

Proposed Environmental Justice Task Force Objectives & Timeline

Following are objectives for the Environmental Justice Task Force. These objectives are from guidance outlined in the budget proviso for the Environmental Justice Task Force. The proposed order and timeline (organized by required outcome) for the objectives is listed below. Many objectives will need to be completed simultaneously across and within study areas.

Additionally, the Task Force is supported by two subcommittees, one focused on the Environmental Health Disparities Map and the other concentrating on community engagement among historically marginalized populations and highly impacted communities. Both subcommittees have their own set of objectives and will recommend model policies and measurable goals for reducing environmental health disparities. Subcommittees will meet monthly to collaborate on current efforts, present findings, and share resources.

Required Outcome: Mapping

Proviso Language: "Guidance for state agencies regarding how to use a cumulative impact analysis tool [Environmental Health Disparities Map] developed by the Department of Health. Guidance must cover how agencies identify highly impacted communities and must be based on best practices and current demographic data."

February & March 2020: Present findings at the March Task Force Meeting

- A. Suggested: Review the definitions for "highly impacted communities" and "vulnerable populations" in the [Clean Energy Transformation Act](#) to make both place-based and demographic-based recommendations for how to implement targeted interventions to eliminate health disparities.

Required Outcome: Measureable Goals

Proviso Language: "Recommendations for establishing measureable goals for reducing environmental health disparities for each community in Washington and ways in which state agencies may focus their work towards meeting those goals"

January – March 2020: Present findings at the March Task Force Meeting

- A. Propose a definition for environmental justice in the Washington state context.
- B. Develop recommendations for measureable and actionable goals to reduce environmental health disparities. Recommendations will be based on the Task Force review of the Washington Environmental Health Disparities map and effective practices and policies nationally. Provide agency-specific recommendations when appropriate.

March – May 2020: Present findings at the May Task Force Meeting

- C. Propose recommendations on how agencies can institutionalize or create accountability mechanisms that work towards environmental health goals. Recommendations should be based on best or promising practices (e.g., Equity Tool Kit, Title VI procedural compliance, CLAS standards, etc.). Provide agency-specific recommendations when appropriate. *(note: look at the Office of Equity Task Force's preliminary report for guidance)*
- D. Develop recommendations for how to integrate environmental justice as a core guiding principle in agency work. Provide agency-specific recommendations when appropriate.

Required Outcome: Model Policies

Proviso Language: "Model policies for prioritizing highly impacted communities and vulnerable populations for the purpose of reducing environmental health disparities and advancing a healthy environment for all residents."

April & May 2020: Present findings at the May Task Force Meeting

- A. Provide recommendations for agency policy that eliminates environmental health disparities. Recommendations will be based on the Task Force review of the Washington Environmental Health Disparities map and effective practices and policies nationally. Provide agency-specific recommendations when appropriate.