



**Environmental Justice Working Group  
Meeting 4:  
SUBGROUP ROUND ROBIN - DEFINITION,  
VISION, & WHY IT MATTERS**  
*September 20, 2021*

**Meeting Objectives and Agenda**

**Objectives:**

- Host a safe and productive forum to co-create the EJ Framework with community and City leaders
- Java with GM, Co-Chairs, and City meetings recap and updates
- Subgroups share progress, peer share, and discuss EJ topics
- Revisit governance and consensus-building mechanics

**Agenda:**

Time	Section
3:00-3:10	<b>Opening</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Land Acknowledgement</li> <li>● Recap Last Meeting and Today's Objectives</li> <li>● Introduce Guests and Substitutes</li> </ul>
3:10-3:25	<b>Project and Group Announcements</b> <b>Java with GM</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Q&amp;A</li> </ul>
3:25-4:25	<b>Subgroups Round Robin</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Overview</li> <li>● Subgroup 1</li> <li>● Subgroup 2</li> <li>● Subgroup 3</li> <li>● Subgroup 4</li> <li>● Wrap Up</li> </ul>
4:25-4:30	<b>5 Min Break</b>
4:30-4:50	<b>Subgroups Working Time</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Overview</li> <li>● Breakout Group Activity</li> </ul>
4:50-4:55	<b>Governance and Consensus Building</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Q&amp;A</li> </ul>

<b>4:55-5:00</b>	<b>Wrap-Up</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Homework and Preview</li> <li>● Final Group Announcements</li> </ul>
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**Attendance**

**Facilitator:** Giuliana Martinez (GM Consulting Group)

**Planning Department Project Team:** Lisa Chen (Project Manager), Claudia Flores, Danielle Ngo (Working Group Lead), Leslie Valencia

**EJ Working Group Members:**

*Community Leaders:* Agustin Angel, Nina Bazan-Sakamoto, Antonio Díaz, Maggie Dong, Zack Deutsch-Gross, Edward Hatter, Donna Hilliard, Cecilia Mejia, Thomas Namara, Tandia ONeal, Kasey Rios Asberry, Barklee Sanders, Felisia Thibodeaux, Irene Mahasin Thomas-Jacks, Chester Kyle Williams

*City Agency staff:* Taylor Emerson, Kimia Haddadan, Kelly Teter (sub for Will Logsdon), Sraddha Mehta, Karen Pierce, Jon Swae, Keith Tanner, Matt Wolff (sub for Alex Morrison)

**Summary**

**I. Opening**

Giuliana Martinez (Facilitator) opened the meeting by inviting a Working Group member to read the land acknowledgement aloud. Kasey Rios Asberry volunteered and recited the acknowledgement, to honor the unceded ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone. Giuliana provided a recap of the previous meeting (Meeting 3), where the main focus was introducing the subgroup work plan and roster assignments, before reviewing the definition of Environmental Justice (EJ) and community engagement plan. She referred to the Meeting 3 Summary Notes for more detail. Giuliana stated Meeting 4’s objectives, to update the Working Group (WG) on the Java with GM, Co-Chairs, and City meetings; to have co-chairs peer share and discuss their progress on their Definition, Vision, and Why It Matters; to use breakout groups for reacting to peer feedback and begin developing Key Policy Priorities & Strategies; and to revisit governance and consensus-building activities.

Danielle Ngo (Working Group Lead) introduced substitutes, new members, and guests for Meeting 4. For substitutes, Kelly Teter (PUC) joined in place of Will Logsdon and Matt Wolff (DPH) joined in place of Alex Morrison (ORCP). For new members, Jon Swae (Public Works, Bureau of Urban Forestry) is joining instead of Marcus Dottson and Taylor Emerson (Rec & Park, Planning Division) is joining instead of Mei Ling Hui and Beverly Ng. Lastly, Sarah Owens (Mayor’s Senior Advisor on Environment) joined Meeting 4 as a guest and provided brief remarks. Sarah started her position early this summer and previously worked in the Mayor’s Office of Communications. She joined to acknowledge and appreciate the work of the WG and express support from the Mayor’s Office to develop an Environmental Justice Framework.

## II. Project and Group Announcements, Java with GM

Lisa Chen (Project Manager) shared a slide and explained a handful of project announcements. On Thursday, October 7th, there will be an informational hearing at the Planning Commission on the Environmental Justice Framework. For the community engagement plan, the scopes of work for the focus groups and survey have been developed and the details and supporting materials are being developed (e.g., criteria for focus group community partners, survey questions). In future WG meetings, additional City staff may be joining as “content resources,” especially from agencies not currently represented in the membership. We will be rescheduling Meeting 5 later in the month to accommodate Project Team staffing changes, and may also reschedule Meeting 6. The community members can fill out the Stipend Google Form to confirm their contact information for the participation stipends; this is homework for all community members. Lastly, the Project Team has staffing transitions to share: Lisa will be going on parental leave starting early October! Celina Chan (Project Team) will be the new point of contact for the Project Team.

Giuliana invited everyone else to share any Group Announcements.

- **Kasey:** I invite you all to join us on October 12th to dedicate the Environmental Justice Learning Center that is being initiated at the Federal Plaza at the Federal Building on 7th and Mission. We’re dedicating the site along with our partners, the Association of the Ramaytush Ohlone.
- **Zack:** SF Transit Riders hosted a panel on transit safety for all on 9/22, in the wake of a lot of anti-API hate on transit and concerns around COVID-19. We had Supervisor Melgar and other great panelists.
- **Chester:** Our Bayview URI Program and Mission Neighborhood Center recently opened a new satellite office in the Bayview and their first major project is to support Bayview residents with rental relief. Please refer anyone to our office Monday-Saturday!

Giuliana then reported back on the optional Java with GM sessions where all WG members could discuss topics and ask questions to Giuliana individually or in small groups. In the last round of sessions, there were themes of reinforcing the distinct roles between community and City members that both contribute towards the common goal of the EJ Framework. Giuliana reiterated the importance of authentic community feedback being incorporated into the EJ Framework. Lastly, she nodded to two separate meetings with Subgroup Co-Chairs and City members, further described in the Meeting 4 Advance Email, to note all the preparation and coordination occurring behind the scenes to support the WG.

Giuliana opened the space for Q&A on the project announcements, group announcements, and meetings. There were no questions or comments from the group.

## III. Subgroups Round Robin

Giuliana transitioned to the Round Robin. First, she acknowledged that it was everyone’s homework to participate in at least one subgroup meeting since Meeting 3. All four subgroups met at least once, some up to three times, and the Round Robin today is dedicated to hear progress on the Definition, Vision, and Why It Matters of the respective EJ Topics. The co-chairs have 13 minutes each to present their subgroup’s progress and solicit Q&A. The Round Robin went through all four subgroups before taking a five minute break.

While the co-chairs presented, everyone was encouraged to type questions and comments into the Zoom chat. If there were any questions or comments that couldn't be answered on the spot, subgroups were encouraged to discuss further in the breakout group sessions later on in the meeting.

Subgroup 2: Healthy Food Access + Equitable & Green Jobs [Kasey, Danielle] - They presented first, although their subgroup is labeled Subgroup 2.

- Have met informally several times and have had one formal working session
- The group has decided to make the meetings open to everyone, they are meeting next Monday at noon
- How do we expand the notion of green jobs to assess healthy livelihoods? They suggest looking into labor allies.
- The group prefers a grassroots approach (bottom up and around) vs. a top down approach

Subgroup 3: Physical Activity + Healthy Public Facilities [Felisia, Celina (not present)]

- Have met once, welcomed each other, and came up with a process for working together
- Meeting Thursdays at 9am, going to start with monthly meetings
  - They see the overlap with other subgroups and plan to open up the meetings in the future to collaborate more
- Hope their work helps with the City's reopening plans
- They will leverage agency relationships with transportation, parks, and open space issues
  - They did not talk about public facilities as easily and are exploring the intersection of public facilities with transportation, parks, and open space
    - Physical activity can be done in public facilities (indoors and outdoors)
    - The common denominator is transportation, because it takes people to and from places
    - A lot of open space is not utilized to its full potential
  - Public space should be free
    - Vis Valley Greenways is closed at certain times due to crime, which restricts access
    - Maintenance is costly, and securing funding sources are a solution
  - Misc: ventilation and extreme weather preparation

Subgroup 4: Safe, Healthy, & Affordable Homes + Empowered Neighborhoods (and data) [Thomas, Karen]

- A lot of ideas that are opposite to each other (not in opposition), which has expanded the discussion
- Homeownership for undocumented and low income individuals and simplified paths out of homelessness
- Displacement is a result of an inability to own a home, staying here is a difficult process
- Housing is a human right
- Where housing is built is purposefully designed to keep certain people marginalized
- Everyone has a different approach to this issue and they are all valid

- Having a mechanism to convince landowners to give up what they have for the greater good is the challenge
  - The team will add this to their ongoing narrative

Subgroup 1: Climate Resilience & Justice + Clean & Healthy Environments [Nina, Alex (not present)]

- Transition impact - unintended impacts from transitioning to a more sustainable City (example, where do we dispose of batteries when we transition to other forms of energy)
- They created definitions for various terms
- They also developed a vision
- Using the building code to allow net zero by design
- San Francisco is a leader in climate resilience
- We should be actively monitoring the correlation between pollutants and life expectancy rates

**IV. 5 Minute Break**

**V. Subgroups Working Time**

After the break, Giuliana transitioned to breakout groups. After hearing and absorbing lots of new content from the subgroups, the breakout groups are intended to be a space to discuss feedback and new issues that arose. It's also time to begin developing Key Policy Priorities & Strategies.

The Co-Chairs facilitated their respective subgroups in the breakout groups function for about 17-20 minutes.

**VI. Governance and Consensus Building**

After the breakout groups, Giuliana touched base on governance and consensus building, rooted in Java with GM conversations with both community and City leaders. Hearing feedback from WG members, Giuliana emphasized that consensus building in Meetings 5 and 6 will work towards strengthening a spectrum of support among all members for the draft EJ Framework content. Rather than a binary yes/no voting system, this WG will use a spectrum so that all members can share more nuance about their level of support over particular components of the EJ Framework. The overall goal for the WG is to agree upon a draft EJ Framework that will succeed through the adoption process.

**VII. Wrap Up**

To wrap up, Giuliana and Danielle briefly summarized the meeting and referred to Meeting 5. Giuliana appreciated all of the Co-Chairs stepping up in their leadership positions and sharing back with the full group about their subgroup's foundations and progress. Danielle noted that the homework, group announcements, and Stipend Google Form will be sent out over email. In Meeting 5, we look forward to hearing progress on the Key Policy Priorities & Strategies.

**Bike Parking Lot**

Comments and questions that were raised in the Zoom Chat and during the discussion that were not addressed during the meeting.

*There were no comments or questions in the Bike Parking Lot for Meeting 4.*