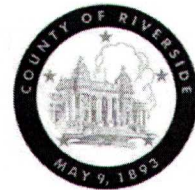


**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



**ITEM: 3.20  
(ID # 17208)**

**MEETING DATE:**  
Tuesday, September 21, 2021

**FROM :** TLMA-PLANNING:

**SUBJECT:** TRANSPORTATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCY/PLANNING:  
ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2021-182 AMENDING THE RIVERSIDE COUNTY  
GENERAL PLAN – THIRD CYCLE OF LAND USE ELEMENT AND FIRST CYCLE OF  
HEALTHY COMMUNITIES ELEMENT GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENTS FOR 2021 (General  
Plan Amendment (GPA) No. 190004). All Districts. [\$35,000 Total Cost – 100% General  
Fund/NCC with grant-reimbursable items, HCD Local Early Action Planning (LEAP) Grant]

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors:

1. **ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2021-182** amending the Riverside County General Plan in accordance with the Board's tentative action taken on General Plan Amendment No. 190004; and,
2. **DIRECT** the Planning Department to incorporate the changes made by GPA No. 190004 into the Riverside County General Plan Land Use Element and Healthy Communities Element, associated Area Plans, tables and figures.

**ACTION:**

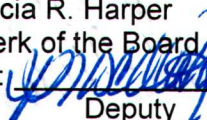
  
John Hildebrand, Planning Director 9/9/2021

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**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

On motion of Supervisor Jeffries, seconded by Supervisor Washington and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, Perez and Hewitt  
Nays: None  
Absent: None  
Date: September 21, 2021  
xc: Planning

Kecia R. Harper  
Clerk of the Board  
By:   
Deputy

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

<b>FINANCIAL DATA</b>	<b>Current Fiscal Year:</b>	<b>Next Fiscal Year:</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>Ongoing Cost</b>
<b>COST</b>	\$10,000	\$0	\$35,000	\$0
<b>NET COUNTY COST</b>	\$10,000	\$0	\$35,000	\$0
<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS:</b> NCC/General Fund and LEAP Grant			<b>Budget Adjustment:</b> No	
			<b>For Fiscal Year:</b> 17/18 - 21/22	

**C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:** Approve

**BACKGROUND:**

**Summary**

The County may process, on a yearly basis, up to four updates to each required element of its General Plan. In Riverside County, these updates are known as “cycles.” The amendment that makes up the Third Cycle of Land Use Element and First Cycle of Healthy Communities Element General Plan Amendments for 2021 was considered during public hearings by the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors on the dates specified below. GPA Nos. 190004 is an Entitlement/Policy Amendment.

**INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS:**

**Environmental Justice**

General Plan Amendment No. 190004 (Entitlement/Policy Amendment): A proposal to amend the Land Use Element (Chapter 3) and the Healthy Communities Element (Chapter 10) of the General Plan with the latter providing policies on how to address and promote Environmental Justice (EJ) in identified unincorporated areas of the County, pursuant to the requirements of Senate Bill (SB) 1000 (Leyva, 2016), as shown in Attachment A. The amendment affects the unincorporated area of the County of Riverside within the proposed designated EJ Communities. GPA No. 190004 was considered at public hearings before the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors. The Planning Commission recommended that the Board of Supervisors tentatively approve the project on June 2, 2021. After taking public testimony, the Board of Supervisors closed the public hearing and tentatively approved General Plan Amendment No. 190004 on July 20, 2021 (Agenda Item 21.3).

**Impact on Residents and Businesses**

The project has been carefully considered, analyzed, and reviewed during the public hearings before the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors on the dates specified for each item listed above.

**SUPPLEMENTAL:**

**Additional Fiscal Information**

The total cost to complete GPA No. 190004 is approximately \$35,000 – funded through NCC budget allocation and LEAP grant awards the County received. The planning process for GPA

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

No. 190004 commenced in fiscal year 17/18 and will be completed this fiscal year (21/22). The above costs include funds spent on public outreach, drafting of the General Plan Amendment, environmental considerations, and public hearings, etc.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

A. Resolution No. 2021-182

  
Scott Bruckner 9/10/2021

  
Gregory H. Priamos, Director County Counsel 9/9/2021



2  
3 **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-182**  
4 **AMENDING THE RIVERSIDE COUNTY**  
5 **GENERAL PLAN**

6 **(Third Cycle of Land Use Element and First Cycle of Healthy Communities Element**  
7 **General Plan Amendments for 2021)**  
8

9 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to the provisions of Government Code Section 65350 et seq., notice was  
10 given and public hearings were held before the Riverside County Board of Supervisors and the Riverside  
11 County Planning Commission to consider proposed amendments to the Land Use Element and Healthy  
12 Communities Element of the Riverside County General Plan; and,

13 **WHEREAS**, all provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") and Riverside  
14 County CEQA implementing procedures have been satisfied; and,

15 **WHEREAS**, the proposed general plan amendment was discussed fully with testimony and  
16 documentation presented by the public and affected government agencies; now, therefore,

17 **BE IT RESOLVED, FOUND, DETERMINED AND ORDERED** by the Board of Supervisors  
18 of the County of Riverside in regular session assembled on September 21, 2021 that:

- 19 A. **General Plan Amendment (GPA) No. 190004** amends the Land Use Element (Chapter 3)  
20 and the Healthy Communities Element (Chapter 10) of the General Plan with the latter  
21 providing policies on how to address and promote Environmental Justice (EJ) in identified  
22 unincorporated areas of the County, pursuant to the requirements of Senate Bill (SB) 1000  
23 (Leyva, 2016), as shown in Attachment A and Attachment B, attached hereto and  
24 incorporated herein by reference. The amendment affects the unincorporated area of the  
25 County of Riverside within the proposed designated EJ Communities. GPA No. 190004  
26 was considered at the public hearings before the Planning Commission and Board of  
27 Supervisors. On June 2, 2021, the Planning Commission recommended that the Board of  
28 Supervisors tentatively approve the GPA No. 190004. On July 20, 2021, the Board of



Supervisors took public testimony, closed the public hearing and tentatively approved GPA No. 190004.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors, based on the evidence presented on this matter, both written and oral, that:

1. The amendment affects the unincorporated area of the County of Riverside within the proposed designated EJ Communities.
2. The Land Use Element establishes the extent, intensity, distribution, and location of land uses within the unincorporated County areas.
3. The Healthy Communities Element provides a framework for promoting a healthy living environment for all residents of the unincorporated County areas.
4. GPA No. 190004 is an Entitlement/Policy Amendment.
5. GPA No. 190004 amends the Land Use Element to include the framework for environmental justice in the General Plan. Additionally, the Land Use Element is proposed to include maps/figures that delineate the environmentally disadvantaged communities within the jurisdiction of the County of Riverside. These communities are known as “disadvantaged communities” in SB 1000 but will be known as Environmental Justice Communities (“EJ Communities”) in the County’s General Plan, as shown in Attachment A and Attachment B.
6. GPA No. 190004 also amends the Healthy Communities Element to include a list of environmental justice policies that are categorized under Civic Engagement, Health Risk Reduction (Pollution Exposure, Food Access, Safe and Sanitary Homes and Physical Activity), and Public Facilities, as shown in the attached exhibits and policy language (inserts).
7. An Entitlement/Policy General Plan amendment may be approved if the change does not involve a change in or conflict with the Riverside County Vision, any General Planning Principle set forth in General Plan Appendix B, or any Foundation Component Designation in the General Plan; the proposed amendment would either contribute to the purposes of the General Plan or, at a minimum, would not be detrimental to them; and a change in policy is required to conform to changes in state or federal law or applicable findings of a court of

1 law, or an amendment is required to comply with an update of the Housing Element or  
2 change in State Housing Element law.

- 3 8. GPA No. 190004 does not involve a change in or conflict with the Riverside County Vision.  
4 Specifically, GPA No. 190004 is consistent with the following visions:

- 5 a. GPA No. 190004 supports many of the fundamental values listed in the Riverside  
6 County Vision ("Vision") Chapter of the County's General Plan, including, but not  
7 limited to, the Community, Health, Diversity, Equity, Varied Communities, Balance,  
8 Participation, Distinctiveness, Multi-Modal Transportation, Safety, Recreation, and  
9 Healthy Food.

10 The new Environmental Justice Sections in the Healthy Communities and Land Use  
11 Elements will include new policy intended to (1) reduce unique or compounded  
12 health risks in disadvantaged communities, (2) promote civic engagement in public  
13 decision-making process, and (3) prioritize improvements and programs that address  
14 the needs of disadvantaged communities, thereby supporting the values of the Vision  
15 listed above, especially Community, Health, Equity, Participation, Recreation, and  
16 Healthy Food.

- 17 b. The Health Community section of the Vision states, "Our communities are built with  
18 the overall health and wellbeing of our residents in mind. The communities are  
19 sustainable and continue to thrive because the residents take advantage of the  
20 amenities and healthy choices provided by the built and natural environment. The  
21 residents are provided options to live close to work, health services, and child day  
22 care; to safely travel as they choose (by car, public transit, foot, bicycle or other  
23 nonmotorized form of travel); to have access to trails, parks and open-space; and to  
24 have the choice of accessible healthy food. Partnerships are formed between the  
25 public and private agencies, as well as the community members to help endow the  
26 residents a healthier lifestyle." The proposed amendments to the Healthy  
27 Communities Element and the Land Use Element in furtherance of environmental  
28 justice achieves the above vision with new policies that reduce health risks, promote



civic engagement, and prioritize improvements and programs in low-income areas that are disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards.

c. For the above reasons, GPA No. 190004 does not involve a change in or conflict with the Riverside County Vision.

9. GPA No. 190004 does not involve a change in or conflict with any General Planning Principle set forth in General Plan Appendix B. Specifically, GPA No. 190004 is consistent with the following principles:

a. The General Plan Principle I.C.1 (Maturing Communities) provides, "The General Plan Vision acknowledges that every community in the County is maturing in its own way, at its own pace and within its own context. Policies and programs should be tailored to local needs in order to accommodate the particular level of anticipated maturation in a given community." The proposed Environmental Justice section in the Healthy Communities Element creates policies tailored to address local health issues within EJ Communities.

b. The General Plan Principle III.E.1 (Pedestrian, Bicycle and Equestrian Friendly Communities) provides, "Bicycle and pedestrian paths should be conveniently located and linked to commercial, public, educational and institutional uses." The proposed Environmental Justice section in the Healthy Communities Element creates policies that promote active and healthy lifestyles, including policies that encourage the development of infrastructure that link all areas and destinations within a community.

c. The General Plan Principle IVI.F.1 (Parks and Recreation) provides, "An ample system of specialized open space and recreational facilities should be provided which are pedestrian, bicycle and equestrian oriented and accessible to persons of all ages, and whose frequent use is encouraged through placement and design." The proposed Environmental Justice section in the Healthy Communities Element creates policies that promote active and healthy lifestyles, including policies that promote the development of accessible open space (i.e. parks, greenbelts and spaces, natural

environment, and trails, etc.) and recreational facilities.

d. For the above reasons, GPA No. 190004 would not involve a change in or conflict with any Riverside County General Planning Principle set forth in General Plan Appendix B.

10. GPA No. 190004 does not involve a change in or conflict with any Foundation Component Designation in the General Plan because the proposed amendment does not include a specific project that changes a property's land use designation from one Foundation Component to another.

11. GPA No. 190004 would either contribute to the achievement of the purposes of the General Plan or, at a minimum, would not be detrimental to them. The purposes of the General Plan are to set direction for land use and development in strategic locations, provide for the development of the economic base, establish a framework of the transportation system, and the preservation of extremely valuable natural and cultural resources, in a manner that protects public health and safety. The purpose of the state's environmental justice requirement for general plans is to reduce health risks, promote civic engagement, and prioritize improvements and programs in low-income areas that are disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards, and the proposed Environmental Justice policies in the Healthy Communities Element allow the County to improve living conditions in EJ Communities. The proposed EJ policies will provide for appropriate development and help establish appropriate framework for improvement and program (including to the transportation system) within EJ communities to reduce health risks and provide for safer communities; therefore, the proposed amendment is necessary to further the purposes of the General Plan and, at a minimum, will not be detrimental to achieving these purpose.

12. A change in policy is required to conform to changes in state or federal law or applicable findings of a court of law. SB 1000 requires local general plans to address environmental justice and include related policy, if a "disadvantaged community" is identified within the area covered by the general plan.



- 1           13.    An Amendment is required to comply with an update of the Housing Element or change in  
2                   State Housing Element law. The County's Housing Element (HE) must be adopted by  
3                   October 2021, which also necessitates the update of the County's Safety Element (SE),  
4                   pursuant to State Planning law. The update of two or more elements concurrently, as will be  
5                   done in October 15, 2021 for the HE and SE updates, requires the adoption of the EJ policies  
6                   by that date or sooner in accordance with SB 1000.
- 7           14.    GPA No. 190004 has been reviewed in conjunction with each of the Riverside County  
8                   General Plan Elements, including the Land Use, Circulation, Multi-Purpose Open Space,  
9                   Safety, Noise, Housing, Air Quality, and Healthy Communities, and the Southwest Area  
10                  Plan; and it has been determined that GPA No. 190004 is in conformance with the policies  
11                  and objectives of each Element and the Area Plan. As a result, GPA No. 190004 does not  
12                  create an internal inconsistency among any component of the Riverside County General  
13                  Plan.
- 14          15.    Based on the above, GPA No. 190004 will not be detrimental to the public's health, safety,  
15                  or welfare.
- 16          16.    GPA No. 190004 is exempt from CEQA, pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section  
17                  15061(b)(3) ("Common Sense Exemption"). GPA No. 190004 creates policy to address  
18                  environmental justice in the unincorporated areas of the County, pursuant to state law. These  
19                  policies promote the creation of safe and healthy communities with the goal of improving  
20                  the living and physical environment. The proposed addition of new text and maps provides  
21                  guidance on how to address EJ, and does not implement any specific project, action, or  
22                  funding. Therefore, GPA No. 190004 is exempt from CEQA because it can be seen with  
23                  certainty that there is no possibility that this amendment may have a significant effect on the  
24                  environment.

25           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors that it **FINDS** that the Project is  
26   EXEMPT from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), based on the findings found above and  
27   in the staff reports, incorporated herein by reference, and **ADOPTS** General Plan Amendment No. 190004,  
28   as described herein and as shown in Attachment A and Attachment B, attached hereto and incorporated

1 herein by reference.

2 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors that the custodians of the documents  
3 upon which this decision is based are the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and the County Planning  
4 Department, and that such documents are located at 4080 Lemon Street, Riverside, California.

5  
6  
7 ROLL CALL:

8 Ayes: Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, Perez and Hewitt  
9 Nays: None  
Absent: None

10 The foregoing is certified to be a true copy of a resolution  
11 duly adopted by said Board of Supervisors on the date therein set  
forth.

12 Kecia R. Harper, Clerk of said Board

13  
14 By   
15 Deputy



## **ATTACHMENT A**

### **Land Use Element (add)**

*(Insert the following within the 4<sup>th</sup> section of this element – “Issues and Policies” – after “Policy Areas” that ends on page LU-74. The new subsection will be the fourth of the section). The policies after this section will have to be renumbered.*

### **Environmental Justice**

Environmental justice is “the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies” (Gov. Code §65040.12). To this end, the state legislature approved Senate Bill (SB) 1000 in 2016 that requires local general plans to address environmental justice and include related policy, if a “disadvantaged community” is identified within the area covered by the general plan. In order to fully address environmental justice, the general plans must include new or existing policy intended to (1) reduce unique or compounded health risks in disadvantaged communities, (2) promote civic engagement in public decision-making process, and (3) prioritize improvements and programs that address the needs of disadvantaged communities (Gov. Code §65302).

A disadvantaged community or **environmental justice community** (“EJ Community”) is defined as a “low-income area that is disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative health effects, exposure, or environmental degradation” or a geographic area that is identified by the California Environmental Protection Agency (“Cal EPA”) based on the area’s socioeconomic, public health, and environmental hazard criteria (Gov. Code §65302). Using an environmental health screening tool, CalEnviroScreen 3.0, Cal EPA was able to identify and designate EJ Communities throughout the state that are burdened by multiple sources of pollution. There are a number of EJ Communities located within the unincorporated areas of the County, as shown on Figure LU - 4.1, entitled “*Riverside County Environmental Justice Communities*.” Additionally, the communities of Thermal and Oasis have been included in Figure LU - 4.1 as EJ Communities because the census tracts for these communities have been identified as having distinct environmental impact parameters. Figure LU - 4.1 may be updated as new information related to living or environmental conditions becomes available from either the State or the County, or the state updates CalEnviroScreen 3.0. The update comprising CalEnviroScreen 4.0 is in preparation. Figure LU 4.1a depicts the Area Plan boundaries as identified in the Land Use Element, overlain with the CalEnviroScreen EJ community boundaries thereby providing additional context for affected EJ areas.

Furtherance of policies to be addressed by government agencies and new land use development proposed within the EJ Communities will be evaluated for promoting all environmental justice policies. The land use entitlement process provides a key opportunity to address environmental justice policies through the creation of safe, healthy, and environmentally sustainable communities.

Senate Bill (SB) 244 (2011), as discussed on page LU-24, covers policy related to disadvantaged unincorporated communities with its focus on socio-economic disadvantages, including specifically the availability of public services, facilities, and infrastructure serving households earning eighty percent (80%) or less than the median household income of the County. While there is some overlap between SB 244 and the EJ Communities defined by Cal EPA through CalEnviroScreen, the focus of the latter is on public health and factors affecting the physical environment, collectively constituting an EJ Community.

Nevertheless, there is substantial overlap between EJ communities and the fact that many households in such communities are socio-economically constrained. Updating SB 244 compliance is being undertaken in conjunction with the 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Element update and subsequently through future eight (8) year Housing Element cycle updates with the next cycle due to be prepared in 2029. At that time, any new legislation affecting compliance with SB 244 will also be addressed.

#### Environmental Justice Policies

Environmental justice is addressed within the nine adopted elements of the County's General Plan. However, in an effort to collectively address environmental justice, the *Healthy Communities Element* includes a section entitled, "Environmental Justice" where focused policies are found, some of which are derived from other policies within the General Plan. The goal of the environmental Justice section in the Healthy Communities Element is to ensure the consideration of environmental justice policies, in order to improve public health and the environment within EJ Communities.

#### Application of Environmental Justice Policies

Policies relevant to environmental justice apply particularly in the EJ Communities identified by the State of California. These communities are adapted from the state database and made part of the County's General Plan.

The General Plan represents the build-out vision of Riverside County. As such, it not only addresses what the County envisions to be achieved from new development, it also provides a framework for the collective living and working environment of its residents. Policies applicable to new development will be implemented by the County. Other policies to be implemented require cooperation with non-profits, community-based organizations, foundations, other government agencies, including those within county government, or entities outside of county government, as feasible.

To be clear, the General Plan is a document consisting of goals and policies. Such goals and policies are evaluated as a continuum of direction within broad interpretation parameters. They are not regulations in the manner that a zoning code consists of regulations with which compliance must be achieved. Goals and policies are interpreted and if the direction set by the goal or policy is met, a level of compliance is achieved such that the direction set by the goal or policy is met within a continuum framework. EJ policies are evaluated in the same manner as all other General Plan goals and policies – subject to interpretation with appropriate determinations of compliance within a continuum framework pursuant to the EJ Implementation Plan.

In addition to General Plan Amendment noticing requirements, future amendments to the Land Use Element or Healthy Communities Element relative to EJ policies and the EJ Implementation Plan and the spatial definition of the EJ Communities which may result from state adoption of CalEnviroScreen 4.0 will be reviewed for comment and input with the affected EJ communities as depicted on Land Use Element Figure LU-4.1a and LU-4.1b as well as with the affected municipal advisory councils and community councils.

#### EJ Implementation Plan

As noted, EJ policies are compiled in the Healthy Communities Element of the General Plan. The EJ implementation plan is provided as an appendix to the Healthy Communities Element (Appendix \_\_\_\_).



As such it is not part of this element and is not otherwise part of the General Plan. It is, therefore, an administrative document that can be modified as the County gains experience in interpreting and evaluating development and related activity for compliance with EJ policies without having to process a general plan amendment for any changes to the document.

## **Healthy Communities Element**

*(Insert after the 2<sup>nd</sup> section of this element – “Policies” – that ends on page HC-12; the EJ section will be a separate section of this element and the last section. No renumbering of other policies necessary)*

## **Environmental Justice**

The *Environmental Justice* section of the Healthy Communities Element identifies environmental justice policies that address quality of life and environmental safety. These environmental justice policies apply to the Environmental Justice Communities (“EJ Communities”) shown on Figure LU-4.1, entitled “Riverside County Environmental Justice Communities,” within the General Plan Land Use Element with specific policies located in the Healthy Communities Element. It is important to note that in addition to policies shown under the Environmental Justice Section, all other policies within the Healthy Communities Element also directly apply within EJ Communities; for example, policies HC 2.1, HC 11.1 and HC 11.2 above all encourage access to food, which is an issue within EJ Communities.

Environmental justice policies address eight topics under the following categories:

**Civic Engagement:** this category includes policies that promote civic engagement in the decision-making process.

**Health Risk Reduction:** this category addresses pollution prevention in the day to day living environment that are grouped under the following headings:

- Pollution Exposure
- Food Access
- Safe and Sanitary Homes
- Physical Activity

**Public Facilities:** this category includes policies that prioritize improvements and programs for public facilities.

- Health Care Facilities

**Other:** this category includes policies that do not fall under one of the above sections.

The objectives of these environmental justice policies are to increase civic engagement, reduce unique and compounded health risks, and prioritize improvements and programs for public facilities within EJ Communities. Meeting these objectives involves collaboration and coordination with the unincorporated communities and constituents, stakeholder groups, other government agencies, service districts, and the development community.

The environmental justice policies are provided below grouped under the headings discussed above.

### **Civic Engagement**

This category includes policies that promote civic engagement in the decision-making process.

#### **Policies:**

HC 15.1      In coordination with community based organizations and community members, develop an outreach and engagement plan using multiple means for increasing public awareness



and participation in the local planning process in furtherance of environmental justice planning.

- HC 15.2 Encourage collaboration between the county, community, and community-based organizations, as well as local stakeholders, and environmental justice focus groups in promoting environmental justice.
- HC 15.3 Work with local community-based organizations and environmental justice focus groups to promote civic engagement activities in furtherance of environmental justice as set forth in the General Plan and related programs established within environmental justice communities.
- HC 15.4 Coordinate, with environmental groups, Native American tribal groups, the business community, special interests, county and non-county agencies and the general public in the development of programs that effectively reduce greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution, and as applicable pursuant to the Community Air Protection Program (AB617).
- HC 15.5 Develop a sustainability plan for siting hazardous waste and hazardous materials facilities, including solid waste and recycling facilities, through the County's local planning processes utilizing public outreach and engagement pursuant to policies HC 15.1, HC 15.2 and HC 15.3. The plan shall increase waste reduction measures, address illegal dumping, and increase access and affordability to composting and recycling facilities.
- HC 15.6 Utilize multilingual staff personnel to assist in evacuation and short-term recovery activities and meeting general community needs.
- HC 15.7 Establish a far-ranging, creative, forward-thinking public education and community-oriented outreach campaign, to inform the environmental justice communities about the following in conjunction with implementation of policy HC15.1:
- a. Potential hazards.
  - b. The costs of not mitigating hazards and the health and environmental implications associated therewith
  - c. Facts about each hazard.
  - d. Methods to ameliorate health and environmental constraints.
  - e. Opportunities and constraints the County of Riverside has to address regarding environmental justice criteria.

#### Health Risk Reduction

This category includes policies that work towards reducing unique and compounded health risks. The following policies address pollution exposure and access to food and encourages safe and sanitary homes and an environment conducive to engaging in physical activity.

#### Pollution Exposure Policies:

- HC 16.1 In cooperation with affected federal state, local agencies, county departments, and impacted community residents, monitor changes to the Salton Sea and other bodies of water that impact air quality and water quality and seek and pursue opportunities to

address impacts to the maximum extent possible, and make public the data and other information related to the status of the effort.

- HC 16.2 Pursue funding and other opportunities from state, federal, and local government and non-government sources and allocate county general funds to improve public health and limit pollution exposure and promote efforts to ameliorate environmental justice constraints in environmental justice communities.
- HC 16.3 Assist communities in seeking funding for community initiated clean air projects including the installation of on-site air monitoring equipment in areas of high exposure to air contaminants.
- HC 16.4 Pursue funding to connect low income residents and communities to municipal water and wastewater services. In the interim, seek financial assistance for septic system repair in order to limit groundwater contamination by poorly maintained septic systems or to provide for connections to wastewater systems as a viable alternative if such systems can be made readily available.
- HC 16.5\* Evaluate the compatibility of unhealthy and polluting land uses being located near sensitive receptors including possible impacts on ingress, egress, and access routes. Similarly, encourage sensitive receptors, such as housing, schools, hospitals, clinics, and child care facilities to be located away from uses that pose potential hazards to human health and safety.
- HC 16.6\* When developing and siting large scale logistics, warehouse and distribution projects, address the Good Neighbor Policy for Logistics and Warehouse/Distribution uses criteria adopted by the Board of Supervisors on November 19, 2019 and as may be subsequently amended.
- HC 16.7 Evaluate public and private facilities for health hazards or major sources of contamination and identify and implement alternatives for removal of contamination.
- HC 16.8 Evaluate creating a cap or threshold on the number of pollution sources within EJ communities and make recommendations thereon.
- HC 16.9 Explore the feasibility of creating a partnership with the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) to establish a mitigation program to reduce the impact of air pollution as well as assist with the implementation of air quality programs.
- HC 16.10\* Plan for compact development projects in appropriate locations, including in existing communities and the clustering of affordable and mixed income housing therein, that make the most efficient use of land and concentrate complementary uses in close proximity to transit or non-transit mobility options and advocate for expanded transit and non-transit mobility options to serve such areas.
- HC 16.11 Implement development of bicycle and pedestrian facilities to reduce dependency on fossil fuel based transportation and pursue funding to implement mobility plans and projects.



- HC 16.12 Plan and implement complete streets which include sidewalks, greenbelts, and trails to facilitate use by pedestrians and bicyclists where such facilities are well separated from parallel or cross through traffic to ensure pedestrian and cyclist safety and rehabilitate/expand existing to achieve same or similar design features.
- HC 16.13 Provide buffer spaces and vegetative barriers between high-volume roadways/ transportation and train track corridors and sensitive land uses.
- HC 16.14\* Assure that sensitive receptors are separated and protected from polluting point sources, as feasible, including agricultural businesses that produce or use pesticides and chemical fertilizers.
- HC 16.15\* Assure that site plan design protects people and land, particularly sensitive land uses such as housing and schools, from air pollution and other externalities associated with industrial and warehouse development through the use of barriers, distance, or similar solutions or measures from emission sources when possible.
- HC 16.16\* Apply pollution control measures such as landscaping, vegetation, and green zones (in cooperation with the SCAQMD) and other materials, which trap particulate matter or control air pollution.
- HC 16.17 Landscape by planting of trees on a community basis that removes pollutants from the air, provides shade and decreases the negative impacts of extreme heat on the community.
- HC 16.18\* Promote new development that emphasizes job creation and reduction in vehicle miles traveled in job-poor areas and does not otherwise contribute to onsite emissions in order to improve air quality.
- HC 16.19 Promote reduction of vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by encouraging expanded multi-modal facilities, linkages between such facilities, and services that provide transportation alternatives, such as transit, bicycle and pedestrian modes.
- HC 16.20 Facilitate an increase in transit options. In particular, coordinate with adjacent municipalities, transit providers and regional transportation planning agencies in the development of mutual policies and funding mechanisms to increase the use of alternative transportation modes. All new development should contribute and invest in increasing access to public transit and multimodal active transportation infrastructure.
- HC 16.21 Require the creation of programs that increase carpooling and public transit use, decrease trips and commute times, and increase use of alternative-fuel vehicles and facilities supporting the use of such vehicles including charging stations
- HC 16.22\* Discourage industrial uses which use large quantities of water in manufacturing or cooling processes that result in subsequent effluent discharges, and encourage agricultural businesses to limit and reduce the production and use of pesticides and chemical fertilizers to the maximum extent possible thereby minimizing contaminated infiltration and runoff, including runoff to the Salton Sea and other standing bodies of water.

- HC 16.23\* Discourage industrial and agricultural uses which produce significant quantities of toxic emissions into the air, soil, and groundwater to prevent the contamination of these physical environments.
- HC 16.24\* Ensure compatibility between industrial development and agricultural uses and adjacent land uses. To achieve compatibility, industrial development and agricultural uses will be required to include criteria addressing noise, land, traffic and greenhouse gas emissions to avoid or minimize creating adverse conditions for adjacent communities.
- HC 16.25\* Require the conversion of mining operations into uses that are compatible with surrounding areas in accordance with the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act.
- HC 16.26 Enforce the land use policies and siting criteria related to hazardous materials and wastes through continued implementation of the programs identified in the County of Riverside Hazardous Waste Management Plan including the following:
- a. Ensure county businesses comply with federal, state and local laws pertaining to the management of hazardous wastes and materials including all Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) programs.
  - b. Require and promote the programs, practices, and recommendations contained in the Riverside County Hazardous Waste Management Plan, giving the highest waste management priority to the reduction of hazardous waste at its source.

**Food Access Policies:**

- HC 17.1 Cooperate with transit providers in the review of transit routes to provide service to jobs, shopping, schools, libraries, parks, healthcare facilities, grocery stores, markets, food distribution centers, and healthy restaurants that provide whole grain, low fat, low salt and fresh and cooked vegetable options. This policy must also coordinate with transit policies to ensure stronger connectivity and accessibility for residents.
- HC 17.2\* Orient buildings closer to streets or provide landscaped promenades that connect buildings to bus stops with routes that provide access to shopping centers, grocery stores, and areas where farmers markets are held.
- HC 17.3\* Encourage site design for new development to accommodate interior spaces for recreational and other neighborhood uses, such as community gardens and farmer's markets in order to increase access to fresh and healthy foods; and to render such spaces convenient and available to neighboring streets, neighborhoods, and other nearby facilities to fill the void or lack of small grocery stores and increase access to fresh and healthy foods within EJ Communities.
- HC 17.4 Work with community organizations to develop a food recovery plan which minimizes wasting of edible food products prioritizing after school sites and other community centers as spaces to distribute recovered food.
- HC 17.5\* Encourage the development of diverse food establishments prioritizing mom and pop healthy food establishments and community kitchens for homemade foods to be sold in



areas with a high concentration of fast food establishments, convenience stores and liquor stores.

- HC 17.6\* Work with local farmers and growers to develop a program to provide affordable access to fruits and vegetables grown in the area to the EJ communities. Identify and establish the location of grocery stores, healthy corner stores, farmers markets all which carry a complement of healthy foods to be located in close proximity to transit nodes and other active transportation system links.
- HC 17.7\* Promote edible landscaping and community gardens for suitable public and private land as well as for residential and mixed use projects.

**Safe and Sanitary Home Policies:**

- HC 18.1 Promote code compliance inspections to also identify any observed pollution sources or safety hazards and establish rehabilitation and weatherization programs to assist various housing types.
- HC 18.2 Identify funding sources for an education program for housing related hazards, such as lead, asbestos, mold and pests with guidance on how to upgrade these safely, including available assistance programs.
- HC 18.3 Assist and provide support to service agencies in their application for state and federal funding to upgrade water infrastructure, including wastewater and electric infrastructure giving priority to disadvantaged communities that have contaminated or vulnerable water sources.
- HC 18.4 In cooperation with service agencies, ensure that sources of potable water are protected from contamination. Codevelop plans for updating dated water infrastructure and have contingency plans for when contamination occurs under unforeseen circumstances. Develop and implement a water quality testing program applicable to small water systems and domestic wells.
- HC 18.5 In cooperation with service agencies, seek funding to develop the use of innovative potable water and wastewater systems in areas of diminished water quality.
- HC 18.6 In cooperation with service agencies, encourage the consolidation of public potable water systems or the extension of water service from existing systems, especially for communities that lack access to clean drinking water.
- HC 18.7\* Discourage industrial, agricultural and other land uses that may pollute and cause health conflicts with residential land uses either directly or indirectly. Ensure that community members are properly notified and involved in the decision-making process for new land use proposals.
- HC 18.8\* Work with the development community including small property and mobile home park owners so new residential development, particularly for low income households, is designed to limit their exposure to high noise levels, pesticide and fertilizer exposure,

dust pollution, and other potential impacts associated with adjacent industrial and agricultural uses.

HC 18.9\*

Encourage the location and design of new developments to visually enhance and not degrade the character of the surrounding area through consideration of the following concepts.

- a. Using design standards of the appropriate Area Plan land use category.
- b. Construction of structures in accordance with the requirements of Riverside County's zoning, building, and other pertinent codes and regulations.
- c. Require that an appropriate landscape plan be submitted and implemented for development projects subject to discretionary review.
- d. Use of drought tolerant landscaping that incorporates adequate drought-conscious irrigation systems.
- e. Application of energy efficiency through street configuration, building orientation, and landscaping to capitalize on shading and facilitate solar energy.
- f. Application of water conservation techniques, such as groundwater recharge basins, use of porous pavement, drought tolerant landscaping, and water recycling, as appropriate.
- g. Encourage innovative and creative design concepts.
- h. Encourage the provision of public art that enhances the community's identity, which may include elements of historical significance and creative use of children's art.
- i. Include consistent and well-designed signage that is integrated with the building's architectural character.
- j. Provide safe and convenient vehicular access and reciprocal access between adjacent commercial uses.
- k. Locate site entries and storage bays to minimize conflicts with adjacent residential neighborhoods.
- l. Mitigate noise, odor, lighting, pollution exposure and other impacts on surrounding properties.
- m. Provide and maintain landscaping in open spaces and parking lots.
- n. As feasible, maximize landscape coverage with emphasis on drought-tolerant landscaping.
- o. Preserve, as feasible, natural features, such as unique natural terrain, arroyos, canyons, and other drainage ways, and native vegetation, wherever possible, particularly where they provide continuity with more extensive regional systems.
- p. Require, as feasible, that new development be designed to provide adequate space for pedestrian connectivity and access, recreational trails, vehicular access and parking, supporting functions, open space, and other pertinent elements.
- q. Design parking lots and structures to be functionally and visually integrated and connected.
- r. As feasible, site building access points along sidewalks, pedestrian areas, and bicycle routes, and include amenities that encourage pedestrian activity where such pass-through areas include wayfinding signage, street trees, grade and lateral separation



from roads, all with consideration given to adequate safety lighting, and landscape screening.

- s. Encourage safe and frequent pedestrian crossings and ensure that sidewalks and other pedestrian walkways provide continuity between land uses essential to a functional lifestyle, and as needed such sidewalks and pedestrian walkways should provide sufficient lighting and signage to ensure public safety
- t. Encourage creation of a human-scale ground floor environment that includes public open areas that separate pedestrian space from auto traffic or where mixed, it does so with special regard to pedestrian safety.
- u. Recognize open space, including hillsides, arroyos, riparian areas, and other natural features as amenities that add community identity, beauty, recreational opportunities, and monetary value to adjacent developed areas.
- v. Manage wild land fire hazards in the design of development proposals located adjacent to natural open space.

HC 18.10 Work with local service and utility providers to to monitor and expand the capacities of infrastructure and services in coordination with outside agencies and jurisdictions to ensure that growth does not exceed acceptable levels of service and that such capacity analysis also addresses the infrastructure and service needs of existing disadvantaged communities. Develop contingency plans for growing areas that are near or exceeding the current infrastructure capacity.

HC 18.11 In coordination with service agencies, limit or prohibit new development or activities in areas lacking water and access roads in the absence of a plan to address such deficiencies to meet the needs of both new development and within existing disadvantaged communities. Work with community partners and service agencies to establish future plans to meet needs for potential community growth in areas lacking water and road infrastructure.

HC 18.12\* Prioritize the development of safe and affordable housing in EJ Communities while at the same time minimizing the displacement of existing residents consistent with Housing Element, Goal 2, Action 2.1h and as may be amended by the 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Element. Affordable housing projects should include various housing types that respond to community priorities and input.

HC 18.13 Plan for the removal or remediation of hazardous material from older homes and mobile homes including but not limited to asbestos and lead containing material.

**Physical Activity Policies:**

HC 19.1 Collaborate with the relevant agencies to promote opportunities to provide recreational facilities for residents, including the Salton Sea area, and other bodies of water, as applicable, that are accessible via public transit and active transportation, including pedestrian friendly local roads with sidewalks and bikeways. Other projects and amenities should be developed as identified by community members.

- HC 19.2\*      Develop of high-quality parks, green space, hiking trails, recreational facilities and natural environments in areas where such facilities are lacking.
- HC 19.3      Promote pedestrian and bicycle access to parks and open space through infrastructure investments, education and improvements.
- HC 19.4      Promote the preparation of a pedestrian network plan that allows for safe travel between all areas and destinations of the community to include as feasible shade structures, street furniture, signage, and exercise areas such as par courses.
- HC 19.5      Paseos, pedestrian and bicycle paths should be provided between residential structures and nonresidential structures.
- HC 19.6\*      Plan for a system of local trails that enhances recreational opportunities and connects with regional trails.
- HC 19.7\*      Incorporate open space, community greenbelt separators, and recreational amenities into development areas in order to enhance recreational opportunities and community aesthetics to improve the quality of life.
- HC 19.8      Paseos and pedestrian/bicycle connections should be provided between the highest density residential uses and those nonresidential uses so that the local population can safely connect with ease. Alternative transportation mode connections should also be provided to the public facilities in the vicinity, including schools, libraries, and community facilities.
- HC 19-9      Pursue joint use agreements with school districts for park and recreational facility use, especially when access to comparable public facilitates is not available.

#### Public Facilities

This category includes policies that prioritize improvements and programs for public facilities.

#### Policies:

- HC 20.1\*      New development should provide for public services including but not limited to solar street lighting, shading structures at bus stops, other supporting infrastructure, and extension of trash and recyclables pickup routes.
- HC 20.2\*      New development should promote convenient internal pedestrian circulation among land uses (existing and proposed) within each neighborhood and connecting with existing adjacent developed areas, and as applicable consistent with the Southern California Association of Governments Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, and amendments thereto.
- HC 20.3      Enhance the quality of existing residential neighborhoods by including adequate maintenance of public facilities in the County's capital improvement program and requiring residents and landlords to maintain their properties in good condition and seek opportunities, particularly funding, to enhance quality of life conditions in existing mobile home parks particularly those which are affected by deteriorating infrastructure and hardscape.



- HC 20.4\* New development and conservation land uses should not infringe upon existing essential public facilities and public utility corridors, which include county regional landfills, fee owned rights-of-way and permanent easements, whose true land use is that of public facilities.
- HC 20.5 In working with transit service providers and developers of residential projects, promote better and safer connections between residential areas and services to include local and regional transportation hubs as well as ancillary components such as sidewalks and shade structures as being associated with these connections for better access to parks, schools, and employment areas.
- HC 20.6 With the availability of funding and pursuant to health and safety considerations, ensure that surface drainage is properly captured and disposed and does not mix or otherwise interface with septic systems.
- HC 20.7 Ensure that health and safety facilities such as fire stations and sheriff substations are adequately sited, improved and staffed to serve affected communities. Identify which communities need services to be built in close proximity to reduce the amount of time it takes to respond to an emergency.
- HC 20.8 Review the location and extent of community recreational facilities to ensure maximum use by children and adults and use that information to develop new recreational facilities and opportunities for the community, including indoor and outdoor facilities.
- HC 20.9 Ensure that safe and potable drinking and cooking water is available in the EJ communities.

#### **Health Care Facilities Policies**

This category encompasses the need for facilities to maintain community health.

- HC 21.1 Review and analyze the location of medical, dental and vision clinics and staffing to ensure that community health can be maintained for routine and complex health issues and ensure that facilities have cooperative agreements in place with similar facilities in the area. Locate interim facilities and mobile clinics until permanent facilities can be built.

#### **Other EJ Related Policies**

This category includes policies not directly related to the SB1000 categories but will help improve the quality of life in EJ communities.

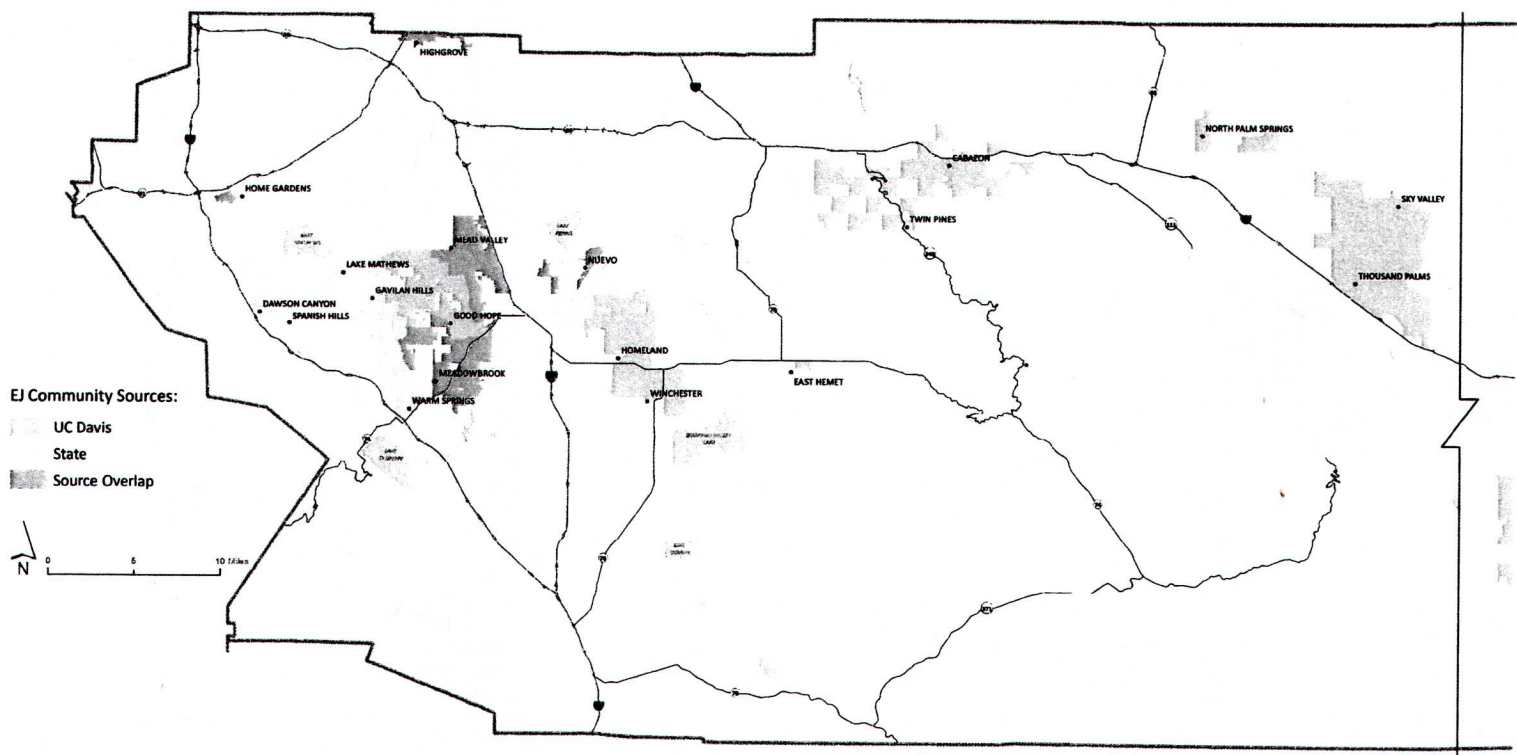
- HC 22.1 Increase coordination and collaboration with the implementation of existing climate action plans such as the county's 2020 Climate Action Plan update, resilience action plans, mobility plans and AB 617 plans, as may be amended.
- HC 22.2 Develop a stormwater capture system in areas that do not have the appropriate curb and gutter infrastructure.

- HC 22.3 Work with community residents to identify a pathway for community solar projects and other renewable energy projects that do not harm the natural habitat, resources, and environment of the community.
- HC 22.4 Utilizing public outreach and engagement pursuant to policies HC 15.1, HC 15.2 and HC 15.3, update community and area plans, and create new plans to be determined, located in the environmental justice communities adapting the policies contained herein to address local needs including in conjunction with the development of the county's Unincorporated Communities Initiative.
- HC 22.5 New specific plans or existing specific plans that includes a substantial revision that are within "disadvantaged communities," as identified by CalEPA should address Environmental Justice goals and include appropriate policies similarly to this section.



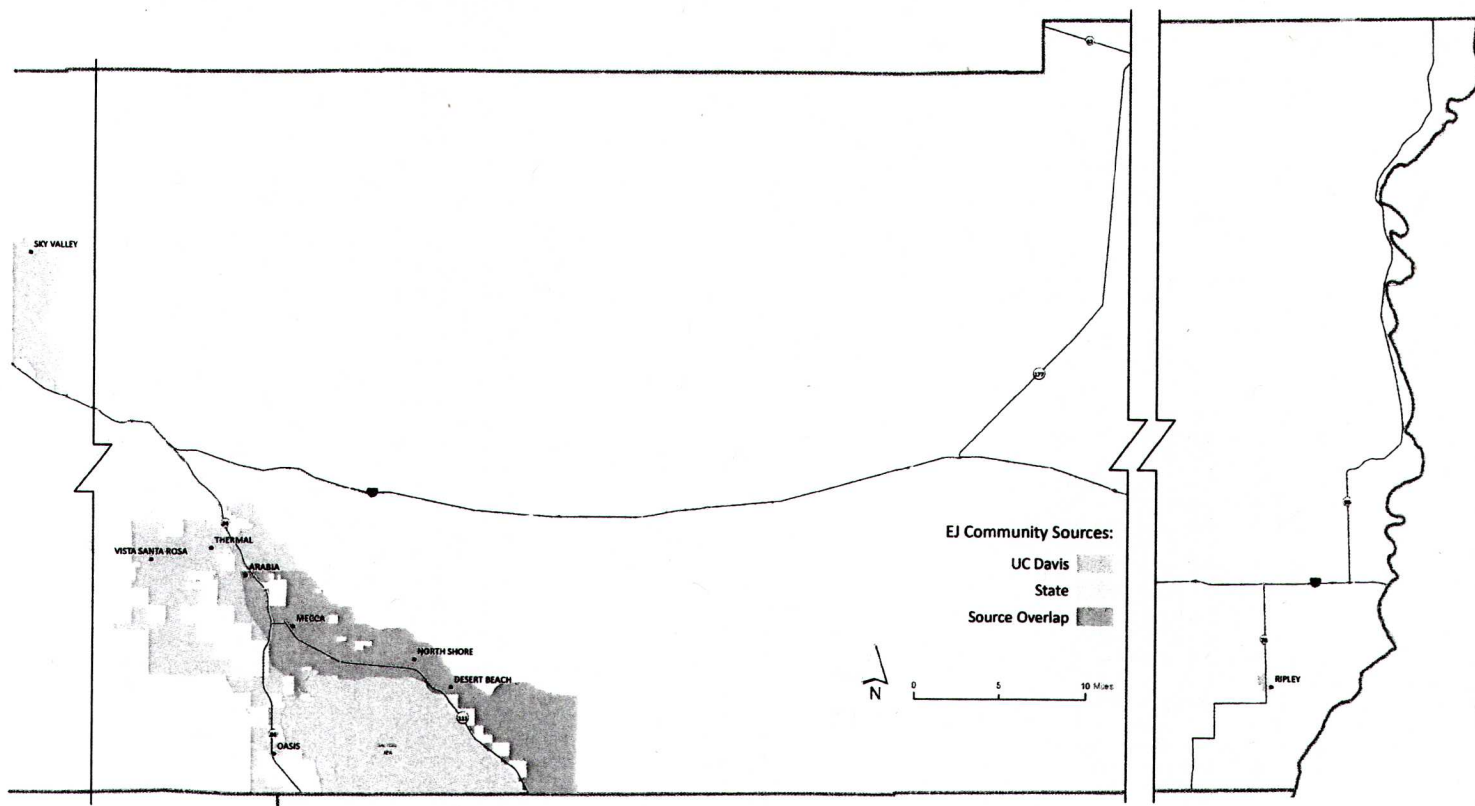
## ATTACHMENT B

## ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AFFECTED COMMUNITIES - WEST COUNTY



ATTACHMENT B

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AFFECTED COMMUNITIES - EAST COUNTY





**Maxwell, Sue**

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**From:** cob@rivco.org  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 3:35 PM  
**To:** COB; ogastelum@leadershipcounsel.org  
**Subject:** Board comments web submission



First Name: Omar  
Last Name: Gastelum  
Phone: 7603936766  
Email: ogastelum@leadershipcounsel.org  
Agenda Date: 09/21/2021  
Agenda Item # or Public Comment: 3.20 (Land-use Element)  
State your position below: Oppose

**Thank you for submitting your request to speak. The Clerk of the Board office has received your request and will be prepared to allow you to speak when your item is called. To attend the meeting, please call (669) 900-6833 and use Meeting ID #864 4411 6015 . Password is 20210921. You will be muted until your item is pulled and your name is called. Please dial in at 9:00 am am with the phone number you provided in the form so you can be identified during the meeting.**