



Source: SF Conservation Corps & Literacy for Environmental Justice (February 2018)

The places where we live, learn, work, and play can have a profound impact on our health.

Some neighborhoods – particularly lower-income neighborhoods with more people of color – lack access to resources like affordable housing, convenient transportation, well-paying jobs, good schools, and safe parks. Many of these same neighborhoods are also exposed to more hazards like air pollution, industrial facilities, overcrowded housing, and crime. This is due to a long history of laws that segregated neighborhoods and excluded people based on race, ethnicity, income or other reasons, to influence who has more access to resources.

These trends can lead to wide disparities in health outcomes depending on your neighborhood, race, and income. For example, predicted life expectancy in some lower-income San Francisco neighborhoods can be up to 10-15 years lower than in more wealthy areas. Similarly, amongst San Francisco high schoolers, Latinx students are 1.6x more likely and Black students are 2x more likely to have asthma than white students.

San Francisco is creating an Environmental Justice (EJ) Framework to ensure that all residents and workers can enjoy healthy, clean environments. In accordance with California Senate Bill 1000, the EJ Framework will set clear goals and actions to advance health in communities of color and low-income communities that face higher pollution and other health risks. The EJ Framework will be developed in collaboration with the San Francisco neighborhoods most impacted by poor health, and will include strategies to address environmental justice topics, such as:

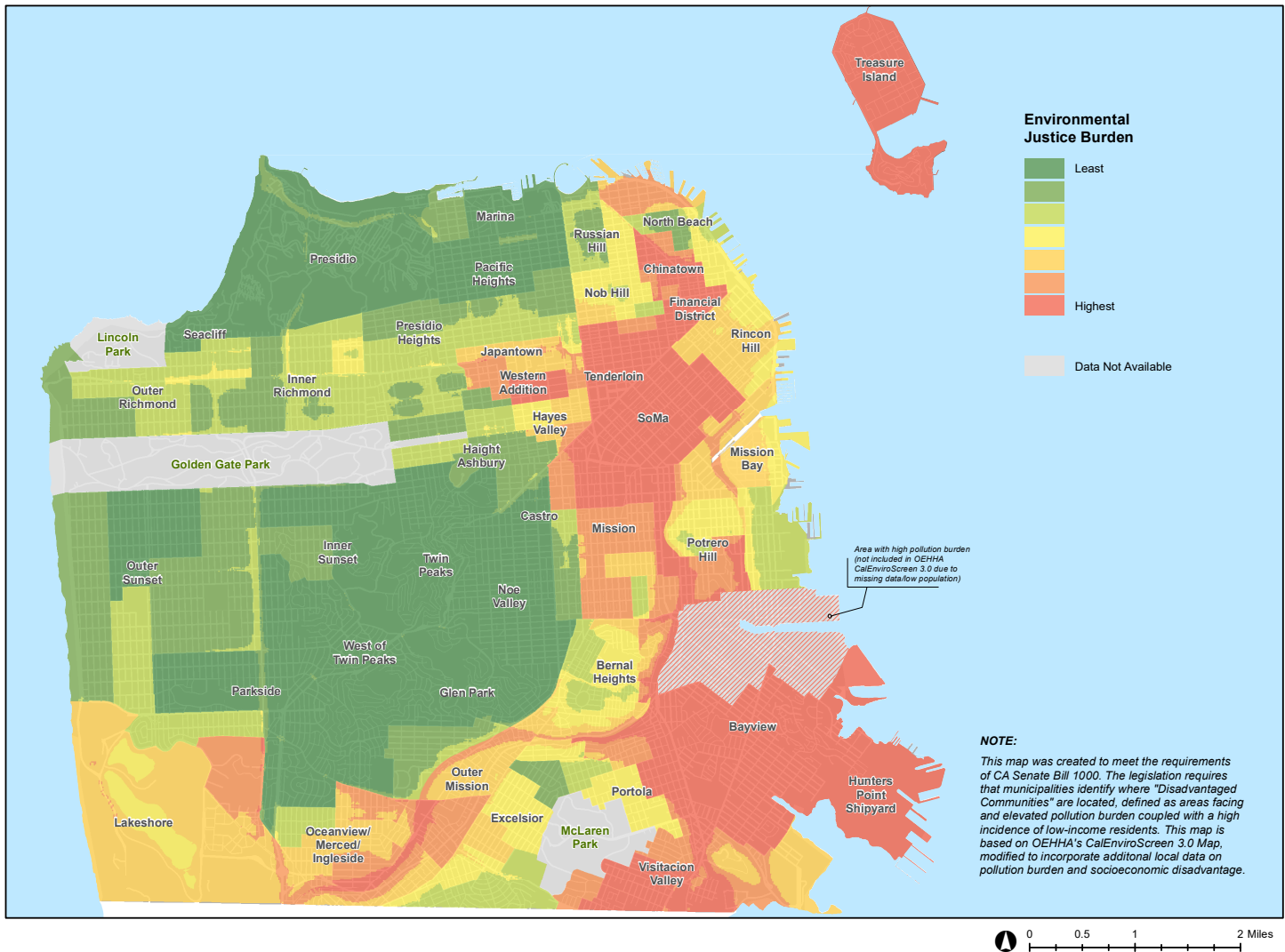
- Clean and Healthy Environments
- Healthy Food Access
- Physical Activity
- Safe, Healthy and Affordable Housing
- Equitable and Green Jobs
- Healthy Public Facilities
- Climate Resilience and Justice
- Empowered Neighborhoods

The EJ Framework and related policies will become part of the City's [General Plan](#), and are also being coordinated with the Planning Department's [Racial & Social Equity Action Plan](#).



What is environmental justice?

Environmental justice is the equitable distribution of environmental benefits and the elimination of environmental burdens to promote healthy communities where all San Franciscans can thrive. Government can foster environmental justice through processes that amend past injustices while creating proactive, community-led solutions for the future.



The draft **Environmental Justice Communities Map** describes areas of San Francisco that have higher pollution and are predominately low-income. This map includes local data on pollution and demographics and will be refined during the community engagement process based on public feedback. This map builds on data from [CalEnviroScreen 3.0](#), a tool created by State environmental agencies that maps California communities that are most affected by pollution and other health risks.

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