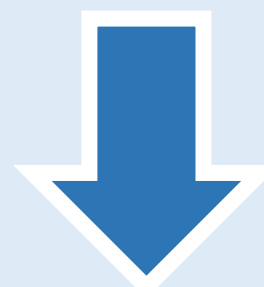




Environmental Justice: The fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.



Types of Justice

Representational Justice: Impacted communities are represented in the policy process

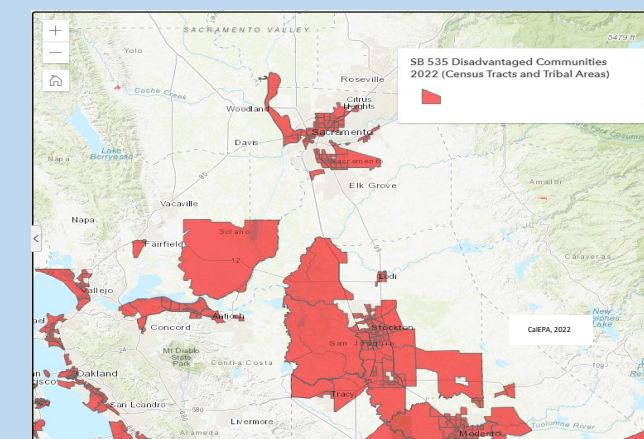
Procedural Justice: A fair and transparent planning and policy process

Distributive Justice: Environmental issues fairly benefit and impact all communities



EJ Issues in the Delta Identified by Stakeholders

Representational Justice	Procedural Justice	Distributive Justice
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delta towns/ communities Disadvantaged communities (DACs) EJ communities Terminology Tribal sovereignty Vulnerable communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Language access Meaningful involvement Meeting support Transparency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate change impacts Cultural resources Drinking water supply Flood risk Food access Harmful algal blooms Human right to water Job access Levee investments Public health Subsistence fishing Tribal cultural resources Urban development Water affordability Water quality
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trust barrier <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disenfranchisement & distrust "Box-checking" Technical knowledge barrier <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unfamiliarity with issues Technocratic approaches Capacity barriers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting time/ location/ technology requirements Time limitations Financial hardship 	



Scan this QR code to learn more about the Council's EJ initiative.

"This has become agencies telling the Tribes what they intend to do, but not providing opportunity for 'free and prior informed consent' to the action"

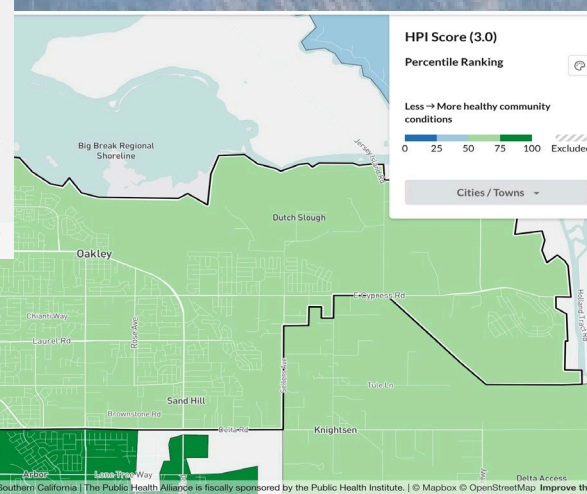
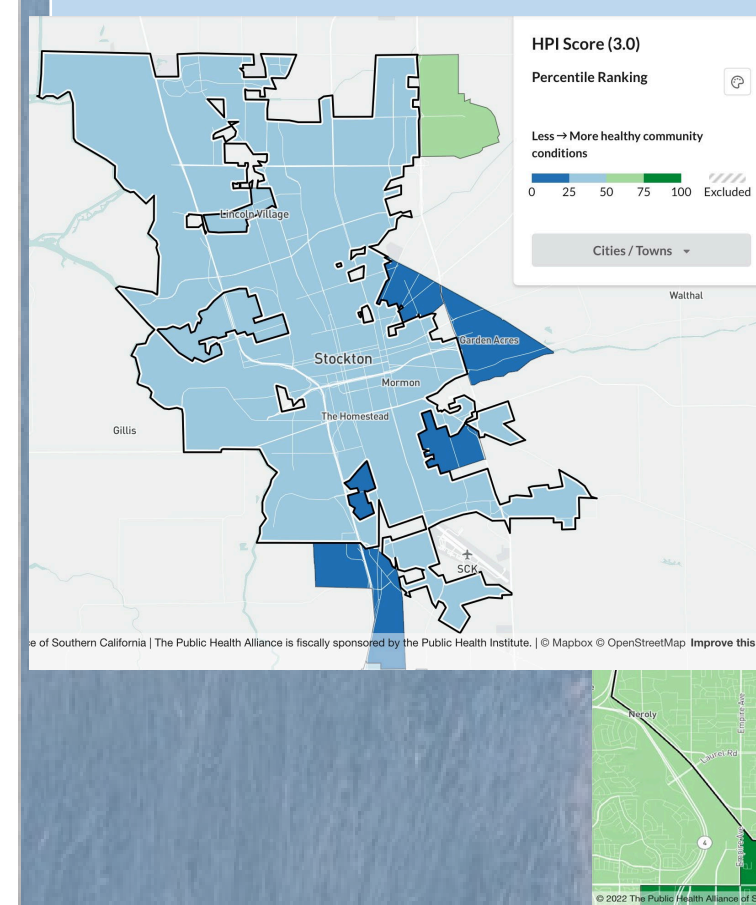
Tribal and Indigenous Justice

Tribal and Indigenous Justice deals with the three categories of justice:

- Recognition: Failure to recognize Tribal sovereignty and repression of Tribal culture led to reduced health and well being in Indigenous communities
- Procedural: Lack of meaningful consultation and exclusion from policy processes
- Distributive: Indigenous communities exposed to contaminated water and other environmental hazards

Park and Recreation Access

- Minority and low-income communities are less likely to have access to parks and recreation areas
- Entrance and parking fees, lack of transportation limit the access to these areas
- Lack of availability of green and open spaces can impact a person's physical and mental health



Climate Change

A distributive justice issue that impacts...

- Unhoused communities: Higher exposure to heat and wildfires, colder temperatures, and air quality
- Low-Income: Less likely to have AC and air filters
- Disability, youth, and elderly: Trouble evacuating
- Low-Income Minorities: Do not have secondary places to stay during evacuations

Other uneven impacts of climate change include:

- Adequate preparedness and response to evacuations for floods, fires, droughts, and increased temperature
- Wildfire smoke impacts in poor air quality communities

Examples of EJ in the Delta

Based on interviews with EJ organizations in and around the Delta and an analysis of past public comments received by the DSC in the last 10 years

Water

Water Supply:

- Water management decisions exclude Tribal and disadvantaged communities
- Unequal amount of water and uneven distribution of its benefits
- Delta communities experience insufficient flows and low water supply

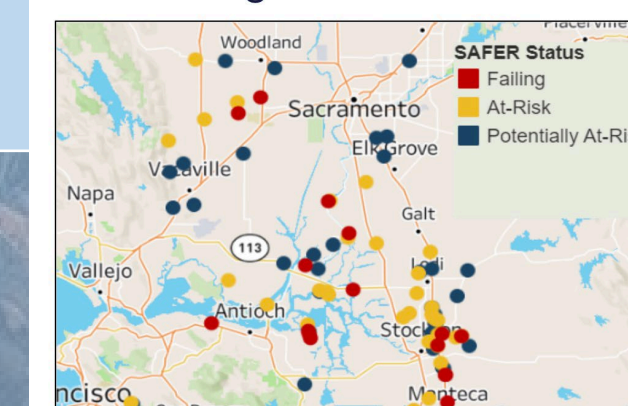
Water Quality:

- Lack of freshwater flows and pollution has contaminated the water and created harmful algal blooms (HABs)
- HABs are linked to poor groundwater and can worsen air quality

Water Affordability:

- Many Delta communities cannot afford their monthly water bills or adequate water treatments to address the issue of poor water quality

Human Right to Water violations in the Delta



Across 5 Delta counties, 99 Community Water Systems, serving population of 189,000 people are failing, at risk or potentially at risk of failing RWQ standards

- 19 systems (89,000 people) failing
- 39 systems (37,000 people) at risk of failing
- 41 systems (62,000 people) potential at risk of failing

CA Drinking Water Needs Assessment (SWRCB, updated May 2022)

We need more oversight where housing development is happening [...] There's a one lane road in and out and lots of vulnerable folks... elderly, many without a personal vehicle. These are the same people who are going to flood and then face redevelopment or clean-up costs."

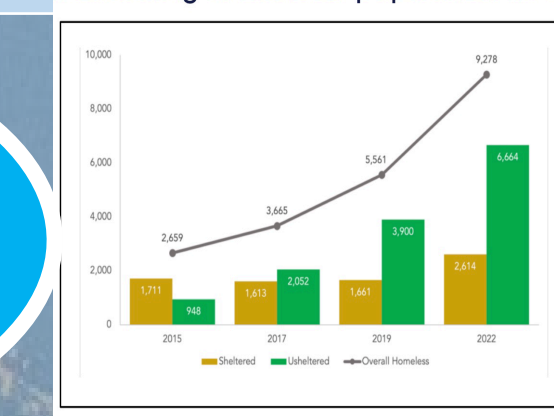
Pollution, Public Health, and Flooding

- Flooding is a public health issue as polluted floodwater creates high pollution exposure in agriculture, water quality, and air quality
- The Delta has been polluted through agricultural pesticides and industrial waste
- Low-income communities are at a higher risk of flood exposure due to these populations being located near levees

Food Insecurity and Housing

- Less than 20% of public restrooms available to the unhoused, which leads to human waste in public waterways
- The unhoused population lack of refrigeration has impacts on food security
- Food insecurity impacts Indigenous communities, low-income, the unhoused, and minority communities
- Food insecurity leads to poor nutrition that can have more severe health impacts

Increasing unhoused population in Sacramento



- Early 2022 survey estimated 9,278 individuals experiencing homelessness throughout Sacramento County
- 67% increase in nightly homelessness since the last survey count in 2019
- Highest estimate on record of unhoused individuals per capita in Sacramento County

Estimates of unhoused individuals in Sacramento County 2015-2022 ("Homelessness in Sacramento County 2022 Report", CSUS)

"...[We] send water away from the Delta, while communities in the Delta...[have] water barely above acceptable standards for drinking."

What are your ideas on some possible solutions?

1. How do environmental issues impact your everyday life?
2. What other issues are you facing that stop you from prioritizing environmental issues?
3. Which of the issues above do you find most directly impacts your community?
4. Are there any issues that were not addressed, but should be included?
5. What's a positive change you have seen in your environment?
6. What would you like to see your state or local government prioritize to improve your community?
7. What policies should be implemented to create the most change for your community?