection between regional and facility-scale assessments



http://www.baaqmd.gov/research-and-data/interactive-data-maps

AB 617
A New Approach to Community Health Protection

- Originated in negotiations regarding the extension of Cap & Trade program (AB 398)
- Responds to advocates' concerns with continued high levels of air pollution in local communities
- Directly addresses toxics and criteria pollutants in the most impacted communities

Program Goals

- Community Participation
- Eliminate Air Quality Disparities
- Reduce Health Burdens
- Continuous Evaluation and Improvement

AB 617
Program Components

- Community selection
- Community monitoring
- Emission reduction action plans
- Incentives
- Updated emissions inventory
- Best Available Retrofit Control Technology

Community Selection

State requires districts to work with communities to select all areas in the region that have a ***"high cumulative exposure burden"*** *and then* ***prioritize*** *areas for community monitoring or actions plans over the next 6 years.*

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How do we select all candidate communities?

CARE

- High pollutants
  - fine particles
  - toxics
  - ozone
- Mortality
- Cancer risk
- ER visits and hospitalizations due to air pollution

Additional Impacts[1]

- Life expectancy
- Low birth weight
- Diesel exhaust
- Traffic
- Socioeconomic factors
- Education
- Housing costs
- Access to transportation

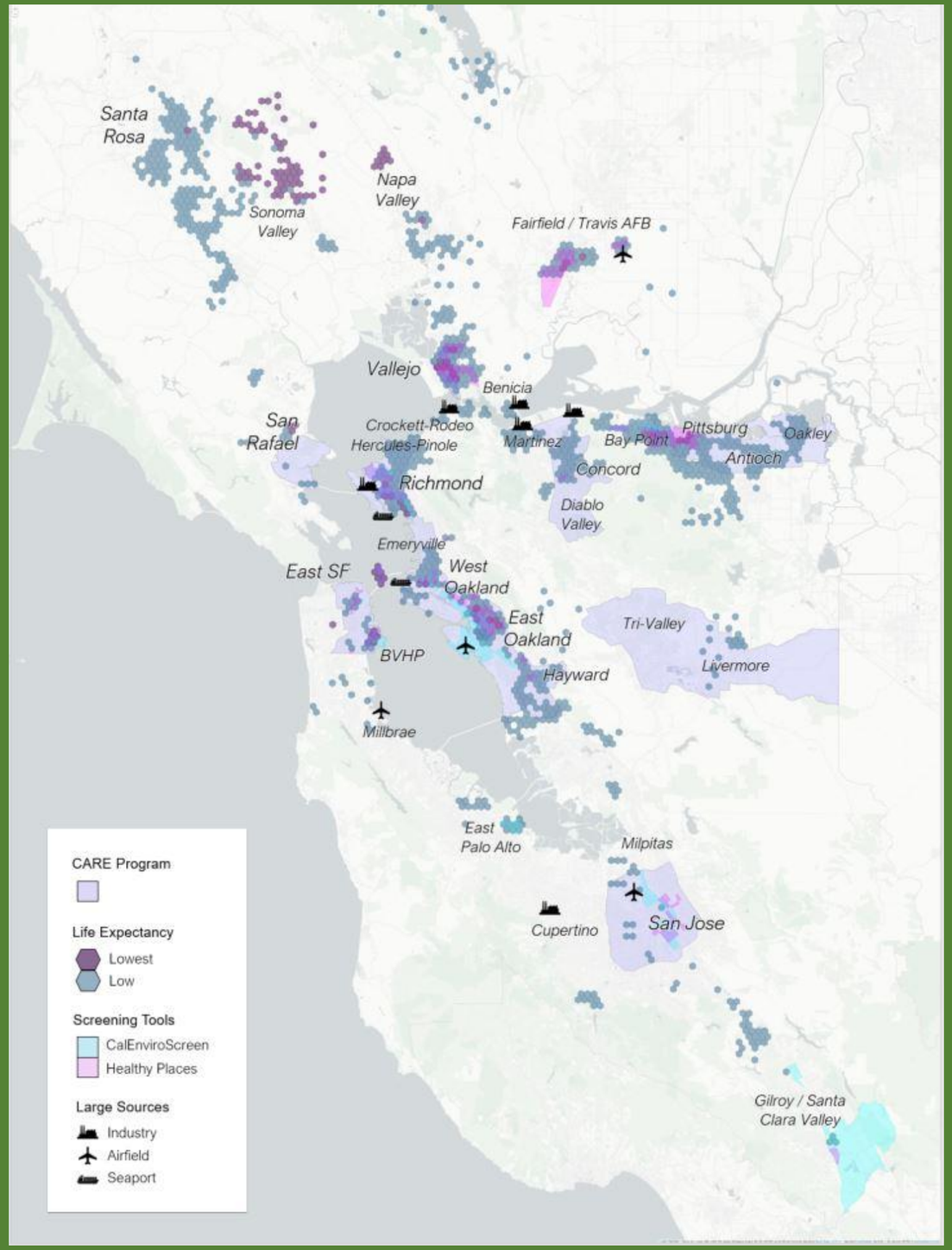
Other Large Sources

- Oil refineries
- Cement plants
- Chemical plants
- Marine ports
- Airports

1. Additional impacts include all data indices from CalEnviroScreen and Healthy Places Index

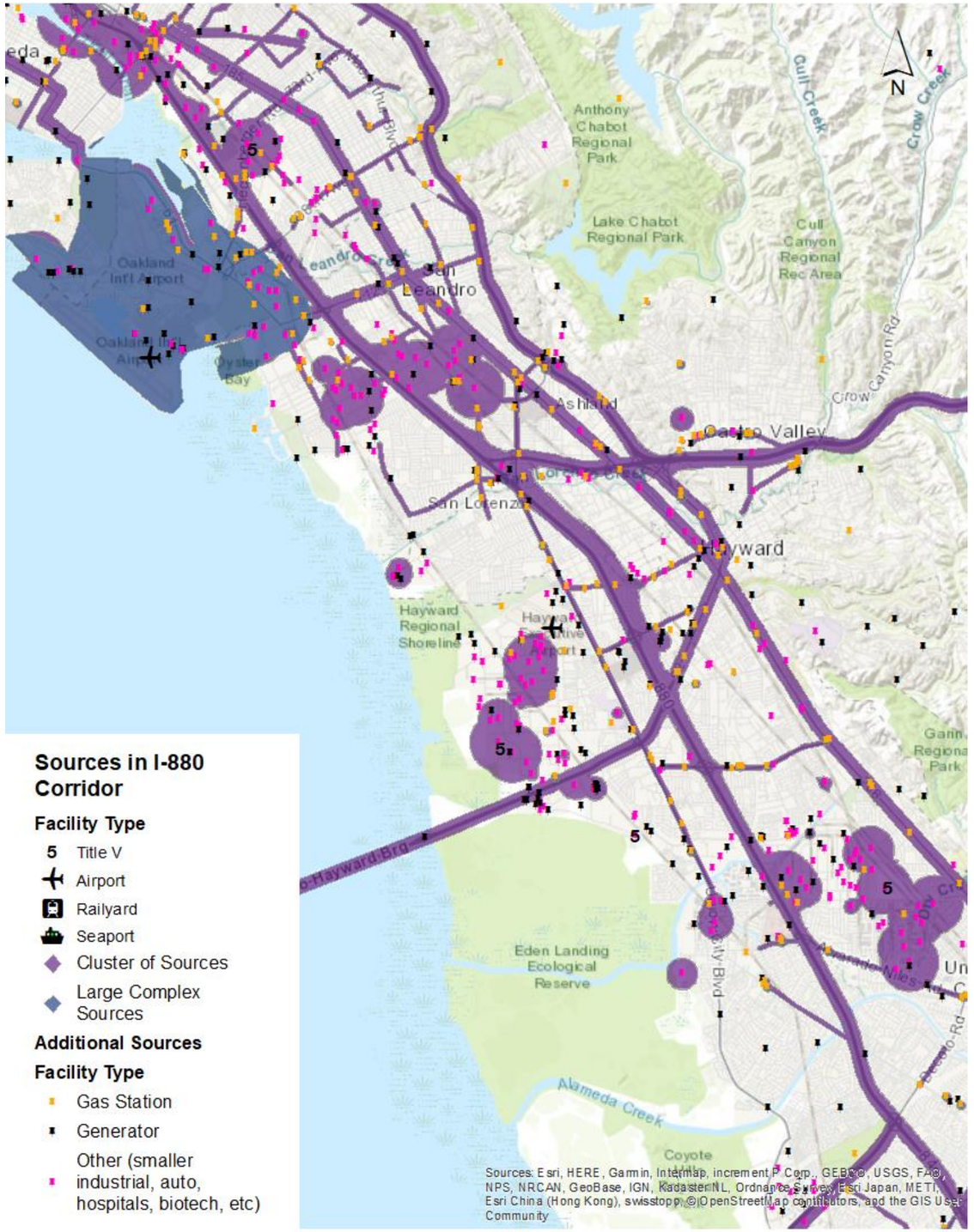
Potential Candidate Communities

- CARE Areas
- Areas with large sources
- Areas with health vulnerability and pollution impacts, identified with statewide tools
- Areas with low life expectancy



Sources that Impact the I-880 Corridor

- Oakland Airport
- Freeways and major roadways
- Railroads
- Large distribution centers

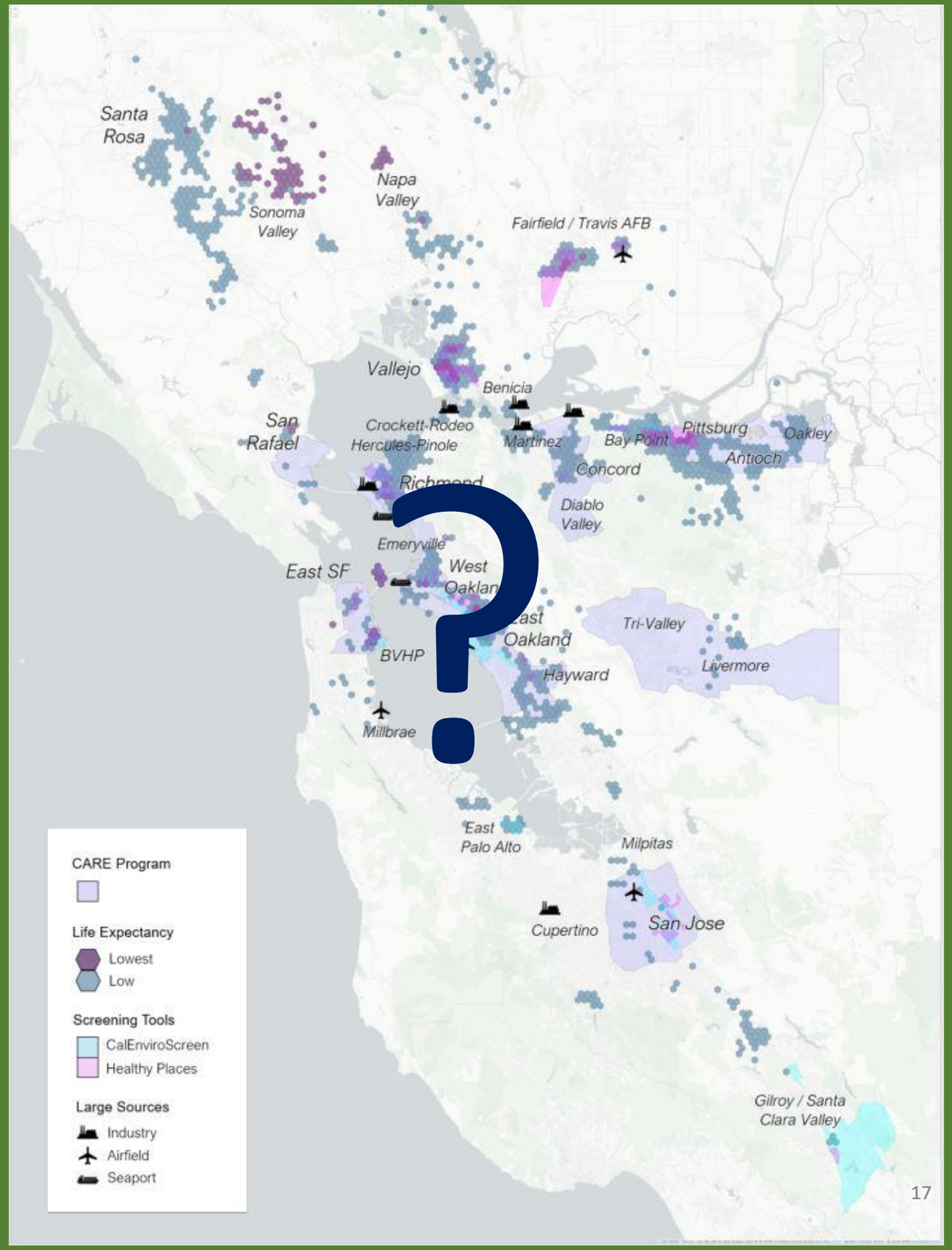


How do we prioritize communities for action?

Air Quality	Health Burden/Vulnerability	Other Factors?
• Fine particles • Toxics • Ozone	• Life expectancy • Lung disease • Heart disease	?

Questions

- What do you think about the criteria for candidate areas?
- What other areas should be included and why?
- How should we prioritize areas for plans or monitoring?



What we've heard: overall program

- Improve Air District permitting process
  - Factor in cumulative impact before permitting
- Prevent increased air pollution in overburdened communities
- Challenge what is acceptable air pollution
- Be transparent, open, and accountable

What we've heard: selecting communities

- **Overall strong support for community selection criteria**

- **In selecting communities, we should consider:**
  - Odors
  - Heavy idling
  - History of regulatory violations
  - Income, race, and other factors that magnify health impacts
  - Historical contamination
  - Traffic congestion
  - Residential wood burning
  - Communities with engaged partners and existing infrastructure
  - Communities that have been left behind

What's next?

March 2018	• Begin community meetings
April 30, 2018	• Air districts submits candidate community areas, i.e. all high cumulative exposure burden areas, to State
July 31, 2018	• Final recommendation to State on Year 1, Year 2-5, Years 6+ communities
October 1, 2018	• State selects Year 1 communities
Fall 2019	• State selects additional communities (and annually thereafter)

Thank you for being here.

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Interactive Stations

How should we
select communities for years 2-5?

Map it!
Where should we focus?
Where are sources of pollution?

How concerned are you about the
air pollution caused by
various equipment types?

What does success
look like?