

X ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ELEMENT

The purpose of the Environmental Justice Element is to identify goals and policies that promote environmental justice citywide with a focus on reducing disproportionate impacts on the City’s most vulnerable populations such as low-income residents, communities of color, and immigrant communities. The Environmental Justice Element hopes to contribute toward remedying environmental injustices caused by historic and social influences, including those related to zoning, land ownership, lending practices, economics, public health, and politics.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IN TRACY

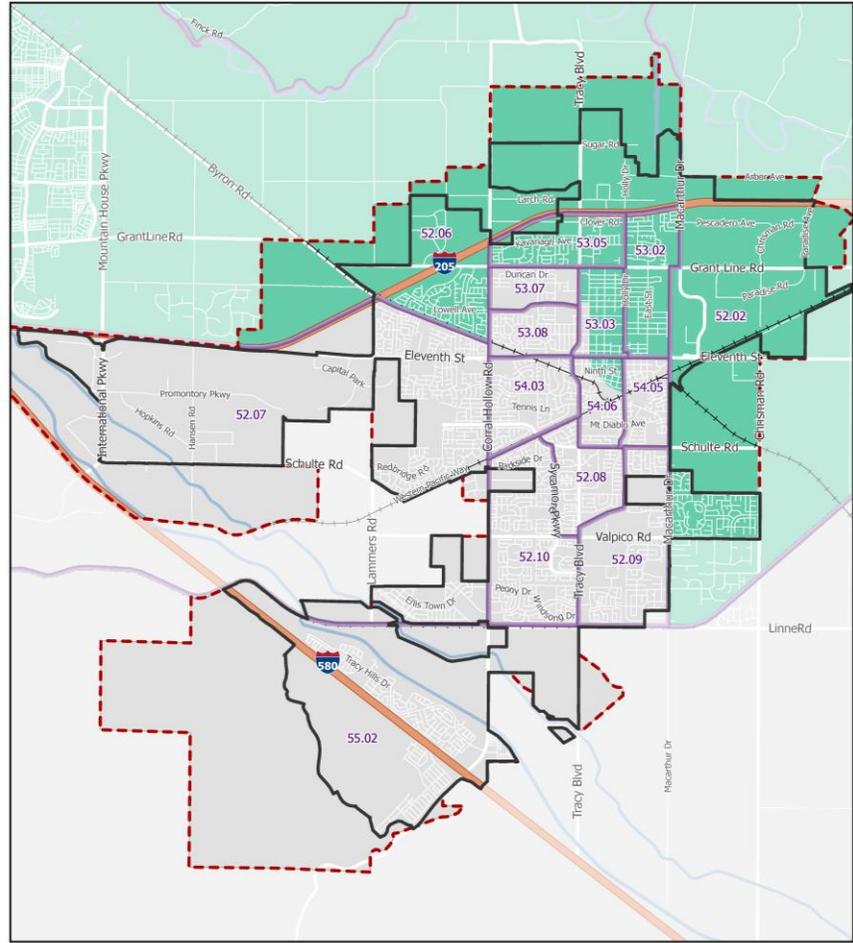
Senate Bill 1000 (SB 1000), the Planning for Healthy Communities Act, was signed into law by Governor Edmond G. Brown, Jr. on September 24, 2016. Per SB 1000, when a City revises two or more General Plan elements concurrently and has areas defined as “Disadvantaged Communities” (DACs), the City must address environmental justice in their General Plan.

The City can choose to either adopt a new, stand-alone element or integrate environmental justice policies and goals into existing elements of the General Plan. (Government Code Section 65302[h][2]). The City has elected to prepare a new, stand-alone Environmental Justice Element so that all existing environmental justice-related goals and policies are conveniently located in one document for easy reference. More information about how DACs were identified in Tracy is included in the Existing Conditions Report (Appendix A). Information from this report was used to help identify new goals, objectives, policies, and actions relevant to the City of Tracy.

While the state uses the term “Disadvantaged Community,” the City of Tracy is opting to use the term “Environmental Justice Community.” The term “disadvantaged” can have a negative connotation and undermine the fact that these communities are vibrant places with rich culture and history. Tracy has a total of six Environmental Justice Communities, shown in Figure 1-1.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency defines environmental justice as “the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. Fair treatment means that no group of people should bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, governmental, and commercial operations or policies.”

Figure 1-1 Environmental Justice Communities in Tracy



- Legend
- Tracy City Limits
 - Tracy Sphere of Influence
 - Census Tract
 - Environmental Justice Communities

Figure 1-1
 Environmental Justice Communities



Source: Caltrans/Screen 4.0, California Climate Investments Priority Populations 2013, San Joaquin County GIS, Map Date: July 8, 2014



COMMUNITY SURVEY

A community survey was conducted to collect input on environmental justice topics in Tracy. A high-level summary and more detailed information about the responses are included in the Community Survey Summary (Appendix B). Responses from the survey helped shape the Environmental Justice Element, reflecting the issues that participants identified as most important.

TOPICS ADDRESSED

The goals, objectives, policies and actions included in the Environmental Justice Element address and are organized by the following topic areas:

1. Pollution Exposure and Air Quality
2. Public Facilities
3. Food Access
4. Safe and Sanitary Homes
5. Physical Activity
6. Unique Health Risks
7. Civic Engagement
8. Improvements and Programs

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER ELEMENTS

Other Elements in Tracy's General Plan, including the Land Use and Community Character Elements, Economic Development Element, Circulation Element, Open Space and Conservation Element, Public Facilities and Services Element, Safety Element, Noise Element, and Housing Element already contain many goals, objectives, policies, and actions related to environmental justice. This Environmental Justice Element highlights those efforts and introduces new policies to enhance the City's existing approach. New policies are listed first under each topic, followed by relevant policies from other Elements, with references to their original location. This format underscores the City's commitment to integrating environmental justice with its broader goals and priorities for both current and future residents.

I. POLLUTION EXPOSURE AND AIR QUALITY

A. Background

Achieving environmental justice fundamentally requires reducing pollution exposure in communities that face disproportionate pollution burdens. Pollution exposure occurs when individuals come into contact with contaminants in the air, water, and soil, often due to incompatible land uses situated near one another. Vulnerable populations, such as children, the elderly, and individuals with compromised immune systems, are particularly susceptible to these exposures. While air quality is one aspect of pollution exposure, improving it is essential for the health and well-being of both people and the environment. As outlined in SB 1000, “reducing pollution exposure” encompasses a wide range of environmental impacts, whereas “improving air quality” specifically targets the reduction of particular air contaminants.

B. Goals, Objectives, Policies and Actions

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| Goal EJ-1. Minimize Exposure to Pollution. |
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Objective EJ-2.1 Improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Policies

- P1. Investigate why certain areas in the City have high burden scores from CalEnviroScreen for asthma. (See Existing Conditions Report)
- P2. Improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through land use planning decisions. (Objective AQ-1.1)
- P3. Promote development that minimizes air pollutant and greenhouse gas emissions and their impact on sensitive receptors as a result of indirect and stationary sources. (Objective AQ-1.2)

- P4. Provide a diverse and efficient transportation system that minimizes air pollutant and greenhouse gas emissions. (Objective AQ-1.3)
- P5. Support local and regional air quality improvement efforts. (Objective AQ-1.4)
- P6. Undertake measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve the sustainability of actions by City government, residents and businesses in Tracy. (Objective LU-9.1)
- P7. The City shall encourage the use of non-motorized transportation and low-emission vehicles. (Objective CIR-1.8, Policy 3)

Objective EJ-2.2 Promote efficient land use and development patterns.

Policies

- P1. Promote efficient residential development patterns and orderly expansion of residential areas to maximize the use of existing public services and infrastructure. (Objective LU-1.4)
- P2. The City shall encourage infill development by examining the City's impact fee structure with the intent of reducing development fees on infill projects where feasible. (Objective LU-1.4, Policy 7)
- P3. Encourage development near transit stations including the multi-modal station in Downtown, and the Altamont Commuter Express (ACE) station or stations. (Objective LU-1.5)
- P4. Land development that mitigates its environmental, design and infrastructure impacts. (Goal LU-6)

- P5. Ensure land use patterns that minimize conflicts between transportation corridors and neighboring uses. (Objective LU-6.2)
- P6. Uses that are compatible with the noise, air quality and traffic impacts associated with freeways, such as auto-oriented commercial and industrial uses, should be located near and along freeway corridors whenever possible. (Objective LU-6.2, Policy 1)
- P7. Adequate environmental protection and mitigation shall be provided for uses that are less compatible with development near and along freeway corridors. (Objective LU-6.2, Policy 2)
- P8. The City shall conduct public education and outreach to support employment opportunities that minimize the need for automobile trips, such as live/work, telecommuting, satellite work centers, and home occupations, in addition to mixed-use development strategies. (Objective ED-1.2, Policy 2)
- P9. The City shall implement a connected street pattern with multiple route options for vehicles, bikes and pedestrians. (Objective CIR-1.2, Policy 2)
- P10. New development shall be designed to provide vehicular, bicycle and pedestrian connections with adjacent developments. (Objective CIR-1.2, Policy 3)

Objective EJ-2.3 Provide safe drinking water.

Policies

- P1. Investigate why certain areas in the City have high burden scores from CalEnviroScreen for groundwater threats. (See Existing Conditions Report)
- P2. Promote access to safe and affordable drinking water.

Objective EJ-2.4 Properly dispose of wastewater.

Policies

- P1. Collect, transmit, treat and dispose of wastewater in ways that are safe, sanitary and environmentally acceptable. (Objective PF-7.1)
- P2. Pursue safe, environmentally-responsible and affordable methods of disposing of treated effluent. (Objective PF-7.2)
- P3. Pursue innovative solutions for wastewater treatment and disposal that are compatible with the environment. (Objective PF-7.4)
- P4. Collect, convey, store and dispose of stormwater in ways that provide an appropriate level of protection against flooding, account for future development and address applicable environmental concerns. (Objective PF-8.1)

Objective EJ-2.5 Provide efficient waste disposal.

Policies

- P1. Explore options for residents to report illegal dumping of trash and other items in waterways.
- P2. Investigate why certain areas in the City have high burden scores from CalEnviroScreen for hazardous waste. (See Existing Conditions Report)
- P3. Reduce volumes of solid waste generated in Tracy through recycling and resource conservation. (Objective PF-5.1)

Objective EJ-2.6 Promote energy conservation and sustainability.

Policies

- P1. The City shall maintain, implement and monitor the Sustainability Action Plan, and adjust the Sustainability Action Plan as needed based on monitoring results and as funding becomes available. (Objective LU-9.1, Policy 1)
- P2. The City shall encourage businesses that use green practices. (Objective ED-1.2, Policy 1)
- P3. The City shall purchase green products from local businesses whenever feasible. (Objective ED-1.2, Policy 3)
- P4. Minimize transportation-related energy use and impacts on the environment. (Objective CIR-1.8)
- P5. When possible, road construction and repair projects shall use sustainable materials. (Objective CIR-1.8, Policy 2)
- P6. The City shall promote development patterns and construction standards that conserve resources through appropriate planning, housing types and design, and energy conservation practices. (Objective OSC-5.1, Policy 1)
- P7. The City shall use nontoxic materials whenever feasible. (Objective OSC-5.3, Policy 11)

Actions

- A1. Review standards for the design and use of new drive-through businesses with the aim of reducing adverse impacts on air quality. (Objective AQ-1.2, Action 1)
- A2. Research and include where feasible in the Roadway Master Plan update, requirements to use materials that minimize particulate emissions and that are appropriate to the scale and intensity of use. (Objective AQ-1.2, Action 2)

- A3. Investigate the feasibility of new development fees to be used on coordination with local air pollution reduction efforts, such as clean air transit projects (e.g. ACE, Park & Ride, TRACER, BART and school buses). (Objective AQ-1.2, Action 3)
- A4. Develop a green building standard for new development. (Objective AQ-1.2, Action 4)
- A5. The City shall evaluate the installation of light emitting diodes (LEDs) or similar technology for traffic, street and other outdoor lighting where feasible. (Objective AQ-1.2, Action 5)
- A6. Pursue funding sources for the planning and development of local and regional transit services. (Objective AQ-1.3, Action 1)
- A7. Notify local and regional jurisdictions of proposed projects that may affect regional air quality. (Objective AQ-1.4, Action 1)
- A8. Utilize the City’s website, billboards, or newsletter to promote information regarding air quality, recycling, use of efficient energy devices and renewable energy. (Objective AQ-1.4, Action 2)
- A9. Develop a citywide sustainability strategy that would include a baseline inventory of greenhouse gas emissions from all sources within the City; greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets; and enforceable greenhouse gas emissions reduction measures. (Objective AQ-1.4, Action 3)
- A10. Implement the Sustainability Action Plan and monitor its effectiveness as funding allows, ideally every five years, by conducting a greenhouse gas emissions inventory. Adjust the Sustainability Action Plan as needed every five years and as funding allows based on these calculations to ensure that the City is on track to meet its greenhouse gas emissions reduction target. (Objective LU-9.1, Action 1)

- A11. Create a Multi-Modal Transportation Master Plan that addresses the movement of people, goods and services within the City and from the City to the surrounding region. Modes of travel that should be included in this Master Plan include: automobile, transit, freight, air, bicycle, and pedestrian transportation. The plan shall consider short-term and long-term actions to preserve rights-of-way for future transportation options, such as light-rail. (Objective CIR-4.2, Action 1)
- A12. Study programs that encourage “green” building, such as the LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) program developed by the US Green Building Council, and consider code amendments that encourage “green” construction. (Objective OSC-5.2, Action 1)
- A13. A4. The City shall consider requiring green building standards, such as obtaining LEED or similar certification, as a requirement for new or substantial renovations to public buildings. (Objective OSC-5.3, Action 4)
- A14. Continue residential single-stream curbside recycling. (Objective PF-5.1, Action 1)
- A15. Continue the recycling program for electronics waste and tires. (Objective PF-5.1, Action 1)
- A16. Develop and maintain a recycling and diversion plan. (Objective PF-5.1, Action 1)
- A17. Continue to develop new specialized recycling programs for residential, commercial, office, educational and retail sectors. (Objective PF-5.1, Action 1)
- A18. Prepare a comprehensive update to the Wastewater Master Plan upon adoption of the General Plan and update on a regular basis. The Wastewater Master Plan shall identify the expected number of additional wastewater facilities, potential lo-

cations for those facilities and locations for the land application of treated effluent. (Objective PF-7.1, Action 1)

- A19. Prepare a comprehensive update to the Storm Drainage Master Plan upon adoption of the General Plan. (Objective PF-8.1, Action 1)
- A20. Update the Storm Drainage Master Plan on a periodic basis and at least every five years. (Objective PF-8.1, Action 2)

II. PUBLIC FACILITIES

A. Background

Under SB 1000, “public facilities” is an umbrella term that includes “public improvements, public services, and community amenities.” This covers a wide spectrum of publicly provided uses and services including infrastructure, school facilities, parks, and transportation and emergency services. These amenities and services act to improve the health, safety, and well-being of a community by either enhancing the public sphere or providing services that are available to every resident.

B. Goals, Objectives, Policies and Actions

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| Goal EJ-2. Distribute Public Facilities and Services Equitably Throughout the Community. |
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Objective EJ-2.1 Provide and maintain a diversity of public facilities.

Policies

- P1. The City shall encourage public and publicly-oriented uses, such as post offices, meeting halls, community centers, libraries and medical facilities. (Objective CC-8.1, Policy 2)

- P2. Ensure that public facilities such as schools, parks and other community facilities are accessible and distributed evenly and efficiently throughout the City (Objective LU-1.3)
- P3. Support the needs of the community through the construction and maintenance of public buildings, such as City Hall, community centers, libraries and the public works facility. (Objective PF-4.1)

Objective EJ-2.1 Provide and maintain a diversity of parks and recreational facilities.

Policies

- P1. Support opportunities to increase the number of parks, public facilities, and other recreational amenities within the Park Priority Areas identified by the Trust for Public Land (see Existing Conditions Report).
- P2. The City shall provide a diversity of passive and active recreational amenities that are geographically distributed throughout the City. (Objective OSC-4.1, Policy 2)
- P3. The City of Tracy shall continue to expand recreational facilities such as athletic fields and build new recreational facilities, such as swimming pools, skate parks and recreation centers. (Objective OSC-4.1, Policy 3)
- P4. The City shall seek opportunities to expand existing parks or build new parks in already developed areas of the City. (Objective OSC-4.1, Policy 9)
- P5. Ensure that new development is responsible for providing parks and recreation facilities throughout the City of Tracy. (Objective OSC-4.2)

Objective EJ-2.2 Provide and maintain a diversity of libraries, cultural, and arts facilities.

Policies

- P1. Expand the City’s cultural and arts facilities. (Objective LU-3.1)
- P2. The City should support the development of a range of cultural and arts facilities throughout the City, such as museums, performing arts centers and art exhibition spaces. (Objective LU-3.1, Policy 1)
- P3. The City shall support the efforts of non-profit organizations and the private sector that are working to increase cultural arts facilities and events in Tracy. (Objective LU-3.1, Policy 2)
- P4. New neighborhoods shall be designed to incorporate neighborhood parks and other gathering spaces into developments. (Objective LU-4.2, Policy 3)
- P5. Cultural uses should be concentrated in the Downtown, including museums, theaters, art galleries, and regional festivals such as the Dry Bean Festival. (Objective LU-5.1, Policy 2)
- P6. Provide sufficient library service to meet the informational, cultural and educational needs of the City of Tracy. (Objective PF-4.2)

Objective EJ-2.3 Provide adequate school and day care facilities.

Policies

- P1. Explore options for increasing the availability of affordable daycare centers.

- P2. Schools and parks should be located and designed to serve as focal points of neighborhood and community life and should be distributed in response to user populations. (Objective LU-1.3, Policy 1)
- P3. Where possible, schools should locate and be planned together with other public facilities, such as parks and community centers, to increase the availability and decrease the costs of public facilities. (Objective LU-1.3, Policy 4).
- P4. The City of Tracy shall pursue joint planning, design and operation of parks with other public facilities, such as schools. (Objective OSC-4.1, Policy 10)
- P5. Assist the school districts serving the City of Tracy in developing new school facilities to serve Tracy's current and future population. (Objective PF-3.1)

Objective EJ-2.4 Provide and maintain adequate transportation infrastructure.

Policies

- P1. Explore opportunities to improve the condition of sidewalks throughout the City.
- P2. Explore opportunities to add enhanced safety features at crosswalks, especially for people who use strollers, wheelchairs, or who have limited mobility.
- P3. Explore opportunities to add bicycle lanes throughout the City.
- P4. Encourage local transit providers to establish and maintain routes and services that provide the community with convenient access to jobs, shopping, schools, parks, and healthcare facilities, where feasible.

- P5. Sidewalks should be provided on both sides of the street in all Neighborhoods, except areas designated as Residential Very Low, where it may be acceptable to have sidewalks on only one side of the street. (Objective CC-5.2, Policy 8)
- P6. Bicycle racks shall be provided in the parking areas or near building entrances to facilitate bicycle riding as a transportation mode. (Objective CC-7.1, Policy 6)

Objective EJ-2.5 Provide adequate levels of emergency services.

Policies

- P1. The City shall provide fire and emergency response facilities and personnel necessary to meet residential and employment growth in the city. (Objective PF-1.1, Policy 1)
- P2. The City shall plan fire station locations to maintain or enhance current response levels. (Objective PF-1.2, Policy 3)
- P3. Maintain adequate police staffing, performance levels and facilities to serve Tracy's existing population as well as any future growth. (objective PF-2.1, Policy 1)

Objective EJ-2.6 Promote adequate levels of health care services.

Policies

- P1. Review, and revise, when necessary, City regulations to identify and remove any barriers that would prevent healthcare facilities, such as hospitals, clinics, and urgent care centers, from being evenly distributed across the city.

Actions

- A1. Update the Parks Master Plan on a regular basis. (Objective OSC-4.2, Action 1)
- A2. Expand partnerships with the school districts that operate within the Planning Area to enhance and create new joint use facilities. (Objective OSC-4.2, Action 2)
- A3. Explore the development and funding of a regional park, possibly 60 to 100 acres in size, that includes both passive and active recreational amenities. (Objective OSC-4.2, Action 3)
- A4. Conduct the required studies to implement the increased parks standard. (Objective OSC-4.2, Action 1)
- A5. Annually update the capital improvement plan to indicate the specific use of fee revenues for facilities to accommodate growth. (Objective PF-2.1, Action 1)
- A6. Work cooperatively with San Joaquin County to continue to fund the City of Tracy Library. (Objective PF-4.2, Action 1)
- A7. Study the feasibility of a Library Impact Fee. (Objective PF-4.2, Action 2)
- A8. Identify locations for additional library branches in Tracy. (Objective PF-4.2, Action 3)
- A9. Seek local, State and federal funding for bicycle improvements identified in updates to the Bikeways Master Plan. (Objective CIR-3.1, Action 5)

III. FOOD ACCESS

A. Background

Food is vital to a community's health, and all residents should have access to affordable, nutritious options. Communities facing environmental challenges often experience barriers to accessing healthy food, which directly affects personal well-being. Food access encompasses not only the availability and affordability of food but also food security—defined as consistent access to sufficient, nutritious, and safe food.

B. Goals, Objectives, Policies and Actions

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| Goal EJ-3. Promote Access to Healthy Food and Nutritional Choices. |
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Objective EJ-2.1 Foster sustainable food systems and improve public health.

Policies

- P1. Restrict the location and number of fast-food restaurants and other food retailers that promote low-nutrient-dense foods through land use and other controls, especially in environmental justice communities.
- P2. Encourage the establishment of farmer's markets, farm stands, ethnic markets, mobile health food markets, and other stores that sell healthy foods and fresh produce.
- P3. Encourage existing liquor stores, convenience stores, and ethnic markets to stock fresh produce and other healthy foods.
- P4. Encourage new development and redevelopment to include a healthy food supply or edible garden where feasible and appropriate.

- P5. Allow edible landscaping and community gardens on suitable public and private land.

Actions

- A1. Review, and revise, when necessary, City regulations to provide a hospitable regulatory environment for local foods operations including farmers’ markets; home, community, and school gardens; composting; and year-round food production, processing, aggregation, and distribution efforts.
- A2. Provide healthy food and beverage options at City facilities and City-sponsored events, if feasible.
- A3. Promote messages regarding healthy eating habits and food choices.

IV. SAFE AND SANITARY HOMES

A. Background

Overcrowding is typically measured by the persons-per-room in a dwelling unit, with more than one person per room considered overcrowded.

Cost-burdened is when a tenant or homeowner spends more than 30 percent of their income toward housing (including utilities).

The condition of homes in a community has direct health implications for those who live in them. Lower-income residents may live in dwellings built before standards and regulations were established to ensure that new homes are free from pollutants such as lead and asbestos and issues such as poor ventilation and infestations. Overcrowded living conditions also affect the safety and cleanliness of homes. Lastly, housing affordability influences whether homes in a community are safe and sanitary. When a household is cost-burdened, there is less money for housing maintenance or other needs such as healthcare and healthy food. This section of the Environmental Justice Element is focused specifically on the issues of resident safety and health in housing. Other topics such as affordable housing, financial assistance, housing development, accessory dwelling units, housing design standards, and equal housing are further discussed and addressed in the Housing Element of this General Plan.

B. Goals, Objectives, Policies and Actions

Goal EJ-4. Support Healthy Living Conditions for People of All Backgrounds and Incomes.

Objective EJ-2.1 Enhance housing quality by promoting safe living conditions, reducing environmental hazards, and supporting infrastructure upgrades.

Policies

- P1. Explore options to alleviate overcrowding in existing neighborhoods.
- P2. Support access to cooling or heating centers during extreme weather.
- P3. Support capital improvements such as sewer, water, street, and electrical improvements that facilitate the provision of safe, decent, and sanitary housing.
- P4. Focus code enforcement efforts to improve unsafe and unsanitary conditions, focusing on overcrowding, illegal garage conversions, illegal home businesses, unpermitted plumbing and electrical, property maintenance, trash and dumping, and graffiti.
- P5. Raise awareness about the risks associated with lead-based paint and other housing hazards.
- P6. Encourage measures to reduce indoor air quality impacts (e.g., air filtration systems, kitchen range hood exhaust fans, low-VOC paint and carpet) for new developments.
- P7. The City shall encourage the on-going conservation, maintenance and upgrading of existing neighborhoods through en-

forcement of property maintenance codes, requirements of high quality infill development, programs for the rehabilitation of housing, and replacement of deteriorated infrastructure. (Objective CC-6.3, Policy 1)

- P8. Conserve and improve the condition of the existing housing stock, especially affordable housing. (Housing Element, Goal 1.0)
- P9. Promote the continued maintenance and enhancement of residential units. (Housing Element, Policy 1.1)
- P10. Facilitate the removal of existing housing that poses serious health and safety hazards to residents and adjacent structures. (Housing Element, Policy 1.3)

Actions

- A1. Distribute information about remediation of lead and best practices to reduce and eliminate other housing hazards.
- A2. Conduct periodic absentee owner outreach to inform owners of their legal requirements to maintain and upkeep their rental properties.
- A3. Distribute information with City newsletters and/or other periodical publications about protecting tenant rights, so they are not penalized for reporting or living in a dwelling unit that does not meet health and safety standards.
- A4. Apply for funds for housing rehabilitation resources as feasible.
- A5. Continue proactive code enforcement and nuisance abatement programs to ensure that Tracy's neighborhoods remain attractive and free of public nuisances. (Objective CC-6.3, Action 1)

- A6. Work collaboratively with homeowners associations and other community groups to address nuisances, eliminate blight and ensure that community aesthetic standards are maintained. (Objective CC-6.3, Action 2)
- A7. Assist 15 lower income households in Tracy with the rehabilitation of their homes during the planning period. (Housing Element, Program 1: Housing Rehabilitation)
- A8. Investigate possible code violations. Disseminate information on available housing rehabilitation assistance to address code violations and other housing issues. (Housing Element, Program 2: Code Enforcement)

V. PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

A. *Background*

Physical activity is a large contributor to the physical and mental health of Tracy residents. Research by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shows that physically active people tend to live longer and have lower risk for heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes, depression, and some cancers. Physical activity is promoted by the built environment through providing places that encourage walking, biking, and other forms of exercise. These places include parks, open space, trails, urban green spaces, areas with robust tree canopies, and active transportation networks. An important component of environmental justice is distributing facilities that promote physical activity equitably throughout the community so there are equal opportunities for all residents to be physically active.

B. *Goals, Objectives, Policies and Actions*

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| Goal EJ-5. Encourage Accessible Opportunities for Physical Activity. |
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Objective EJ-2.1 Foster a safe and connected built environment that encourages walking, bicycling, and other forms of exercise.

Policies

- P1. Provide a range of activities for people of different ages and abilities at the City's public recreation facilities.
- P2. Investigate why certain areas in the City have high burden scores from CalEnviroScreen for cardiovascular disease. (See Existing Conditions Report)
- P3. The City should provide non-traditional features in parks to address specialized needs and interests. Non-traditional features, which include activities that appeal to a smaller segment of the community, should be determined on a neighborhood- or community-wide basis. Examples of non-traditional features include bocce ball courts and cricket fields, whereas traditional features include baseball fields and picnic tables. (Objective OSC-4.1, Policy 4)
- P4. Schools and parks should be accessible by automobile and bicycle and within walking distance from residential areas. (Objective LU-1.3, Policy 2)
- P5. Locate services and amenities within walking distance of neighborhoods. (Objective LU-4.2)
- P6. Commercial uses that provide goods and services to support daily life should be located within walking distance to as many neighborhoods as possible. (Objective LU-4.2, Policy 1)
- P7. Direct, pedestrian connections shall be created between residential areas and nearby commercial areas. (Objective LU-4.2, Policy 2)

- P8. Maximize direct pedestrian, bicycle and vehicle connections in the city. (Objective CC-2.1)
- P9. New development projects shall be designed on a traditional, modified or curvilinear grid within the City’s arterial street network. Cul-de-sacs may be used within the grid so long as the objective of pedestrian and bicycle connectivity is achieved. (Objective CC-2.1, Policy 1)
- P10. Streets shall be continuous within and between Neighborhoods, including those that are built by different developers or builders. (Objective CC-2.2, Policy 5)
- P11. New development projects shall not be gated communities or constructed with walls surrounding individual projects (i.e., a single developer or builder). Gated communities and walls should only be allowed on a case by case basis and will generally be considered only for projects such as “estate” developments where the minimum lot size is at least 1 acre or in housing with specialized clientele such as senior citizens. (Objective CC-2.2, Policy 6)
- P12. Size and design Neighborhoods to be walkable. (Objective CC-5.2)
- P13. Neighborhoods should generally be no more than ½ mile wide in any direction. (Objective CC-5.2, Policy 1)
- P14. Neighborhoods should not be bisected by a physical barrier, such as an arterial street, a railroad track or a major drainage way. (Objective CC-5.2, Policy 2)
- P15. Design streets in Neighborhoods to enhance the sense of place and create a safe and comfortable pedestrian environment. (Objective CC-5.2, Policy 3)

- P16. In most instances, block lengths should be short, typically no more than 400 feet, to create an easily navigable street pattern that allows for multiple routes through a neighborhood and greater opportunities for pedestrian activity. (Objective CC-5.2, Policy 4)
- P17. Future expansion of I-205 Regional Commercial Area shall integrate physically to the existing development by direct vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle access. (Objective CC-7.1, Policy 1)
- P18. Village Centers should be designed around a main street that is designed to encourage and facilitate pedestrian activity. (Objective CC-9.2, Policy 1)
- P19. Design buildings and sites to enhance the pedestrian environment. (Objective CC-9.4)
- P20. Achieve a comprehensive system of citywide bikeways and pedestrian facilities. (Objective CIR-3.1)

Actions

- A1. Conduct a study to modify and narrow residential street standards from the current width requirements. The goal will be to reduce vehicle speeds, improve visual character and increase pedestrian safety in neighborhoods while also maintaining traffic flow. (Objective CC-5.2, Action 1)
- A2. Update the City of Tracy Bikeways Master Plan on an as-needed basis. (Objective CIR-3.1, Action 1)
- A3. Update the City of Tracy Roadway Master Plan to include bicycle routes. (Objective CIR-3.1, Action 2)
- A4. Maintain a map of existing bicycle facilities in the city. (Objective CIR-3.1, Action 3)

- A5. Incorporate bicycle and pedestrian facilities into the roadway design standards of the Roadway Master Plan. (Objective CIR-3.1, Action 4)
- A6. Improve city-wide pedestrian access as funding becomes available. (Objective CIR-3.1, Action 6)

VI. UNIQUE HEALTH RISKS

A. *Background*

An important component of environmental justice is identifying unique situations that may compound health risks for the community. Due to the large agricultural uses both in the City and in the surrounding area, there is a higher chance of residents coming in contact with harmful levels of air or water pollutants associated with agricultural byproducts.

B. *Goals, Objectives, Policies and Actions*

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| Goal EJ-6. Reduce the causes of compounded health risks. |
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Objective EJ-2.1 Minimize the impact of agricultural land uses on adjacent uses.

Policies

- P1. New agricultural uses shall be designed to not adversely impact adjacent uses, particularly residential neighborhoods, with respect to, but not limited to, noise, dust and vibration, water quality, air quality, agricultural resources and biological resources.
- P2. Prior to approval of any new or expanded agricultural operations, the City shall ensure that the operations will not create significant nuisances, hazards or adverse environmental effects.

- P3. Land uses allowed near agricultural operations should be limited to those not negatively impacted by dust, noise and odors. (Objective OSC-2.2, Policy 2)

VII. CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

A. Background

Civic engagement is an important goal across local planning and decision-making processes. It can help foster a strong sense of place within a neighborhood and deepen the investment of stakeholders working toward neighborhood improvements. Environmental justice issues are more effectively identified and resolved if opportunities to engage in local decision-making are created for low-income, minority, and linguistically isolated stakeholders. Effective civic engagement not only provides the City with an opportunity to strengthen its relationship with the community but provides for sound investment in better decision-making by ensuring decisions are informed by community needs and aspirations.

B. Goals, Objectives, Policies and Actions

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| Goal EJ-7. A citizenry that is involved in the City’s planning process (Goal LU-7). |
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Objective EJ-2.1 Provide opportunities for participation in the City’s planning processes. (Objective LU-7.1).

Policies

- P1. Support a comprehensive and multifaceted approach to civic engagement and public outreach on local planning and decision-making processes to facilitate a variety of participation opportunities and methods.
- P2. Make it easy to find information about City meetings, plans, and programs on the City’s website.

- P3. When residents share input on decisions that the City is making, take steps to make them feel like their input is fairly considered.
- P4. Investigate opportunities to distribute information via the City's e-newsletter and improve the City's social media presence.
- P5. The City shall provide opportunities for individuals, organizations and neighborhood associations to participate in the planning process. (Objective LU-7.1, Policy 1)
- P6. Sponsors of new development projects should have early and frequent communication with affected citizens and stakeholders. (Objective LU-7.1, Policy 2)

Actions

- A1. Make meetings and other public engagement forums accessible to a wide range of residents and encourage greater attendance by:
- Ensuring any materials are distributed far enough in advance of meetings to allow sufficient time for review and comment.
 - Holding City meetings at a time and via a method that is convenient for residents.
 - Creating a welcoming environment at City meetings.
 - Using communication methods that convey complex or technical information in an easily understandable manner.
 - Facilitating meetings using diverse methods that can engage all participants and can appeal to multiple styles of learning.

- Partnering with community-based organizations that have relationships and trust with target communities to conduct outreach for local initiatives and issues.
- Focusing on methods to effectively engage younger residents.

VIII. IMPROVEMENTS AND PROGRAMS

A. Background

An essential component of the Environmental Justice Element is prioritizing projects, programs, and investments that directly serve and benefit residents within areas experiencing higher levels of environmental burdens. Effective prioritization requires coordination and alignment across departments, agencies and shared jurisdictional partners along with consistent and sustained engagement with community stakeholders. Identifying and considering improvements and programs for environmental justice communities may help the City obtain grants and/or other public funding that is targeted for these areas.

B. Goals, Objectives, Policies and Actions

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| Goal EJ-8. Invest in Public Improvements That Meet the Needs of Environmental Justice Communities. |
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Objective EJ-2.1 Prioritize community-identified physical improvements and support programs that enhance environmental justice communities.

Policies

- P1. Promote the equitable provision of public amenities such as sidewalks, street trees, crosswalks, paving, streetlights, bike lanes, and other amenities as specified in other sections of this Environmental Justice Element.

- P2. Support physical improvements desired by residents in their neighborhoods such as street paving, sidewalks, and street trees.
- P3. Support programs desired by residents in their neighborhoods such as neighborhood beautification (including trash and graffiti removal) and tree planting rebates.
- P4. Provide resources for small business owners.
- P5. Focus improvements within the Opportunity Areas identified by the State of California Department of Housing and Community Development and California Tax Credit Allocation Committee (see Existing Conditions Report).
- P6. Explore grant funding opportunities for projects and programs in environmental justice communities.
- P7. Street trees shall be planted on all residential streets. Objective CC-5.2, Policy 9)

Actions

- A1. Engage with the community to identify desired projects and programs that would benefit targeted segments of the population.
- A2. Collaborate with adjacent agencies and jurisdictions to identify regional approaches to serve environmental justice communities.
- A3. Continue to operate the Graffiti Hot Line and promote program through City website and social media platforms. (Housing Element, Program 3: Graffiti Abatement Program)