

MONTEREY COUNTY

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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Environmental Justice Community Advisory Committee

This attachment establishes the purpose and intent for, and statement of roles and expectations of, the Environmental Justice Community Advisory Committee (EJCAC). Protocols for EJCAC meetings are included, herein.

Purpose and Intent of the EJCAC:

The overall purpose of the EJCAC is to provide targeted preliminary input for key information used to develop the draft Environmental Justice Element, prior to broader public input.

- Provide input on the content of the Community Survey for the Environmental Justice Element and ideas/considerations for community outreach in general (e.g., what groups should be targeted, how to involve them)
- Review the results of the Existing Conditions Report¹ and provide input on (“groundtruth”) the following issue areas within the unincorporated area of Monterey County:
 - Pollution exposure,
 - Access to Public Facilities and Services,
 - Access to Healthy Food,
 - Access to Physical Activity and Recreational Opportunities,
 - Access to Safe and Sanitary Homes, and
 - Unique or Compounded Health Risks (Climate Change).
- Provide input on the draft goals and policies for the Environmental Justice Element, given participant’s knowledge of the community and issues of concern.

Criteria for Participants on the EJCAC:

The County seeks to ensure it has participants on the EJCAC that can speak to the following priority environmental justice issues and areas. In doing so, the County has identified community representatives, members, and activists; community-based organizations; public health officials, and other groups that have a history of under-representation in civic proceedings to participate in the EJCAC.

- Participant organizations have direct experience working to address the following issues and can provide informed feedback from the communities/members that they serve:
 - Access to Public Facilities and Services
 - Pollution Exposure

- Access to Healthy Food
- Access to Physical Activity or Recreational Opportunities
- Access to Safe and Sanitary Homes
- Climate Change
- Organizations are part of the communities in which they serve, **ensuring that there is representation from all areas across the County.**

Statement of Roles and Expectations of the EJCAC:

1. The EJCAC shall be comprised of people with local experience and knowledge about the community and environmental challenges.
2. The EJCAC shall consist of approximately 20 committee members. The EJCAC is limited to a manageable advisory committee size while ensuring participants bring experience with a broad range of environmental justice issues from across the County.
3. The EJCAC members agree to provide feedback on draft materials and make recommendations based on respectful debate and consensus-seeking.
4. The EJCAC agrees to meet three times throughout the planning period to identify and review existing environmental injustices and feasible policy and/or strategy recommendations.
5. EJCAC members will provide feedback on environmental justice objectives and policies from recommendations provided by the County team, which will be developed from existing plans and documents and input from private citizens and community organizations. If necessary, EJCAC members will recommend additional policies and strategies that address inequities identified during the planning process.
6. The EJCAC will identify potential and existing constraints to implement selected policies and strategies.
7. EJCAC members are invited to serve at the discretion of the County Housing and Community Development Director. EJCAC members agree to exhibit respectful behavior that contributes productively and maintains the positive decorum of a meeting.

Each EJCAC member needs to acknowledge and accept these terms via written correspondence prior to becoming an EJCAC member.

Protocols for EJCAC Meetings:

Preparation for the EJCAC meetings will be a shared responsibility of the County.

- The County will prepare and distribute meeting agenda and materials prior to each of the three EJCAC meetings;
- Meetings may be held in a hybrid format, allowing participation in person and remotely through virtual meetings;
- Meetings will be facilitated by the County team and will prompt participants to engage in focused discussions.