



**Draft Minutes of the Environmental Justice Task Force
Mapping Subcommittee Meeting
December 11, 2019
GoToMeeting Phone Conference**

Subcommittee members present:

Laura Johnson, Subcommittee Co-Chair
Millie Piazza, Subcommittee Co-Chair
Caroline Smith
David Mendoza
Deric Gruen
Erik Sagnic
Esther Min

Lauren Freeland
Paul Tabayoyon
Peter Godlewski
Richard Gelb
Sarah Vorpahl
Tomas Madrigal

Task Force staff present:

Elise Rasmussen

Guests and other participants:

Mariel Thuraisingham
Patricia Pacheco

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Millie Piazza, Co-Chair, called the public meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

All Subcommittee members and other participants introduced themselves.

1. SUBCOMMITTEE BACKGROUND, MEETING AGREEMENTS

Ms. Rasmussen briefed the Subcommittee on the background of the Environmental Justice Task Force, Task Force work to date, and the purpose of the Subcommittee focused on the Environmental Health Disparities Map. Following that conversation, the group reviewed the Task Force's adopted Community Agreements (on file) and were given time discuss community agreements for this Subcommittee. The Subcommittee opted to keep the same community agreements as the Task Force.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Subcommittee members had no corrections to the agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF MEETING DATES

The Subcommittee will meet the second Wednesday of each month from December 2019 through June 2020. The Subcommittee will meet via video conference, unless otherwise noted, and will work collaboratively using a SharePoint site.

4. PROPOSED MAPPING SUBCOMMITTEE OBJECTIVES & TIMELINE OVERVIEW; REVIEW PROVISO LANGUAGE AND CORRESPONDING OBJECTIVES

Laura Johnson, Subcommittee Co-Chair provided an overview of the history of the Environmental Health Disparities Map, how the map was developed, how the map is maintained, how the map works, and what the map has been used for. She and Lauren Frelander, Subcommittee member also gave a brief tutorial of the map.

There was a brief discussion about the validity of the map's data and about how data are gathered. Esther Min, Subcommittee member explained that the Washington Environmental Health Disparities Map evaluates environmental health risk factors in communities. The model was specifically adapted from CalEnviroScreen—a cumulative environmental impacts assessment mapping tool developed by CalEPA and used in California. It estimates a cumulative environmental health impact score for each census tract reflecting pollutant exposures and factors that affect people's vulnerability to environmental pollution. The model is based on a conceptual formula of Risk = Threat x Vulnerability, where threat and vulnerability are based on several indicators. For each indicator, each census tract is ranked by its raw value, then assigned a decile rank (1-10) based on rank-order. The decile ranking (displayed in Washington Tracking Network Information by Location tool) creates a common scale to compare different issues at the community level. This mapping tool is populated by data sources that are already vetted by various agencies, and all new indicators and data sets must be scientifically based, supported by an extensive literature review, and available statewide.

5. SUBCOMMITTEE WORK PLAN STRATEGY: MEMBER INTERESTS, DIVISION OF WORK, ACCOUNTABILITY

Ms. Rasmussen then provided an overview of the Subcommittee's work plan (on file), including the group's timeline and objectives. She noted that the Task Force has adopted the objectives to be completed in December 2019 and January 2020, and the Subcommittee has the opportunity to refine all objectives to be completed from February to May 2020 as long as they meet the required outcomes outlined in the budget proviso language.

Richard Gelb, Subcommittee member asked if the Subcommittee is restricted to working with the data sets and indicators that already exist in the Environmental Health Disparities Map, or if this Subcommittee can provide support to state agencies with a platform that overlays agency activities and tracks how the state is making progress towards equity goals and disparities reduction. The group proposed that Mr. Gelb draft a proposal for a revised objective in line with the budget proviso language.

Tomas Madrigal, Task Force Member asked about opportunities to incorporate more of a community asset-based approach that highlights community well-being in order for state agencies to align with existing community assets and strengths that contribute to community health and well-being. Millie Piazza, Subcommittee Co-Chair mentioned that this group can keep this asset-based approach in mind as they are framing their recommendations. Ms. Rasmussen noted that the Community Engagement Subcommittee will also be working to understand community assets. Sarah Vorpahl,

Subcommittee member noted that Department of Commerce is working on a related project and will share it with the group when the agency launches that work.

There was a questions about how to approach collaboration with the Community Engagement Subcommittee. Some members mentioned they would also try to attend the Community Engagement Subcommittee's meetings as well. The group will work to formulate a plan for collaboration.

6. NEXT STEPS

The Subcommittee will be divided into two groups, one group focused on objectives pertaining to the Washington Environmental Health Disparities Map, and the other focused on providing recommendations for measureable goals for eliminating health disparities. The group has decided to work on identifying model policies that prioritize highly impacted communities and eliminate health disparities starting in February 2020 instead of starting this work in January 2020.

Subcommittee members will email their assignment and leadership preferences to Ms. Rasmussen. Ms. Rasmussen will also send along assignments to be completed prior to the next meeting on January 8, 2020.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Millie Piazza, Subcommittee Co-Chair, adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

GOVERNOR'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HEALTH DISPARITIES

First Name Last Name, Chair

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