

**Bay Area Air  
Quality District,  
Community Equity,  
Health and Justice  
Committee:**

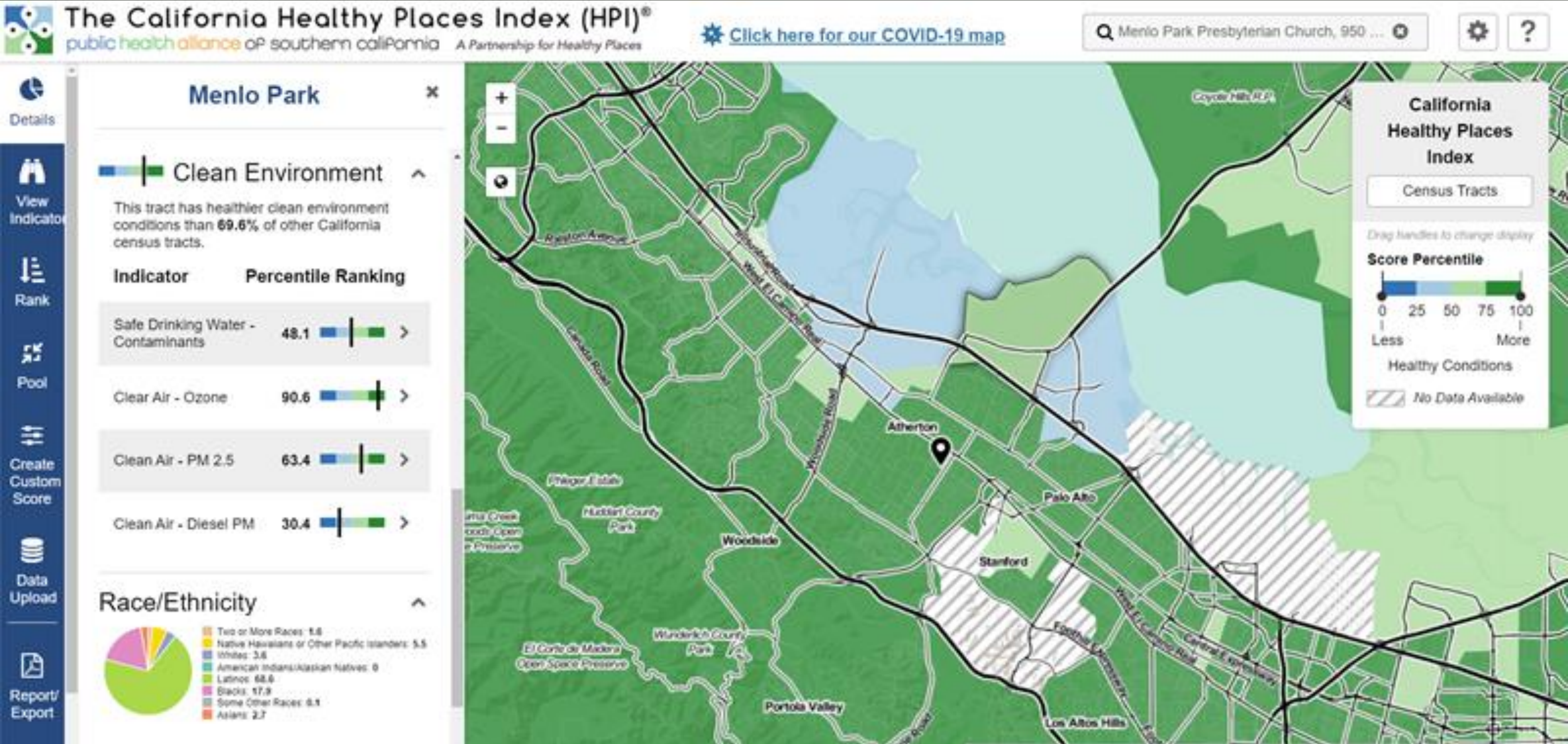
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A Community  
Perspective

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# An Aerial View of Belle





# INTRODUCTION



- Belle Haven City was annexed into the City of Menlo Park Over 70 years ago.
- The Belle Haven Neighborhood was created and designed through redlining, blockbusting, and discriminatory land-use practices.
  - Bound by highway 84/Willow Road, the Bayfront Expressway, and the connection to the Dumbarton Bridge and the 101 freeway.
  - Isolated from the rest of the city, historically underserved, under-resourced, and underrepresented.
- MP is 17.4 Square miles.
- BH 0.54 Square miles, BH is 3.1% of the land and 18% of the population.



# AIR QUALITY ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

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- 80% percent of the commuters do not originate in the city of Menlo Park nor is Menlo Park their destination.
- We are surrounded by weekday traffic, locked in the neighborhood in the mornings and locked out in the evening. It is a Monday through Friday challenge along with air quality.
- It feels like we are the drive-through community.
- On most days the morning traffic period does not end until 11:30 am and the afternoon traffic begins at 2:30 pm.

- Approximately 70,000 cars cross the Dumbarton Bridge Monday through Friday.
- Surrounded by major arterials, our children and seniors may have higher rates of asthma or other respiratory challenges.





# CONSTRUCTION AND LAND USE

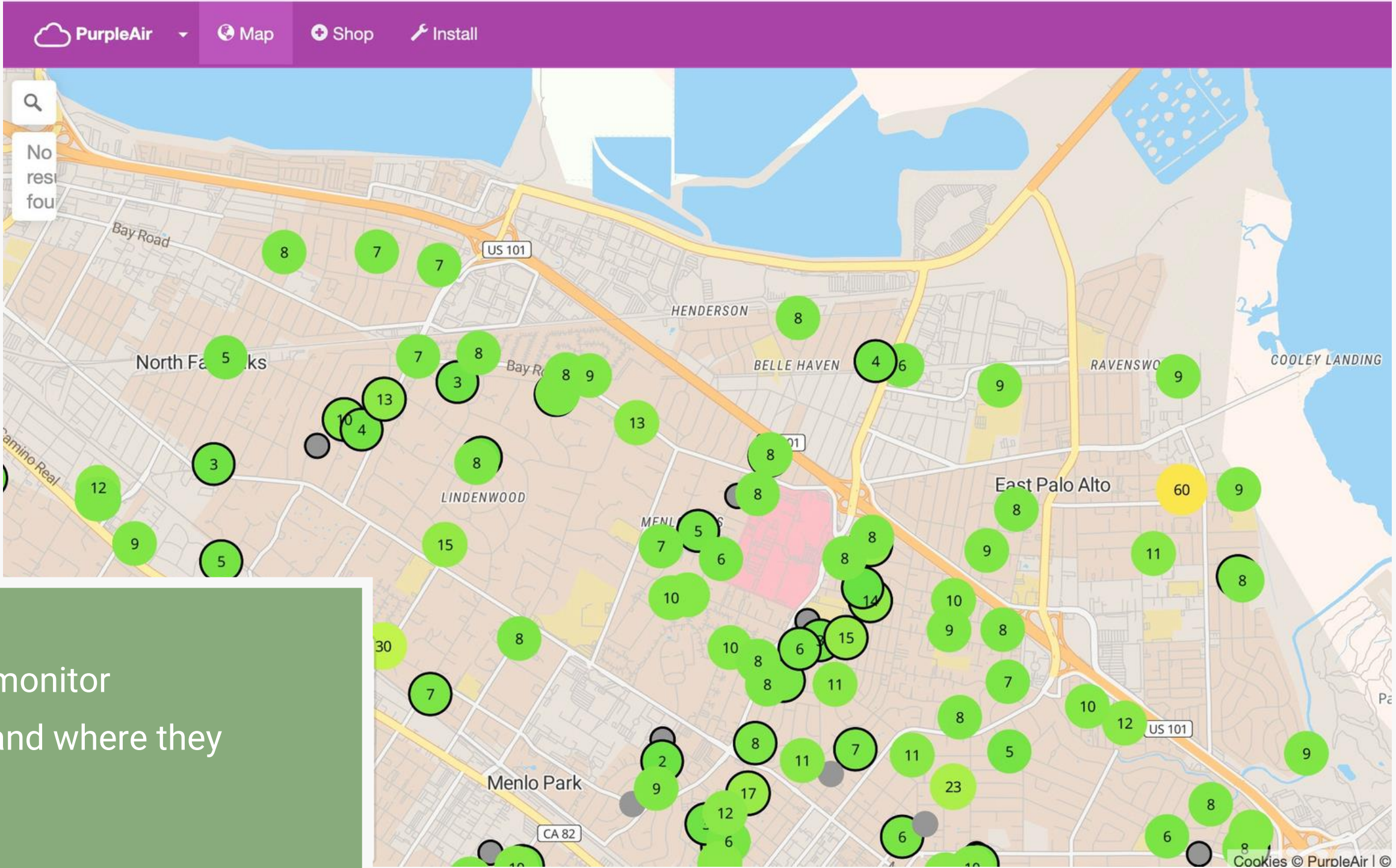
The impact of updating the General Plan, also known as Connect Menlo:

- The City only upzoned one area, actually a strategic plan.
- The City upzoned land that's in the flood zone
- Safety Element and the Hazard mitigation plan not updated.
- Side by side Environmental Impact Report for general plan and large land-use.





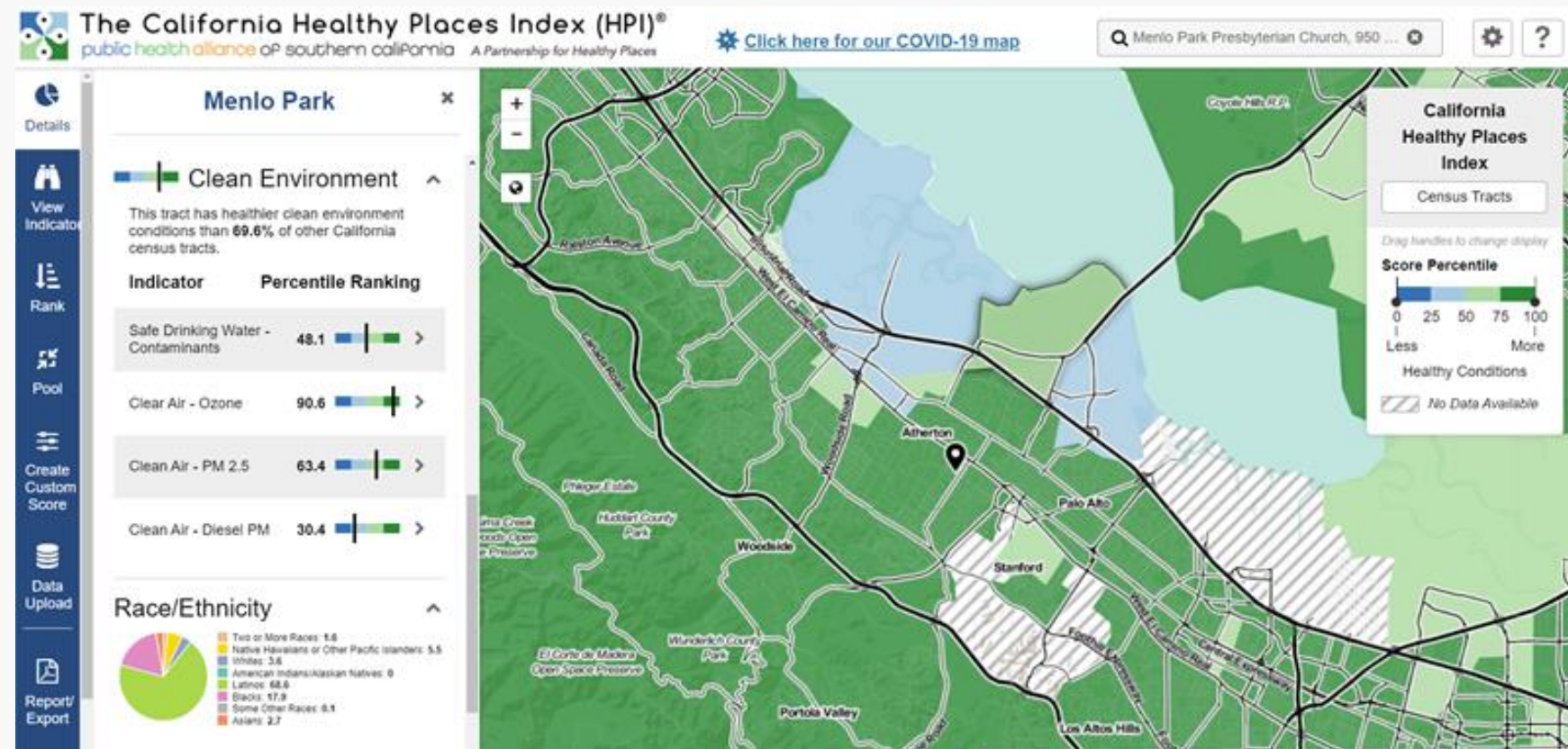
# AIR QUALITY MONITORS IN BELLE HAVEN



Development moratorium leads to air quality monitor discussion - Why the city is placing monitors and where they go becomes a political debate.



# WHAT NEEDS TO HAPPEN



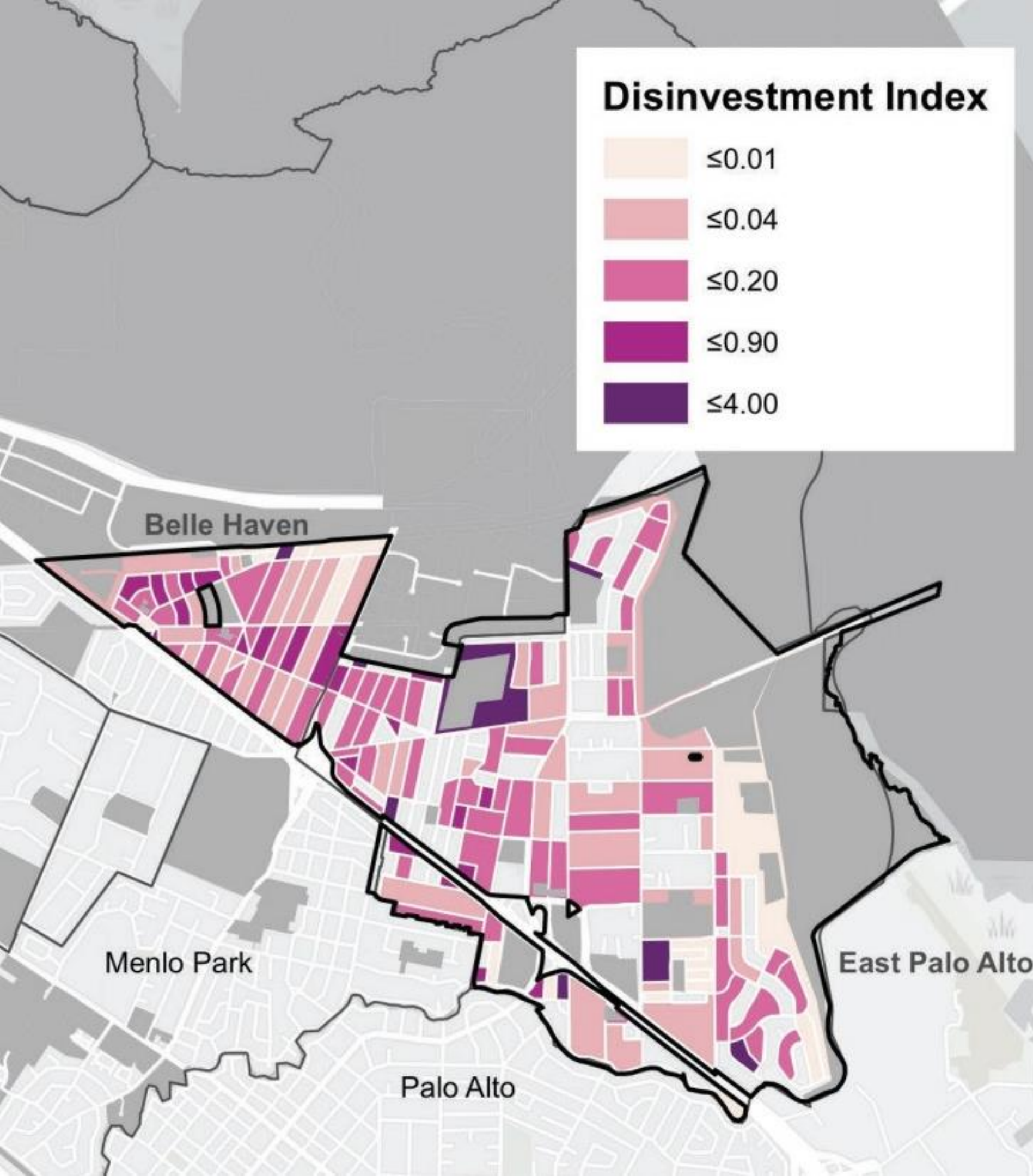
- SB 1000 Environmental Justice
- AB 617 Further Affirm Fair Housing
- SB 330: We see something alarming is coming, and it's not coming in 20 years with sea-level rise, it's coming in 2 years with 3,000 units of housing.
- S1.8 Safety Element: Updates to the City's current policy to review and comprehensively revise the Safety Element whenever substantial new scientific data or evidence related to prevention of natural and human hazards becomes available, and coordinate with other General Plan elements and City emergency plans.



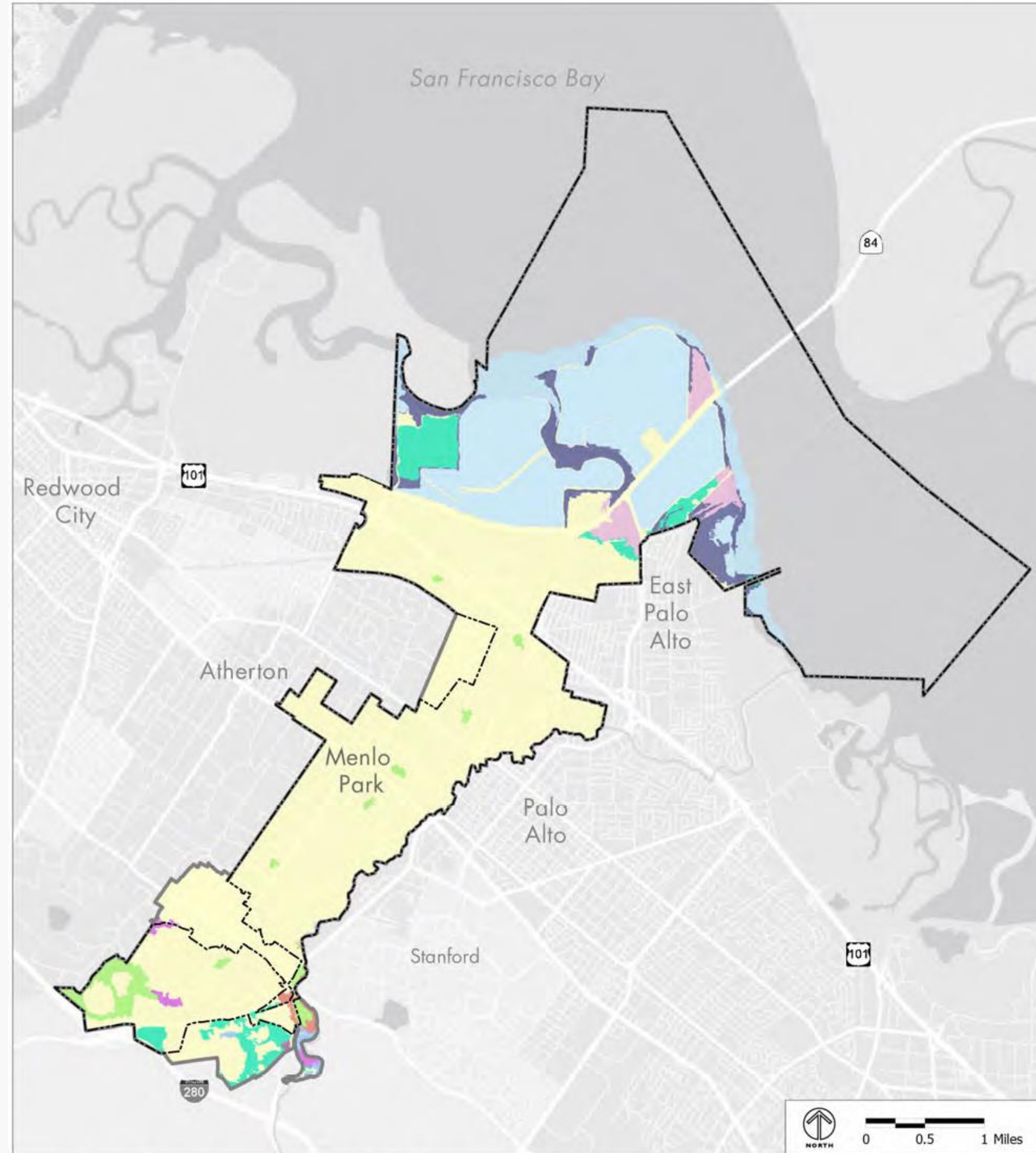
# RESOURCES

## List of Resources: Resources for Regional History of Discrimination

Includes The Investment Disinvestment Report,  
<https://www.almanacnews.com/news/2020/08/14/menlo-park-study-shows-pressures-on-housing-in-low-income-communities>  
Color Of Law, Menlo Park Edition, Road to  
Resegregation, and Uneven Ground  
<https://www.almanacnews.com/news/2019/09/05/uneven-ground>  
<https://map.healthyplacesindex.org/>





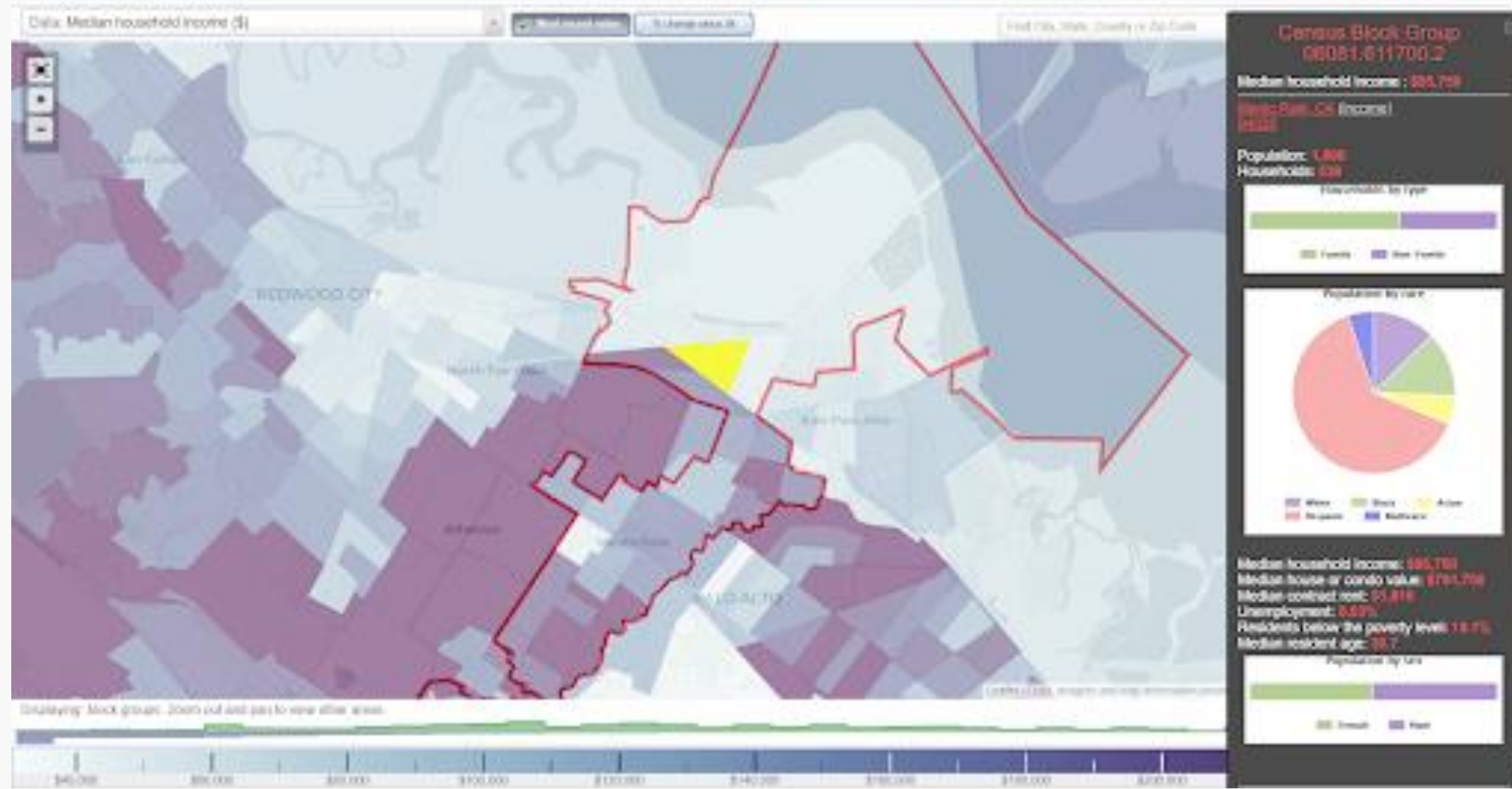


Source: City of Menlo Park; The Planning Center | DC&E, 2012; ESRI 2010; USDE Forest Service, March 2007.

- |  |                          |             |
|--|--------------------------|-------------|
| California Bay                                 | Riparian Mixed Hardwoods | City Limits |
| Annual Grasses and Forbs                       | Tule - Cattail           |             |
| Coast Live Oak                                 | Urban                    |             |
| Non-Native/Ornamental Conifer/Hardwood Mixture | Valley Oak               |             |
| Non-Native/Ornamental Grass                    | Water                    |             |
| Pickleweed - Cordgrass                         |                          |             |

**Existing Vegetation**









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**AGENDA: 5**

# **Update on Community Engagement Grant Program**

**Community Equity, Health and Justice Committee Meeting  
June 3, 2021**

**Veronica Eady  
Senior Deputy Executive Officer of Policy and Equity  
veady@baaqmd.gov**



# Outcome



Hear updates about the Community Engagement Grant Program and proposed adjustments to make the funding more accessible and equitable.



# Outline



- Background on Community Engagement Grant Program
- Grant program evaluation findings
- Recommended program adjustments
- Proposed timeline and next steps



# Requested Action



- None; informational item



# Background



- The Community Engagement Office has offered grant funding to local organizations for over a decade.
  - Supporting community-based solutions that reduce air pollution
  - Expansion in recent years

# Current Community Engagement Grant Programs



**James Cary Smith  
Grants**



**Community Health  
Protection Grants**



# Current Community Engagement Grant Programs (cont.)



- Launched in 2016
- Local air quality improvement and education projects
- One-year grants of up to \$25,000
- To date, 42 grants awarded to community-based organizations

# Current Community Engagement Grant Programs (cont.)



- Pilot launched in 2019
- Prepare communities to partner with Air District on emissions reduction efforts
- 7 grantees from AB 617 high priority Communities
- \$50,000 each for one year
- Grants extended for an additional year and \$50,000



# 2021 Grant Program Evaluation



- **Goals:** Learn about what is working and what needs improvement
- **Process:** Focus groups and web-based survey
- **Identified opportunities to:**
  - Improve grant processes
  - Increase access to grant funding
  - Better support impacted communities

# Proposed Path Forward



- **Offer one aligned grant program**
  - Focus on equity across grant processes
  - Improve outreach and reporting
- **Invest in deeper, stronger community partnerships**
  - Support capacity-building efforts
  - Offer multi-year grant awards
  - Increase available grant amounts



# Eligible Activities



# Eligible Activities (cont.)



- Research and report on what a community needs to engage in local air quality decision making.



# Eligible Activities (cont.)



- Leadership development, community mobilizing and coalition building.

# Eligible Activities (cont.)



- Provide communities with resources and information needed to meaningfully participate in decisions that impact local environmental health.





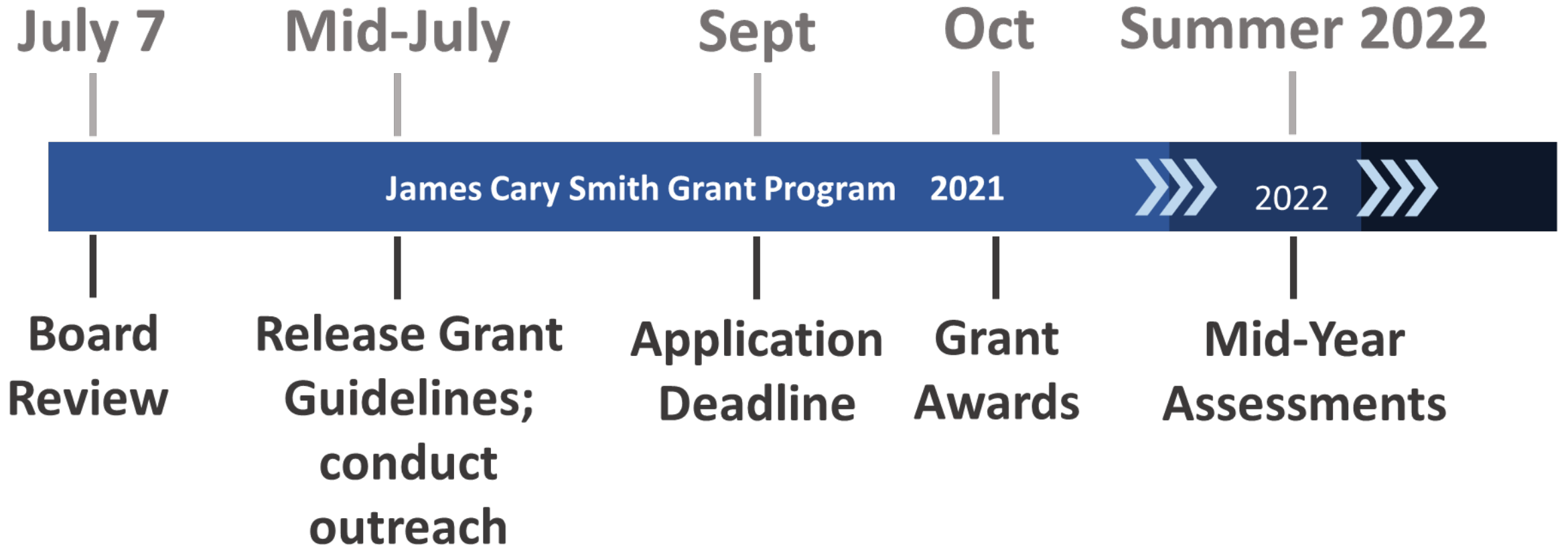
# Eligible Activities (cont.)



- All grants should build community leadership around air quality concerns and strengthen community's ability to lead future emission reduction or air monitoring plans.



# Proposed Timeline





# Feedback Requested



- Discussion about proposed adjustments to the Community Engagement Grant Program



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AGENDA: 6

# Discussion on Assembly Bill (AB) 617 Program and Community Nomination Process

Community Equity, Health and Justice Committee Meeting  
June 3, 2021

Greg Nudd  
Deputy Air Pollution Control Officer  
[gnudd@baaqmd.gov](mailto:gnudd@baaqmd.gov)

# Outcome



Committee and community learns about AB 617 program for coming fiscal year, including upcoming community engagement and nomination.



# Requested Action



- None; informational only.



Renaming of AB 617 Program

Program Overview

Program Budget

Community Engagement & Nomination

# Renaming of “AB 617” Program



- Current name is a bureaucratic, short-hand reference to original assembly bill number.
- Name should reflect core intent and values of program.
- Name should speak to environmental justice, improving local air pollution inequities and lifting community power.



# Program Overview



- Responds to history of environmental injustice in primarily low-income, communities of color.
- To address relatively higher levels of air pollution in some historically disadvantaged communities.
- Directly address local toxics and criteria pollutants in the most impacted communities.
- Initial communities serve as statewide models.

## AB 617 Communities Statewide



# A Community Centered Program



# A Community Centered Program (cont.)



## Build Shared Capacity

Build community knowledge about air quality, best practices.

Build Air District capacity to work in community.

## Understand Community

Gather what we know about community and air quality. Share as community “starter kit”.

Improve what we know.

## Share Community Story

Work with community to tell story about community.

Perform root cause analysis to ensure “right” problems addressed.

## Support Decision Making

Form and support community decision making partnership.

Develop committee charter and community engagement plan.

## Plan Solutions

Set community goals and targets.

Select emission reduction strategies and enforcement measures.

## Take Action

Implement emission reduction strategies and enforcement measures.

## Evaluate Progress

Track progress on strategies.

Report progress on strategies.

Track and report on progress of entire program.



# Overall Program



Build Shared Capacity	Understand Community	Share Community Story	Support Community Decision Making	Plan Solutions	Take Action	Evaluate Progress
Direct Community Support	Community Health and Socio-Econ Data	Accessible Community Materials	Form Steering Committee	Community Goals and Targets	New Rules on Sources Impacting Community	Track Progress
Foundations in Air Quality	Lived Experiences	Define Issues	Committee Meetings	Develop Strategies	Implement Enforcement Measures	Report Annual Progress
Best Practices	Air Pollution in Community	Root Cause	Committee Charter	Develop Enforcement Measures	Incentives to Improve Local Air Quality	Evaluate Overall Program
Staff Training	Sources of Air Pollution		Community Engagement Plan		Additional Strategies	
Trust Building	Existing Air District and Other Efforts		Maintain Partnership			



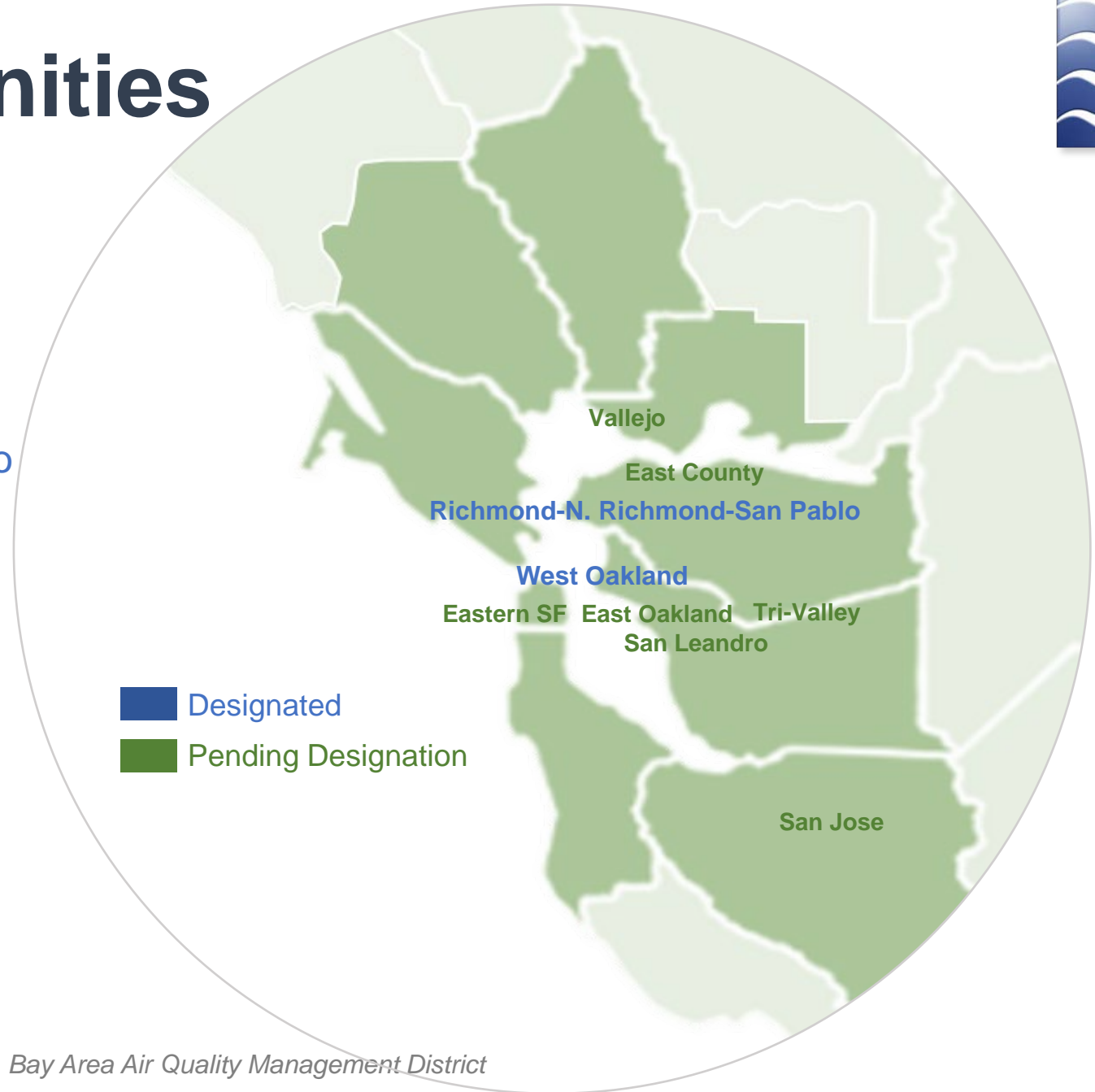
# Bay Area Communities

## Designated Communities

- West Oakland
- Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo

## Communities Pending Designation

- East County (Contra Costa)
- East Oakland
- Eastern SF
- San Leandro
- San Jose
- Tri-Valley
- Vallejo



# West Oakland



Build Shared Capacity	Understand Community	Share Community Story	Support Community Decision Making	Plan Solutions	Take Action	Evaluate Progress
Direct Community Support	Community Health and Socio-Econ Data	Accessible Community Materials	Form Steering Committee	Community Goals and Targets	New Rules on Sources Impacting Community	Track Progress
Foundation in Air Quality	Community Lived Experience	Define Issues	Committee Meetings	Develop Strategies	Implement Enforcement Measures	Report Annual Progress
Best Practices	Air Pollution in Community	Root Cause	Committee Charter	Develop Enforcement Measures	Incentives to Improve Local Air Quality	Evaluate Overall Program
Staff Training	Sources of Air Pollution		Community Engagement Plan		Additional Strategies	
Trust Building	Existing Efforts		Maintain Partnership			

- Unplanned for FYE 22
- Completed
- FYE 22/Ongoing



# Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo



Build Shared Capacity	Understand Community	Share Community Story	Support Community Decision Making	Plan Solutions	Take Action	Evaluate Progress
Direct Community Support	Community Health and Socio-Econ Data	Accessible Community Materials	Form Steering Committee	Community Goals and Targets	New Rules on Sources Impacting Community	Track Progress
Foundation in Air Quality	Community Lived Experience	Define Issues	Committee Meetings	Develop Strategies	Implement Enforcement Measures	Report Annual Progress
Best Practices	Air Pollution in Community	Root Cause	Committee Charter	Develop Enforcement Measures	Incentives to Improve Local Air Quality	Evaluate Overall Program
Staff Training	Sources of Air Pollution		Community Engagement Plan		Additional Strategies	
Trust Building	Existing Efforts		Maintain Partnership			

- Unplanned for FYE 22
- Completed
- FYE 22/Ongoing

# East Oakland (Pending)



Build Shared Capacity	Understand Community	Share Community Story	Support Community Decision Making	Plan Solutions	Take Action	Evaluate Progress
Direct Community Support	Community Health and Socio-Econ Data	Accessible Community Materials	Form Steering Committee	Community Goals and Targets	New Rules on Sources Impacting Community	Track Progress
Foundation in Air Quality	Community Lived Experience	Define Issues	Committee Meetings	Develop Strategies	Implement Enforcement Measures	Report Annual Progress
Best Practices	Air Pollution in Community	Root Cause	Committee Charter	Develop Enforcement Measures	Incentives to Improve Local Air Quality	Evaluate Overall Program
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Trust Building	Existing Efforts		Maintain Partnership			

- Unplanned for FYE 22
- Completed
- FYE 22/Ongoing

# Preliminary Program Costs



Work Area	Labor	Contracts	Total
Overall Program Management	\$ 351,000	-	\$ 351,000
Build Shared Capacity	\$ 828,000	\$ 1,245,000	\$ 2,073,000
Understand Community	\$ 6,084,000	\$ 1,472,000	\$ 7,448,000
Share Community Story	\$ 127,800	\$ 20,000	\$ 147,000
Community Decision Making	\$ 502,200	\$ 445,000	\$ 947,200
Plan Solutions	\$ 2,304,000	\$ 125,000	\$ 2,429,000
Take Action	\$ 1,269,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 1,369,000
Evaluate Progress	\$ 145,800	\$ 25,000	\$ 170,800
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 11,611,800</b>	<b>\$ 3,432,000</b>	<b>\$ 14,935,800</b>

# Community Engagement and Nomination



## Goals and Objectives:

- Ground in the history of program
- Invite community to reflect on work thus far
- Share program overview and budget
- Discuss nomination of additional community
- Inform community-centered approach to program



# Next Steps



- Plan and Schedule for Community Engagement
- Details on Community Nomination Process

# Feedback Requested



Discussion of AB 617 program, budget, and planned community engagement.



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AGENDA: 7

# Discussion on the Development of the Community Advisory Council

**Community Equity, Health and Justice Committee Meeting**  
**June 3, 2021**

**Veronica Eady**  
**Senior Deputy Executive Officer of Policy and Equity**  
**[veady@baaqmd.gov](mailto:veady@baaqmd.gov)**

# Outcome



Committee input and feedback on the formation of a Community Advisory Council (CAC).



# Presentation Outline



- Review of community outreach and engagement efforts to date
- Input and feedback from Board of Directors on next steps

# Community Outreach and Engagement



- Community advocates agree:
  - Robust outreach to find applicants/candidates to the CAC is critical;
  - Members should receive stipends; and
  - Clarity on the role of the CAC versus the Board of Directors
- Community advocates have differing views on:
  - Where CAC members should be geographically located;
  - How to form the CAC;
  - Trust in Air District processes; and
  - That the CAC should be governed by the Brown Act

# Board of Directors Input/Next Steps



- Community members provided input on considerations for the CAC at the April and May community convenings
- Air District staff seek input from Board of Directors on the formation of the CAC and potential selection of candidates

# Board of Directors Proposed CAC



**Board of Directors, together with community members, would select one individual from each of the following communities:**

## Representatives from Impacted Communities

1. West Oakland
2. East Oakland
3. Richmond/North Richmond/San Pablo
4. San Jose
5. East Palo Alto
6. Vallejo
7. East San Francisco
8. East Contra Costa County
9. San Leandro
10. Benicia/Crockett/Rodeo/Martinez (Refinery Corridor)
11. Concord
12. Marin/Sonoma/Napa (North Bay wildfire and woodsmoke impacted communities)
13. Marin/Sonoma/Napa (North Bay wildfire and woodsmoke impacted communities)



# Timeline for Appointment



- **June:**
  - Meeting of the CEHJC (June 3)
  - Community convening & input on recruitment processes (June 23)
- **July:**
  - Discussion at full Board of Directors meeting
- **July/August**
  - Recruitment underway
- **September:**
  - CEHJC/Community review applicants/determine slate (September 2)
- **October:**
  - Review/potential confirmation of selected candidates by the full Board (October 7)