



# Environmental Justice Policy Framework

January 26, 2024

**Policy Framework**

Ventura General Plan Update

## Introduction

Addressing the environmental justice needs of communities such as healthy food access, pollution exposure, and safe and sanitary housing are essential pillars for promoting healthy lifestyles. The City of Ventura is taking an active role in improving the quality of life of community members by tackling environmental hazards and increasing equitable access to services and facilities. This policy framework provides an overview of the statutory requirements for addressing environmental justice in the General Plan, background information on Ventura’s existing conditions, and preliminary goals, policies, and actions to address health issues in the City.

This policy framework includes the following topics related to environmental justice and health:

1. Racial and economic equity
2. Pollution exposure
3. Physical and mental health
4. Food access
5. Civic engagement
6. Safe and sanitary homes
7. ADA access and equity

## Statutory Requirements

Senate Bill 1000 (SB 1000), or the Planning for Healthy Communities Act, requires jurisdictions with disadvantaged communities to develop an environmental justice element, or related environmental justice goals and policies, as part of their general plans. The goal of SB 1000 is to help identify and reduce risks in communities disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative health effects, exposure, or environmental degradation. In doing so, SB 1000 offers an opportunity to address existing community health concerns and mitigate the impacts of future health issues.

According to California’s Health and Safety Code (Section 39711), a “disadvantaged community” (or DAC) 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.” During the General Plan update process, the City conducted a thorough evaluation of the existing health and environmental conditions in Ventura based on technical guidelines established by the California Office of Planning and Research. Three “methods” were used to identify DACs. The first method uses the California Communities Environmental Health Screening Tool (CalEnviroScreen or CES) to identify census tracts in the top 75<sup>th</sup> percentile. The second method uses a combination of low-income areas (defined as areas at or below 80% of the State or County area median income – whichever is higher) and areas with a disproportionate pollution burden (census tracts who scores at or above the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile for one or more of the CES indicators). The third method uses locally-collected data on health and the built environment to identify areas with disproportionate health burdens.

Using this methodology, several census tracts were identified as DACs. (See Table 1 and Figure 1.) As a result, the City must include an environmental justice element that includes goals, policies, and actions that address the following topics:

- Reducing pollution exposure
- Promoting public facilities
- Promoting food access
- Promoting safe and sanitary housing
- Promoting physical activity
- Addressing other unique or compounded health risks
- Promoting community engagement

Alternatively, a jurisdiction may include these topics throughout the General Plan. The City of Ventura’s General Plan will have a combination of both approaches. There will be a stand-alone Environmental Justice Element and there will also be policies on specific topics, including housing, parks, and community facilities, that are located in other Elements.

## What is “Environmental Justice”?

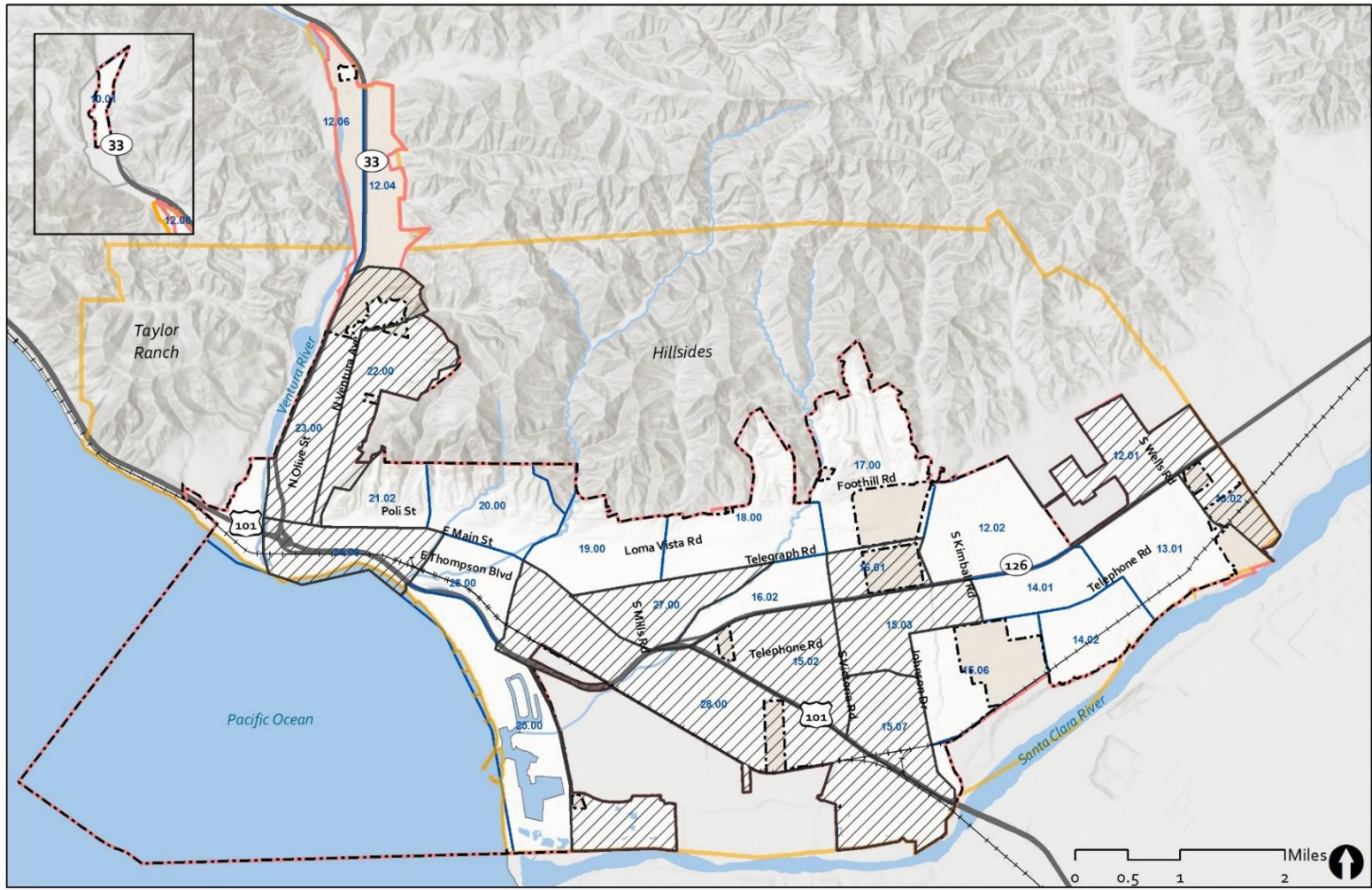
Environmental justice is defined in California’s Government Code Section 65040.12(e) as “the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of people of all races, cultures, incomes, and national origins with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.” For decades, low-income communities and communities of color have experienced a disproportionate burden of environmental pollution because of past discriminatory land use and environmental policies. Environmental justice seeks to rectify these past injustices by protecting all people from exposure to pollution, toxins, hazardous wastes, radioactive materials, and other environmental hazards. This Environmental Justice Element comprises goals, policies, and actions to address disproportionate pollution burden, prioritize improvements that address the needs of disadvantaged communities, and protect Ventura residents from environmental harm and risk.

**Table 1. Low-Income Areas and Pollution Burden Analyses**

Census tract	Low-Income Area Analysis					Pollution Burden Indicators (Percentile Scores) Analysis													Sum of Indicators Exceeding 75th Percentile	Pollution Burden Composite Percentile
	CEES 3.0 Composite Percentile	Low-Income Area?	Median Household Income	Below Countywide Threshold?	Below Statewide Threshold?	Ozone	PM2.5	Diesel	Drinking Water Contaminants	Pesticide Use	Toxic Releases from Facilities	Traffic Density	Cleanup Sites	Groundwater Threats	Hazardous Waste Generators and Facilities	Impaired Water Bodies	Solid Waste Sites and Facilities			
12.01	32	Yes	\$ 69,960	Yes	No	40	41	20	61	97	22	31	0	0	77	15	33	2	40	
12.02	12	No	\$ 122,545	No	No	40	41	11	36	82	22	27	0	0	66	15	0	1	20	
12.04	49	No	\$ 78,818	No	No	65	33	3	73	72	15	18	27	47	89	72	57	1	61	
13.01	52	No	\$ 100,344	No	No	40	41	23	65	92	25	37	0	0	71	15	83	2	51	
13.02	63	Yes	\$ 45,909	Yes	Yes	40	41	23	62	100	22	55	0	0	61	49	65	1	57	
14.01	24	No	\$ 97,679	No	No	40	41	37	62	95	24	34	0	0	26	0	0	1	28	
14.02	38	No	\$ 95,938	No	No	40	41	44	88	100	29	54	18	15	0	0	9	2	46	
15.02	51	Yes	\$ 62,298	Yes	Yes	40	41	56	61	75	24	76	0	4	28	0	57	1	49	
15.03	50	Yes	\$ 53,990	Yes	Yes	40	41	57	62	95	24	49	0	0	0	0	0	1	32	
15.06	30	No	\$ 87,778	No	No	40	41	57	64	100	26	27	27	32	26	0	0	1	44	
15.07	54	Yes	\$ 72,039	Yes	No	40	41	57	63	89	26	78	39	50	77	0	33	3	75	
16.01	28	Yes	\$ 61,667	Yes	Yes	40	41	23	36	92	22	56	0	0	0	0	0	1	19	
16.02	28	No	\$ 90,156	No	No	40	41	43	36	71	22	68	0	2	26	0	0	0	26	
17.00	6	No	\$ 122,000	No	No	53	41	10	36	73	19	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	
18.00	6	No	\$ 122,344	No	No	40	41	7	36	44	21	29	0	0	47	0	0	0	8	
19.00	23	No	\$ 84,844	No	No	53	41	12	36	0	18	29	6	92	54	0	0	1	16	
20.00	13	No	\$ 100,758	No	No	53	41	29	36	0	17	34	8	89	9	0	0	1	13	
21.02	33	Yes	\$ 51,250	Yes	Yes	53	41	30	35	0	16	25	44	65	26	41	20	0	25	
22.00	60	Yes	\$ 55,000	Yes	Yes	53	41	30	36	0	16	34	57	91	92	41	20	2	45	
23.00	78	Yes	\$ 51,989	Yes	Yes	53	41	29	36	97	15	42	85	89	93	41	33	4	79	
24.00	78	Yes	\$ 38,621	Yes	Yes	53	41	51	36	97	15	73	85	84	26	41	50	3	82	
25.00	39	No	\$ 86,375	No	No	40	41	90	44	99	20	77	30	38	43	81	52	4	84	
26.00	35	No	\$ 84,155	No	No	53	41	86	36	0	18	78	33	80	0	29	0	3	43	
27.00	43	Yes	\$ 78,115	Yes	No	40	41	52	36	91	21	55	6	58	67	0	0	1	47	
28.00	58	Yes	\$ 76,250	Yes	No	40	41	60	73	99	24	78	44	87	71	72	76	4	95	
#	2	12	-	12	8	0	0	2	1	15	0	5	2	7	5	1	2	-	4	

Sources: Raimi + Associates; ACS 2015-19; CES 3.0. Notes: Cells highlighted in red are in the top quartile (exceeding 75<sup>th</sup> percentile of all scores) in CES 3.0. The low-income county threshold is calculated at \$78,240 and the low-income statewide threshold is calculated at \$65,760 per Housing and Community Development 2019 Income Limits.

Figure 1. Potential Disadvantaged Communities



- Ventura City Limits
- Sphere of Influence
- Planning Boundary
- Census Tracts
- Railroad
- Freeway
- Potential Disadvantaged Communities
- County of Ventura

**Note:** Four-digit bold numbers in blue represent census tract numbers.  
 Data Sources: City of Ventura (2020); County of Ventura (2020); ESRI (2020)





## Context

On September 21, 2021, the General Plan Team convened for an educational forum that provided a comprehensive overview of key environmental justice concepts, existing pollution burdens, inequities in health outcomes across the City, and best practices for addressing equity in the General Plan. The recorded presentation and slide deck provide the best overview of the existing context on environmental justice in Ventura.

- **Recorded Presentation.** The recorded presentation can be found [here](#). The overview of the presentation starts at 11:30 on the recording and ends at 56:45 of the recording.
- **PowerPoint Presentation.** The slide deck for the educational forum can be found [here](#).

In addition, the consultant team prepared a detailed background report on environmental justice and health. This report can be found [here](#).

Draft

## Goals and Policies

The following are draft goals, policies, and actions aimed at addressing the health and environmental justice issues in Ventura. Other areas of the General Plan – including the Parks and Open Space, Mobility and Active Transportation, and Public Facilities and Services Elements – also include goals, policies, and actions that address health, equity, and environmental justice topics. While all goals, policies, and implementation actions of this Element apply to all residents, priority shall be given to those projects, programs, and resources that would fulfill the needs of residents living in DACs.

### Racial and Economic Equity

#### Goal EJ-1: Promote racial, social, and economic equity in City initiatives.

- 1.1 Health equity.** Support programs and practices that aim to reduce health inequities in Ventura. Partner with public and private entities working to create healthy and sustainable lifestyles for all Ventura residents.
- 1.2 Partnerships for health.** Support partnerships with local health service providers, the County, schools, and other community-based organizations to promote equity, health, wellness, and preventative care.
- 1.3 Equitable delivery of public services and public funding.** Strive to increase public services and funding to historically disadvantaged areas, particularly areas identified as DACs, to address historic social, economic, and racial inequities.
- 1.4 Equitable distribution of parks and recreational facilities.** Ensure that parks and recreational facilities are equitably distributed throughout the City. Areas that should be targeted for new parks and recreational facilities include DACs and residential neighborhoods with minimal park access.
- 1.5 City staff diversity.** Strive to ensure that City staff's diversity reflects the City's diversity and Ventura County region.
- 1.6 Boards and commissions diversity.** Strive to ensure that the City's boards and commissions reflect the diversity of backgrounds, races, ethnicities, physical abilities, gender, sexual orientation, and ages of Ventura residents.
- 1.7 Transit equity.** Consider measures that enable fare affordability, including free and/or reduced fares for people without access, such as special needs, seniors, and low-income families.
- 1.8 Mirror community demographics in City resources.** Reflect the languages, cultures, and ethnicities found in the community in promotional materials and library collections.
- 1.9 Internet access.** Work with internet providers to provide high-quality and low-cost internet services to all areas of the City. Require that internet speeds identified DACs are equal to or better than higher income neighborhoods.

## Pollution Exposure

### Goal EJ-2: Reduce health impacts and health disparities from pollution in the City.

- 2.1 **Sensitive land uses adjacent to local sources of air pollution.** Discourage the development of sensitive land uses (e.g., schools, playgrounds, housing, healthcare facilities, and elder and childcare centers) within 500 feet of land uses that are sources of local air pollution. Sources of air pollution include but are not limited to US 101, SR 33, SR 126, industrial uses with manufacturing, dust emissions or high levels of truck traffic. For sensitive land uses that cannot be sited at least 500 feet away, require mitigation actions to reduce the potential pollution burden.
- 2.2 **Water quality.** Continue to work with groundwater basin suppliers to reduce total dissolved solid levels to meet City Council water quality goals.
- 2.3 **Police firing range.** Take steps to continue to minimize the impact of the police firing range on the residents of the Westside. Strategies could include reducing the hours of operation and identifying a new location in or near the City of Ventura.
- 2.4 **Hazardous waste generators.** Require all users, producers, and transporters of hazardous materials and waste to clearly identify the materials they store, use, or transport, and to notify the appropriate City, County, State, and Federal agencies in the event of a violation.
- 2.5 **Diesel generators.** Prohibit the use of diesel generators as the primary source of power (during periods of non-emergencies) for buildings within 500 feet from any land designated as "residential" or "institutional."

### Goal EJ-3: Reduce pollutant emissions and pollution exposure from freeways and mobile sources of pollution.

- 3.1 **New residential development near freeways.** Require that new residential development within 500 feet of freeways be designed with indoor air quality measures to reduce air pollution from freeways.
- 3.2 **Truck routes map.** Maintain an up-to-date truck routes map that limits diesel exposure to sensitive land uses, especially in DACs.
- 3.3 **Air pollution from freeways.** Minimize air pollution impacts from freeways on nearby residential and commercial uses by adding green (e.g., trees) and gray (e.g., tall walls) infrastructure buffers.
- 3.4 **Metrolink train pollution.** Collaborate with Metrolink to reduce engine idling and progress transition to clean emissions engines. Establish intervention actions by the end of 2025.

### Goal EJ-4: Minimize pollution impacts of industrial uses on residents, employees, and visitors.

- 4.1 **Monitoring of industrial uses.** Regularly monitor industrial uses to ensure compliance with all local, State, and federal laws regarding the use of toxic materials and air emissions, including fugitive dust emissions from unpaved storage facilities. Focus enforcement on the Westside and other identified DACs with industrial and residential uses located near one another.



- 4.2 New General Industrial uses.** Prohibit the redesignation of land within 1000 feet of existing residential areas from any use to General Industrial. Encourage new General Industrial uses to locate in the Arundell and North Bank areas of Ventura.
- 4.3 Conversion of General Industrial Uses on the Westside.** Encourage the conversion of General Industrial land uses to other land uses over time to mitigate pollution burdens on nearby residents.
- 4.4 Air quality impacts analysis of new developments.** Require new industrial uses to conduct an analysis of air quality impacts. If impacts are identified, require implementation of air pollutant mitigation measures determined to be feasible at the time of project approval.
- 4.5 Testing of sites adjacent to projects.** Require proponents of projects on or immediately adjacent to lands in industrial, commercial, or agricultural use to perform soil and groundwater contamination assessments, and if contamination exceeds regulatory action levels, require remediation procedures prior to grading and development.
- 4.6 Brownfield remediation.** Require that contaminated sites, or brownfields, are adequately remediated before allowing new development, site redevelopment, or sale of the land.

**Goal EJ-5: Reduce pollution from agricultural uses located within and near the City.**

- 5.1 Collaboration with Ventura County Agricultural Commission.** Work with the County Agricultural Commission and other jurisdictions within Ventura County to promote sustainable agricultural practices that significantly minimize or reduce pesticide use, especially for areas within Ventura's Planning Area.
- 5.2 Preservation of greenbelts.** Support the preservation of greenbelts in the Ventura Planning Area to maintain contiguous farming land and the visual identity of the City of Ventura.
- 5.3 Sustainable farming practices.** Encourage farmers in Ventura's Planning Area to reduce N<sub>2</sub>O emissions by adopting more sustainable farming practices such as switching to more sustainable fertilizers, transitioning to sustainable energy sources for agricultural equipment and irrigation pumps, implementing alternative irrigation techniques, and instituting carbon farming practices such as reduced tilling, covercropping, composting, biochar, and other activities that both reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and increase carbon sequestration and storage.
- 5.4 Pesticide use.** Collaborate with the County Agricultural Commissioner to identify areas to reduce pesticide use, limit pesticide drift into communities, and enforce pesticide spraying time blocks. Encourage and support the use of Integrated Pest Management Practices (IPMP) to reduce the amount of pesticides used to limit impacts on human health.
- 5.5 Pesticide application notification.** Require all parties who utilize pesticides in their daily operations to notify the City of the application of restricted materials through spray techniques for areas inside or within the Ventura Planning Area.
- 5.6 Publicization of pesticide application.** Work with the Ventura County Agricultural Commissioner to post notices on the Commissioner's website of any restricted material permits for pesticides applied by spray techniques issued for areas inside of or within ¼ mile of the Ventura Planning Area. Communicate this information to residents using existing community outreach tools and social media.

- 5.7 Buffers.** Require that farms have operational buffers around fumigation areas. Require that new non-residential uses located adjacent to agricultural land provide physical and/or landscape buffers to the agricultural use.

## Physical and Mental Health

*[Note: Additional goals, policies, and actions related to physical activity can be found in the Parks and Open Space policy framework.]*

### Goal EJ-6: Promote the physical and mental health of residents.

- 6.1 Health District.** Actively support the continuation and expansion of health care services in the City's Health District, generally located along Loma Vista Road between E. Main Street and N. Mills Road. The Health District will contain two hospitals (Community Memorial Hospital and Ventura County Medical Center) and supporting services such as medical offices, pharmacies, and other medical-related uses.
- 6.2 Health and wellness uses.** Allow and encourage a mix of public and private medical, health and wellness uses, including emergency medical facilities, medical and supportive retail, offices, health care clinics, and pharmacies throughout the City but with a focus on the Health District.
- 6.3 Access to primary care.** Encourage programs and practices that aim to increase physical and economic access to primary healthcare, especially for low-income residents and those located in DACs.
- 6.4 Community partners.** Continue to coordinate with the Ventura County Health Care Agency to increase access to healthcare and mental health services for low-income residents, especially those in DACs.
- 6.5 Partnerships to promote physical activity.** Foster public, private, and nonprofit partnerships to develop and maintain parks, recreational facilities, and publicly accessible private open spaces in DACs.
- 6.6 Alternative transportation.** Prioritize spending for alternative transportation projects such as Complete Streets, universal design, bicycle facilities, and sidewalk improvements with a particular focus on identified DACs.
- 6.7 Affordable healthcare options.** Partner with the Ventura County Health Care Agency and other regional partners to provide residents with information on affordable and accessible healthcare services.

## Food Access

### Goal EJ-7: Strive for residents of all ages, incomes, and abilities to be able to access healthy and fresh food.

- 7.1 Grocery stores.** Take steps to preserve existing and expand the number of supermarkets in the City of Ventura, with a particular focus on recruiting new supermarkets to the Westside and Eastside of the City.

- 7.2 Farmers markets.** Support the continuation of local farmers markets and the expansion of farmers markets to identified DACs.
- 7.3 Local agriculture.** Support the continuation of local agriculture in and around Ventura. Activities include supporting the development of farmworker housing, working with local businesses to maintain existing and add new food processing facilities in Ventura, supporting sustainable agricultural practices, making land use decisions that support ongoing agricultural operations and supporting Ventura County’s Agricultural/Urban Buffer Policy and the Right-to-Farm Ordinance.
- 7.4 Economic incentives for convenience stores.** Provide economic development incentives, such as waiving permitting fees and providing application assistance for State and federal grants, to help convenience and liquor stores convert a portion of their store to hold refrigerated, fresh, and healthy produce, especially in DACs.
- 7.5 Food access for low-income homebound seniors.** Explore funding opportunities to increase access to healthy and fresh produce for low-income homebound seniors.
- 7.6 Urban agriculture.** Encourage edible landscapes, fruit trees, community gardens, and other forms of urban agriculture in the City’s parks and public spaces, with a focus on adding new community gardens to identified DACs.
- 7.7 Agricultural tourism.** Collaborate with local farmers to establish agricultural tourism opportunities to promote economic growth and agricultural heritage. Assist farmers with creating tourism opportunities through educational workshops and publicizing their services.
- 7.8 Transit to healthy food retailers.** Improve ready access to healthy food retailers along key transit corridors and within transit-oriented developments. Work with local transit agencies to ensure that bus routes provide service from DACs to healthy food retailers.

## Civic Engagement

### Goal EJ-8: Promote meaningful and equitable engagement with all residents.

- 8.1 Enhanced community engagement.** Seek the input of a diverse range of opinions from varying backgrounds, lived experiences, and generations in the City’s decision-making processes.
- 8.2 Equitable engagement practices.** Make a diligent effort to engage community members most impacted by racial and social inequities, including youth of color, in Ventura. Focus resources on residents in identified DACs.
- 8.3 Community partnerships.** Encourage ongoing participation in civic engagement activities, especially targeting hard-to-reach populations. This should include expanding partnerships with local community-based organizations and faith-based institutions to help facilitate conversations and encourage active participation. Focus city resources on DACs.
- 8.4 Barriers to civic engagement.** Take steps to reduce barriers to civic participation at community engagement activities by scheduling them at times convenient for residents, locating the meetings in convenient and transit-accessible locations and, if feasible, providing childcare and food at meetings.

- 8.5 Multilingual interpretation.** Provide simultaneous multilingual interpretation at community meetings and translate all meeting materials into Spanish, and other languages as appropriate. Incorporate participatory facilitation techniques at all public meetings.
- 8.6 Virtual participation.** Where feasible, continue to make public hearings and meetings virtually available to expand community participation.
- 8.7 Indigenous populations.** Explore engagement avenues to strengthen relationships with the Indigenous groups and organizations residing in the Ventureño Chumash and Chumash Territories. Ensure they are part of land development conversations.
- 8.8 Youth engagement.** Actively seek opportunities to engage the youth in the City's decision-making processes. This could include creating a Youth Commission, conducting targeted outreach to schools during planning processes, and partnering with the Ventura Unified School District to expand civics education in the existing curriculum, co-host voter registration drives, and/or encourage students to volunteer as poll workers and engage in City affairs.
- 8.9 Regional equity priorities.** Work closely with other jurisdictions in Ventura County to build capacity on racial and social equity, and to advance regional equity priorities.
- 8.10 City staff training.** Increase the City's internal organizational capacity to advance racial and social equity by conducting training staff on social and racial equity, environmental justice, and equitable community engagement.

## Safe and Sanitary Housing

*[Note: Additional goals, policies, and actions related to housing can be found in the Housing Element.]*

### **Goal EJ-9: Support the construction and maintenance of safe, sanitary, and health-promoting housing.**

- 9.1 Housing Element.** Implement the goals, policies, and programs in the City-adopted Housing Element, with an emphasis on City-led efforts to increase the diversity, quality, and affordability of housing in the Ventura.
- 9.2 Housing Diversity.** Promote a diversity of housing types in Ventura to support living for all stages of life.
- 9.3 Tenant protections.** Support a variety of efforts to protect renters in Ventura through actions such as rent stabilization policy, just cause eviction and harassment protections, tenant and landlord mediation programs, right of first refusal, rental assistance, and tenant legal counseling.
- 9.4 Aging-in-place.** Strive for Ventura to be a community where residents can age-in-place. This includes supporting a diversity of housing types for all stages of life, allowing for multi-generational housing, and supporting programs that allow residents to age in their homes.
- 9.5 Multi-generational housing.** Support the creation of new and rehabilitated multi-generational housing.

- 9.6 Code enforcement.** Proactively implement code enforcement of rental units and expeditiously respond to code enforcement complaints from renters.
- 9.7 Smoking.** Support efforts to limit smoking in multifamily buildings to protect respiratory health.
- 9.8 Housing rehabilitation.** Support private property owner initiatives aimed at improving the quality of rental housing in the City, particularly rental housing below market rate. Efforts could include renovations to modernize housing and eliminate common home pollutants such as lead, asbestos, mold, and pests. Examples of City support could include permit fee reductions, streamlined permitting processes, and technical assistance.
- 9.9 Eviction prevention assistance.** Connect low-income residents in DACs to City, County, State, and non-profit resources that provide technical, legal, and financial assistance for renters facing eviction.
- 9.10 Partnerships with affordable housing providers.** Support non-profit and private housing providers in the acquisition, rehabilitation, and maintenance of residential properties as long-term affordable housing.

## ADA Access and Equity

**Goal EJ-10: Provides services to residents of a wide range of disabilities to foster a sense of belonging and engagement.**

- 10.1 Resources and accessibility.** Establish safe and reliable resources and accessibility for people with disabilities that address the physical, mental, and social needs of residents.
- 10.2 Recreational facilities and programs.** Increase access to recreational facilities access for people with disabilities. Work with community centers to develop programming that engages those of diverse disabled backgrounds in activities to promote healthy and well-rounded lifestyles.
- 10.3 Civic engagement.** Work to make in-person City meetings and community meetings more inclusive for those with various disabilities to positively impact the civic engagement process.
- 10.4 City ADA Coordinator/Risk Manager.** Expand the City ADA Coordinator/Risk Manager role or department to host focus groups and workshops to ensure the programs and facilities of the City meet the diverse access needs of the residents.

# Implementation Actions

**Timeframe:** Short-term, Mid-term, Long-term, Ongoing

**Types of Actions:** Partnership, program, study, plan, physical improvements, etc.

Implementation Actions	Timeframe	Type of Action	Responsibility
<b>Zoning code update for Industrial Districts.</b> Update the City's zoning code to refine and detail industrial land use designations. The zoning should develop clear standards and guidance on a number of topics that balance protection of human health with the continuity of local businesses. In particular, the zoning code should clearly differentiate between various heavy industrial uses and those deemed noxious.	Short	Regulation	Community Development
<b>Metrolink train pollution.</b> Conduct a study with Metrolink on the amount of air pollution from idling trains at the East Ventura Metrolink station and develop intervention measures to reduce air pollution.	Short	Study	Community Development; Metrolink
<b>Local idling ordinance.</b> Establish a local ordinance that exceeds the State vehicle idling restrictions, including restrictions for bus layovers, delivery vehicles, trucks at warehouses, and distribution facilities and taxis, particularly when these activities take place near sensitive land uses (e.g., schools, playgrounds, housing, healthcare facilities, and elder and childcare centers). Manage truck idling and maintenance in residential areas.	Medium	Regulation	Community Development
<b>Police firing range.</b> Conduct an environmental assessment of the police firing range. Explore options to mitigate pollution exposure such as moving the firing range, installing buffers, and limiting firing days and amount of ammunition fired.	Short	Study	Police
<b>Westside Industrial Study.</b> Conduct a study on the Westside to identify if the area has a disproportionate pollution burden and, if so, the sources of the pollution.	Short	Study	Community Development
<b>Right to Farm Ordinance.</b> Explore adopting comprehensive right to farm ordinances that protect basic farm practices but also the	Medium	Regulation	Community Development



need for related farm services, such as transportation and packing house facilities.			
<b>Health outcomes inequities.</b> Conduct a study to better understand the disproportionate health risks of Westside residents due to multiple burdens. Seek grants from State and Federal governments and partnerships with universities to conduct the study.	Medium	Study	Community Development
<b>Annual inspections of hazardous materials.</b> Conduct annual inspections of farms or facilities within the City and sphere of influence that have a potential to spill hazardous materials into the water supplies of Ventura. Search for funding opportunities to expand staffing capacity to maintain this action.	Short	Program	Community Development; County of Ventura
<b>Health Resources Toolkit.</b> Develop an inventory of health resources in the city in cooperation with the County of Ventura’s Health Care Agency.	Medium	Partnership	Community Development; Ventura County Health Care Agency
<b>Monitor engagement participation.</b> Develop a program to monitor and track public participation at all community events. The monitoring program should include demographic and geographic information to better understand who is participating in civic activities.	Short	Program	Communications
<b>Staff training.</b> Require training for City staff on equity, environmental justice topics, and equitable approaches to increase engagement of underrepresented populations such as youth, young adults, and DACs.	Medium	Training	City Manager and City Attorney
<b>Health Data Monitoring.</b> Create a data dashboard on the City’s website that communicates and tracks health-related data. Metrics could include asthma rates, obesity rates, crime data, transportation safety, percent of population living in poverty, and other health and equity metrics. Update this data at minimum every three years.	Medium	Program	Community Development; Ventura County Health Care Agency
<b>Urban Agriculture.</b> Update the Zoning Code to allow small-scale urban agriculture, including accessory uses such as temporary on-site urban agriculture stands, as	Short	Regulation	Community Development

<p>permitted or conditional uses in most zones. Examples of small-scale urban agriculture include food gardens, fruit trees, backyard chickens, and non-commercial greenhouses and beehives.</p>			
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